

EUROPEAN CENTRE FOR MODERN LANGUAGES, GRAZ

8th meeting of the Professional Network Forum on Language Education
Graz, 14-15 December 2017

DGII/EDU/GRAZ (2018)13 – 25 March 2018

Meeting summary

I. Opening of the meeting

<Appendix I: Agenda>

The meeting took place on 14-15 December 2017 at the ECML in Graz and was moderated by Sarah BRESLIN, Executive Director of the ECML.

The members of the Forum also welcomed the participation of Kristina CUNNINGHAM from the European Commission.

Representatives from the current members of the Professional Network Forum attended the network's 8th meeting:

- ACTFL – Meg MALONE
- AILA – Bernd RÜSCHOFF
- CEL/ELC – Jolanta URBANIK
- CercleS – Helena SAJGALIKOVA
- EALTA – Marita HÄRMÄLÄ
- EAQUALS – Peter BROWN; Lou McLAUGHLIN
- ECSPM – Bessie DENDRINOS, Gudrun GISLADOTTIR
- EPA – Arja KRAUCHENBERG
- EUNIC – Roy CROSS
- FIPLV – Terry LAMB
- ICC – Anthony FITZPATRICK
- OLBI – Jérémie SEROR, Nikolay SLAVKOV

- ECML – Sarah BRESLIN, Michael ARMSTRONG

- On this occasion, it was not possible for a representative from the Association of Language Testers in Europe (ALTE), the Federation of National Institutions for Language (EFNIL), or the International Association of Multilingualism (IAM) to attend the meeting.

For the first time the association EDiLiC Education et Diversité Linguistique et Culturelle was represented on the PNF through the participation of Michael CANDELIER.

II. Aims of the meeting

The primary aims of the meeting were to:

- offer the members of the Professional Network Forum a platform for information and exchange on the latest developments in language education;
- discuss the role of language education in the current European context and to what extent the members of the Professional Network Forum were responding to current challenges
- look at ways of attracting language professionals to get involved in European cooperation.

- inform on the current ECML programme and receive feedback with regard to the development of the next programme.

III Developments within the ECML

- 2017 represented the 2nd year of the ECML's 4 year *Languages at the Heart of Learning* programme. Approximately 1,850 language education professionals had participated in 83 events organised by the Centre in 22 countries. One of the mediation events, the colloquium on "Teacher education for linguistic diversity: the contribution of the ECML" which had also been open to the members of the Professional Network Forum had brought together over 50 experts from 23 countries and a live stream was followed online by almost 650 people (the different sessions are now available on the following [page](#): The event focused on progress been made in the area of pluralistic and pluricultural approaches in recent years, giving special emphasis to projects initiated by the ECML.
- 2018 represents the busiest year of the programme with a colloquium and 4 central workshops (which are open to nominations from the members of the Professional Network Forum (further details see Appendix III)), as well as 1 regional workshop, 5 network meetings and 36 national training and consultancy workshops. In addition, a think tank event on language learner pathways and a webinar on digital literacy are scheduled.
- A detailed presentation of the 8 development projects which started in 2016 was made by Sarah BRESLIN. The presentation, outlining the state of progress of each of the projects can be accessed at: <http://www.ecml.at/Portals/1/temp/projectpresentation1.pptx> A version with speaking notes is also available, upon request, from the secretariat. Flyers for each of the projects in the respective project working languages are available on the individual project websites and also in hard copy from the secretariat upon request.
- Training and consultancy activities have taken on a particularly significant role within the ECML programme. Of the ten offers of training and consultancy for member states, two receive financial support from the European Commission: 'Relating language curricula, tests and examinations to the Common European Framework of Reference' ([RELANG](#)) and '[Supporting Multilingual Classrooms](#)'. The latter co-ordinated by Terry LAMB (FIPLV) seeks to bridge the attainment gap between migrant learners and non-migrant pupils by drawing on a wide range of successful ECML projects and resources which focus on the linguistic integration of these learners. The initiative also featured within the "Teacher education for linguistic diversity" colloquium.
- One of the main challenges for the coming year is the development of the Centre's next programme of activities. Initial discussions have started with the ECML's statutory bodies to establish the structure of the next programme and identify the current and likely future priorities of the member states in the area of language education. In developing the Call for the next programme the ECML will need to look at how to attract the best expertise into the programme, highlighting, in particular for the younger generation, the benefits of getting involved with the Centre. The Call process represents a clear opportunity to inform and interest a wide new target audience in the work of the ECML

