Universities as drivers of socio-academic integration in multilingual Europe

UNITED IN DIVERSITY, UNITED IN MULTILINGUALISM

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UNITED IN DIVERSITY

Tower of Babel, Pieter Brueghel the Elder, 1563

European Union
MULTILINGUALISM, A NATURAL HUMAN ENVIRONMENT

- Between 6000 and 7000 languages in the world
- UNESCO: languages as a part of the intangible cultural heritage of humanity

“Mother tongue or mother language refers to a child’s first language, the language learned at the home from older family members” (UNESCO, 2003, p. 15).

- 40% of the children in the world don’t have opportunity to learn in their mother language
- 21st February - *International Mother Language Day*
- 50% of languages are in danger of extinction
- 90% of the world’s language patrimony risks disappearing during 21st century
- *Atlas of World’s Languages in Danger*
UNESCO and several normative instruments:

- **Universal Declaration of Human Rights (Article 2):** “Everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms set forth in this Declaration, without distinction of any kind, such as race, color, sex, language, religion…”

- **Declaration on the Rights of Persons Belonging to National or Ethnic Religious and Linguistic Minorities (1992)**

- **Universal Declaration of Linguistic Rights (1996)**

- **Universal Declaration on Cultural Diversity (2011)**

- **Recommendation concerning the Promotion and Use of Multilingualism and Universal Access to Cyberspace (2011)**
MULTILINGUALISM AND EUROPEAN LINGUISTIC LANDSCAPE

- 225 languages or 3% of the earth language potential
- Indo-European language group: Germanic languages, Romance languages and Slavic languages
- Basque language: entirely unrelated to any existing or extinct language
- More than 60 regional languages
- EU: European democratic and cultural concept of living together
- 513 million citizens, 28 Member States
EU language landscape: the most widely spoken mother language is German (16%), followed by English and Italian (13% each), French (12%) and Spanish as well as Polish (8% each).

EU official languages are also less widely spoken languages as Slovene and Estonian.

54% of Europeans are bilingual.

Moreover 25% of Europeans are able to communicate in at least two additional languages and 10% in at least three.

Five most widely spoken foreign languages in the EU: English (38%), French (12%), German (11%), Spanish (7%) and Russian (5%).
MULTILINGUALISM AND EU LINGUISTIC POLICY

➢ Treaty of the European Union: the EU “shall respect its rich cultural and linguistic diversity, and shall ensure that Europe's cultural heritage is safeguarded and enhanced” (Article 3).

➢ The EU Charter of Fundamental Rights: “The Union shall respect cultural, religious and linguistic diversity”.

➢ Strategy for Multilingualism (2005): language learning and promoting linguistic diversity in society, promotion of multilingual economy and giving citizens access to EU legislation in their own languages.

➢ 2008, Model: mother tongue + 2 languages
2009: Piccolingo campaign: “learning foreign languages at an early age does not just provide children with advantages for their future careers but also make them more open to and interested in other cultures” (L. Orban, EU Commissioner for Multilingualism).

European Charter for regional or minority languages (1992 and 1998) provides: “development of minority language legislation, policy and practice, enabling and encouraging the use of regional or minority languages in all domains of public life, from education, media and culture to public administration, courts and economic activities”.

Teaching and learning less widely spoken languages: “recognize the plurality of the languages of Europe and the multilingualism, actual or potential, of all those who live in this space, as a condition for collective creativity and for development, a component of democratic citizenship through linguistic tolerance, and therefore as a fundamental value of their actions in languages and language teaching” (Pr Riitta Piri member of EU Policy Division).

Language policy in the EU implements multilingualism at two different levels: at the level of the individual and at the level of Member States.
COIMBRA GROUP INITIATIVE: SUMMER SCHOOL ON EUROPEAN MULTILINGUALISM

DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT
DEVELOPMENT & COOPERATION BETWEEN CG UNIVERSITIES AND PARTNER UNIVERSITIES BY USING THE E+ KA107 MOBILITY TOOL
Coimbra Group Summer School on European Multilingualism – Expression
Project’s Schematic Drawing Concept

**COIMBRA GROUP**

**UNIVERSITIES IN E+ KA1 PROJECT:**
- Fostering the role of European languages and culture teaching/learning at the partner universities
  - European Languages
  - European Regional Minority and LWULT (Less Widely Used and Less Taught) Languages

**ENGLISH (FOR GENERAL COURSES)**

**HEBREW MODERN GREEK**

**LANGUAGES**

**LANGUAGE TEACHING**

**LANGUAGE APPLICATIONS**

**WORKSHOP**

**COIMBRA GROUP E+ KA1 PARTNER UNIVERSITIES:**
- Promotion of European Languages Teaching/Learning at the Host Universities
- Promotion of the Host Languages
- Promotion of the New Language Learning Methods
- Promotion of Professional Insertion in the Field of the Language Application and Cultural Economy
- Fostering the Role of Coimbra Group in European Language and Culture Teaching
GOALS

