

# THE SEAGULL TANDEM PROJECT – SMART EDUCATIONAL AUTONOMY THROUGH GUIDED LANGUAGE LEARNING. THE ONLINE PLATFORM FOR GUIDED LANGUAGE EXCHANGE

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The global labour market and the internationalisation of research projects bring with them certain demands. More and more companies and universities require their employees and students to adapt to a multicultural environment and to speak various languages. This creates a need for new dynamic concepts of language learning. The project aims to support tandem learning in various ways. The first task of the project consortium was to create a virtual learning platform which provides references to effective independent learning methods and links to grammatical explanations of the various languages. The second task was the development of topic sheets for communicative activities in all the languages involved as a basis for the conversations in Language Learning Partnerships (LLP or Tandem) in which the participants can communicate with each other to learn the others' language. They also serve as a guideline for a variety of topics and grammar structures according to the levels of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages. The topic sheets are accompanied by handouts on didactics and specific language phenomena to enable each partner to teach his/her mother tongue. The partners' exchanges should go beyond language learning, also providing introductions to another culture and way of life and thinking. The third and current task is to advertise the platform and integrate other partners as well as other languages. The activities and tasks to be carried out include:

- Establishment of a platform for independent learning for each language
- Definition of criteria for topic sheets (content, layout, intercultural competence etc.)
- Development of the materials
- Design of a homepage for distribution and advertisement
- Development of a strategy for the distribution and use of the project results
- Evaluation

**Keywords:** Online Guided Learning, Culture, CEFR, European Project, Language Teaching

## **Biographical Note**

Regina Mügge is the manager of the Language Centre of Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg where she introduced the German university language certificate UNlcert® and where teaches French, Italian and Spanish. She is an active member of the permanent

committee of the German Association of Language Centres AKS (Arbeitskreis der Sprachenzentren e.V.) and has been treasurer for 6 years. She also edited the AKS Conference publication of 2012. She is especially interested in plurilingualism, has been cooperating in the CercleS focus group on Language Policy since 2010 and is its present coordinator. She participates as a disseminator in the European Tandem Project "Seagull".