

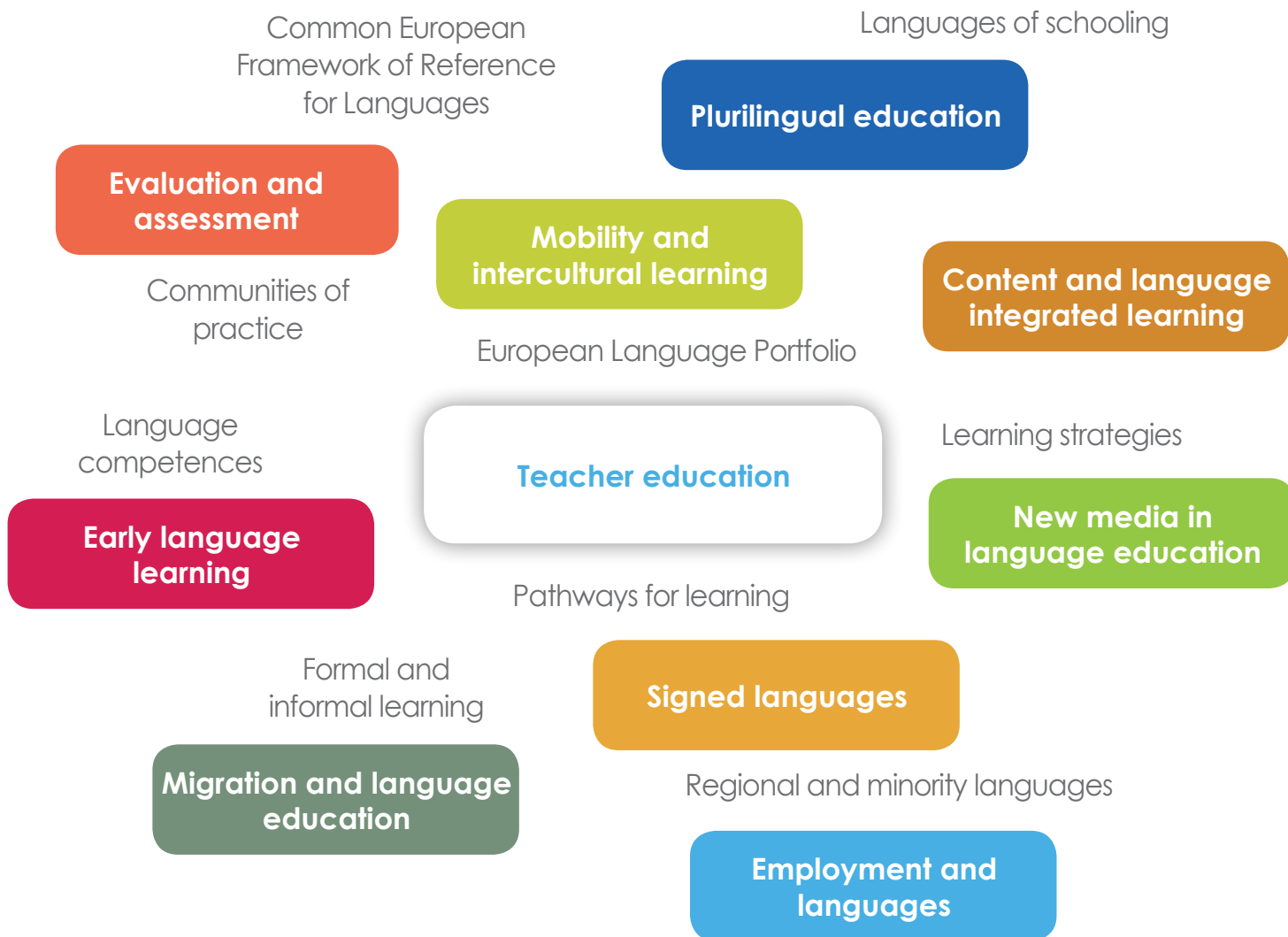
The European Centre for Modern Languages of the Council of Europe

Promoting excellence in language education



Our vision

A Europe committed to linguistic and cultural diversity, where the key role of quality language education in achieving intercultural dialogue, democratic citizenship and social cohesion is recognised and supported.



The European Centre for Modern Languages of the Council of Europe

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Why quality language education matters

Contemporary European societies are characterised and enriched by linguistic and cultural diversity, by migration and mobility. However we only truly value and treasure these characteristics by recognising and responding to the associated challenges.

Language education is key: the provision of lifelong, quality language education supports not only educational and professional success, but personal development and a sense of self-worth, all of which help foster economic growth, democratic citizenship and social cohesion.



