

Participant's report

to the National Nominating Authority and the National Contact Point

Meeting report

In the three weeks after the event, please complete this report. It contains two sections:

1. **Reporting:** this is intended as a feedback on the event, on what was learnt, on how the event will affect your work and on how it will be disseminated. In addition to the ECML National Nominating Authority and the National Contact Point in your country the ECML will use the report¹ 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 one of the project's working languages.

2. **Public information:** this is intended as an information on the ECML project and its expected value for your country. The content should be of interest for a larger audience. Thus it should link up to interesting publications, websites, events etc. which were discussed on the occasion of the workshop or which are relevant in your country. The public information should be a short, promotional text of about 200 words.

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 the National Contact Point in your country (contact details can be found at <http://www.ecml.at/aboutus/members.asp>)
- and in copy to ECML Secretariat (Erika.komon@ecml.at)

within the given deadline.

1. Reporting

¹ Only if you authorised the ECML to publish your contact details.

Name of the workshop participant	Hertian Gauci
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Title of ECML project	Diversity in majority language learning (MALEDIVE)
ECML project website	http://www.ecml.at/F4/tabid/843/language/en-GB/Default.aspx
Date of the event	14 / 15 February 2013
Brief summary of the content of the workshop	The meeting was intended to discuss majority language teacher education and aim to provide concrete tools and study modules based on plurilingual approaches. It also served the purpose of building collaboration between language teachers and language subjects throughout the EU member states.
What did you find particularly useful?	Language diversity in the majority language classroom is a relatively new issue in Malta but with the increasing number of foreign students inside Maltese schools, awareness on such an issue will lead to inclusion of these foreign students inside the mother language classrooms and in schools in general.
How will you use what you learnt/ developed in the event in your professional context?	By adapting a new perspective on language diversity and utilising a holistic approach which will integrate the various linguistic backgrounds that the learners can offer.
How will you further contribute to the project?	By checking the ECML project website regularly for updates and testing what has been discussed during the workshop for future reference / discussions.
How do you plan to disseminate the project? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - to colleagues - to a professional association - in a professional journal/website - in a newspaper - other 	to colleagues - Raising awareness on the use of language diversity and the use of different languages in the majority language classroom. other - reporting to the Maltese authorities of education the issues mentioned in the

1. Public information

Short text (about 200 words) for the promotion of the ECML event, the project and the envisaged publication with a focus on the benefits for target groups. This text should be provided in your national language(s) to be used for dissemination (on websites, for journals etc.).

The aim of the project is to move away from prevailing monolingual approaches towards majority language teaching and teacher education and instead, promoting an enriched view of educational flexibility and adaptation. The pedagogical view of the project perceives language diversity inside the majority language classroom as potentiality, rather than deficiency.

The project has a rather innovative perspective on how to deal with language diversity inside the majority language classroom. The aim of the ECML is to support European citizens in their linguistic development and due to the great influx of migration in recent years, foreign students with different linguistic abilities and varieties are present in every school. These can offer much more than we think as their linguistic repertoire could be used as a tool inside the majority language classroom, which is typically characterised by a monolingual environment that leaves little space for multilingual development.

There should be a change in mind set in majority language teaching which has to shift from monolingualism to plurilingualism. Language diversity inside the classroom should be seen as potentiality rather than disability and therefore this project will focus on these statements through the development of modules for pedagogical use.