European Day of Languages (<http://edl.ecml.at>)

- The 2017 edition of the European Day of Languages¹ proved highly successful on all levels. Over 1,400 EDL events (200 more than in 2016) were registered in the online calendar of events. There was also a large increase in the number of visits to the website with 1.6 million in September (50,000 more than the same period in 2016.) and a huge response on social media.
- An objective this year was to ensure that people recognised that the Day as an initiative of the Council of Europe and to link it more closely to the ECML. This appears to have been successful, with a large number of national press articles referring to the Council in articles on the EDL. To this end a competition to set a world record for the largest number of videos on languages proved highly popular among schools, organisations and individuals, with over 2800 videos sent in. The competition inviting people to say 'why they love a particular language' produced a wealth of creative, well produced and often amusing video clips which are now hosted on the EDL website. Thanks to the overwhelming response a 'world record' has now been established in this area. A selection of some of the most creative videos can be found at the following address: <https://youtu.be/aRLUTEI16bM>
- For 2018 the following actions are envisaged:

¹ The Day was initiated jointly by the Council of Europe and the European Union during the European Year of Languages in 2001

- further languages will be added: offers have been received to translate the site into two additional languages: Maltese and Welsh;
- the range of promotional materials will be reviewed and updated;
- a PR event, similar to the video this year will be organised targeting as large a number of language learners as possible;
- the Centre will seek to identify an 'Ambassador' for the European Day of Languages who would further boost the profile of the Day.

On this last point a suggestion was made by ECSPM to contact the Danish actress, Tuva NOVOTNY, who speaks a wide range of languages and has starred in a number of Hollywood films.

IV. Update on network partner activities and recent/forthcoming events of the PNF members

The following section is a summary of the session where partners shared information on developments and initiatives with colleagues from other organisations within the PNF.

American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL) <http://www.actfl.org>

- ACTFL launched a 'Lead with languages' campaign in March 2017 which seeks to make languages a national priority. Currently less than 10% of American speak a foreign language and only 1% of students in the USA major in a language. The campaign focuses on the promotion of language learning and offers concrete reasons and examples why language learning is important: <http://www.leadwithlanguages.org>.
- Recent priority areas have been: Integration of language, culture, and content; Foreign language teacher development; Classroom discourse; High-performing language programs; Language use in the community; Research on practice in K-16 settings.
- ACTFL issued a press statement condemning the recent violence in Charlottesville, indicating that the language community stands united "...in rejecting intolerance and hate and look forward to working together toward a national healing process that begins in our classrooms with our students".
- Teacher shortage in the area of languages is a major issue within the USA. ACTFL is seeking to address this issue through the 'Educators Rising' initiative.
- ACTFL seeks articles on world language learning research for publication in its *Foreign language annals*. Members of the PNF were invited to pass on this information to research networks.

Annual convention

ACTFL Annual Convention and World Languages Expo (incorporating the FIPLV World Congress)
16-18 November 2018, New Orleans
<https://www.actfl.org/convention-expo>

International Association of Applied Linguistics (AILA) <http://www.aila.info>

- AILA has a membership of more than 8,000 individuals worldwide, who, as researchers, policy makers or practitioners, are active in the field of Applied Linguistics.
- AILA coordinates global networks, establishing research networks (ReN) for a period of 3 years on areas of specific priority. There are currently 18 ReNs, all of which are global in scale.
- Current priority areas are: Migration linguistics, Language sensitive education, Digital transformation in society and education, Cultural mediation competence, the Role of IT in the language classroom, role of global English and Reflective practice in teacher professionalisation.
- The next AILA world congress in Europe will take place in August 2020 in Groningen under the title of "The dynamics of language communication and culture in a changing world". AILA would like to coordinate a European strand with the ECML.

