



Relating language curricula, tests and examinations to the Common European Framework of Reference

In recent years, the Council of Europe's Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR) has become a powerful instrument for shaping language education policies.

The growing acceptance and use of the CEFR levels of language proficiency has created a situation in which, all over Europe, public bodies, examination institutes, language schools and university departments seek to relate their language curricula and examinations to the CEFR.

The RELANG initiative responds directly to the challenges outlined in the **European Council Recommendation on a comprehensive approach to the teaching and learning of languages** (22 May 2019): namely, the continued need to align language learning, teaching and assessment to the **Common European Framework of Reference for languages** (CEFR) and its **Companion Volume**.

For further details on the RELANG initiative, the workshops taking place and how to get involved, please visit the website:

www.ecml.at/relang



Objectives

The long-term objective of the initiative is that language tests and examinations used in participating states ensure the valid assessment of learners, and that learners' test performances are expressed in terms of CEFR levels which are valid, understood and widely accepted. As part of the initiative, a series of national workshops in participating states are offered to address such issues as the principles of:

- exploring alternative, continuous methods of assessment in line with the CEFR and its Companion Volume
- testing mediation and pluricultural/plurilingual skills in the classroom
- testing literature and creative texts in line with the CEFR and its Companion Volume
- constructing valid language tests and examinations based on the CEFR and its Companion Volume
- relating existing language tests and examinations to the CEFR and its Companion Volume
- relating foreign/second language curricula to the CEFR and its Companion Volume

Support materials will also be developed and adapted to the specific needs of the participating states.

Outputs

- Training workshops for local and regional multipliers in participating EU and ECML member states offering:
 - modules for training in relating foreign language curricula to the CEFR
 - modules for training in developing valid language examinations linked to the CEFR
 - screening reports of existing tests and examinations in relation to the CEFR
- Support for local and regional multipliers through an online platform in developing language tests and examinations linked to the CEFR

Team members



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Who is this for?

- Curriculum developers
- Teacher trainers, pre-service and in-service
- Language testers and examiners
- Item writers
- School inspectors
- Policy makers



This initiative is carried out within the framework of a cooperation agreement between the European Centre for Modern Languages and the European Commission, entitled **Innovative methodologies and assessment in language learning**.

www.ecml.at/ec-cooperation