

7. Meeting

Place: University of St. Gallen (HSG) (CH)
Date: 4-6 April 2014
Project Partners: Viktor Anders (AT), Tatjana Mahler (AT), Olga Bramley (UK), Inna Khromova-Plehanova (SE), Anna Kasenova (SE), Olga Malysheva (DE), Hannah Gramlich (DE), Sergej Prokopkin (DE), Thomas Hentschel (DE), Dr. Elena Denisova-Schmidt (CH)

Dr. Elena Denisova-Schmidt, the host, gave a short overview of the current situation with heritage languages in Switzerland as well as the consequences raised by the referendum of 9 February 2014 and the temporary exclusion of Switzerland from Erasmus+ and some other programs. After this, the floor was given to Thomas Hentschel, who moderated a discussion on the following topics:

1. Didactical recommendations for working with bilinguals
2. Preparing the planned outcome (Module 2)
3. Using the results in professional education and curriculum development

The list of institutions providing training for pre-school teachers prepared by Austrian partners was taken as an example and debated. There are some cross-cultural differences: In some countries, those teachers are trained at universities (for example, in Finland and partly in UK). Some partners still need to submit their lists ASAP.

The link to VET or IVT should be obvious in the list.

Discussion on dissemination of results:

- Important that project partners now are actively looking for ways to contact potential stakeholders, especially colleges of professional education
- Also please not the difference in educational system in European countries- that should be mentioned with some remarks...

In the next publication we should mention ways the project could be further developed: The aim is that partners can use the results to apply for further funding on a regional basis.

Cooperation between state schools and schools offering supplemental education (for example, in heritage languages) should be developed. Some public schools in the UK have many migrant students with a low level of English. Language assistants (professionals, native speakers) accompany those students in classes and support them in the learning process. There is also some cooperation between state schools and schools offering HSK lessons in some Swiss cantons.

Extracurricular activities might be a sufficient tool for maintaining and developing heritage languages. Those activities might include work with families and various cultural and sporting events (summer camps, sport competitions, music festivals). The example of the London School of Russian Language and Literature was raised.

The brochure for Module 2 is being edited by George Bramley (UK). Olga Bramley will take a look at the final version in the first third of May. Question to the Publisher: May we submit the manuscript on 15 May?

The project will have the following outcomes:

2 Brochures:

Bilium, Part I, Retorika A 2014 (published)

Bilium, Part II, Retorika A 2014 (in the editing process)

1 Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Bilingual-and-Multilingual-Education-Bilium-Project/237268429809357>

1 website:

<http://www.phil.uni-greifswald.de/fmz/projekte/bilium.html>

1 movie:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=udeY1tqN0tM>

The final meeting for the German-speaking partners will take place in Greifswald, Germany (4 June 2014).