Languages and the Council of Europe



The Council of Europe values and promotes quality language education. Within the framework of the European Cultural Convention (1954), ratified by 49 states, it supports Europe's rich linguistic and cultural diversity via:

The European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages

A minority language will only survive if it is used everywhere and not just at home. The Charter, therefore, obliges states* to actively promote the use of these languages in all domains of public life: education, courts, administration, media, culture, economic and social life, and transfrontier cooperation. The Council of Europe monitors that the Charter is applied in practice.

www.coe.int/minlang

The Education Policy Division, Strasbourg, France

The Education Policy Division (Strasbourg) implements intergovernmental medium-term programmes to support policy development in areas such as languages of schooling, the linguistic integration of adult migrants and plurilingual and intercultural education. It has published key tools such as the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages: Learning, Teaching, Assessment (CEFR), the European Languages Portfolio (ELP) or the Autobiography of Intercultural Encounters (AIE).

www.coe.int/lang

The European Centre for Modern Languages, Graz, Austria

The ECML's role is to help its member states bridge the gap between policies and practice in language education.

www.ecml.at

*This only applies to states who have ratified the Charter

The ECML in brief

The European Centre for Modern Languages (ECML) is an Enlarged Partial Agreement of the Council of Europe. It was established in Graz, Austria in 1994.

The ECML's mission is to encourage excellence and innovation in language teaching and support its member states in the implementation of effective language education policies. It does so by working with decision-makers in member states and bringing together language experts to develop innovative, research-informed solutions to challenges in language education.

Through dialogue and exchange with relevant stakeholders and by drawing on the underlying values of the Council of Europe, the ECML is ideally equipped to act as a pioneering institution and a catalyst for reform in the teaching and learning of languages.

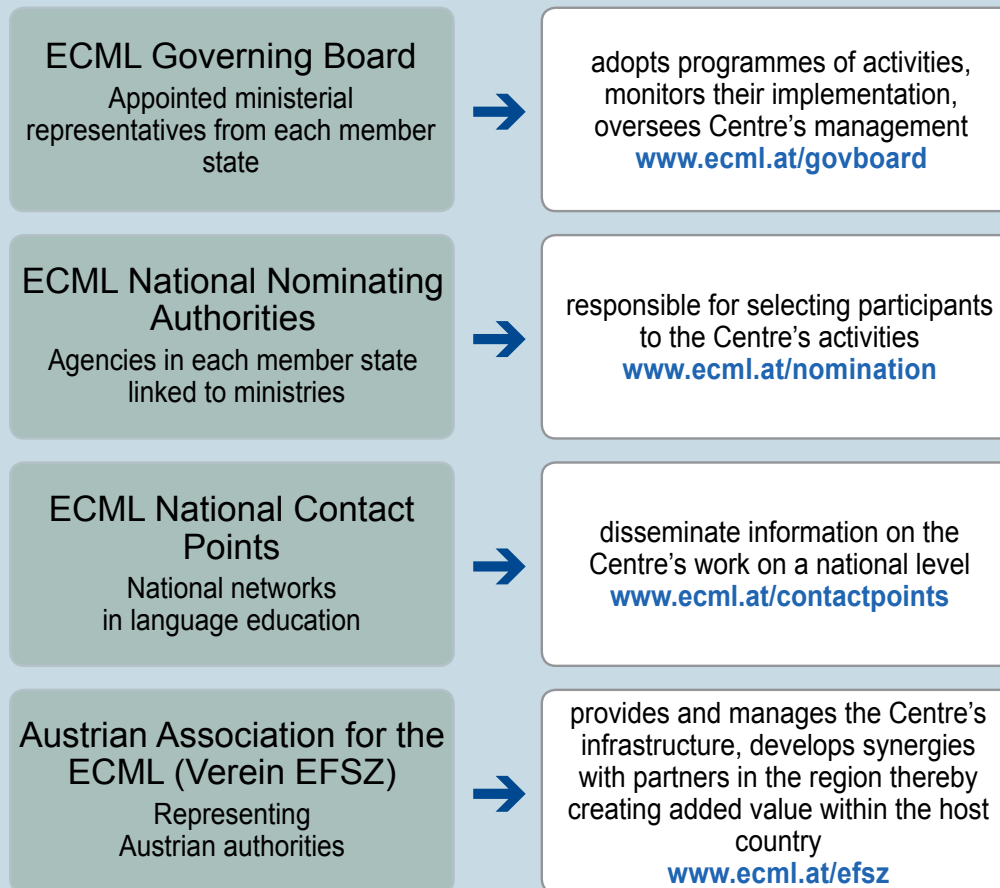
In cooperation with leading European specialists in the field, the ECML initiates and coordinates 4-year programmes which provide the framework for innovative projects and activities. These are embedded in ongoing policy developments and address key challenges, such as Languages for social cohesion (ECML programme 2004-2007), Empowering language professionals (ECML programme 2008-2011), Learning through languages (ECML programme 2012-2015) or Languages at the heart of learning (ECML programme 2016-2019).



