

**European
Language Council**

**Conseil Européen pour
les Langues**



**Workshops surrounding the 15th General Assembly
Workshop Three - “Brainstorming on future thematic priorities of the
CEL/ELC – 2014-2020”**

Background

Since the creation of the CEL/ELC in 1997, successive CEL/ELC Boards have made every effort to square the circle of interests – EU language (education) policy – language education policy of the Council of Europe (CoE) - language (education) policies of member institutions and organisations. The CEL/ELC has tried to do so through launching EU and CoE education and research projects relevant to its members, in line with EU and CoE policies, and by setting up working groups which enabled member institutions and organisations to express and exploit their common interests - in other words, to engage in policy development. In all this, the CEL/ELC has been at pains to adhere to its transversal mission, i.e. to focus on the whole area of languages – language teaching and learning, translation and interpreting, modern language degrees, teacher education, testing and assessment of language competences, policy relevant research – to mention just the most important ones. Since the middle of the first decade of the 21st century, the CEL/ELC has also concerned itself with other sectors of education - languages in primary and secondary education, including vocational training. It has also sought to co-operate with European strategic partners – EUA, ACA, EURASHE, ENQA, ESU – in an attempt to find common ground.

The current CEL/ELC Board is, however, aware of the fact that times have changed as a result of the following developments – globalisation; internationalisation in many fields of human activity, including enterprise, higher education and research; the EU enlargements of 2004, 2007, and 2013; the continuing revitalisation of regions in Europe, including cross-border regions; increasing intra-European mobility and intra-European trade; migration into Europe; major advances in technology; the creation of a European Higher Education Area and of a European Research Area.

The Board would be immensely grateful if member representatives intending to attend the Workshop could send us an indication of what their thematic priorities are ahead of the Workshop. Just ONE sentence. Please send your message to erasmspr@zedat.fu-berlin.de before 25 November.

Needless to say, in all this we also have to take into consideration the policies being promoted by the European Commission and the Council of Europe. However, given the current climate, we have to make our own voice felt.

We envisage the following scenario.

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PLENARY SESSION ONE

Chair : Wolfgang Mackiewicz

- (i) Introductory comments (Wolfgang Mackiewicz)
- (ii) Presentation of the topics proposed by participants (Anne-Claude Berthoud); if appropriate, brainstorming on further priority topics

Brief interval for the formation of thematic discussion groups.

THEMATIC GROUP SESSIONS

Each thematic group selects a rapporteur.

Group discussions could be structured as follows

- (i) Why is the topic relevant?
- (ii) Elaboration of the topic
- (iii) How should the topic be further developed - task force, special interest group, project
- (iv) Which participants would like to take the topic forward?

PLENARY SESSION TWO

Chair: Anne-Claude Berthoud

- (i) Reports from thematic group sessions
- (ii) General discussion
- (iii) Conclusions (Anne-Claude Berthoud)
- (iv) Closing comments (Wolfgang Mackiewicz)