

World Café

National Agency Workshop
International Officers Meeting
University of Limerick
12 October 2018



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Strategy for Foreign Languages in Education 2017-2026

- Launched in December 2017 by Minister for Education and Skills, Richard Bruton, T.D.
- Sets out a roadmap to put Ireland in the top ten countries in Europe for the teaching and learning of foreign languages, through a number of measures targeted at improving proficiency, diversity and immersion.

Strategy for Foreign Languages in Education 2017-2026

- Increase the number of post-primary schools offering two or more foreign languages by 25%
- Increase the number of students sitting two languages at Junior Certificate and Leaving Certificate by 25%
- Increase the number of students in higher education studying a foreign language, in any capacity, as part of their course, by 20%
- Increase the number of participants in Erasmus+ by 50%
- Improve learners' attitude to foreign language learning
- Improve the quality of foreign language teaching at all levels

HEA / Léargas: A Joint Study (2018/19)

A comprehensive study on the learning experience and impact of foreign languages on participants in all sectors of Erasmus+ in Ireland:

- Adult Education
- Higher Education
- School Education
- Vocational Education and Training
- Youth

Assessment of the participants' awareness and attitudes toward foreign languages

HEA / Léargas: A Joint Study (2018/19)

Quantitative data:

Online Questionnaire (Nov.-Jan.)

→ will provide an overview about tendencies and identify key issues

Qualitative data:

Interviews & Focus Groups (Feb.-Apr.)

→ will allow me to follow up and refine the quantitative data

Question Time!

- Considering English is the global *lingua franca*, what are the benefits of learning a foreign language?



Question Time!

- In your experience as an International Officer (and possibly an Erasmus alumni yourself), how effective do you think is Erasmus+ when it comes to foreign language learning?
 - in regard to both students who do and students who do not study a foreign language?
- How much can be expected of those who do not study a foreign language?
- How much can be expected of students who do their placement in a country outside the usual scope of Irish foreign language education?



Question Time!

- As someone living in Ireland and an International Officer, have you noticed a change in both people's and your students' attitudes toward foreign languages in the last 5, 10, and 20 years?
- How do you think Brexit will affect the attitude toward foreign language learning?



Question Time!

- If the number of participants in Erasmus+ is to be increased by 50% within the next 10 years, how do you think more students could be attracted to take advantage of the programme?

