

4th INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ACHIEVING EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL MIGRANTS THROUGH LEARNING AND ASSESSMENT

*Language and knowledge of
society requirements for migrants
in Council of Europe member states*

www.coe.int/lang-migrants

Co-organised by the Council of Europe
and the Association of Language
Testers in Europe (ALTE)

16 October 2019
Strasbourg
Palais de l'Europe, Room 1



DRAFT PROGRAMME

08.30 - 09.15 Registration of participants

09.30 - 10.00 Welcome and opening addresses

Chair: **Sjur Bergan**, Head of Education Department, Council of Europe

Matjaž Gruden, Director of Democratic Participation, Council of Europe

Andrew Dawson, Member of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe and Rapporteur on languages, United Kingdom

Waldemar Martyniuk, Chair of the ALTE Executive Committee, Jagiellonian University, Kraków, Poland

10.00 - 11.00 The 2018 Council of Europe and ALTE survey on language and knowledge of society policies for migrants

Chair: **Dr Michael Remmert**, Head of Education Policy Division, Council of Europe

Introduction and Survey data and results - Part I: **“Language and Knowledge of Society requirements prior to entry, for residence permit and citizenship”**

Dr Bart Deygers, Member of the ALTE Executive Committee and LAMI SIG¹, KU Leuven, Belgium

“Survey data and results - Part 2: **“A comparison of Language and Knowledge of Society requirements across various contexts; Learning opportunities; Implications on vulnerable groups”**

Dr Lorenzo Rocca, Member of the ALTE Executive committee and Chair of the LAMI SIG, Università per Stranieri di Perugia, Italy

11.00 - 11.30 Coffee break

11.30 - 12.00 The 2018 Council of Europe and ALTE survey on language and knowledge of society policies for migrants (continued)

“The trends in language and knowledge of society requirements from 2007 onwards and some policy recommendations”

Prof Cecilie Hamnes Carlsen, Member of the ALTE Standing Committee and LAMI SIG, Western Norway University of Applied Sciences

Questions from the floor

12.00 - 12.30 Critical reflections

Chair: **Ahmet Murat Kilic**, Programme manager, Education Policy Division, Council of Europe

“Developments in language and knowledge of society policies”

Prof Piet van Avermaet, Ghent University, Belgium

12.30 - 13.30 Buffet lunch (offered by ALTE)

¹ Language Assessment for Migration and Integration (LAMI) Special Interest Group (SIG)

13.30 - 14.30	Critical reflections, (continued)
	<p>“The impact of language and knowledge of society requirements on integration” Dr Ricky van Oers, Radboud University, Nijmegen, The Netherlands</p> <p>“Language and knowledge of society requirements and human rights” Prof Elana Shohamy, Tel Aviv University, Israel</p> <p><i>Discussion</i></p>
14.30 - 14.45	The Council of Europe study on human rights aspects of immigrant and refugee integration policies
	Elvana Thaçi , Legal adviser, Office of the Secretary General's Special Representative on Migration and Refugees, Council of Europe
14.45 - 15.30	Panel: “Language and knowledge of society requirements and learning opportunities: challenges for the Council of Europe member states”
	<p>Moderator: Joseph Sheils</p> <p>Panellists: Piet van Avermaet Ricky van Oers Elana Shohamy</p> <p><i>Discussion</i></p>
15.30 – 16.00	Coffee break
16.00 - 16.30	Concluding remarks
	<p>Waldemar Martyniuk, General rapporteur of the conference</p> <p>Sjur Bergan, Head of Education Department</p>

BIOGRAPHIES

Cecilie Hamnes Carlsen teaches second language acquisition and language assessment at the Western Norway University of Applied Sciences in Bergen, Norway. From 1997 to 2017 she worked as a test developer of high-stake tests of Norwegian for adult migrants, a work she was leading from 2011 to 2017. Her recent and current research interest is on the way tests are being used and misused by different agents in society and the consequences they bear on test-takers' lives and future opportunities. Since 2015 she has been co-chairing the CEFR special interest group in ALTE.



Andrew Dawson is a Councillor representing Frodsham on Cheshire West and Chester Council ('CWaC'). CWaC serves a population of 330,000 in northern Cheshire in England's North-West. He also serves on the Cheshire Police and Crime Panel and on Frodsham Town Council. He started his career as a lawyer in local government service and later became a partner in an international law firm. He has been re-elected 5 times subsequently since 2007 and was re-elected again in May 2019. Andrew joined the Congress of the Council of Europe in 2016 as part of the UK delegation and is, amongst other things, rapporteur for minority languages.

