

Key competences in Polish education



Quotation from
KEY COMPETENCES FOR LIFELONG LEARNING
European Reference Framework



„In this climate of rapid change, there is increasing concern about our social cohesion. There is a risk that many Europeans feel marginalised by globalisation and the digital revolution.

The resulting threat of alienation implies a need to nurture democratic citizenship; it requires people to be informed and concerned about their society and active in it.”

Key Competences



- The same 8 competences (some of them are connected)
- The same 8 competences at each level of education.
- New curriculum 2009.
- Aim: prevent marginalisation of disabled students.



1. Communication in the mother tongue
2. Communication in foreign languages
3. Mathematical competence and basic competences in science and technology
4. Learning to learn
5. Digital competence
6. Social and civic competences
7. Sense of initiative and entrepreneurship
8. Cultural awareness

Communication in mother tongue



- Polish language is taught at **each and every** level of education.
- Knowledge about literature + communication skills.
- Discussions, writing assignments, debates, etc.
- This competence is trained sufficiently in the teacher training process.

Communication in foreign languages



- Ages 6 to 12 – first foreign language is obligatory.
- Middle school level (gymnasium) – another foreign language obligatory.
- University – B2 exam obligatory.
- Lack of cross-curricular links.

Communication in science and technology



- IT technology obligatory at final exams at middle-school level.
- Teacher training includes classes on computer-aided teaching.
- Gap between practice and theory!

Learning to Learn



- With the new reform, learning to learn has become one of the priorities.
- More emphasis is put on this competence in all teacher training courses.
- The concept needs to „sink in”.

Social and civic competences



- Social and civic education is carried out at the school through participation in various special events. Students prepare thanks to the "active and responsible participation in public life (object implemented in primary and secondary schools)

- Educational aims of education are:
 1. Forming ties with their native country and citizenship.
 1. Develop respect for the common good and pro-social attitudes.
 3. Developing respect for their own state.

Social and civic competences



- ❑ The tasks of the school:
 1. Organize a variety of events (meetings, celebrations, staging, trips) associated with national holidays and important anniversaries for the country.
 2. Science symbols, rules and institutions which are essential for the functioning of the nation and the Polish state.
 3. Preparing students for an informed, active and responsible participation in public life.

Sense of initiative and entrepreneurship



Learning this competences is done by selecting the appropriate methods of teaching: learning by solving problems (problem method), cooperation and division of roles, project method.

It teaches students teamwork, creative thinking, taking responsibility for their decisions.

Cultural awareness



Developed in the form of the following competencies:

awareness of local, national and European cultural heritage and its place in the world;
knowledge of major cultural works;
development of creative skills, which can be used in many professional contexts.

Cultural awareness is developed in this lab, which refer to the broader themes of culture, such as history, language and art.

Summary: Poland



- The key competences are identical to those outlined in the European Reference Framework.
- New reform in 2009. Competences the same for all education.
- Teacher training reflects those competences.
- Training courses for inclusive teachers also reflect those competences.
- The skills are not always used to the full extent in everyday teaching practice.

Comments



- Lack of cross-curricular paths between individual subjects.
- More emphasis should be put on this aspect of education.