

Title:

Foreign language teaching at crossroads: the national standards or the teaching plans and programmes

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Abstract (150-200 words):

The challenges which the contemporary foreign language teaching practices in Bosnia and Herzegovina are facing have their own particular zest, for its specific federal organisation enables quite loose educational standards and educational policies, which are primarily set at the entity and cantonal levels.

The presentation aims to investigate the FLT practices and their background with a particular attention being paid to the primary and secondary school education in one B&H entity, the Republic of Srpska. Since the new guidelines on the foreign language curriculum design have been adopted, there have been numerous calls for revising and adjusting them in accordance with the job market needs. The presentation will address the viable systematic changes proposed in the guidelines and their implementation in practice in line with those calls made. Furthermore, it will try to extrapolate the benefits and drawbacks which are in a direct connection with the implementation of the new teaching plans and programmes. Lastly, it will pursue answers to a possible introduction of a national standard or, at least, a consensus in foreign language teaching practices and discuss its pros and cons.

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