Internationalisation and Language Policy Focus Group

During the CercleS conference in Porto in September 2022, 25 language teachers, researchers and directors of language centres met to discuss the future of the Language Policy Focus Group. The following decisions were taken:

1. The focus group should now be renamed "Internationalisation and Language Policy". This re-orientation is more in alignment with the evolution of Universities in Europe and across the world.

2. The convener of the focus group is Tom Grainger, RANACLES, Aix-Marseille University, France.

3. The focus group should initially meet via zoom to establish its aims and begin its work. The declared intention is to produce one or more papers establishing CercleS policy in this area during workshops to be held in Marseille or elsewhere.

The group then proceeded with a brainstorming session, where the following issues were identified for future discussion:

1) What is internationalisation?

2) What are the objectives of internationalisation?
   a) National/Institutional/Individual objectives
   b) Money
   c) Quality
   d) Success (How is it measured?)
   e) A pool of knowledge / talent
   f) Research

3) Who is impacted?
   a) Needs of graduates
   b) Student welfare
   c) Integration, inter-comprehension, social progress
   d) What language policy.ies?
   e) Use of host language or just English?

4) What role / voice do LCs have in internationalisation?
   a) Aligning strategies with senior management
   b) Multilingualism (EU 1+2)
   c) Language requirements
   d) Host languages
   e) Language levels
   f) EMI
   g) How to impulse and manage change

Two documents were identified as being a priority for the group to produce:

1. An overview of internationalisation within CercleS
2. A template of good practices (Universities, faculties, LCs)

The next meeting should take place during the first semester of 2023.

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