AILA World Congress

9-14 August in Groningen

<http://www.aila.info/en/congresses/upcoming-congresses.html>

AILA Europe Junior Research meeting

Essen, 10-11 September 2018

https://www.uni-due.de/jrm2018/index_en.shtml

Conseil Européen pour les Langues / European Language Council (CEL/ELC) <http://www.celelc.org>

- CEL/ELC promotes European cooperation of higher education organisations in the area of languages. Its are now based in the Universidade do Algarve
- The CEL/ELC forum took place on 30 November – 1 December 2017 and focused on Languages and the internationalisation of higher education. The event also marked 20 years of the organisation
- CEL/ELC currently has 3 Special Interest Groups focusing on the themes of:
 - ‘Languages in education’;
 - ‘Languages and sciences’;
 - ‘Languages policy; (PNF members interested in being involved with this group were invited to contact Jolanta URBANIK).
 - a group on ‘Languages and rights’ has to be reconvened - with another call being launched
- CEL/ELC also produces the [European Journal of Language Policy](#) in association with Liverpool University Press which is edited twice a year by Michael KELLY.
- In order to improve dissemination among PNF members it was suggested to compile a list of social media accounts (in particular Twitter and Facebook).

European Confederation of Language Centres in Higher Education (CercleS) <http://www.cercles.org>

- Approximately 350 language centres are currently members of CercleS which was established in 1991.
- CercleS has 12 full members and 16 associate members. It currently has 14 focus groups on areas such as the ‘ELP/CEFR’, ‘Language Testing and Assessment’ and ‘Language Policy’.
- CercleS produces the journal *Language learning in higher education* twice a year. The journal is open access.
- Members of the PNF are welcome to propose a presentation slot on the theme of quality assurance in higher education at the forthcoming conference in Trnava (see below).

15th International CercleS conference

Broad Perspectives on Language Education in the Globalized World

6 - 8 September 2018

The Centre of Languages and Communication, Poznan University of Technology, Poznan

<http://cercles2018.put.poznan.pl/>

CASALC/ CERCLES conference

Quality Assurance of Language Programmes at European Higher Education Institutions VII

14-15 June 2018

Trnava, Slovak Republic

<http://www.ucm.sk/sk/konferencia-casajc-2018/>

European Association for Language Testing and Assessment (EALTA) <http://www.ealta.eu.org/>

- EALTA is an association focused on professional working in the area of testing and assessment.
- Individual membership of EALTA is for free.
- In addition to conferences and workshops, EALTA organizes professional development webinars and summer schools.
- It currently runs 7 Special Interest Groups on the areas of: Classroom-based language assessment; Common European Framework of Reference for Languages; Assessment of writing; Assessment for academic purposes ; Assessing speaking; Signed language assessment; Migration.

15th EALTA conference

Technology-based language assessment: Benefits and challenges

25-27 May 2018, Bochum, Germany

<https://ealta2018.testdaf.de/>

Evaluation and Accreditation of Quality in Language Services (EAQUALS) www.eaquals.org

- EAQUALS has 143 accredited members across 36 countries. It generates its own funding. And works both with its own members and in partnership with other leading educational organisations in projects to develop tools needed in the profession.
- Lou MCLAUGHLIN was appointed as EAQUALS Executive Director in 2017.
- The association is working together with Oxford University Press to publish a series on language education management *Building quality language education*.
- EAQUALS is actively involved in two ECML projects related to the CEFR and in the Language Policy Programme's [Language Integration of Adult Migrants](#) project. . It was the progenitor of the Graz Declaration on language education in 2010.
- A CPD scheme, a Teacher award scheme and an Academic resource development project are all active in 2018.
- With regard to current challenges in the area of language education and assessment the following were highlighted: How to implement the new CEFR; Linguistic right and Implications of migration.