Structure of the ECML

The impact of the events of the Centre, initiated in Graz, reaches out to Europe and beyond. In each of the member states an ECML Contact Point promotes its activities and reinforces the dynamic network of the ECML at a national level.

This unique structure enables the Centre to serve as a European reference point for all who are interested in excellence in language education.



Programme

The ECML's 4-year programme is determined by its member states and reflects national priorities in language education.

How it works

The two key elements of the ECML programme are projects and Training and consultancy activities. Both are led by teams of experts from across Europe and beyond. Both provide professional development opportunities for multipliers equipping them to train others within their institutions and networks.

In the case of projects, the teams cooperate with experts from over 30 European countries. They develop practical resources such as training modules, guidelines and toolkits for decision-makers, teacher educators, teachers and other stakeholders such as parents, easily adaptable to different contexts.

How to get involved

In the preparatory stages of each programme professionals in language education are invited to submit project proposals or express interest in cooperation. Experts can also propose topics for Training and consultancy activities. Selected projects are then supported by the ECML over the full programme term. Project activities include network meetings and workshops in Graz where participants from all member states are invited to contribute to collaborative work.



LANGUAGES AT THE HEART OF LEARNING
LES LANGUES AU CŒUR DES APPRENTISSAGES
SPRACHEN ALS HERZSTÜCK DES LERNENS

www.ecml.at/languagesattheheartoflearning



LEARNING THROUGH LANGUAGES
APPRENDRE PAR LES LANGUES
LERNEN DURCH SPRACHEN

www.ecml.at/learningthroughlanguages



EMPOWERING LANGUAGE PROFESSIONALS
VALORISER LES PROFESSIONNELS EN LANGUES
SPRACHLEHRENDE IN IHRER ROLLE STÄRKEN

www.ecml.at/empoweringlanguageprofessionals



Languages for social cohesion
Les langues pour la cohésion sociale
Sprachen für den sozialen Zusammenhalt

www.ecml.at/languagesforsocialcohesion

Information on upcoming ECML events including workshop participant profiles can be found at www.ecml.at/calendar.

Individuals with a special interest in the subject area of a particular project are invited to take up contact with the ECML National Nominating Authority in their country. www.ecml.at/memberstates

ECML participants act as 'ECML ambassadors' in their country, not only disseminating the work of the ECML among colleagues and national networks, but considering ways in which the work can be adapted to, and enhanced by, national developments.

How to benefit from programme activities

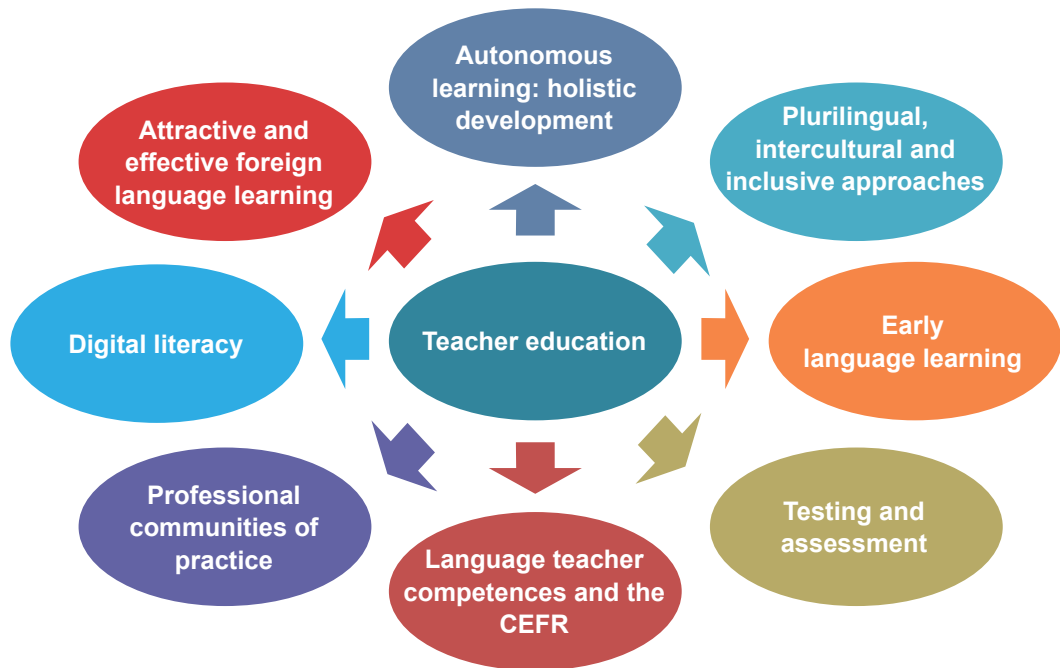
Professionals working in language education can also contact project and Training and consultancy teams and follow the activities on the dedicated ECML programme website where regular updates are featured.

