Modern Language Teacher Education in the Knowledge Society

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Abstract. The article deals with the visions of changes in language teacher education. Teacher education institutions must be future orientated because they are training teachers for the next 10 or 20 years to teach the language users of the future. As the information revolution is bringing changes in the language use, the jobs language educators do are becoming more complex and more varied. Present approaches to teacher education frequently do not reflect these transformations, besides in many countries language teachers have undervalued professional and social status.

Taking into account the changes in language use, teacher education should concentrate on social and collaboration skills, knowledge of languages and new technologies, assessment theory and practice, management, communication and presentation skills, multilingual and multicultural competencies.

If we want our teachers to be able to meet the challenges of the 21st century, we have to start already today by establishing a framework for curriculum design in teacher education.