EAQUALS International Conference

26-28 April 2017, Prague

<https://www.eaquals.org/event/eaquals-international-conference-2018/>

Conference

Pathways that Inspire Us!

4-5 May 2018

Sabancı University Campus, Istanbul, Turkey

<https://www.eaquals.org/event/pathways-that-inspire-us/>

Éducation et Diversité Linguistique et Culturelle EDiLiC <https://www.edilic.org/>

- The EDiLiC association was founded in 2001, based on the Evlangues project (éveil aux langues / awakening to languages).
- EDiLiC focuses on pluralistic approaches to language education. Despite its relatively small size it is very dynamic in its activities
- EDiLiC is a sister association of ALA – the Association for language awareness. Its focus is somewhat different as it has a more pedagogical focus, is less research- and more teacher- focused and concentrates on multilingual language awareness.
- The association has a series of reports on how pluralistic approaches have been taken up within national/regional curricula around the world.
- Marie-Paule LORY (from the University of Toronto, Canada) was recently elected as president of the association.
- The next EDiLiC conference will take place in Lisbon in 2019.

European Parents' Association (EPA) <http://euparents.eu>

- The European Parents' Association currently has 24 full member organisations and lobbies at European level on behalf of approximately 150 million people. It is recognised by the European Union as a valid stakeholder representing parents and giving them a powerful voice in the development of education policies and decisions at European level.
- EPA will have the following thematic focuses for the next 3 years:
 - 2018 Equitable access to education;
 - 2019 Parenting for a healthy life;
 - 2020 Parenting in the digital age.
- On the second Tuesday of October every year, the European Day of Parents is celebrated to highlight the importance of parents and teachers working together for the benefit of children. In 2018 this will involve a video campaign.
- One of the challenges represents measuring the impact achieved at grassroots level. This is fostered through the involvement of EPA in projects and the development of resource materials for local contexts.

EPA General Assembly and 'Equitable access to education' conference

27-29 April 2018 in Brussels, Belgium

<http://euparents.eu/events/equitable-access-education-epa-annual-conference-ga/>

European Civil Society Platform for Multilingualism, (ECSPM) <http://ecspm.org/>

- The association, which is based in Copenhagen, seeks to voice the concerns of Europe's civil society, promoting multilingualism in all aspects of social life, by way of focusing on people, and on their ability to use a variety of semiotic resources to access education, social affairs and culture.
- ECSPM drafts policy documents with which to advise European bodies and individual European countries, and provide advice on how to implement relevant policies.
- The association which has 10 networks involving around 100 associations, creates opportunities for intercultural dialogue, but also for theoretically informed discussions on issues of multilingualism and diversity led by a multilingualism expert group.
- ECPSM participates in projects and research undertaken by academic and non-academic institutions and associations in Europe and beyond.
- Having functioned in the past in an advisory capacity to the European Commission, ECPSM continues to function as such with a view to ensuring that:
 - Europe's linguistic and cultural wealth is viewed and treated as an asset for Europe
 - research in related fields is funded
 - education for plurilingual and intercultural competences is available for everyone.
- With regard to future actions ECPSM is working on the following areas:
 - Research findings for policy development
 - Facilitating integration of migrants and refugees in superdiverse societies through education and civility
 - Intercultural citizenry in a plurilingual ethos of communication through the arts (by way of translation and mediation)
 - Social services, technology and language resources

European Union National Institutes for Culture (EUNIC) <https://www.eunicglobal.eu/>

- EUNIC comprises 36 national institutes and ministries responsible for cultural relations and cultural diplomacy within the 28 member states of the European Union. It includes over 100 clusters which deliver collaborative transnational projects and seek to connect cultures.
- Over the past 10 years EUNIC has evolved into a global network.
- EUNIC is chaired on a rotational basis by different cultural institutes. Currently the British Council has the chair.
- Since the [Language Rich Europe initiative](#) it has had limited focus on language issues.
- EUNIC suggested that the PNF members also consider taking up contact with the Network to Promote Linguistic Diversity (NPLD) as a possible new member of the PNF.