They can also add their profiles to the ECML database and access the details of other experts in a range of language areas. www.ecml.at/expertsdatabase



Current priorities in language education

ECML activities focus on key priorities in language education, identified by its member states. These are outlined in the diagram below. Quality initial and in-service teacher education play a pivotal role in addressing these challenges. Given the importance of teacher education, the ECML offers a wide range of support for different sectors and stages.



Thematic areas representing ECML expertise



Plurilingual education

Developing every individual's language repertoire and highlighting the social value of linguistic diversity lie at the core of ECML work. Plurilingual education challenges monolingual attitudes and embraces all language learning, e.g. mother-tongue/s, language/s of schooling, foreign languages, regional and minority languages. The ECML has a wide range of differentiated material in this area, suitable for all players from decision-makers to classroom practitioners.

www.ecml.at/plurilingualeducation



Content and language integrated learning

Content and Language Integrated Learning (CLIL) and bilingual education are increasingly popular across Europe. ECML supports CLIL teachers and teacher trainers not only to take account of and strengthen the language component in subject learning, but to focus on the development of cognitive and academic literacies.

www.ecml.at/CLIL



Early language learning

There is a growing trend across Europe to begin language learning in early primary or even in nursery. Professionals working at these levels require specialised training. The ECML offers a range of support materials and training modules to ensure that appropriate pedagogies, based on plurilingual and intercultural approaches, are embedded from the very beginning.

www.ecml.at/earlylanguagelearning



Employment and languages

Successful businesses recognise, value and develop the linguistic and intercultural skills of their employees. Past and present ECML projects focus on the importance of quality language training and seek to encourage both employees and employers to make more effective use of the multilingual and multicultural resources in the workplace.

www.ecml.at/employmentandlanguages



Evaluation and assessment

Evaluation is not only about quality testing but about formative assessment, self-assessment and autonomous learning. ECML materials in this area largely draw on the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages and on the European Language Portfolio.

www.ecml.at/evaluation

“ Language learning has been on the agenda of Austrian parents’ associations through several years and the [ECML] project’s intention and experience will inspire the ongoing national debates.

Johannes Theiner, Austrian and European Parents’ Association

”



Migration and language education

Today Europe is home to millions of first, second and third generation immigrants as well as ethnic minority communities. The ECML has a number of publications and on-going projects dedicated to language education for migrants both at school and in the workplace, as well as advice and guidance for decision-makers and employers on how to benefit from this diversity.

www.ecml.at/migrationandlanguages



Mobility and intercultural learning

Mobility programmes are essential if language learners and teachers are to further improve their language skills and develop their intercultural competences. The ECML provides resources to help learners and teachers make the most of mobility and ensure such programmes are truly meaningful.

www.ecml.at/mobility





New media in language education

The digital revolution has opened up enormous opportunities for language learning and teaching, provided we combine technology with pedagogy. ECML training materials develop teachers' digital skills and critical awareness of online teaching resources so that these can be integrated effectively into classroom teaching.

www.ecml.at/newmedia



Sign languages

In most European countries sign languages are not used as languages of instruction. The ECML helps to establish European standards for specifying proficiency levels for use in Deaf Studies so that teachers of sign languages, and in particular the profession of interpreters, can better respond to the needs of the community they serve.

www.ecml.at/signlanguages



Using the CEFR and the ELP

With the focus on the learner, the learning process and learning outcomes, these key reference tools of the Council of Europe have contributed to better quality language education across Europe and beyond. The ECML has significant expertise in supporting teachers and teacher educators to understand the philosophy of learning, teaching and assessment on which these instruments are based, and to ensure their effective and efficient application in different learning contexts.

www.ecml.at/ELP

Training and consultancy for member states

The ECML offers its member states European expertise in language education adapted to the concrete needs and specific contexts within individual countries. This bilateral support in a range of key areas helps strengthen the cooperation between member states and the ECML by taking the expertise gained from ECML projects directly into member states. ECML experts work with national authorities and local experts to devise and implement in-country activities, tailored to the particular context and target audience.



This mediation strand of ECML activity helps member states:

- respond to the challenges presented by migration and mobility;
- foster the professional development of language educators;
- advance national reform processes;
- facilitate exchange of good practice through professional networks;
- meet international standards.

www.ecml.at/trainingandconsultancy

“ This format of activities meets national needs perfectly, allowing us to deal with specific topics that may have direct impact at national level. ”

Eva-Maria Schädler, Schulamt des Fürstentums Liechtenstein

Migration and
language education

Young migrants | Supporting multilingual classrooms*

To help ensure quality education for migrant learners by preparing teachers, teacher educators, administrators and school leaders to develop the children's plurilingual and intercultural repertoires for successful schooling.

Plurilingual
education

Plurilingual education | Plurilingual and inter- cultural competences: descriptors and teach- ing materials (FREPA)

To enhance plurilingual and intercultural education at grassroots level (teacher education and classroom teaching) or at a policy level (curriculum design, reform of educational policies) or any level in between.

