The European Centre for Modern Languages
Promoting excellence in language education

The ECML is a Council of Europe institution based in Graz, Austria. In cooperation with the Language Policy Division of the Council the Centre functions as a catalyst for reform in the teaching and learning of languages. It assists its stakeholders in member states in bringing language education policies and practices together.

Within a networking structure, comprised of leading specialists of the expert community, the ECML operates 4-year programmes focusing on key educational issues requiring action.

The international project teams...

- cooperate with experts from 34 European countries;
- provide training models for teacher educators, equipping them to train others within their institutions and networks;
- publish examples of good practice applicable to different contexts.

Member states of the ECML Partial Agreement as of August 2009: Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Romania, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, "The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia", United Kingdom

European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages
Strasbourg, France
www.coe.int/minlang

Language Policy Division
Strasbourg, France
www.coe.int/lang

European Centre for Modern Languages
Graz, Austria, www.ecml.at

The Council of Europe and languages
www.coe.int
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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.

- **ECML Governing Board**
  Appointed ministerial representatives from each member state
  - adopts programmes of activities, monitors their implementation, oversees Centre’s management
  - [http://govboard.ecml.at](http://govboard.ecml.at)

- **ECML National Nominating Authorities**
  Agencies in each member state linked to ministries
  - responsible for selecting participants to the Centre’s activities
  - [http://nomination.ecml.at](http://nomination.ecml.at)

- **ECML National Contact Points**
  National networks in language education
  - disseminate information and documentation on the Centre’s work on a national level
  - [http://contactpoints.ecml.at](http://contactpoints.ecml.at)

- **Austrian Association for the ECML (Verein EFSZ)**
  Representing Austrian authorities
  - provides and manages the Centre’s infrastructure, develops synergies with partners in the region thereby creating added value within the host country
  - [http://www.ecml.at/efsz](http://www.ecml.at/efsz)

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

[www.ecml.at](http://www.ecml.at)
The ECML activities are organised within 4-year programmes. The themes and aims of the ECML programmes are closely linked to national and international developments in the area of language education.

Teams and participants

Following a call for project proposals the selected project teams engage in pan-European cooperation. The project processes and the results are relevant for and adaptable to diverse educational contexts across Europe. Participants invited to project workshops or network meetings in Graz are expected to act as multipliers, informing their colleagues and the wider professional networks within their countries about the work of the ECML.

Project websites

The expert public is invited to follow the activities of the ECML projects on the dedicated websites. These websites provide comprehensive information on projects, details of the professional backgrounds of the teams, regular updates on activities, references and a project glossary. All sites are available in two working languages. To find out more about projects it is possible to take up direct contact with the project teams.

Programme evaluation

Quality development is a key concern of the Centre. The ECML applies an evaluation scheme promoting reflective practice in project management. The evaluation data serve as an indicator of the overall impact of the ECML programme on language education in Europe.

Programme 2004 - 2007

Languages for social cohesion

Les langues pour la cohésion sociale

Sprachen für den sozialen Zusammenhalt

Programme 2008 - 2011

Empowering language professionals

Valoriser les professionnels en langues

Sprachlehrende in ihrer Rolle stärken

www.ecml.at/socialcohesion

www.ecml.at/empowerment
Programme objectives

To empower language educators by providing support for:

- professional competence
- professional networks
- achieving reform
- quality in language education

Visit the programme website: www.ecml.at/empowerment

Activities

23 projects coordinated by European language experts

Work in progress on four thematic areas:

- Evaluation
- Continuity in language learning
- Content and language education
- Plurilingual education

Examples of projects

- “Guidelines for university language testing”
  http://gult.ecml.at

- “The European Language Portfolio in whole-school use”
  http://elp-wsu.ecml.at

- “Curriculum development for content and language integrated learning”
  http://clil-cd.ecml.at

- “A Framework of Reference for Pluralistic Approaches”
  http://carap.ecml.at
The ECML publications are primarily designed for language educators at all levels of education, as well as for teacher trainers, researchers and educational administrators. The complete collection can be found at the following address: www.ecml.at/publications.

Some examples to whet the appetite...