Bart Deygers is a postdoctoral research fellow at the Centre for Language and Education (KU Leuven, Belgium). His research examines and questions the role and impact of high-stakes tests in today's society. Human rights, justice and fairness are central to his publications and research, which focus on how high-stakes language tests impact low-literate learners, how university admission language requirements determine the educational opportunities of international students, and how migration policies are shaped in Europe and Australia.



Waldemar Martyniuk is a Professor at the Centre for Polish Language and Culture of the Jagiellonian University in Krakow, Poland. He holds a Ph. D. in Applied Linguistics and is a teacher trainer, author of several textbooks, curricula, and testing materials for Polish as a foreign language. He has been Visiting Professor and lecturer at universities in Germany (Bochum, Giessen, Goettingen, Mainz, Muenster), Switzerland (Basel), and in the USA (Stanford University). He was seconded to the Council of Europe, Language Policy Division in Strasbourg, 2005-2006, and served in 2008-2013 as Executive Director at the European Centre for Modern Languages in Graz, Austria. Since October 2016 he is Executive Director of the JU Centre for Polish Language and Culture and since February 2018 Chair of the Executive Committee at the Association of Language Testers in Europe (ALTE).

Lorenzo Rocca has a degree in Classics and a postgraduate degree in the Didactics of L2 Italian. After having been a teacher of Italian as a Foreign Language, he has worked at the CVCL (Centre for Evaluation and Language Certification) since 2004. His duties range from marking and examining to item writing and running seminars. Since 2006 he is responsible of research projects focused on the link between teaching and evaluation in the migration context. He has published the specifications for the CVCL exams for adult migrants and the Italian descriptors for low literacy profiles. Lorenzo is the chair of LAMI (Language Assessment for Migrants' Integration) in ALTE (Association of Language Testers in Europe) since 2008 and he is a member of the Council of Europe LIAM project since 2014. In 2019 he assumed the role of responsible for all the activities of the CVCL, within the University for Foreigners of Perugia.





Joe Sheils worked on the development of modern languages curricula and teaching/learning materials in Ireland. This led to involvement in the Modern Languages Projects of the Council of Europe, and he is the author of a Handbook illustrating the practical impact of the Council's work in member States: "Communication in the Modern Languages Classroom". He joined the language policy team at the Council of Europe in 1992, initially to support the CEFR project, and subsequently had responsibility for the Council's language education policy programmes under the auspices of the (then) Steering Committee for Education (now CDPPE). Its activities developed intergovernmental co-operation in modern languages, minority languages and the languages of schooling, in the perspective of a coherent, holistic approach to plurilingual and intercultural education. He initiated the LIAM project initially in response to the increasing use of the CEFR in migration contexts. He is now retired.

Elana Shohamy is a Professor of Multilingual Education at Tel Aviv University where she teaches and researches various issues of multilingualism as they relate to testing and assessment, language policy, immigration and linguistic landscape; her current testing research is on multilingual assessment. She authored *The power of tests: A critical perspective on the uses of language tests* (2001), *Language policy: Hidden agendas and new approaches* (2006), and edited *Testing and Assessment* volumes of *The Encyclopedia of Language and Education* (Springer, 2009 and 2018) and books and articles in *Linguistic Landscape (Languages in public space)*. Elana was granted the ILTA Lifetime Achievement Award in language testing (2010).



Piet Van Avermaet is Professor in 'Language and Diversity' in the Linguistics Department of Ghent University, Belgium, where he teaches 'multicultural studies', 'multilingualism in education', 'language, diversity and globalisation' and 'language policy'. He is also Director of the Research Centre for Diversity & Learning at the same University. He has a long-standing expertise in the field of diversity, language and social inequality in education. He is series co-editor (with Kathleen Heugh and Christopher Stroud) of the book series 'Multilingualisms and Diversities in Education', Bloomsbury. His expertise and research interests cover topics related to multilingualism in education, social inequality in education, language policy and practice in education, language policy and practice in contexts of (social) inclusion, language assessment, diversity and inclusion, integration and participation, discrimination in education, migration.

Ricky van Oers is a lawyer who defended her PhD research *Deserving Citizenship. Citizenship Tests in Germany, the Netherlands and the UK* (Brill, 2014) at the Radboud University (Nijmegen, the Netherlands) in 2013. The book was awarded a study prize by the Praemium Erasmianum Foundation in 2014. Besides her PhD research, Van Oers has been involved in numerous other international research projects, including the NATAC and EUCITAC-projects which compared nationality legislation in EU Member States and the INTEC-project, which provided an evaluation of changes in integration policies in seven EU Member States by offering detailed and reliable information on the content and the impact of compulsory elements in national integration policies. She furthermore coordinated research projects into the implementation in the EU Member States of the directives on family reunification and long-term resident third country nationals. Ricky van Oers studied law at Radboud University and the Université Paris Descartes.



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