



# Towards a Common European Framework of Reference for language teachers



[www.ecml.at/teachercompetences](http://www.ecml.at/teachercompetences)

The project aims to improve language teacher education and development by examining and defining language teaching competences. It will highlight the crucial part that teachers play in ensuring innovative, high quality language education for their learners.

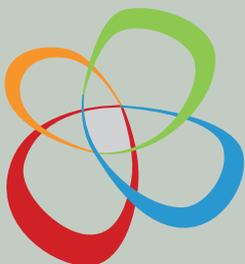
The starting point will be a catalogue of the existing key instruments and publications which describe different dimensions (knowledge, skills, attitudes, and values) of language teacher competences in a variety of areas. These include linguistic and metalinguistic competences, classroom methodology, and plurilingual and intercultural competences, among others.

The focus is on teachers at successive stages of their careers involved in different areas of language education:

- 'generic' foreign language teaching in different stages of the curriculum
- subject teaching in other languages
- education in the language of schooling
- and further specific contexts, such as adult education

The resources are for

- teacher educators
- those developing teacher education programmes
- learners



## Envisaged outputs

- A user guide for existing competence frameworks and instruments for language education that have been developed by the Council of Europe and other organisations
- Practical examples of how the existing tools are used in various contexts, including critical reviews and references to national curricula
- An inventory of key language teaching competences
- An examination of the need for, and feasibility of, a CEFR for Language Teachers

## Envisaged outcomes

- Better quality language education and autonomous professional development for language teachers and teachers of all subjects
- Greater international transparency and coherence in language teacher education
- A deeper understanding and broader awareness of the role all teachers play in developing the linguistic repertoire of their learners
- Dialogue and greater agreement on the key role that language teachers play in education

## Related resources

- European Portfolio for Student Teachers of Languages  
[www.ecml.at/epostl](http://www.ecml.at/epostl)
- A framework of reference for pluralistic approaches to languages and cultures  
[www.ecml.at/carap](http://www.ecml.at/carap)
- European portfolio for pre-primary educators  
[www.ecml.at/pepelinio](http://www.ecml.at/pepelinio)

### PROJECT PERIOD

January 2016 – December 2019

### WORKING LANGUAGES

English, French

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The ECML is a Council of Europe institution promoting excellence in language education in its member states.

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