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Graz, 27 June 2023

**RE: Nomination of participants to the ECML-EC colloquium** “Regional and minority languages within a plurilingual context” within the framework of the ECML’s joint action with the European Commission *Innovative methodologies and assessment in language learning*, 7 November 2023

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**Venue:** ECML, Graz, Austria

**Date:** 7 November 2023

**Participants:** 1 delegate per member state of the ECML and the European Union, to be nominated by the national nominating authorities

**Working languages:** English and French, with simultaneous interpretation

**Deadline for nomination:** 14 September 2023

**Information on the colloquium:** [www.ecml.at/RMLcolloquium](http://www.ecml.at/RMLcolloquium)

### Colloquium focus

This stock-taking event will focus on educational practice in contexts where Regional and minority languages (RMLs)<sup>1</sup> are prevalent. It will highlight examples of practice where RMLs are part of the curriculum and/or a language of schooling which are potentially transferable/adaptable to other contexts. The event will primarily address pedagogical aspects in relation to curricula, teacher education and classroom practice and look at the further support required by the professional community in this area.

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<sup>1</sup> In the context of this colloquium the ECML is using the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages’ definition of a “regional or minority language” i.e. a language that is:  
*i traditionally used within a given territory of a State by nationals of that State who form a group numerically smaller than the rest of the State's population; and*  
*ii different from the official language(s) of that State; it does not include either dialects of the official language(s) of the State or the languages of migrants.*

### **Objectives of the colloquium**

- strengthen awareness of the importance of regional and minority languages - promoting diversity at all levels;
- take stock of current actions in this wide area and highlight examples of classroom practice and teacher education which are potentially transferable/adaptable to other contexts;
- promote cooperation and synergies where possible among stakeholders;
- identify pedagogical needs of the RML professional community, with a view to developing further action at an international level in the form of a project and/or research on issues of key concern.

### **Expected outputs of the workshop (for the participants)**

- familiarisation with examples of innovative educational practice related to RML's in a wide variety of contexts in Europe and gaining an insight into current European initiatives in this area;
- identification of opportunities for networking and exchange with colleagues working on similar issues in different countries;
- contribute to the shaping of further activities in this area at pan-European level;
- promotion of own activities in the area of RMLs.

### **Expected products to be developed as a result of the colloquium**

- A website of examples of practice where regional and minority languages are part of the curriculum and/or a language of schooling, based on a variety of different contexts and educational levels

### **Profile of participants**

#### ***Professional background***

- Language education professionals (teachers/teacher educators/curriculum developers) at any educational level who are actively involved with classroom practice in relation to regional and minority languages
- Educational administrators /policy makers actively engaged with regional and minority languages in national education systems

#### ***Expected involvement/tasks before, during and after the event***

**Before:** Completion of a concise template on the participant's activities in the area of Regional and Minority Languages

**During:** Discussing and reflecting on pedagogical aspects in relation to curricula, teacher education and classroom practice and looking at the further support required by the professional community in this area

**After:** Networking and further development of certain case studies with a potential for transfer and adaptation to different contexts, dissemination of the materials