

Cohesion of competences, coherence of principles

Exploring theories and designing materials for teacher education



Aims

- Develop critical awareness about theories of language learning
- Link theory and practice in teacher education and in classroom practice



Objectives:

- Examine teacher education curricula in different countries to discover to what extent they include current theoretical aspects of language learning
- Examine materials commonly used in European classrooms and analyse underlying principles
- Present and discuss current theories and their consequences for the design of materials



- Consider how a variety of learning goals and perspectives may be harmonised to achieve cohesion of competences
- Develop principles relevant to materials design
- Compile, adapt and produce exemplary materials based on these principles



Process:

- Obtain an overview of theories and practices inherent in different curricula of language teacher education
- Focus on theories and practices which are missing in the above
- Develop a critical awareness of theories



Publication

- Presents current theories of language learning
- Outlines important principles relating to various competences
- Provides annotated samples of materials to support language learning



Workshop

Day 1:

- The role of theory in language education
- The communicative approach as the common denominator
- From theory to theories



Day 2

- Language learning theories
- Learner autonomy
- Intercultural awareness
- Reading literature as cultural dialogue
- Reflection and principles



Day 3

- Mediating between theory and practice
- Exploring and exploiting theory in relation to materials
- Educating for the 21st century: human rights and language
- Coherence of principles: classroom materials



Day 4

- Reflection on the week
- The publication
- Dissemination and networking