



# 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 offers training to stakeholders in the member states of the European Union and the European Centre for Modern Languages (ECML) in relating language curricula, tests and examinations to the CEFR in a valid and equitable way.

It also proposes a wide range of tailored modules, focusing not only on foreign language curricula and foreign language assessment/testing but also on assessment of second language acquisition.

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

[www.ecml.at/relang](http://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:

- Principles of relating foreign language curricula to the CEFR
- Principles of test construction in relation to the CEFR
- Principles of linking tests and examinations to the CEFR
- Practical tips and exercises in test construction and linking procedures
- Screening of existing tests and examinations in relation to the CEFR

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](http://www.ecml.at/ec-cooperation)