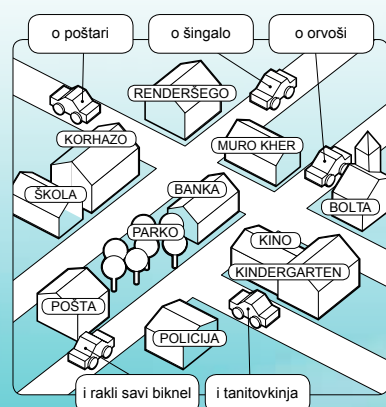




QualiRom - Quality education in Romani for Europe

An offer of training and consultancy to ECML member states¹

Under this offer the European Centre for Modern Languages seeks to assist member states through the provision of training supporting quality in education in Romani in accordance with local needs - building upon the foundation already provided by an extensive range of QualiRom materials.



Introduction

The “Quality education in Romani for Europe” (QualiRom) project, carried out in 2011-13 under the European Commission’s Key Actions 2 programme, focused on raising literacy levels in Romani and on training teachers of Romani. It set out to promote the inclusion of Romani in education systems and to contribute to the integration of speakers of the language. The initiative sought to do so by improving the educational situation of Roma children, raising the self-esteem of Romani speakers, contributing to the emancipation of people with a Roma background, and promoting equality of opportunity as a basic human right.

Offer of QualiRom training and consultancy

Based on the success of the project, the ECML, together with the original coordinators of QualiRom, the Plurilingualism Research Unit, Karl-Franzens University (Graz, Austria), and other partners now offer member states the possibility to request support in this area through training and consultancy activities. The activities which take place at national level promote the use of the impressive Qualirom resources developed - both in teacher development programmes and directly with learners in countries with Roma populations.

¹ Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Iceland, Ireland, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Romania, Serbia, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Sweden, Switzerland, “The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

A databank of teaching and learning materials for Romani

The initiative has published an extensive databank of teaching and learning materials for teachers of Romani (<http://qualirom.uni-graz.at>). The materials developed in six Romani varieties range from proficiency levels A1 to B2 for learners at primary, secondary and tertiary levels and constitute the largest resource of its kind for the teaching and learning of the Romani language based on European standards. The databank comprises 39 sets of materials (some 16 000 pages!) in Arlije Romani, East Slovak Romani, Finnish Romani, Gurbet Romani, Lovara Romani and Kalderaš Romani.

The materials use a task-based approach and can be adapted to the specific needs of particular educational contexts. To ensure their effectiveness in the classroom the materials have been developed and piloted in close cooperation with local Romani teachers as well as national educational authorities in five countries: Austria, the Czech Republic, Finland, Slovakia and Serbia.

Needs identified

The Curriculum Framework for Romani (CFR) was developed by the Language Policy Unit of the Council of Europe as part of a comprehensive response by the Council of Europe to Roma and Traveller issues. The need for such support measures has been expressed in numerous international resolutions including Recommendation No R(2000)4 of the Committee of Ministers to member states on the education of Roma/Gypsy children in Europe, the Warsaw Declaration of Heads of State and Government of the member states of the Council of Europe (May 2005), the action plan attached to the Warsaw Declaration and the Committee of Ministers Recommendation CM/Rec(2009)4 on the education of Roma and Travellers in Europe. Moreover, the Secretary General has recently made a commitment to develop a Council of Europe thematic Action Plan on Roma issues.

For further details on this offer please visit:

www.ecml.at/qualirom

Contact: information@ecml.at

Overall objective of QualiRom

The training and consultancy activity seeks to build upon the foundation already provided by QualiRom (materials, training CFR) to offer member states training in accordance with local needs:

- consultancy on the Curriculum Framework for Romani for curriculum development
- consultancy and training on the Curriculum Framework for Romani and corresponding European Language Portfolios for textbook writing and materials development
- training on the use of QualiRom materials (and the possible localization of these materials)
- consultancy and training based on the QualiRom teacher training module

Target groups

- policy makers, decision takers and curriculum developers
- text writers and materials developers
- teacher trainers and teachers
- institutions and agencies involved in training teachers of Romani and Romani teaching

Activities

- 2–day consultancies / workshops with defined target groups as specified above

Results and impact envisaged

The immediate results/benefits will be to:

- raise awareness of the ethos and pedagogical implications of the CFR and accompanying ELPs
- inform curriculum developments designed to provide for the teaching and learning of Romani
- develop classroom skills in the use of the CFR, ELPs and QualiRom materials
- inform the development of local initiatives to provide qualifications/accreditation for teachers of Romani

The impact and long-term benefit will be to contribute at all levels of education systems to the integration of Roma pupils.

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