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## REFLECTING ON THE COMMON EUROPEAN FRAMEWORK OF REFERENCE FOR LANGUAGES AND ITS COMPANION VOLUME

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Edited by David Little and Neus Figueras

The authors of the different chapters are experienced users of the CEFR who provide a wide range of contrasting and complementary perspectives. Their contributions demonstrate the open, dynamic nature of the reference instrument, and while the book adopts a positive approach to the CEFR and the CV, the authors also point to issues that require further work. This publication is a timely reminder of the challenges in implementing plurilingual and intercultural education and the further potential of the CEFR and CV in that regard.

Joe Sheils, formerly Head of the Language Policy Division, Council of Europe

This edited volume provides a useful account of the application of the key concepts discussed in the CEFR, such as emphasis on the role of the learner as an active user of the language, rather than a passive receiver of language instruction, plurilingualism, and mediation. The chapters in this book can help educators explore the full potential of the application of the CEFR in their own language teaching and assessment contexts.

Spiros Papageorgiou, Educational Testing Service

The scope and depth of this timely volume are impressive, and every researcher working with some aspect of the CEFR will find at least a few chapters to be of direct relevance. The richness of this book extends to the range of viewpoints that are given a forum. The editorial decision to leave room for contrasting viewpoints allows for a substantive discussion of the benefits and drawbacks of the CEFR and its Companion Volume.

Bart Deygers, Ghent University, Belgium

### Reflecting on the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages and its Companion Volume

Edited by  
David Little and Neus Figueras

new  
perspectives  
on  
language  
and  
education

This book discusses the impact of the *Common European Framework of Reference for Languages* and its *Companion Volume* on curricula, teaching/learning and assessment in a wide range of educational contexts, identifies challenges posed by the *Companion Volume* and sheds light on areas that require further research and development.

David Little is a Fellow Emeritus of Trinity College Dublin, Ireland. He has been a regular contributor to the Council of Europe's language education projects since the 1980s. In 2010, the National University of Ireland awarded him an honorary doctorate in recognition of his contribution to language education in Ireland and further afield.

Neus Figueras coordinated the development of foreign language curricula and certificate examinations for adult language learners in the Catalan ministry of education in Spain for over 20 years. She has been involved in international projects and collaborated with the Council of Europe in the dissemination of the CEFR. She was one of the authors of the *Manual for Relating Examinations to the CEFR* (Council of Europe, 2009).

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