**Tools for teacher trainers**

For practical use in teacher education:

- **First steps in teacher training: a practical guide**
  Matei, G.S., Bernaus, M., Heyworth, F., Pohl, U., Wright, T.
  For novices to the field of language teacher education

- **Preparing teachers to use the European Language Portfolio - ELP implementation support**
  Little, D., Hodel, H.-P., Kohonen, V., Meijer, D., Perclová, R.
  Resources to support the introduction of the European Language Portfolio into teacher training

- **QualiTraining – A training guide for quality assurance in language education**
  Muresan, L., Heyworth, F., Mateva, G., Rose, M.
  A guide for professionals dealing with quality within the education system

**Essentials for decision-makers**

Materials designed to promote the implementation of plurilingual policies:

- **Valuing all Languages in Europe**
  McPake, J., Tinsley, T., Latomaa, S., Broeder, P., Mijares, L., Martyniuk, W.
  Good practice on provision for “migrant”, “regional/minority”, “non-territorial”, “additional” and sign languages at school level in Europe
Essentials for decision-makers (2)

Promoting linguistic diversity and whole-school development
Camilleri Grima, A., Young, A., Hélot, C., Fleischmann, E., Norberg, M.
Case studies illustrating how plurilingual education can be achieved in different school contexts

European curriculum guidelines for access programmes into higher education for under-represented adult learners
Foster, R., Kernegger, G., Foong Lee, M., Mohr, I., Smit, K., Taneva-Kafelova, P., Vogler, H.
Guidelines for setting up an innovative and inclusive curriculum sensitive to the students’ diversity

‘Bestsellers’ for teachers

These publications have a proven track record:

European Portfolio for Student Teachers of Languages
Newby, D., Fenner, A.-B., Jones, B., Komorowska, H., Soghikyan, K., Allan, R.
A tool to reflect on the didactic knowledge and skills necessary to teach languages

Developing and assessing intercultural communicative competence
Lázár, I., Huber-Kriegler, M., Lussier, D., Peck, C., Matei, G.S.
A guide to help incorporate intercultural communication training into language teaching

Plurilingual and pluricultural awareness in language teacher education
Bernaus, M., Andrade, A.I., Kervran, M., Murkowska, A., Trujillo Sáez, F.
A training kit to help introduce essential aspects of plurilingual education
The European Centre for Modern Languages
How to benefit from ECML activities

Services available

ONLINE / DISTANCE SERVICES

• Publications download
  all ECML books (including materials on the European Language Portfolio, training kits etc.)
  are available free of charge online
  http://www.ecml.at/publications

• Electronic newsletter
  “The European Language Gazette”
  updates on projects, on the ECML and on the Council of Europe’s work on languages
  http://www.ecml.at/gazette

• International events calendar and experts database
  promotion of events related to language education
  promotion of expertise in specific areas of language education
  http://www.ecml.at/interactive

• Online library catalogue
  http://www.ecml.at/doccentre

ON SITE SERVICES AT THE ECML

• Public access reference library
  more than 7,400 publications on language education
  information@ecml.at

• ECML presentation and guided tour for groups
  information@ecml.at

• Rental of ECML premises to host events
  corresponding to the Centre’s vocation
  verein.efsz@ecml.at

SERVICES FOR LARGE-SCALE / INTERNATIONAL EVENTS

• ECML publications and posters for display
  information@ecml.at

• ECML travelling exhibition
  21 display stands presenting the ECML publications
  information@ecml.at
Finding out about and getting involved in an ECML project

- Consult the project websites
  http://www.ecml.at/empowerment

- Contact international team members
  for direct communication on a particular project

- Contact participants from your country
  involved in a particular project
  http://contactpoints.ecml.at

- **Apply for participation at a project workshop at the ECML**
  - Check the online ECML calendar of events for dates and the required profile of participants
  - For an official nomination - contact your National Nominating Authority (if you are a resident of an ECML member state)
  - Participation at your own cost - contact the ECML directly (limited availability of places)
  http://coordination.ecml.at
  http://nomination.ecml.at
  information@ecml.at

Opportunities for work experience

6-month traineeships at the ECML for young graduates
http://traineeship.ecml.at

A special treat!

Celebrations on the European Day of Languages (EDL)
on 26 September each year
http://www.coe.int/edl

On the website:

- Events on the Day: promote your event online, view and search for events
- Interactive games, greeting cards, ‘language treasures’ and much more
- Stickers, posters, buttons, lanyards and other promotional materials