

Celebrate the

European Day of Languages

on 26 September with us!



What is the European Day of Languages (EDL)?

A day to encourage language learning across Europe.

At the initiative of the Council of Europe, Strasbourg, the European Day of Languages has been celebrated every year since 2001 on 26 September.



Why do we celebrate the EDL?

- To alert the public to the importance of language learning in order to increase plurilingualism and intercultural understanding
- To promote the rich linguistic and cultural diversity of Europe
- To encourage lifelong language learning in and out of school

Did you know that...?

- There are between 6000 and 7000 languages in the world with about 225 indigenous languages in Europe
- Most of the world's languages are spoken in Asia and Africa
- At least half of the world's population are bilingual or plurilingual, i.e. they speak or understand two or more languages
- Bilingualism makes the learning of additional languages easier and enhances the thinking process

For more facts visit our website!



Who is it for?

- Pupils / Students / Teachers
- Universities / Schools / Cultural institutes / Language institutes
- Associations,...

In fact EVERYONE, who wants to celebrate linguistic diversity in Europe



www.coe.int/EDL



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EUROPEAN CENTRE FOR
MODERN LANGUAGES
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LES LANGUES VIVANTES

COUNCIL OF EUROPE

CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

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What can I find on the EDL website?

- Calendar of events featuring activities taking place all around the world in celebration of the Day
- Information on the EDL in currently over 20 languages
- Facts and figures on languages
- Materials for teachers / event organisers (examples of events, activities on EDL)
- Online games to test your language knowledge and skills
- Idioms, amusing words, false friends, longest words, palindromes, tongue-twisters and many more examples of similarities and differences from Europe's rich linguistic landscape
- A voting feature for the most innovative event

How can I get involved in the Day?

Member states, partners and individuals are free to organise or help organising activities and can make use of the EDL website and promotional materials.

SOME IDEAS

- Organise an event such as a language café, party, tournament, dinner...
- Start a blog on languages
- Write an e-book / e-magazine
- Develop your own language quiz for your students / school / neighbours...
- Organize a postcard / poster / video / photo / writing / singing competition or game

Promote your event by entering it into the EDL website's database!

Many more ideas and materials for teachers on <http://edl.ecml.at/teachshare>.

Who coordinates the Day?

The European Day of Languages is coordinated by the Council of Europe: the Language Policy Unit (Strasbourg) and the European Centre for Modern Languages (Graz) of the Council of Europe.

National Relay Persons support the EDL in over 40 countries distributing promotional materials and promoting the Day.

Your national relay:

