

3rd Intergovernmental Conference

Quality in the linguistic integration of adult migrants: from values to policy and practice

www.coe.int



INTRODUCTION TO THE CONFERENCE

Richard Rossner, EAQUALS

Rapporteur

Background to the conferences

- The Council of Europe has organised three conferences since 2008, each preceded by a survey of Member States' language requirements for adult migrants.
- The surveys are designed to create a pool of information, and to monitor periodic changes.
- In addition, in order to respond to needs expressed by Member States, the Council of Europe has created various background papers and practical resources on the linguistic integration of adult migrants.

Aims of Council of Europe conferences on LIAM

- a. To provide a forum for the exchange of views among representatives of Member States who are concerned with the linguistic aspects of immigration**
- b. To hear the views of participants on the resources available so that future resources respond to the actual needs of the Member States.**

NOTE

LIAM = 'the linguistic integration of adult migrants'

ILMA = 'l'intégration linguistique des migrants adultes'

the first seminar (2008): aims

- To present the results of the first survey of policy and practice in Member States
- To explore Council of Europe principles related to language policies for the integration of adult migrants
- To generate ideas for the development of further Council of Europe resources for LIAM
- To emphasize the need for quality assurance in language programmes
- To address key issues in language testing and assessment

The 2010 conference

Title: *The Linguistic Integration of Adult Migrants: towards the Evaluation of Policy and Practice*

Aims:

- To address language issues related to family reunification, permanent residence, nationality/citizenship, and access to the labour market
- In doing so, to consider key issues around the evaluation of policy and practice in these areas.

The 2010 conference: content

discussion of key topics related to LIAM, such as:

- Developing curricula and training programmes
- Applying CEFR principles
- Dealing with different migrant needs
- The training & development of teachers of migrants
- Quality assurance of course provision
- Evaluating the effectiveness & impact of courses
- Incentivising migrants to participate in courses
- After language courses, what then?

Aims of this third conference

- A. To foster the exchange of views and the sharing of experience among participants**
- B. To encourage participants to discuss and identify additional priority areas for the Council of Europe's work in LIAM**
- C. To encourage wider use of the Council of Europe's resources and support**

Content of this third conference

DAY 1

1. Information about - and discussion of - new Council of Europe initiatives designed to respond to the needs expressed by participants in previous conferences:

- The resources contained in the Council of Europe's new website dedicated to LIAM
- The recent PACE Recommendation on integration tests
- The *Guide to Policy Development and Implementation*
- the results of the 3rd Council of Europe survey (2013).



Content of this third conference

DAY 1 (continued)

2. Discussion in small groups focusing on issues raised by these new Council of Europe resources, and by the results of the third survey

3. Information about other relevant projects that illustrate what can be done:
 - The ECML's *Language for Work* project
 - The Swiss Office for Migration project on responding to adult migrants' language needs.

Content of this third conference

DAY 2

4. Reports from Member States that have piloted Council of Europe tools, to serve as examples that may encourage other Member States to take advantage of these and related resources
5. An Open Forum at which questions and issues raised by participants can be discussed
6. information about the OECD's and the European Commission's work in the area of LIAM
7. Information about some city-level initiatives to support the integration of adult migrants, including their linguistic integration.

In summary...

Apart from information-sharing, this conference is mainly a forum for participants to exchange opinions and experiences, to discuss their needs and to identify priorities for future Council of Europe work

- The working groups will enable each participant to express their views
- The open forum will enable any participant to raise issues by submitting questions in advance.