Evaluation and
assessment

Testing and assessment | Relating language curricula, tests and examinations to the Common European Framework of Reference (RELANG)*

To provide training in developing good quality foreign language curricula and language examinations linked to the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR).

Using the CEFR
and the ELP

Electronic European Language Portfolio | Supporting local networks in using an electronic European Language Portfolio

To offer advice in the process of introducing and/or improving electronic European Language Portfolio platforms and in establishing effective networks of users and stakeholders.

Using the CEFR
and the ELP

Teacher education | Using the European Portfolio for Student Teachers of Languages (EPOSTL)

To support reflection and self-assessment of the didactic knowledge and skills necessary to teach languages.



* in cooperation with the European Commission

Content and Language Integrated Learning |

A pluriliteracies approach to teaching for learning (CLIL)

To train teachers in the use of adaptable curricular models and teaching materials that help ensure deeper learning both in terms of language and in terms of subject-specific literacies.

Romani | Quality education in Romani for Europe (QualiRom)

To promote quality education in Romani within a human rights perspective by providing training on the use of QualiRom materials and consultancy on the Curriculum Framework for Romani for curriculum development.

Online technology | Use of ICT in support of language teaching and learning (ICT-REV)

To provide training in the application of pedagogical principles in teaching languages with technology and to promote the effective use of ICT tools and open resources in support of quality language teaching and learning.

Adult migrants | Quality assurance in language and citizenship courses

To enhance the quality of language and citizenship courses for adult migrants by focusing on quality assurance of courses and on improving the level of expertise of teachers and teacher trainers.



Mobility | Plurilingual and intercultural learning through mobility (PluriMobil)

To provide teachers, teacher trainers and international officers with training and practical resources to help them support the plurilingual and intercultural learning of students before, during and after a mobility activity.

Networking

By tapping into international and European networks as well as national networks in member states, the ECML is in constant dialogue with all those involved in language education, be they ministry representatives, researchers, inspectors, education administrators, teachers, teacher educators, parents or community workers. In this way the ECML acts as a platform for gathering and disseminating information, for stimulating discussion and mutual learning, for the forging of new and enriching partnerships. The ECML is the only European institution in the field of language education to operate on so many different levels.

“Coming together is a beginning; keeping together is progress; working together is success.” *Henry Ford*

Austria: host country of the ECML



To support the work of the ECML the host country has established the Austrian Association of the ECML, which operates at the interface between the Council of Europe and the Austrian authorities. In this way, extensive networks and synergies are developed with partners at local, regional and national level thereby creating added value within Austria.

www.ecml.at/verein

“ In Canada, beyond the teaching of the two official languages, French and English, many initiatives support the official dissemination and teaching of indigenous languages and international languages or heritage languages. Therefore, FREPA [A Framework of reference for pluralistic approaches to languages and cultures] fits naturally in the Canadian context that promotes the consolidation of a second language and openness to plurilingualism.

*Laura Ambrosio, Official Languages and Bilingualism Institute (OLBI),
University of Ottawa, Canada*

Professional Network Forum

The Professional Network Forum on Language Education is made up of 15 international associations and institutions that share common values and have complementary expertise in the field of language education. Under the auspices of the ECML, the members of the Forum have agreed to share their know-how and have committed themselves to working together on areas of common interest in the service of language education.

ACTFL

American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages



AILA

International Association of Applied Linguistics



ALTE

Association of Language Testers in Europe



CercleS

European Confederation of Language Centres in Higher Education



EALTA

European Association for Language Testing and Assessment



EAQUALS

Evaluation and Accreditation of Quality in Language Services



ECSPM

European Civil Society platform for multilingualism



EFNIL

European Federation of National Institutions for Language



CEL/ELC

Conseil Européen pour les Langues / European Language Council



EPA

European Parents' Association



EUNIC

European Union National Institutes for Culture



FIPLV

Fédération Internationale des Professeurs de Langues Vivantes



IAM

International Association of Multilingualism



ICC

International Certificate Conference e.V.



OLBI

Official Languages and Bilingualism Institute of the University of Ottawa



Our networks

Making an impact

Supporting our target groups: Sample resources

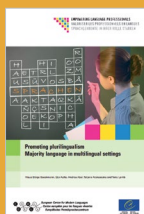
All publications can
be downloaded free
of charge at [www.
ecml.at/publications](http://www.ecml.at/publications)

The ECML key target groups include decision-makers (curriculum developers, head-teachers, policy-makers), teacher educators, classroom teachers and other key players such as parents.

Most ECML resources are relevant to more than one target group, e.g. teachers and teacher educators; parents and teachers. In the following pages, we have organised the resources according to the principal target group.