Fédération Internationale des Professeurs de Langues Vivantes / International Federation of Language Teacher Associations (FIPLV) <http://fiplv.com/>

- The organisation has a long tradition in supporting the teaching and learning of languages, promoting multilingualism and as an umbrella organisation in bringing networks in the area of languages and language education together.
- FIPLV holds world congresses ever three years, with the next one scheduled to take place in New Orleans in collaboration with ACTFL.
- FIPLV was the instigator of the LACS projects within the ECML programme, which most recently developed the 'Online directory of language associations/organisations' and the 'Guidelines and practical examples of using ECML resources in different contexts'.
- 3 new members joined FIPLV since the last meeting of the PNF: Serbia, Slovenia and New Zealand.
- FIPLV is now also a member of ESPCM.
- As an INGO FIPLV has participatory status at the Council of Europe and maintains official relations with UNESCO.

FIPLV World Congress 2018
16-18 November 2018. New Orleans, USA:
<https://fiplv.com/world-congresses/>

International Language Association e.V (ICC) <http://www.icc-languages.eu>

- Following the huge increase in economic and refugee migration from North Africa and the Middle East, the 2018 ICC conference will focus on language and cultural engagement. The event will look at several challenges: What are the most successful projects for migrant culture and language integration? What kind of society do we want to achieve? Is 'Multiculti' dead? If so, what can replace it to avoid sectarianism and internal strife? A strand of the event will also focus on new methods and technologies to facilitate learning and initiatives such as [Techfugees](#) and Raspberry pi.

ICC 2018 Conference
Migration, Communication, and Culture: Implications for languages education.
4-6 May, Santorini, Greece
<http://www.icc-languages.eu/conferences/25th-icc-annual-conference-2018-santorini>

Official Languages and Bilingualism Institute of the University of Ottawa (OLBI/ILOB)

www.olbi.uottawa.ca

- OLBI, based at the University of Ottawa, is the ECML Contact Point in Canada. Within a new Memorandum of Cooperation for the ECML's 2016-19 programme, OLBI will cover the cost of two students and two visiting scholars to work with the ECML in Graz for a 1-2 month period. OLBI is also currently involved in 8 of the projects of the Centre;
- The university is the largest French-English bilingual university in the world and has the largest university immersion programme in Canada.
- Nikolay SLAVKOV has taken on the role of Director of the Canadian Centre for Studies and Research on Bilingualism and Language Planning (CCERBAL). The Centre establishes and fosters research partnerships with civil society organizations, federal and provincial government agencies and departments, as well as with other academic units and research centres in Canada and abroad.
- OLBI has developed a linguistic [risk taking passport](#) to encourage students to dare to go out of their linguistic comfort zone and take the opportunity to communicate in their second language in a variety of situations. The initiative has proved very successful.

2018 CCERBAL Conference
Translanguaging: Opportunities and Challenges in a Global World
3-4 May 2018
University of Ottawa, Canada
<http://ccerbal.uottawa.ca/en/activities/conferences>
<https://www.facebook.com/Official-Languages-and-Bilingualism-Institute-13637213299/>
https://twitter.com/ILOB_OLBI

V. Dissemination/awareness-raising

Updated partner presentations

New PPT presentations received from ACTFL, AILA, EALTA, EAQUALS, ECSPM, EDiLiC, EPA EUNIC, OLBI have been added to the [Professional Network Forum](#) page. Other contributions received from partners containing details of updates can also be uploaded to this page.

Communication initiatives

- The members of the Professional Network Forum were invited to keep the ECML informed of forthcoming major events (such as those indicated above) which can be published in the Centre's Online International Events Calendar: www.ecml.at/internationaleventscaendar.
- In addition to promoting PNF events and presenting the respective Associations in the Gazette, the ECML welcomes proposals for news items or new publications releases which can be disseminated via various different media (such as the Gazette, ECML news page and social media).

