

The Teaching of German as a Foreign Language in Consideration with The New Reforms in Turkey

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ABSTRACT

To develop international relationships in the fields of social, political, economic, educational and cultural, the communities are in need of people who speak a foreign language. As a result, multilingualism is an inevitable fact throughout the world. To be able to take place and compete with the developed countries, high and qualitative foreign language education in Turkey must be in the level of the developed countries.

Within the framework of this understanding, the purpose of this study is to describe "Turkey's approaches to education goals towards multilingualism". First, the curriculum that the new program covers on the teaching of foreign languages through 4 + 4 + 4 compulsory education reform will be described. As is well known, after the Education Reform in 1997, the teaching of German as a foreign language kept its secondary place following English in our country. In this study, the revision and comparison of both the early 1997 reform and new 2012 reform will be presented and discussed.

Students begin learning a foreign language at an early age in accordance with the law published in March 30, 2012 in the Official Gazette No. 6315 27728. Although this new regulation in "primary education and training" law builds an important ground for the teaching of foreign languages, it hinders the teaching of German as foreign language for it is placed among many selective courses.

This research aims at finding the place of German as a foreign language in the national education in Turkey through legal supports and its structural arrangements. In addition to the qualitative and quantitative applications from the Ministry of National Education, scientific research on the issue is also be benefited to depict the current case.

On account of the fact that 2012 education reform has been so recent, this research will only focus on the schools of 'Eskişehir' in understanding the situation of German language teaching. What kind of precautions and requirements are needed in increasing the interest in German courses will specifically be discussed and described.