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## CLIL in Latvia

## AECLIL Project Dissemination conference Pavia (ITALY), December 14

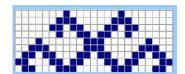






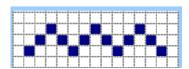
## Choose the odd one out

- Latvia is a country with long historic ties with Germany, Poland, Sweden and Russia;
- Our neighbouring countries are Estonia, Lithuania, Russia, Finland and Byelorussia;
- 50% of the territory of Latvia is covered with woods.

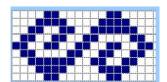
























- Latvian and Lithuanian languages together form the surviving Baltic branch of the Indo European family;
- Latvian is a Baltic language and is most closely related to Lithuanian. Both are mutually intelligible;
- There are 35 letters in Latvian alphabet, 22 of which you will find in the English language too.



## According to the Population and Housing Census:

- 62,1 % of population are Latvians;
- 12,4 % are Lithuanians;
- 26,9 % are Russians.



## Our experience

### Schools in Latvia

- There are 814 primary and secondary schools in Latvia:
  - 21,37% are ethnic minority schools:
    - 99 Russian schools
    - 65 two stream schools (Russian and Latvian)
    - 4 Polish
    - 2 Hebrew
    - 1 Belorussian, 1 Ukrainian, 1 Lithuanian, 1 Estonian
- 28% of all students study at minority schools;
- Equal Latvian Governmental rules are applied to all schools in Latvia;
- Bilingual learning process is provided with possibility to learn subjects in a minority language.



## From bilingual to CLIL

- 13 years long experience in bilingual teaching;
- Since 1999 the minority schools in Latvia have been providing bilingual education,
  - first in primary schools and
  - from 2004 in secondary schools;
- Since 2007 upper secondary minority school programmes must provide 60% of subjects taught in Latvian.



## Foreign languages

- Educational programmes with some subjects taught through a foreign language as a medium of instruction;
- International Baccalaureate;
- Extra-curricular CLIL programmes and projects.



## Languages

Foreign languages in mainstream and minority schools

Most popular:

English, German, Russian, French

National minorities languages in minority schools

Russian, Polish, Estonian, Lithuanian, Ukrainian, Hebrew



## Position of foreign languages in Curriculum

#### **Compulsory:**

- first foreign language from grade 3
- second foreign language from grade 6

#### **Optional:**

third foreign language – from grade 10



### CLIL at schools

- Some subjects taught in a foreign language
  - Usually schools specialized in foreign languages offer such programmes;
  - Schools having previous experience in teaching subjects bilingually:
    - Secondary schools:
      - Maths team teaching- a language (English) and a subject teacher;
      - Biology.
      - Extra curricular lessons:
        - » Economy, history (subject teachers);
        - » Geography (English language teacher).
        - Primary school:
      - Extra curricular lessons in maths, geography, history, art.
  - Subject teachers enthusiasts
    - Biology, maths, geography, history, IT (mostly team teaching).
- Language teachers
  - include some cross-curricular activities.



## Pre-service training

- Latvia University
  - Programme 'Teaching and Learning models in English'
    - Short course where Content and Language Integrated learning is one of the teaching/learning programmes;
    - Students prepare presentation, do microteaching using self-designed materials.
  - Short course on bilingual teaching within LSL study course.
- Daugavpils University
  - Short course giving insight in CLIL.



## In-service training

#### Minority school teachers (1995-2012)

- in-service training courses on bilingual teaching methods for all subject teachers;
- courses for teachers of each subject separately
  - Summer camps, face-to-face workshops, e-learning,

consultations, master classes.

#### All teachers

- Workshops on using CLIL approach, mainly for foreign language teachers;
- CLIL course supported by BC, course tutor Keith Kelly;
- Blended language improvement and CLIL methodology course for teachers of different subjects (72 or 90 hrs);
- Face-to-face course on CLIL teaching methods (18hrs) (36 hrs version is blended with cooperative learning);
- CLIL methodology e-course for subject and language teachers (50 hrs) (LLA in co-operation with British Council).



# CLIL and bilingual teaching materials for teaching in Latvian

- A methodology of bilingual education "A handbook for a bilingual teacher" and other materials have been prepared and published.
- Thematic plans for content and language integrated learning in 7 subjects - physics, mathematics, chemistry, biology, history, geography, economics (for secondary schools) prepared and published.
- All the teaching materials have been tested and are implemented in minority schools.



## **CLIL** materials







## Personal experience

- British Council 2 years course for teachers teaching YL course tutor Dr. Janet Enever (UK);
- Comenius 1.1 project 2004-2007 "CLIL FOR YOUNG LEARNERS". Project coordinator Silvana Rampone (Italy), 11 countries;
- Comenius 2.1. course in Exeter (UK) 2005- course tutor Dr D. Hicks;
- Comenius 1.1. project 2007- 2010 CLIMATES Creative Language Learning and Innovative Multicultural Activities Together in European Schools. Project coordinator Silvana Rampone (Italy), 9 countries;
- 2006 2010 summer course 'CLIL for Young Learners' tutor for International Study Programmes (UK);
- E- moderator for BC course;
- CLIL course designer for teachers in Latvia.



# Assessment process of the programme

- Expertise:
  - ELT association;
  - Content experts:
    - Content expert of the project group;
    - · Independent content experts.
- Piloting:
  - Step by step feedback;
  - Analyses and suggestions.
- Final adjustment and improvement.
- Online feedback from the course participants.



# Feedback from course participants

- CLIL approach was new to me. It's not so complicated as it seemed to be. Interesting and useful.
- Useful CLIL strategies, planning examples, practical activities and resources.
- Course has answered a lot of questions I had.
- I received a more profound theoretical and practical enhancement in addition to what I already knew using CLIL based textbooks.
- No doubt, the quality of my lessons has improved, I feel more confident with my English and with my learners.



### **Future**

Necessity for a language education strategy:

- Place and role of the official state language and other languages;

- Guidelines in creating content and language integrated

programmes.

Qualified pre-service teaching:
- academic programme based on theoretical and practical experiences;

- Subject and language teaching methodology;
  Appropriate level of foreign language proficiency.
- Research of schools'/ subject teachers' needs and experience;
- Encouragement, coordination and support in teachers' creative work in applying CLIL methodology.

## The French Revolution



## Read the statements and sort them into:

- · true;
- · false;
- · I don't know.

- There were Three Estates in France.
- 2. More than 95% of the people of France belonged to the First Estate
- 3. Servants, skilled and unskilled workers, doctors, lawyers, teachers, storekeepers and poor peasants were in the same Estate.
- 4. The Tennis Court Oath was signed in indoor tennis court.
- 5. Storming Bastille started on 13th July.
- 6. On August 26, 1789, National Assembly passed the 'Declaration of the Rights of Man and of the Citizen'
- 7. Napoleon was one of the leaders of the French Revolution.

## Copy the words you think will appear in the song about French Revolution

- nobles
- Liberté
- Egalité
- Fraternité
- taxes
- peasants

- malnutrition
- tennis court
- declaration
- estate
- Constitution
- monarchists

## Listen to the song

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wXsZbkt0yqo&feature=player\_embedded

## Walk and Swap

## Definitions

autocracy	A system of government in which one person or group has unlimited power
aristocracy	The people in the highest social class who traditionally have a lot of land, money and power
Republic	A form of government in which the people or their elected representatives possess the supreme power

## Thank you!

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