



LITCAM Conference 2008

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Invitation

Dear Sir or Madam,

We are very pleased to invite you to the third International LitCam Conference on the 14th and 15th of October at the Frankfurt Book Fair.

For the first time the European Commission (Directorate-General for Education and Culture) will be the co-organizer of the conference. Commissioner for Multilingualism, Leonard Orban, will open the conference on 14 October on the topic multilingualism and integration. He will present his policy framework, highlighting the key role of linguistic diversity and language skills for intercultural dialogue and social inclusion.

In the context of the European Year of Intercultural Dialogue the Belgian writer and literary critique Jacques De Decker will chair a panel on languages and intercultural dialogue. As member of the "Group of Intellectuals for Intercultural Dialogue" set up by Commissioner Orban in 2007, De Decker will present the Group's report "A Rewarding Challenge: How the Multiplicity of Languages Could Strengthen Europe". The Danish writer and member of the group Jens Christian Grondahl will take part in the panel.

On 15 October there will be a workshop on the recent study commissioned and published by the European Commission: "LACE: The Intercultural Competences Developed in Compulsory Foreign Languages Education in the European Union". This study looks at intercultural competences in language learning, focusing on sensitivity towards cultural differences and understanding how culture and language interact.

Reading, writing and numeracy are the basic skills needed today to enable people to live in a self-responsible and independent way. Basic education is the crucial prerequisite allowing citizens to take active part in important community processes and society in general.

Basic education today also includes media literacy – the ability to use modern information and communication tools.

In 2006 the Frankfurt Book Fair launched its new key focus «Education for the Future». The «Frankfurt Book Fair Literacy Campaign» (LitCam) has been developed as part of this new key focus. The campaign's main platform is an annual international conference attracting organisations, experts, trainers and policy makers from the fields of literacy and education.

With Turkey as the Guest of Honour at the Book Fair 2008 and in light of the European Year of Intercultural Dialogue, for the first time in 2008, the LitCam Conference will have a special theme: **“Literacy & Integration”**.

The first keynote speaker will be the Turkish Professor Dr. Çiğdem Kağıtçıbaşı, Shashi Tharoor is once again the patron of the Conference. Aside from podium discussions, organisations from Turkey (ACEC), the USA (National Center of Literacy), Germany and Burkina Faso (Tintua) will be invited to present their project and organisation. The thematic workshops will be held on the first day of the Book Fair, Wednesday, 15th October. An Entrance Ticket for the Book Fair is required to take part in the Workshops.

Attached you find the form to register for the conference.

We would be happy to welcome you in October.

Please do not hesitate to contact the Book Fair if you have any queries or need further information.

Yours sincerely,

Karin Plötz

Director Education

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FRANKFURT BOOK FAIR: 15 - 19 OCTOBER 2008
GUEST OF HONOUR: TURKEY

Harald Hartung

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