



The European Centre for Modern Languages of the Council of Europe

LACS workshop
22nd May 2014, Brussels

Sarah Breslin
Executive Director , ECML

COUNCIL OF EUROPE



CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

Promoting excellence in language education
Pour l'excellence dans l'éducation aux langues

EUROPEAN CENTRE FOR
MODERN LANGUAGES
The logo for the European Centre for Modern Languages (ECML), consisting of the letters E, C, M, L, C, E, L, V arranged in a circular pattern with lines connecting them.
CENTRE EUROPEEN POUR
LES LANGUES VIVANTES



Presentation Overview

- **Europe: different contexts, common challenges**
- **Societal challenges \Rightarrow Language challenges**
- **Addressing language challenges - the Council of Europe**
- **The relevance and added value of the ECML**



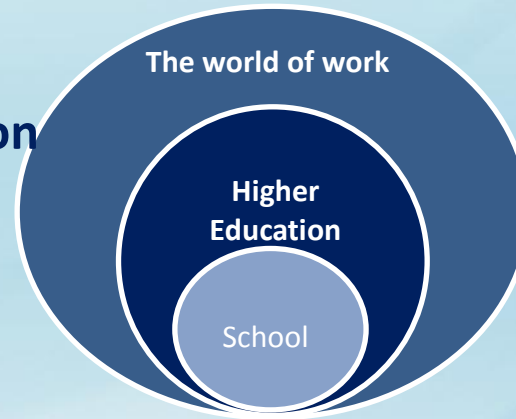
Different contexts: common challenges

- «The use of **new technologies** » (Geneva Tribune, Switzerland)
- « The language requirements of **citizenship** » (Dagens Nyheter, Sweden)
- «Youth **unemployment** The problem is linked to skills levels »» (Wprost, Poland)
- « The lack of **in-service training for teachers**» (Irish Times, Ireland)
- « The German education system is failing to realise the potential of **immigrant children** » (Die Zeit, Germany)

Societal challenges ↔ Language challenges

Languages in and for work, mobility,
valuing other languages and cultures

Teacher training,
University courses,
Research and its application



Success at school, the language/s of schooling, foreign languages, minority languages, plurilingual and pluricultural approaches, CLIL, early language learning, evaluation and assessment, quality assurance, parental involvement....

The Council of Europe

www.coe.int

- **Strasbourg, founded 1949**
- **Oldest and geographically largest European institution in the area of intergovernmental co-operation**
- **47 member states**

Areas of action

- **Democracy**
- **Human rights**
- **Rule of Law**





Languages at the Council of Europe

www.coe.int/lang

Languages are key to:

personal development

educational and professional success

intercultural dialogue

social cohesion

democratic citizenship

The Council values, celebrates and supports Europe's rich linguistic and cultural diversity via:

- the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages www.coe.int/minlang
- the Language Policy Unit www.coe.int/lang
- the European Centre for Modern Languages
- www.ecml.at

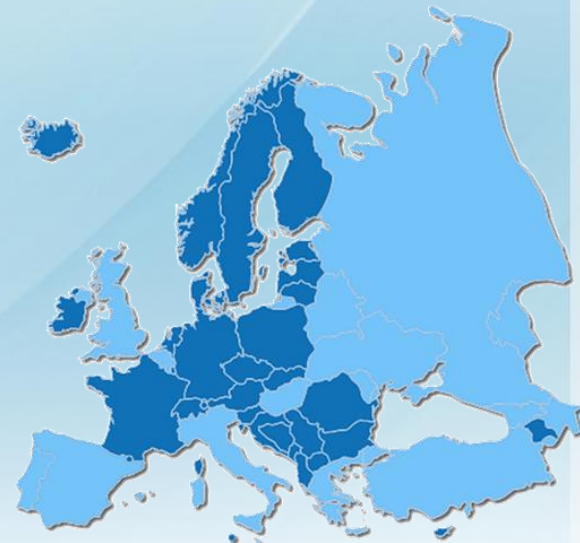




ECML

Who we are and what we do

- an enlarged Partial Agreement of the Council of Europe, founded in Graz in 1994
- working with decision-makers in member states
- bringing together experts from across Europe and beyond to develop innovative, research-informed practical solutions to challenges in language education
- Developing 4-year programmes of multilateral projects and bilateral training and consultancy





ECML Projects



- address priorities in language education identified by member states; are led by a team of experts from different ECML member states
- provide training workshops for invited participants, who are expected to act as multipliers and to subsequently train others within their institutions and networks
- produce publications and training kits for teachers, teacher-trainers, curriculum developers and decision-makers; practical outputs, adaptable to different learning environments

Language challenges ↔ ECML projects

Plurilingual and intercultural competences: descriptors and teaching material



Involving parents in plurilingual and intercultural education

Language descriptors for migrant and minority learners' success in compulsory education



Collaborative community approach to migrant education

Literacies through CLIL: effective learning across subjects and languages



Content-based teaching for young learners

COUNCIL OF EUROPE



CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

Promoting excellence in language education

Pour l'excellence dans l'éducation aux langues



Language challenges ↔ ECML projects

European portfolio for student teachers of pre-primary education



Plurilingual whole-school curricula

Using open resources to develop online teaching skills



Languages in corporate quality

Training in relating language exams to the CEFR



QualiTraining – a training guide for quality assurance

COUNCIL OF EUROPE



CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

Promoting excellence in language education
Pour l'excellence dans l'éducation aux langues




ECML programme 2012-2015

LEARNING THROUGH LANGUAGES

Promoting inclusive, plurilingual
and intercultural education

www.ecml.at/learningthroughlanguages





ECML training and consultancy for member states



Targeted support to address national challenges

Competence/capacity-building in:

Plurilingual education

Online European Language Portfolio

Education of adult migrants

Use of ICT in language learning (EU co-funding)



Relating language examinations to the CEFR (EU co-funding)

COUNCIL OF EUROPE



CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

EUROPEAN CENTRE FOR MODERN LANGUAGES
Promoting excellence in language education





ECML programme 2016-2019



- **Winter 2014/2015:** publication of the Call for submissions
- **May 2015:** deadline for submissions
- **Autumn 2015:** publication of the new ECML programme
- **November 2015:** meeting of the project coordinators



ECML – the added value

- builds and maintains sustainable Europe-wide networks of teacher educators, teachers, researchers and INGOs working in the field of language education
- provides professional development opportunities for multipliers through international workshops, conferences and training activities
- serves as a platform for gathering and sharing knowledge, good practice and innovation
- operates at the cutting edge of developments in areas such as content-based language education, pluralistic approaches to education, the application of ICT, testing and assessment

Moreover...

- **ECML workshops: a unique occasion for multipliers to upskill in a rich and intellectually challenging international exchange of ideas**
- **Free access to all ECML publications and resources online, all available in at least two languages**
- **European Day of Languages : a multitude of free resources gratuites (to-date in 25 languages!) and the coordination of national relays**
- **Paid traineeships for young graduates : a wonderful opportunity to be at the vanguard of developments in language education**





Find out more:

Visit the programme website

<http://www.ecml.at/learningthroughlanguages>

Subscribe to The European Language Gazette

www.ecml.at/gazette

Follow us on Facebook/Twitter



Contact me directly : sarah.breslin@ecml.at



mauruuru

Kiitos

mahalo

Köszí

Merci

спасибо

Grazie

Thank
you

Dank U

obrigado

Takk

Děkuju

謝謝

Gracias

danke