# Questionnaire on the teaching of Classics in Europe - Euroclassica

**Certain questions are perhaps difficult to answer: please feel free to express doubt or to leave blank.**

1. General information:
2. Name of country:

|  |
| --- |
| Czech Republic |

1. Total number of pupils who study Classical languages or Civilization in 2018-19 in secondary education (11 to 18 years):

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 7100 | out of 392033 | in 2018/2019 |

1. Date and results (favourable or not) of the last reform of teaching Classics:

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| --- | --- |
| Date | Results |
| 09/01/2009 | There is no mention of Latin in the *New Framework Education Programme* being run since 2009. Consequently, Latin and Classics has been abolished in official documents and teaching guidelines. Without this support of state educational authorities and governing bodies, it depends on each schoolmaster how Latin or other form of Classical studies is being taught at his/her school (whether at all). Which means that more “useful” school subjects push Latin back almost to oblivion. |

1. Is there a new reform envisaged in the near future? If yes, what are the expected outcomes (favourable or unfavourable)?

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| --- | --- |
| Yes / No | Expected Outcomes |
| No, nothing like that proposed. |  |

1. Are the governing bodies (whoever in your country is in charge of education) on the whole favourable or unfavourable to the teaching of Classics?

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| --- |
| Favourable/Unfavourable (Please comment further) |
| Unfavourable. Every single minister of education since the late 1990s was unable to understand the importance of restoring Classical studies in the Czech Republic in the situation when Latin and Greek courses at grammar schools were almost completely removed from curriculum by Communist Regime before 1989: instead, economic sciences, modern languages and IT were introduced in the late 1990s. And so were their subordinated employees. |

1. Is public opinion on the whole favourable or unfavourable to the teaching of Classics?

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| Favourable/Unfavourable (Please comment further) |
| Unfavourable. Many people who were educated before 1989 without experiencing Classics claim that there is no need for such a “useless knowledge”, asserting that they themselves are successful in their careers and jobs. |

1. Are events (conferences, visits, exhibitions, competitions etc.) organised to promote Classics?

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| --- | --- |
| Yes/No | Further details |
| Yes | - The Institute of Greek and Latin Studies (at Charles University) organizes every year the “Day of Latin” (<https://urls.ff.cuni.cz/cs/varia/den-latiny/>).  - There are the “Ancient Days” organized by the Ancient Society, Department of Classical Studies (Faculty of Arts at Masaryk University), Department of Social Sciences and Sport Management (Faculty of Sport Studies MU) and Czech Olympic Academy (<https://classics.phil.muni.cz/en/news-and-events/events/ancient-days>)  - There is a “Summer School of Classical Studies” held at The Centre for Classical Studies at the Institute of Philosophy of the Czech Academy of Sciences (<http://www.ics.cas.cz/en/for-public>)  - The JKF (Jednota klasických filologů - Union of Classical Philologists - <http://jkf.ff.cuni.cz>) and The ALFA (Association of Classical Teachers - <https://cs-cz.facebook.com/ALFA.asociace>)  provide lectures for grammar schools teachers, students of Classics and interested people from the public  - There is an association producing Latin fairy tales movies (LVPA - <http://www.lvpanostra.net>)  - Other group of Classic scholars focuses on Neo-Latin drama (Lauriger - <https://sites.google.com/site/dslauriger/>)  - Dramatic ensemble named Titivillus performs plays in Latin and Ancient Greek (e. g. Plautus’ *Curculio* - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=igH9Pb1Yznk>)  - “Certamen Latinum”, a nationwide competition for grammar school students of Latin, has been organized for many years |

1. What organisations exist for teachers? How many members do they have? What are their main activities?

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| --- | --- | --- |
| Name of Organisation | Number of members | Activities |
| ALFA – Asociace učitelů klasických jazyků  (Association of Classical Languages Teachers) | 40 | - Organizes lectures and talks on a regular basis  - Co-organizer of “Summer School of Clas  sical Studies”  - Supervises the “Certamen Latinum”, a nationwide competition for grammar school students of Latin |
| JKF (Jednota klasických filologů - Union of Classical Philologists) | 160 | - Provides lectures for grammar schools teachers, students of Classics and interested people from the public |
|  |  |  |

B. Teaching

1. Primary Education (6-11 years):

* Number of pupils who take (obligatory or optional) a course in Latin or Greek:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Latin | Obligatory/Optional | Greek | Obligatory/Optional |
| --- |  |  |  |

* Number of pupils per class:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Class | Number | Subject |
| --- |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |

* Number of institutions concerned:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Public (state) | Private |
| --- |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |

* Number of lessons allowed to this course per week or per year (please include length of each lesson):

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Subject | Number of lessons | Week/Year | Length of lesson |
| --- |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
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* Number of years during which this course can be taken and the age of the pupils:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Subject | Number of years | Age of pupils |
| --- |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |

* Are the teachers specialists?

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| --- |
| Yes/No |
| --- |

2. Secondary Education (11 to 18 years):

a. Obligatory (Latin and/or Greek):

* Is it learning the language, culture, or both at the same time?

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Latin | Greek | Culture/Non-linguistic (civilization) | Both |
| **x** |  |  | **x** |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Subject | Age of the pupils who follow this course: | Number of compulsory years: | Number of pupils following it: |
| Latin | 16-19 (usually) | **2** (usually) | approx. 860 |
| Greek | - | - |  |
| Culture/Non-linguistic | - | - |  |

* Number of institutions:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Public (state) | Private |
| approx. 16 | - |

b. Optional (Latin and/or Greek):

* Is it learning the language, culture, or both at the same time?

