## TEACHING METHODOLOGIES FOR VET LESSONS The CLIL approach

# Enhancing language education in cross-border vocational education

Christina Reissner, Saarland University, research group GRETI 02/07/2021











"Enhancing language education in cross-border vocational education"

Under the patronage of the European Centre for Modern Languages of the Council of Europe (ecml)

ecml-programme 2020-2023:

Inspiring innovation in language education: changing contexts, evolving competences











#### Our aims:

- promotion of language learning in cross-border working environments
- focusing on innovative processes for facilitating the crossing of linguistic and cultural borders
- development of CLIL methodology and pluralistic approaches in professional settings
- bringing together researchers and practitioners as well as political, economic, and educational stakeholders.











#### Our guiding principle:

connecting research to the stakeholders' real needs

#### Our outcome:

→ tools for plurilingual and intercultural learning and teaching in border-crossing vocational and professional settings









#### Our project: who we are











Greater region Saar-Lor-Lux (Saarland & Luxemburg)

Lithuania (Kaunas)

Upper Silesia (Katowice)

Region Sønderjylland-Schleswig (Esbjerg)

Team members from Germany, Luxembourg, Poland and Lithuania, associated partners in Romania, Catalonia, Denmark, Northern Germany and the SaarLorLux-Region





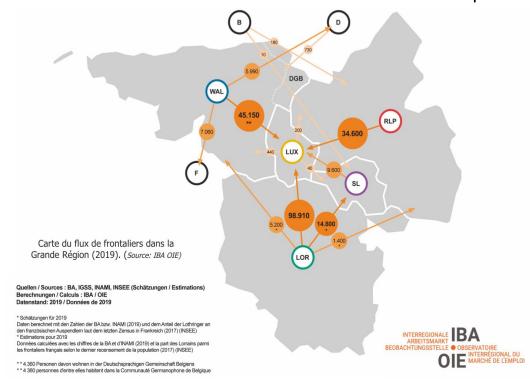






The Greater Region: more than 11.6 million inhabitants and approximately 250.000 cross-border commuters per day – the highest number of cross-border commuters in Europe.















#### Saarland University

Mid-sized university, with three key research fields: Computer Sience, NanoBioMed and Europe

- European University ("Transform4Europe")
- Member of the Agence Universitaire de la Francophonie (AUF)



#### Le groupement de Recherches Tranfrontalières Interdisciplinaires



Network of researchers in the Greater Region, doing bonder studies from transnational and transdisciplinary perspectives:

- four universities (Lorraine, Luxemburg, Saarland, Strasbourg)
- four disciplines: geography, linguistics, management, social sciences









#### The project members' disciplines:

- applied linguistics, language ecology, sociodidactics, language teaching and learning
- → reflection about the specific features and potentials of border regions from an interdisciplinary perspective:
  - institutional teaching, individual learning
  - language policies, permeability of structures
  - languages (neighbouring languages, English, lingua franca, languages of migration, ...)
  - attitudes and perceptions, stereotypes linked to languages
  - border competence
  - vocational education and training











- different border regions, thus different geographical, political, economic and social contexts
- need of specific concepts and tools for language learning and teaching in cross-border regions, esp. for VET
- → creating a manual for educators including guidelines, training modules and a teacher portfolio for vocational/professional education in border regions











# Multidisciplinary perspectives, different border regions:

sociodidactics of language teaching and learning

language ecology

applied linguistics

Team-members from Germany, Luxembourg, Poland and Lithuania associated
partners in
Romania,
Catalonia,
Denmark,
Northern
Germany and
the SaarLorLux region

#### → *Trans*disciplinary approaches











### Promoting plurilingual and pluricultural competences in cross-border working environments

Even if certain challenges are specific to particular areas, many of the questions and challenges are the same in different border regions:

"same but different"

#### Recent activities

- assessing the status quo: collecting features and needs of the project partner's border regions
- co-construction of a survey on practices and needs in VET in border regions









Our project: our objectives



#### The survey:

Languages, plurilingualism and intercultural proficiency in cross-border working environments: What do teachers, teacher educators, learners, political and economic stakeholders think?

- getting in touch with the different stakeholders in the fields of education, economy and politics.
- understanding the specific needs in the different (border) regions for plurilingual and intercultural education
- bringing together needs and practices from different levels (politics, education, the non-academic field)











Based on the results, solutions for cross-border vocational training (initial/in-service) will be created by the project consortium.

- → Tailor-made concepts with specific features for
  - VET in border regions and
  - crossborder working environments
- → Teaching and learning approaches:
  - CLIL
  - Pluralistic Approaches (cf. FREPA, www.carap.ecml.at)











#### Teaching and learning approaches:

CLIL

"teaching in the non-language subject not in a foreign language but with and through a foreign language" (Eurydice 2006).

 Intercomprehension and Pluralistic Approaches (cf. FREPA, <u>www.carap.ecml.at</u>)

"didactic approaches which use teaching / learning activities involving several (i.e. more than one) varieties of languages or cultures".









Our project: summarizing...



We consider our results to be relevant to researchers, teachers and teacher educators as well as stakeholders in professional and vocational training in border regions.

We hope that our project activities will allow for new cooperations between the authorities involved, especially when it comes to the job market, as well as with similar institutions in the different border regions.









Danke für Ihre Aufmerksamkeit.

Haben Sie Fragen?

c.reissner@mx.uni-saarland.de









