



# Greater Region

## Annotated bibliography

Document title, year of publication	<p><i>Dimensions interculturelles des projets d'apprentissage transnationaux. L'accord sur l'apprentissage transfrontalier Sarre-Lorraine</i></p> <p>(equivalent to: Intercultural dimensions of transnational training programmes. Agreement on Cross-Border Training Saarland-Lorraine)</p> <p>2019</p>	
Complete bibliographic references, access (DOI), if possible	<p>Dorka, Sophia; Frisch, Julia (2019): "Dimensions interculturelles des projets d'apprentissage transnationaux. L'accord sur l'apprentissage transfrontalier Sarre-Lorraine", in: Busch, Matthias; Frisch, Julia; Wegner, Anke (eds.): Europa leben lernen. Apprendre à vivre l'Europe. Tagungsband zur 1. Edu-Gr-Tagung an der Universität Trier, available at <a href="https://ubt.opus.hbz-nrw.de/opus45-ubtr/frontdoor/deliver/index/docId/1307/file/Tagungsband_EduGR.pdf">https://ubt.opus.hbz-nrw.de/opus45-ubtr/frontdoor/deliver/index/docId/1307/file/Tagungsband_EduGR.pdf</a>, accessed 27 November 2023.</p>	
Type of publication	Scientific article	Theory
Language(s)	<p>French</p> <p>German (cf. remarks)</p>	
Key words	<p>cross-border vocational education and training (VET); cross-border VET agreement Saarland-Lorraine; intercultural learning; cross-border labour market; Greater Region</p>	
Abstract	<p>The article reviews the development and implementation of the Abkommen zur grenzüberschreitenden Berufsausbildung Saarland-Lothringen (2014) (Agreement on Cross-Border Training Saarland-Lorraine). In this context, the article focuses on intercultural and systemic challenges that exist when it comes to the implementation of the agreement. This includes, for instance, the following questions: What organisational and intercultural challenges do trainees and employees need to overcome? What possibilities exist for overcoming these challenges? What future perspectives do trainees see for themselves? Is the agreement an opportunity to increase cross-border VET in the Greater Region?</p>	
Content and main	<p>The Abkommen zur grenzüberschreitenden Berufsausbildung Saarland-Lothringen (Agreement on cross-border training Saarland-Lorraine), passed in 2014, offers adolescents from Saarland and Lorraine the opportunity to benefit from cross-</p>	

Findings	<p>border vocational education and training (VET). Trainees complete the theoretical training part at their vocational school in their country of origin and the practical part at a company in the neighbouring country. During the first training cycle with 12 trainees, primarily from Lorraine, several difficulties were identified, such as miscommunication, lack of information about practical implementation and insufficient language skills. Consequently, these organisational challenges were addressed and reduced in the second training cycle. Nevertheless, various challenges remained, including intercultural and systemic differences relevant for the further development and implementation of the agreement, insufficient language proficiency among trainees and limited options for public transportation. Some of these challenges are discussed in more detail in the article, such as different training systems, financing, social recognition of degrees and language proficiency and education. In the context of language learning and teaching, one of the main objectives of the agreement is to reduce language barriers by completing the theoretical part of the training in the country of origin and the practical part in the neighbouring country. However,, the agreement does not include additional measures to support and promote language learning and teaching in this specific cross-border VET context. The organisation and financing of language learning are seen as two key factors that reduce motivation to participate in the cross-border VET programme for both trainees and employees. Furthermore, Dorka and Frisch state that the trainees who have participated so far are highly motivated, have good grades, very good language skills and a positive attitude towards living and working in the cross-border region. The extent to which adolescents with less motivation, insufficient language skills and little interest in living and working in a cross-border region will participate in this VET programme remains to be seen.</p> <p>Dorka and Frisch conclude that while trainees and employees appreciate the cross-border VET programme, several challenges still exist. To build on previous achievements, Dorka and Frisch recommend improving communication between different actors involved, organising better options for public transportation, fostering knowledge of different training systems and considering the introduction of a double degree. Additionally, they suggest incorporating language and intercultural learning and teaching into the program.</p>
Remarks	<p>This article is also available in German:</p> <p>Dorka, Sophia; Frisch, Julia (2020): "Interkulturelle Dimensionen transnationaler Ausbildungsprojekte. Das Abkommen zur grenzüberschreitenden Ausbildung Saarland-Lothringen", in: Lüsebrink, Hans-Jürgen; Rampeltshammer, Luitpold (eds.): Staat, Wirtschaft und Arbeitsbeziehungen in Deutschland und Frankreich. Vergleichende Perspektiven im europäischen und globalen Kontext. État, économie et relations de travail en France et en Allemagne. Perspectives comparatistes dans le contexte européen et global. Saarbrücken: universaar Saarland University Press, available at <a href="http://universaar.uni-saarland.de/monographien/volltexte/2020/186/pdf/Staat_Wirtschaft_Arbeitsbeziehungen.pdf">http://universaar.uni-saarland.de/monographien/volltexte/2020/186/pdf/Staat_Wirtschaft_Arbeitsbeziehungen.pdf</a>, accessed 28 September 2020.</p>

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