FOR DECISION-MAKERS



Promoting plurilingualism – Majority language in multilingual settings

Shows how plurilingualism can be fostered in majority language teaching in secondary schools, offers concrete examples for teacher development and strategies for change management, and is complemented by video classroom examples on the website.

www.ecml.at/marille EN DE



Towards whole-school language curricula

Case-studies from across Europe illustrate how to develop and implement plurilingual, intercultural and inclusive whole-school policies.

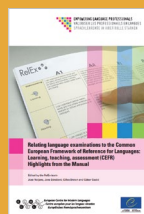
www.ecml.at/plurcur EN DE



Sign languages and the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR)

This resource establishes European standards for sign languages for professional purposes in line with the CEFR and provides an overview of assessment descriptors and approaches.

www.ecml.at/prosign EN IS* * International Sign Language



Relating language examinations to the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages: Learning, teaching, assessment (CEFR) – Highlights from the Manual

A user-friendly introduction to the process of linking examinations to the CEFR, supporting professionals with a stake in quality language testing who are not necessarily experts in testing and assessment.

www.ecml.at/relex EN FR

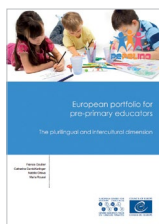
FOR TEACHER EDUCATORS



A framework of reference for pluralistic approaches to languages and cultures (CARAP/FREPA)

This framework opens ways for implementing pluralistic approaches in curricula and classrooms in order to develop plurilingual and intercultural competences of learners of all subjects. The resource website includes a comprehensive list of descriptors (knowledge, skills and attitudes) and a database for teaching and learning materials relating to these descriptors.

www.ecml.at/carap **EN** **FR** **DE**



European portfolio for pre-primary educators

This portfolio, for use in initial and in-service teacher education programmes, encourages personal reflection on the professional skills related to the linguistic and intercultural dimension of working with young children.

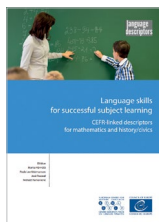
www.ecml.at/pepelino **EN** **FR** **DE**



Collaborative community approach to migrant education

This virtual open course for educators proposes innovative ways to enhance young migrants' plurilingual competences and their command of the language of schooling by developing links between schools, the home and local partners in education.

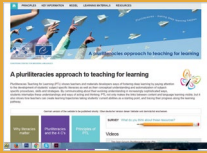
www.ecml.at/community **EN** **FR**



Language skills for successful subject learning

These CEFR-linked descriptors for mathematics and history/civics, available in six languages, provide subject teachers with the minimum language standards required of learners aged 12/13 and 15/16, whose first language is not the language of schooling.

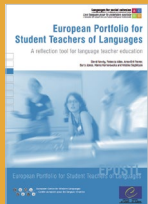
www.ecml.at/language-descriptors **EN** **FR**



A pluriliteracies approach to teaching for learning

This approach builds on CLIL to help develop deep learning, with learners able to draw on content knowledge to communicate successfully across languages, disciplines and cultures.

www.ecml.at/pluriliteracies EN DE



European Portfolio for Student Teachers of Languages – A reflection tool for language teacher education (EPOSTL)

Provides an overview of didactic competences needed by teachers and a tool for self-assessment for student teachers and practising teachers. It includes checklists, as well as a dossier to prompt reflection.

www.ecml.at/epostl EN FR DE



Using the European Language Portfolio

The website promotes the pedagogical benefits of the European Language Portfolio (ELP) and facilitates its use in practice. Contents: downloadable examples of validated ELPs; information on how to use the ELP; practical materials in a range of national languages.

www.ecml.at/elp EN FR



A training guide for quality assurance in language education (QualiTraining)

Materials and activities to help put quality principles and procedures into practice. The publication is relevant both to individuals and teams/institution in different contexts (primary and secondary education, university, language organisations).

www.ecml.at/qualitraining EN DE

FOR TEACHERS



Plurilingual and intercultural learning through mobility

This website provides practical resources for teachers and teacher educators to support the plurilingual and intercultural learning of their students before, during and after a mobility activity.

www.ecml.at/plurimobil **EN** **FR**



ECML inventory of ICT tools and open educational resources

This inventory not only provides language professionals with an overview of freely available digital tools, but also provides detailed guidance on how to use these tools to improve learning, according to carefully selected pedagogical criteria.

www.ecml.at/ictinventory **EN** **FR**



Teaching the language of schooling in the context of diversity

The study materials focus on teacher education for the language of schooling that draws on the linguistic and cultural diversity in the classroom for the benefit of all learners.

www.ecml.at/maledive **EN** **FR** **DE**



Involving parents in plurilingual and intercultural education

A resource website to inform parents and educational practitioners about the cognitive and social benefits of parental involvement in plurilingual and intercultural education.