- The ECML established a series of [thematic areas](#) covering 12 areas of expertise. In addition to introductions to each of the areas, these showcase ECML publications, projects and training and consultancy activities, feature interviews with project coordinators and provide details of experts in the respective areas, news articles, ECML and international events. The areas also promote other studies and publications by the Council of Europe, European Commission, resources from national bodies as well as materials developed by the members of the Professional Network Forum.
- In 2016, an 'Online directory of language associations/organisations' was established, featuring around 350 language associations in Europe. In 2017 the ECML contacted all associations to invite them to update details and propose new entries. The directory was originally established through the ECML's LACS project involving, among others, FIPLV, IDV, FIPF. All members of the PNF feature in the [directory](#). PNF members were invited, where they are umbrella organisations, to also encourage their member organisations to join the directory.

VI. The way ahead - European Union priorities

- Two publications of the Commission were distributed to the members of the Professional Network Forum: on the area of Multilingual Classrooms: [Language teaching and learning in multilingual classrooms EU priorities](#) (2015) and [Multilingual diversity in the light of Diversity: Lessons learned](#) (2017), an analytical report produced by NESET.
- One of the recommendations resulting from the NESET report was that 'the profound societal change caused by new migration patterns and increased mobility of EU citizens has created a need to re-think the *Key competence framework for lifelong learning* in the 21st century'.
- In the 2006 version of the *Key competences in lifelong learning* 8 competences were defined, including *Communication in the mother tongue* and *Communication in foreign languages*. In 2018 within the *Council Recommendation on Key Competences for Lifelong Learning* (SWD(2018)14final) these two competences have been modified to *Literacy competence* and *Languages competence*.
- Given the greater visibility of languages and their increased importance at a policy level, highlighted during President Macron's speech on the future of Europe on 26 September 2017, and further confirmed by the [European Council](#) in December 2017, the Commission is now working on a draft Recommendation on language learning.
- In order to prepare the Recommendation, a large group of stakeholders was invited to feed into this process at a meeting in Brussels in February (including the ECML and the members of the Professional Network Forum). The Commission aims for the Recommendation to be published in May.

With regard to other recent publications of the Commission:

- An intermediate report from the EC's Unit for Schools and Multilingualism [Rethinking language education in schools](#) has been published, with the full report *Rethinking language education and linguistic diversity in schools: Learning and maintaining languages* due to be published shortly.
- [Preparing teachers for language diversity](#) was published in 2017.

With regard to other aspects of the Commission's work on languages and language related areas:

- Multilingualism remains at forefront of recent Commission initiatives. DG Translation is the most powerful translation organisation in the world today – working in parallel with DG connect. DG Regio which focuses on boosting growth in border regions – also seeks to boost bilingualism in border regions.
- Calls for proposals under [ERASMUS+](#) are currently open with the deadline for strategic partnerships in educations and training being 21 March.
- 2018 is the [European Year of Cultural Heritage](#)
- The [Federal Union of European Nationalities](#) (FUEN), an umbrella organization representing the civil society of the autochthones, national minorities and regional or minority languages in Europe has initiated a citizens' initiative on a 'Minority safe pack' for the safety of the national minorities. The 'safe pack' is a set of EU legal acts that enable the promotion of minority rights, language rights, and the protection of their cultures. The initiative requires 1 million signatures before April to oblige European institutions to take up this issue (at the time of writing it has received 820,000 signatures).

VII. The way ahead – Council of Europe priorities

- The Council of Europe education programme for 2018-19 is comprised of three parts: 'Competences and qualifications', including language education contributing to the education of learners as democratic citizens, 'Inclusive approaches to education', including work on language education for

migrant/refugee children and adults and 'Ethics and integrity in education'. Each part is underpinned by capacity building and cooperation activities which will be aimed at policy makers and teacher trainers in particular. This format has been inspired by the training and consultancy activities of the ECML.