➢ Fostering the European Multilingualism
➢ Promoting language teaching and learning at the EU and partner universities
➢ Strengthening the teaching/learning Less widely spoken languages
➢ Increasing the cooperation among CG and partner universities in order to support the development, cooperation and the modernisation of the HEI
➢ Boosting the role of languages in the labor market
ACADEMIC EXCHANGE AND MOBILITY WORKING GROUP

➢ Taking the information from each CG university and creating the global CG mobility map in the framework of the E+KA107

➢ CG mobility map: data base helping in selection of partner/geographic zone/cultural area

DEVELOPMENT & CO-OPERATION WORKING GROUP

➢ Choosing the partner university that the most CG members have in their E+ mobility program

➢ Launching the call among CG universities

➢ Certain CG members decide to apply for the E+KA107 programme if they want to take part in the CGSS
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CGSS AT PARTNER UNIVERSITY: COORDINATING BY D&C WG

After establishing the list of CG universities that will take part in the CG regional event, the WG D&C contacts the partner university.

Organising procedure: establishing the dates, general conditions, topics, cultural program, etc. in order to prepare the CGSS as regional event.

Course’s distribution between CG teachers and partner teachers, preparation of the teaching material and the CG certifications, analysing of the specific needs in the partner and regional HEI.

Workshop 1: Theoretical approaches on European multilingualism (in English)

Workshop 2: Translingual and transcultural competencies

Workshop 3: Intercultural classroom

Workshop 4: Discovering language workshop/ Hebrew or modern Greek

Workshop for teachers: Roundtable meeting in order to develop the collaboration in the field of research/teaching: E+ KA2 Projects
FIRST COIMBRA GROUP SUMMER SCHOOL ON EUROPEAN MULTILINGUALISM

- 30th JUNE - 7th JULY 2018, FIRST COIMBRA GROUP SUMMER SCHOOL: UNIVERSITY OF NOVI SAD, SERBIA
- 5 CG UNIVERSITIES: BOLOGNA, GRANADA, GRAZ, SALAMANCA, and POITIERS (COORDINATOR)
- REGIONAL EVENT: 28 STUDENTS FROM SERBIA, BOSNIA and HERZEGOVINA, NORTH MACEDONIA, MONTENEGRO, AND EU COUNTRIES
- 8 TEACHERS FROM COIMBRA GROUP UNIVERSITIES AND 8 TEACHERS FROM UNIVERSITY OF NOVI SAD
- 3 ECTS
SECOND COIMBRA GROUP SUMMER SCHOOL ON EUROPEAN MULTILINGUALISM

- 29th JUNE - 6th JULY 2019: UNIVERSITY OF SARAJEVO (BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA)

- 5 CG UNIVERSITIES: EDINBURG, GRANADA, POITIERS (coordinator), SALAMANCA, WURZBURG AND CG OFFICE

- 52 STUDENTS FROM BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA, SERBIA, NORTH MACEDONIA, MONTENEGRO, AND EU COUNTRIES

- 11 CG TEACHERS AND 10 TEACHERS FROM UNIVERSITY OF SARAJEVO

- 3 ECTS
SAINT PETERSBURG STATE UNIVERSITY - COIMBRA GROUP MEMBER

D&C WG is currently preparing an implementation plan for the next summer/winter
OUTCOMES

➢ PROMOTING THE EUROPEAN VALUES IN THE FIELD OF MULTILINGUALISM AND LANGUAGE POLICY

➢ EXPANDING NEEDS FOR LANGUAGE DIVERSITY, TRANSLATION, AND LANGUAGE COMPETENCES IN THE FIELD OF CULTURAL ECONOMY

➢ PROMOTING TEACHING/LEARNING EU LANGUAGES

➢ PROMOTING INTERCULTURAL COMMUNICATION AND MEDIATION

➢ PROMOTING THE E+ KA107 PROGRAM & E+ K1, K2, and KA3 ACTIONS

➢ PRODUCING A NEW QUALITY IN THE FIELD OF TEACHING/LEARNING LANGUAGES BY USING E+ KA107 TOOL

➢ FOSTERING THE COLLABORATION BETWEEN REGIONAL AND EU UNIVERSITIES: WORKING IN NETWORKS

➢ IMPACT AND DISSEMINATION ON THE PERSONAL, REGIONAL AND EUROPEAN LEVEL
“The language of Europe is translation”.
Umerto Eco
COIMBRA GROUP
SUMMER SCHOOL

Erasmus+