

Civic-language learning and socio-territorial experiences for a truly inclusive trajectory 2018-2021

AMIF, the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund, is one of two financial tools by which the European Commission supported the immigration policies of its member states in the 2014-20 period. The Bilingualism and Foreign Languages Office of the Italian Culture Section, together with the Ongoing Education Office of the German Culture Section and the Italian School Intendancy, has once again signed up to the project made public in 2018, following on from similar experiences funded by FEI and AMIF funds respectively, with the **Civic-language learning and socio-territorial experiences for a truly inclusive trajectory** project.



The project's overall objective is to offer language learning primarily in traditional language course form but also taking advantage of more informal and experimental methods. The project's recipients are migrants from non-EU countries aged over 16, including those qualifying for international protection, subsidies and humanitarian assistance, for whom achieving a certain level of language mastery is fundamentally important, both from the point of view of improving their socio-employment situation but also in order to set in motion an effective inclusion, dialogue and progressive sense of belonging process. All this is also fostered by the construction and consolidation of a cross-sectorial network making the working partnership between public and private bodies and the tertiary sector a fixed one.

Ten 100-hour literacy courses, seventeen 100-hour A1-level Italian courses, five 80-hour A2-level Italian courses, two 100-hour A1 German courses and one 80-hour B1-level course, twenty 40-hour Italian courses for mothers of primary age children and four 20-hour experimental job seeking courses are planned. The courses can be held across the whole of the province, on request. For courses to be approved, at least 12 participants must have signed up to it, with exceptions applying to peripheral areas.

As with previous courses there will be civic-language education elements supported by territorial encounters provided by the Donne Nissà Association, on the occasion of which bodies such as the social and health units, counselling services, employment offices and the advice and social assistance institutions will be visited.

Training will once again be offered to LS Italian and German teachers. These are primarily designed for those working in language agencies but they are also open to teachers active in the voluntary sector in order to offer these the professional tools they need to reinforce their teaching methods for this specific target.

The project also encompasses a number of novel features, however. Once again together with the Donne Nissà Association, a number of information giving meetings will be organised for parents from a migrant background of elementary school children in the Bassa Atesina and Bolzano areas. To reinforce this action to foster real parental participation in school rhythms and demands, information desks will be opened at which families can be given information specific to their needs. Language mediators from the Saveria Co-operative will also be present, to increase the initiative's chances of success. Another new feature is a 'participatory', experimental and intercultural art project. Two art and communication experts, Stefano Riba and Claudia Polizzi, will create a special small group trajectory involving making direct and experiential contact between people from a migrant background and local people. With the creation of a video documenting the experience and a book, it may be channelled into a range of city contexts. Lastly, the leaflet 'Permesso?' will be reworked and reprinted as a fundamentally important tool for language test preparation for residence permit purposes, of use for both teachers and independent study.

As usual, the language courses will be offered by local language agencies whose activities will be monitored by expert quality assessment staff in the form of inspection and observation visits to classrooms.

The Bolzano and Merano Centri Multilingue will work alongside the language initiatives with material, online platforms and audio-visual resources, useful independent and complementary learning activities and individual language consultancy.

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