- In 2017 both the [CEFR Companion Volume with New Descriptors](#) and the [Language Support Toolkit for Adult Refugees](#) were published.
- The political importance of education has significantly increased within the Council's work. The 2018-19 Education programme, seeks "to support public authorities and education actors in addressing the major challenges of European societies: the disengagement of citizens, weak participation in public space, populism, xenophobia, competences required to function in modern societies".
- The decision by the Russian Federation to withhold a substantial part of its contribution to the 2017 Ordinary budget of the Council of Europe and by Turkey to cease to be a 'major payer' within the organisation meant that a number of activities originally scheduled for the 2nd half of 2017 had to be postponed or cancelled and adjustments have to be made for activities in 2018.

VIII. The next ECML programme 2020-23

With regard to the next ECML programme individual members of the PNF suggested that:

- the ECML should try to ensure that the selling point of the next programme is professional learning. With its international focus the ECML is a unique institution which can provide an exceptional learning experience;
- the Call and information about the programme should be made as user-friendly and easily digestible as possible;
- social media should be used to promote the programme and to involve young people to a greater extent in the work of the Centre;
- the ECML should try to ensure that project teams have a balance of more experienced and younger members. Bringing in emerging professionals represents a valuable investment for the future;
- The Centre should analyse the processes behind successful projects to give hints for the next programme.

With regard to issues that the ECML should consider addressing within the programme, the members suggested the following:

- Language education in higher education
- Impact of the use of English as the language of instruction at university
- Transition from school to university
- Rethinking what literacy and competence mean in a multilingual context
- For the European Day of Languages: communicating in a multilingual and multimodal way

The members supported the inclusion of think tanks within the next programme as a means of capturing and harnessing expertise on specific priority areas of the Centre's member states.

They also supported the idea of having a Call for training and consultancy activities to be offered within the next programme.

IX. Closing remarks

With regard to the next meeting of the Professional Network Forum, the members suggested that:

- the meeting should be linked with an ECML colloquium to allow them to participate within this event;
- each of the member associations should consider inviting a young colleague to attend the Professional Network Forum meeting as a means of passing on the experience within the Forum to the next generations of language professionals.

EDiLiC was formally invited to become a full member of the Professional Network Forum.

The ECML agreed to propose dates for the next meeting in a separate correspondence with the members of the Professional Network Forum.

APPENDIX I

8th ECML Professional Network Forum**Thursday 14 December****At the cutting edge: latest developments in policy, research and practice in language education****Opening:**

14.30– 15.00

- Welcome to ECML
- Introductions
- Agenda overview and purpose

Update on developments within the ECML

15.00 -16.00

Session 1: Update on network partner activities- latest developments*(each organisation will have 10 minutes + question time)*

16.00 -16.30

Coffee break

16.30 -17.30

Session 1 (cont.): Update on network partner activities- latest developments*(each organisation will have 10 minutes + question time)***Friday 15 December****The way ahead**

09.00 – 09.30

Hold for completion of update on partner activities

09.30 – 10.30

European Union priorities**Council of Europe priorities:**

- CoE education programme 2018-19
- The next ECML programme 2020 -?

10.30 -11.00

Coffee break

11.00 – 12.30

Maximising the potential of the PNF network**Group work**

- Future events
- Identifying the synergies
- Joint promotion
- Addressing the challenges together/furthering the cause of languages

12.30 – 13.00

Feedback from group work/concluding remarks/agreed actions

13.15 onwards

Buffet lunch + informal exchange among PNF members *(for those who can stay on)*

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APPENDIX III

Key ECML dates in 2018

12-13 September 2018

Workshop 1/2018 “Inspiring language learning and teaching in the early years
Why it matters and what it looks like for children age 3-12”

Coordinator: Flore Schank, Luxembourg

Co-animators: Ingeborg Birnie, United Kingdom; Déirdre Kirwan, Ireland; Dana Musilova, Czech Republic;
Jakob Patekar, Croatia

Working languages: English and French, with simultaneous interpretation

Participants' profile:

Professional background:

Participants will have a professional background in early years' education and will be responsible either

- for the (initial) training and continuing professional development of those who work in the field of pre-primary and primary education or
- for Early Language Learning.