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Latin | Greek | Culture/Non-linguistic (civilization) | Both |
| **x** |  |  | **x** |

* Age of the pupils who can access this course:

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Subject | Age of the pupils who follow this course | Number of years | Number of pupils following it | Number of lessons, including length of lesson and per week or per year |
| Latin | 16-19 (usually) | **1-2** | 6240 | 2 lessons/week  45 minutes |
| Greek | 16-19 (usually) | **1-2** | app. 30 (2-3 schools) | 2 lessons/week  45 minutes |
| Culture/Non-linguistic | --- |  |  |  |

* Is it possible to take both languages at the same time?

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| --- |
| Yes/No |
| Yes |

* Are there big differences between regions and/or between institutions?

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| Yes/No (please give details) |
| Most grammar schools with lessons of Latin (and rarely Greek) are located in the major cities of Prague, Brno, Olomouc, Plzeň, Ostrava, České Budějovice, Jihlava etc.  The highest number of Latin lessons allocated in schools' curricula is usually assigned to church grammar schools (here it can be a 4-5 years course) or to secondary schools with a long tradition of teaching Classics (here usually a 2 years compulsory course with a 1-2 more year/s course taken as an optional subject). |

c. Higher Education

* Number of universities teaching:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Latin | Latin and Greek | Classical Civilisation |
| **4** | **2** | **2** |
|  |  |  |

* Number (approximate) of students who take the course:

~~as specialists~~: - ***Latin, Greek and Classics are usually double curriculum study (double-subject degree). Classics is usually studied in combination with Modern Languages and Literatures, Czech Language and Literature, Philosophy, History, Archeology, etc.***

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Latin | Latin and Greek | Classical Civilisation |
| **-** | **8** | **-** |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |

* + in combination with other courses:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Latin | Latin and Greek | Classical Civilisation |
| **108** | **11** | **96** |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |

* Do students who take Classics have to take courses in other subject areas? If

so, which ones?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Yes/No | Which ones |
| Yes | At the beginning of their studies they usually take courses of one or more modern languages (e. g. English for academic purposes), history of philosophy, introduction to literary theory, introduction to linguistics, introduction to historical research, etc. |
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* How are Classics teachers in secondary schools recruited?

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| Every secondary school teacher with MA in Classics (Latin) must complete a basic pedagogical training programme (including basics of pedagogy and psychology) provided by most universities. Besides, there is a special programme focused on Teaching of Latin Language and Literature for secondary schools at Charles University (BA, MA) and Masaryk University (MA). Then there are jobs offered from secondary school headmasters who choose a Latin teacher according to his/her CV, experience, study results etc. |

* By competitive examination? If yes, how many years of study and which examinations do they take?

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* By other means? Please give details:

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* Roughly how many teachers are recruited each year?

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| **2** |

* Is there any continuing professional development for Classics teaching? What form does it take?

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| Yes. There are many further education courses organized by universities. E. g. The Institute of Greek and Latin Studies (at Charles University) organizes every year “The Day of Latin”. There is also a “Summer School of Classical Studies” held at The Centre for Classical Studies at the Institute of Philosophy of the Czech Academy of Sciences and The JKF (Jednota klasických filologů - Union of Classical Philologists) and ALFA (Association of Classical Teachers) provide lectures for grammar schools teachers and students of Classics. |

1. Methods and Curriculum Programmes

* Which bodies set the objectives and curriculum programmes?

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| at primary level | RVP (*Rámcový vzdělávací program*, Framework Education Programme), ŠVP (*Školní vzdělávací program*, School Education Programme) and schoolmaster |
| at secondary level | RVP (Framework Education Programme), ŠVP (School Education Programme) and schoolmaster (usually on proposal of the Latin teachers) |
| at university level | The head of Classics department at university; the programme must be guaranteed by a sufficient amount of *professores ordinarii* |

* Which course books are used? Which levels? Titles and authors?

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| --- | --- | --- |
| Books | Levels | Titles and Authors |
| *Latina pro střední školy* | Grammar school | Seinerová, V., 2009. Praha: Fortuna |
| *Latina pro gymnázia* | Grammar school | Pech, J., 2012. Praha: Leda |
| *Lingua Latina per se illustrata: Familia Romana* | Grammar school | Ørberg, H., 2003. Roma: Accademia Vivarium Novum |
| *Latina pro gymnázia* | Grammar school | Špaňár, J., 1993. Praha: SPN |
| *Ad fontes: cursus Latinus* | University (courses for students of non-classics programmes) | Kuťáková E. – Slabochová, D., 2018. Praha: Karolinum |
| Latina pro vysoké školy | University (courses for students of non-classics programmes) | Bejlovec, J. – Janda, J. – Kamínková, E. – Kucharský, P. – Quitt, Z., 1972. Praha: SPN |
| *Cambridge Latin Course* | University (Erasmus students) | 1998. Cambridge: CUP |
| *Latinská syntaktická cvičení* | University | Bartoněk A. – Janda, J. – Kamínková E. – Kuťáková, E. – Mouchová, B., 1993. Praha: Karolinum |

* Which methods are recommended or practised for language teaching (Latin or Greek)?

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| There is still a strong predominance of grammar-translation method at both secondary schools and universities. Some grammar school teachers attempt direct method using Ørberg´s books, but due to low number of lessons per week it is very difficult to use this method properly. |

* Which examinations give a qualification in Classical languages and/or civilization?

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| Only final state exams in BA and MA Latin (and education) programmes give a qualification. A successful PhD study is required if you want to pursue a career in academia. |