

The European Curriculum for Classics

Alfred Reitermayer

In december 2004 the Directorate-General for education and Culture of the European Commission published the progress report of the working group „Languages“ (http://europa.eu.int/comm/dgs/education_culture):

„Each country should have a set of carefully formulated and clearly stated **objectives** for language teaching at the various stages of the education system, going from stimulation of mutual respect and language awareness to acquisition of specific linguistic skills. The starting age for learning languages and the methodologies to be adopted should be decided in the light of these objectives” (In: Implementation of the education and Training 2010 work programme working group „Languages“ progress report, december 2004, p.20). National authorities should establish **transparent certification** systems based on the **Common European Framework of Reference for Languages**” (ibid. p. 25)

Mentoring does not seem to be a major problem in most countries, whereas dual or multiple recognition of language teaching qualifications is not widespread and could be an area worth stimulating. (ibid. p. 29)

The European Curriculum for Classics can be used now as a mentor or base for a Certificate for Classics both in Latin and Ancient Greek with different levels in Latin and Ancient Greek . You can find a pool with different test examples on Euroclassica’s new Learning Platform (www.sprachenstudio.net) . The goal of the European Latin and Ancient Greek exams is to provide an opportunity for students to demonstrate their knowledge of Greek and Roman world as a base of European culture and Romance languages. The students should be able to make a recherche, to comprehend, translate and analyze Latin/Ancient Greek texts as outlined in the European Standards for Classics.

When the Curriculum is finished for the congress of St. Petersburg (September 2007), it should be sufficient for policy recommendations in the European Commission. An official accreditation should start the **Euroclassica Latin** and the **Euroclassica Ancient Greek Exam** as soon as possible.

EUROPEAN CERTIFICATE FOR CLASSICS (ECCL)

Competences for Level 1/Vestibulum: Basic grammar, translation or recherche; questions of comprehension (50 minutes, free quantity of words only for recherche)

Competences for Level 2/Janua: Translation, questions of elaboration (50 minutes, 70-100 words for translation)

Competences for Level 3/Palatium: Free translation in accordance to the pupil's mother tongue. It focuses on primarily the emotional and creative levels, not so much on a scientific one. (100 minutes, 100-130 words for translation)

Competences for Level 4/Thesaurus: Translation of an original text, questions of elaboration, knowledge of historical background, personal opinion (150 minutes, 130-170 words for translation)

Level 4 EXCELLENCE

International competitions (free quantity of minutes, usually 150 minutes; free quantity of words)

Common rules for tests: Each test combines both one part of translation or recherche and another one of elaboration. The translation has a value of maximum 60 points, the elaboration a maximum of 40 points. The addition of both parts is the final result.

90 - 100 points: A

80 - 89 points: B

70 - 79 points: C

60 - 69 points: D