Expected involvement/tasks before, during and after the event:

Before:

- Engaging critically with the tools and resources that will be presented on the project website;
- the link to these resources will be sent to participants with their letter of invitation;
- Identifying how these might be used in their particular curricular context;
- Participants will be invited to suggest further resources and examples of inspiring practice.

During:

- Contributing to the discussions on creating a shared understanding of the principles and approaches which contribute to inspiring language learning and teaching in the early years;
- Applying the principles to the individual context of the different ECML member states.

After: Disseminate the tools and resources identified in this project through their networks.

Project site: www.ecml.at/inspiringearlylearning

European Day of Languages

27 September 2018

Website: <http://www.coe.int/edl>



3-4 October 2018

Workshop 2/2018 “Towards a Common European Framework of Reference for language teachers”

Venue: ECML, Graz, Austria

Coordinator: Lukas Bleichenbacher, Switzerland

Co-animators: Francis Goullier, France; Richard Rossner, United Kingdom; Anna Schröder-Sura, Germany

Working languages: English and French, with simultaneous interpretation

Participants' profile:

Professional background:

- Language teacher educators;
- Curriculum designers, their employers/supervisors (director of studies);
- Teachers

Experience, competences required:

- familiarity with instruments and publications by the Council of Europe and others, such as FREPA, EPOSTL, and the Equals Framework, that describe teacher competences or aspects of language education in general.
- Experience with dissemination of Council of Europe/related instruments, and with using/assessing competence descriptions

Expected involvement/tasks before, during and after the event:

- familiarisation with/use of/feedback on project products, ability to pilot/share experience, dissemination

More details to follow.

Project site: [Teacher competences](http://www.ecml.at/teachercompetences)

23-24 October 2018

Workshop 3/2018 "Language for work: tools for professional development"

Venue: ECML, Graz, Austria

Coordinator: Matilde Grünhage-Monetti, Germany

Co-animators: Alex Braddell, United Kingdom; Christophe Portefin, France; Kerstin Sjösvärd, Sweden

Working languages: English and French, with simultaneous interpretation

Participants' profile:

Professional background:

- teacher trainers working in the field of adult second language learning;
- teacher trainers working in the field of vocational education and training;
- providers of work-related second language learning for adults;
- researchers with an interest in work-related language development;
- national skills policy makers;
- workforce development professionals;
- employer and trade union representatives.

Experience, competences required:

- expertise/professional interest/practical engagement in professional development of practitioners working in the fields of adult second language learning and/or vocational education and training;
- readiness to engage with interdisciplinary issues and with participants from diverse professional backgrounds; capacity to support professional development in this field.

Expected involvement/tasks before, during and after the event:

Before:

- review arrangements in own country/region relevant to vocational language learning for migrant/ethnic workers;
- review professional development arrangements for practitioners in own country/region relevant to vocational language learning for migrant/ethnic workers;
- review (briefly) Language for Work website

During: Active participation, e. g. involvement in small group work, discussion of professional development practice in own and other countries/regions

After: Willingness to disseminate results in own country/region

Project site: www.ecml.at/Languageforwork2

15-16 November 2018

Workshop 4/2018 "A roadmap for schools to support the language(s) of schooling"

Venue: ECML, Graz, Austria

Coordinator: Rebecca Dahm, France

Co-animators: Katri Kuukka, Finland; Selin Öndül Talegon, Switzerland; Nermina Wikström, Sweden

Working languages: English and French, with simultaneous interpretation

The workshop will focus on :

- Piloting;
- Training and professional development;
- Dissemination.

Participants' profile

Professional background:

- head teachers and teachers of primary and secondary schools

More details to follow.

Project site: www.ecml.at/roadmapforschools

December 2018 – to be confirmed

Colloquium and Annual meeting of the ECML's Professional Network Forum

Venue: ECML, Graz, Austria