ECML PROGRAMME
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Languages at the
heart of learning

EUROPEAN CENTRE FOR
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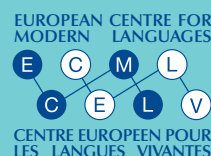
Promotion excellence in sign language instruction

www.ecml.at/prosign

ProSign resources integrate sign language education into Council of Europe developments in language education, especially the Common European Framework of References (CEFR). Highlights are an adaptation of the CEFR levels to sign languages in a modality neutral version, a model of a signed version of the European Language Portfolio (ELP) and approaches to assessment in this field. All information is available in International Sign and in English.

The resources have been developed in a bottom-up process involving deaf experts and experienced sign language teachers from inception to completion.

Team

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Resources

an assessment guide with test examples for classroom based and other types of testing

a European language portfolio (ELP) for sign languages learners and a Moodle platform

a list of teacher competences and curriculum guidelines for teacher training

sign language proficiency levels and background information about the CEFR

The resources are for

- sign language teachers
- sign language teacher educators
- curriculum developers, and professionals involved in sign language teaching and assessment

PRO**SIGN**

Instructions for learners – assessment structure

The development of assessments to evaluate language learners' proficiency is the consequence of the teaching and learning of a sign language. Assessment procedures can include different test formats, such as a self-assessment test, checklists, observation or standardized language tests. These test formats can evaluate sign language comprehension, production, and interaction at different linguistic levels. The assessment of sign languages can be conceptualized in a summative and formative framework.

The concept of assessment can also be understood as a pedagogic tool; for example assessment can mean providing feedback on an in-class assignment for language learners or feedback on an assignment language learners had to complete at home.

Structure eELP for sign languages

The three components **language passport, language biography and dossier** support the objective of the ELP.

Sign language communication is carried out both face-to-face and using video (e.g. via the internet).

Moodle offers a suitable open-source virtual learning platform (**https://moodle.prosign. ecml.at**). Using the platform, learners can classify their documents according to the categories – **comprehension, production and interaction**.

prosign podcast christian rathmann

Possible production task
(competence level B2 according to the CEFR)

Compe-tence level	Discretionary descriptors	Structure of the testing procedure	Examples
B2	Can hold a subject-specific conversation Can understand complex topics in detail Can express him- or herself clearly and in detail in technical terms Can provide information on current events	Having sign language statements on realistic everyday topics performed by native users Reduction of memorising as part of the task Providing two short key words or buzz words relating to a specific topic Video recording of 5 to 8 minutes maximum	Recent elections Security issue Culture days of the deaf Deaf festival

Appendix 4
Name: _____

Learning experience – learn sign languages outside the classroom
Date:
1. Enter your own experiences
2. Ask your partner for her/his experiences.

	Me	My partner
I use breaks to sign with fellow students		
I do research on the internet about sign languages		