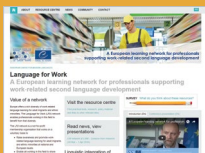
www.ecml.at/parents **EN** **FR**



Plurilingualism and pluriculturalism in content-based teaching: A training kit

The training kit shows how the languages and cultures present in the classroom can be developed as a cross-curricular resource at primary and secondary level. It offers twenty-six content-based didactic units in English, French and Spanish for classroom use.

www.ecml.at/conbat EN FR



A European learning network for professionals supporting work-related second language development

This network offers professionals engaged in supporting the linguistic integration of adult migrants the chance to learn from each other as well as access to a wide range of relevant teaching resources, research findings and policy documents.

www.ecml.at/languageforwork EN FR



Guidelines for task-based university language testing

Shows how languages for specific purposes can be tested in the university context using a task-based approach, how such an approach to language testing can be applied in different ways and how taskbased language tests are devised and administered.

www.ecml.at/gult EN

“

I am currently piloting the proposed tools in this project in my own school.

”

Michelle Vella Gobey, St. Joseph School, Blata I-Bajda, Secretariat for Catholic Education, Haz-Zebbug, Malta

ECML collections

Visitors to the ECML can access the following special collections:

European Language Portfolios

The Council of Europe introduced the European Language Portfolio (ELP) as a means of helping language learners to keep track of their language learning as it happens and to record their achievements and experience of using other languages and encountering other cultures. The ELP aims to foster the development of learner autonomy, intercultural awareness and plurilingualism. The ECML hosts a collection of over 80 ELPs validated by the Council of Europe, probably the largest collection in existence.



Common European Framework of Reference for Languages

The result of over twenty years of research, the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages: Learning, teaching, assessment (CEFR) was designed to provide a transparent, coherent and comprehensive basis for the elaboration of language syllabuses and curriculum guidelines, the design of teaching and learning materials, and the assessment of foreign language proficiency. It is used throughout Europe but also in other continents. A collection of the CEFR in 39 languages, together with supporting publications and materials, is hosted by the ECML.

The John Trim Collection

The collection, consisting of over 3000 resources, reflects John Trim's groundbreaking work with the Council Europe on language education between 1971 – 97. Under John Trim's guidance the Council of Europe's work became the single most influential factor in the reforms in course design, textbook authorship, testing and examinations, and teacher training that occurred throughout Europe. Among many highlights of the collection are the studies related to the development of the Threshold Levels and the Common European Framework of Reference. The collection represents a potential treasure trove for researchers!

European Day of Languages

Since 2001 the European Day of Languages (EDL) has been celebrated on 26th September every year, throughout Europe and beyond.

It is a day to

- alert the public to the importance of language learning in order to increase plurilingualism and intercultural understanding
- promote the rich linguistic and cultural diversity of Europe
- encourage lifelong language learning

The European Day of Languages is coordinated by the Council of Europe: the European Centre for Modern Languages (Graz) and the Education Policy Division (Strasbourg). National Relays support the EDL in over 40 countries distributing promotional materials and promoting the Day.

The website is available in 32 languages: www.ecml.at/edl



Journée européenne des langues

Why the work of the ECML matters

1 Priorities in language education

The ECML addresses priorities in language education identified by member states through developing practical project outputs, adaptable to different learning environments.

2 Europe-wide networks

The ECML builds and maintains sustainable Europe-wide networks of teacher educators, teachers, researchers and INGOs working in the field of language education.

3 Training and consultancy for member states

The ECML offers Training and consultancy activities and tools for competence and capacity-building at national level.

4 European platform

The ECML serves as a European platform for gathering and sharing knowledge, good practice and innovation.

5 At the cutting edge

The ECML operates at the cutting edge of developments in areas such as content-based language education, pluralistic approaches to education, the application of ICT and testing and assessment.



6

Professional development opportunities

The ECML provides rich and intellectually-challenging professional development opportunities for multipliers through international workshops, conferences and training activities.

7

Free access to all publications

The ECML offers free access to all ECML publications and online resources which are adaptable to different professional and learning environments.

8

Multiple levels

The ECML operates simultaneously on multiple levels: with ministries, with language experts, with national institutions and international language organisations.

What makes us unique

The ECML in figures

In 2015 alone...

880

language professionals
took part in capacity
building activities
directly financed by the
ECML

171

language education
events were supported
by the ECML

903

events organised in
45 countries were
registered in the
European Day of
Languages events
calendar

95%

of survey respondents
“agreed” or “strongly
agreed” that the ECML
event they participated
in has contributed to
developing their professional
competence

96%

of survey respondents
“agreed” or “strongly
agreed” that the ECML
event they participated
in has highlighted
quality aspects of
language education
that they will promote
in their professional
environment

11.6million
page views of the ECML's
web platform

6714

subscribers to the
European Language
Gazette

3.03million
page views of the
European Day of Languages
website

Keep in touch

Updates on the ECML and on the Council of Europe's work, as well as on national developments in the field of language education

Newsletter

*The European
Language
Gazette*

www.ecml.at/gazette

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ecml.celv](http://www.facebook.com/ecml.celv)

