

Memorandum of Understanding

for cooperation on language education issues between the Austrian Ministry of Education, Science and Culture and the Norwegian Ministry of Education and Research

The Austrian Ministry of Education, Science and Culture and the Norwegian Ministry of Education and Research,

- Considering the importance of language policy issues for economic and social development,
- Recognizing that they are pursuing language research, development and dissemination activities in a number of areas of common interest, and that participation and exchange on a basis of reciprocity will provide mutual benefits,
- Desiring to establish a formal basis for cooperation on language education issues which will extend and strengthen the conduct of cooperative activities in areas of common interest,

have agreed to establish a formal cooperation between the two national language centres Österreichisches Sprachen-Kompetenz-Zentrum / Graz, Austria – Nasjonalt senter for fremmedspråk i opplæringen / Halden, Norway (hereinafter referred to as “the Parties”) as follows:

I Purpose of Cooperation

The Parties agree to mutually supporting each other in putting innovative intentions, projects or approaches in the areas of modern language teaching and learning into action. Given the fact that both Parties have a similar institutional structure to support the dissemination and/or implementation of innovations in language teaching and learning and the dissemination of results coming out of European programmes, such as the European Centre for Modern Languages in Graz, a formal collaboration between the Parties will contribute to a positive development of language education in the respective countries.

Moreover, this formal cooperation may serve as a model and basis for a targeted network-cooperation between national language centres throughout Europe.

II Areas of Cooperative Activities

Priority will be given to collaboration that can advance common goals due to the working programmes of the Parties, such as

- *Content and Language Integrated Learning (CLIL)*
- *Dissemination of the European Language Portfolio (ELP)*
- *Early start with the 2nd foreign language*
- *General strategies for implementing new approaches in language teaching and learning*
- *Information and Communication Technologies in language learning and e-learning*
- *Language friendly environment / community*

The Parties may jointly pursue cooperative activities with other parties and/or experts.

III Structure and Coordination of Cooperation

- The Parties or their duly authorised representatives shall meet regularly to decide which common goals and areas of collaboration should be given priority (strategic meetings).
- Regular meetings shall be called by the yearly rotating chair.
- Working languages are German and/or English.
- Key documents shall be provided in German and Norwegian
- The respective ministries to be kept informed of activities and represented at one working meeting each year

IV Funding

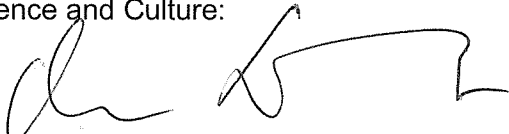
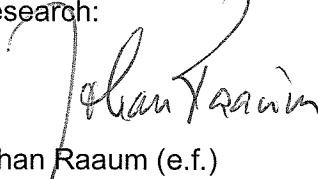
Cooperative Activities shall be subject to the availability of appropriated funds, resources and personnel and to the language policy and programmes of Norway and Austria.

Each party shall bear the costs of its participation and that of its personnel engaged in cooperative activities under this Memorandum of Understanding.

V Entry into Force and Termination

This Memorandum of Understanding shall enter into force on January 1st, 2007 for the duration of three years (2007-2009) and may be extended on agreement of both ministries after evaluation of the first three year period.

This Memorandum of Understanding may be amended by a written agreement of the ministries.

<p>For the Austrian Ministry of Education, Science and Culture:</p>  <p>Anton Dobart Director General Date: 7/7/06</p>	<p>For the Norwegian Ministry of Education and Research:</p>  <p>Johan Raaum (e.f.) Director General Date: 29-7-06</p>
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Done in duplicate.