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Participant report on the ECML Summer Academy 2024 to the National Authorities

Event report

Please complete this form at the latest **by 21.09.2024**. It contains two sections:

1. **Reporting:** this section focuses on feedback to your National Authorities on the event, on what you feel you learnt, on how the event will affect your work and on how you intend to share that learning with others. With your agreement, it will also be published by the ECML¹ in the “Experts involved in ECML activities” section of each ECML member state website (please see <http://contactpoints.ecml.at>).

This section should be written in either English or French.

2. **Public information:** this is a short, promotional text on the event (around 200 words) which should be of interest to a larger audience in your country. One way to do this is to make reference to key publications or developments that were discussed at the event, and which are of interest in your country.

This section should be written in (one of) your national language(s).

The completed file should be sent to:

- the ECML National Nominating Authority and Contact Point in your country and in copy to the ECML GB member and to katarina.vuksic@ecml.at. Contact details for your Nominating Authority, Contact Point and Governing Board member can be found here: [ECML/CELV > About us > Member State Representation](#)

¹ Please complete the authorization form to allow the ECML to publish your contact details.

1. Reporting

Your name	Dr. Natalia Ermakova
Institution	University of Potsdam
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Brief summary of the content of the event	During the Summer Academy, 25 dedicated representatives from various European countries gathered at the ECML in Graz to learn from experienced experts and from each other. While the main focus was on teacher education in the field of language teaching, the summer academy offered a diverse range of innovative and important topics beyond just teacher education, such as AI, rethinking the role of language learning in the modern world, the superdiversity of classrooms, and teacher identity. By the end of the Summer Academy in Graz, we had found partners for joint projects that will continue beyond the event, ensuring the sustainability of its outcomes.
What did you find particularly useful?	Shared resources, experiences, and ideas; new contacts from other European countries; opportunities for immersion in a wide variety of topics and exchanges with colleagues.
How will you use what you learnt / developed in the event in your own professional context?	<p>First of all, together with my colleagues from the Summer Academy, I will continue to pursue the ideas and goals established during our time in Graz and further develop our joint project.</p> <p>Secondly, during the Summer Academy itself, I began using shared resources (primarily from the ECML), and I still use them in my daily work.</p> <p>Finally, I have gained a lot of knowledge about new areas and topics that I would like to explore further in my future work, enhancing my competencies and broadening the spectrum of my professional interests.</p>
How do you plan to share what you have learned/discovered with others in your country?	Each year, I actively participate in an annual conference focused on the didactics of Slavic languages, attended by researchers and educators from Germany and Austria. At these gatherings, I contribute to discussions and engage with fellow professionals in exploring innovative teaching methodologies. Additionally, I have fostered a robust network of dedicated lecturers specializing in Russian, Ukrainian, and Polish language instruction across both countries. I am enthusiastic about convening an informal meeting within this network to share insights gained from the Summer Academy and explore collaborative opportunities for implementing new ideas. I see potential for joint projects that we could pursue by applying for funding from organizations such as DAAD or other relevant sources.

Furthermore, my colleagues and I are actively cultivating deeper partnerships with schools in the Brandenburg region. This initiative presents a valuable opportunity to disseminate the knowledge, and practices acquired from the Summer Academy, not only to my university peers but also directly to my students in teacher education programs and to practicing teachers in schools. By leveraging these partnerships, we aim to enhance the quality of language education and contribute to the professional development of educators in the region.

2. Public information

Short text (about 200 words) in one of your national languages to help promote the ECML Summer Academy to a wider public.

Die Sommerakademie des Europäischen Zentrums für moderne Fremdsprachen (ECML) in Graz bietet eine einzigartige Möglichkeit zum Austausch mit Kolleginnen und Kollegen sowie Expertinnen und Experten aus verschiedenen europäischen Ländern und zum intensiven Eintauchen in aktuelle und relevante Themen wie die Rolle des Sprachenlernens in Zeiten der KI, den Umgang mit der extremen Heterogenität der Klassenzimmer („Superdiversity“) und das Neudenken der Rolle der Lehrkraft, ihrer Identität und Kompetenzen.

Das Programm der Sommerakademie ist sowohl intensiv als auch vielseitig und schafft unglaublich viel Raum für das Kreieren und Austauschen von Ideen und Erfahrungen: Nicht nur während der Gruppenarbeit oder im Anschluss an die inhaltlich reichen Vorträge, sondern auch bei gemeinsamen Ausflügen und beim Entdecken schöner Ecken von Graz und Umgebung haben die Teilnehmenden die Möglichkeit, sich besser kennenzulernen und zu vernetzen. Das von Expertinnen und Experten vermittelte Wissen und die hilfreichen geteilten Ressourcen (insbesondere vom ECML selbst) können sofort in die eigene Praxis integriert werden und bereichern sowie erleichtern den beruflichen Alltag.

Innovation und Inspiration sind die beiden Schlüsselwörter, die im Titel dieser Sommerakademie stehen und sehr treffend und präzise ihre Inhalte widerspiegeln. Nach keiner anderen Veranstaltung fühlte ich mich so motiviert und kehrte so aufgeladen mit neuen Ideen zurück wie nach dieser Sommerakademie. Herzlichen Dank an die Organisatorinnen und Organisatoren für ihre großartige Arbeit!