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[www.twitter.com/
ECMLCELV](http://www.twitter.com/ECMLCELV)

Telephone



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information@ecml.at
www.ecml.at

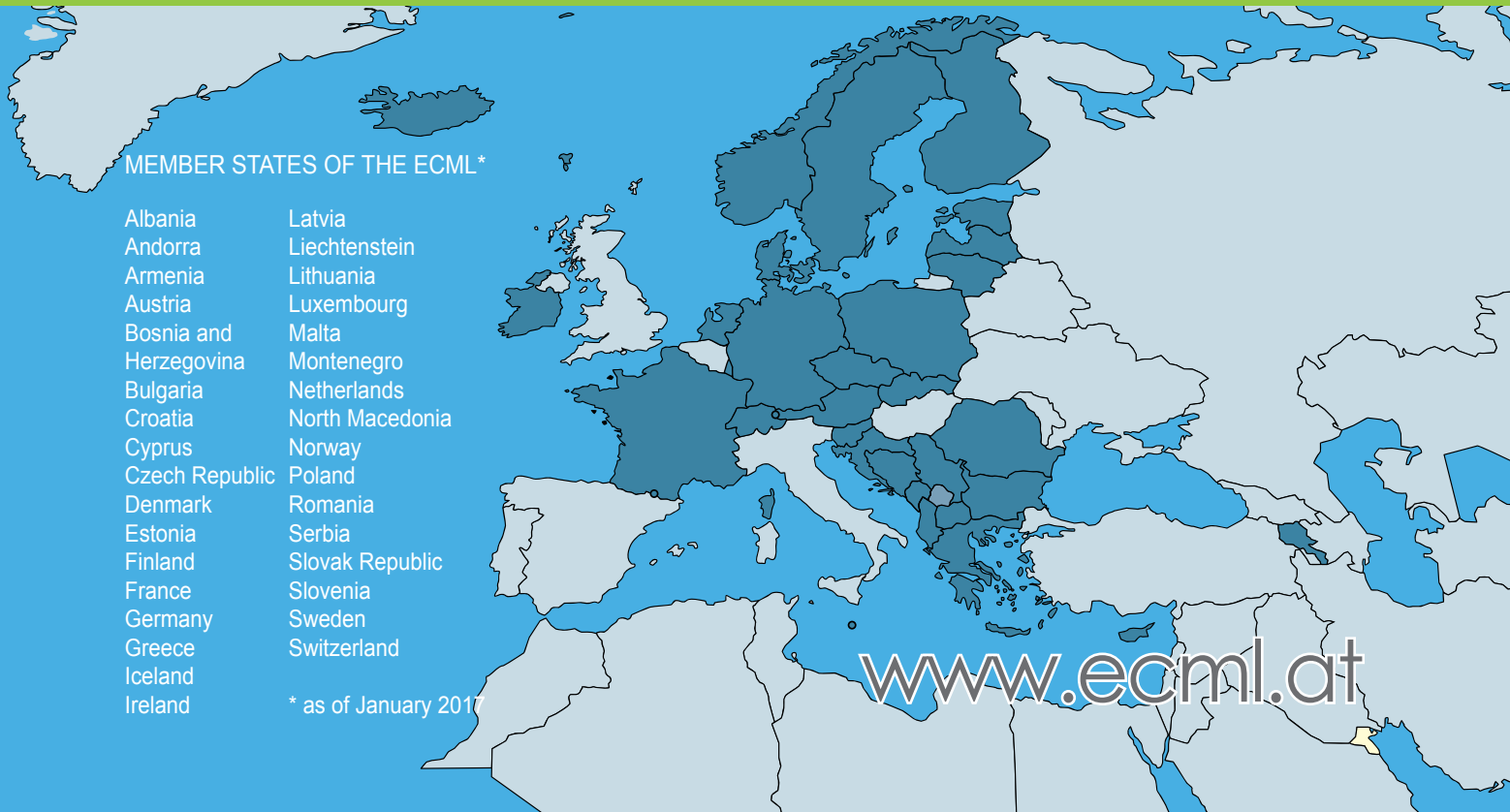
Address



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The European Centre for Modern Languages of the Council of Europe

Promoting excellence in language education



MEMBER STATES OF THE ECML*

- | | |
|------------------------|-----------------|
| Albania | Latvia |
| Andorra | Liechtenstein |
| Armenia | Lithuania |
| Austria | Luxembourg |
| Bosnia and Herzegovina | Malta |
| Bulgaria | Montenegro |
| Croatia | Netherlands |
| Cyprus | North Macedonia |
| Czech Republic | Norway |
| Denmark | Poland |
| Estonia | Romania |
| Finland | Serbia |
| France | Slovak Republic |
| Germany | Slovenia |
| Greece | Sweden |
| Iceland | Switzerland |
| Ireland | |

* as of January 2017

www.ecml.at