



Dear members of the CEFR & LP SIG,

A very challenging year comes to an end. In this Newsletter # 30 we look back and we look forward. The SIG's keyword for 2020 was COLLABORATION and it will be the keyword for 2021. The CEFR & LP SIG collaborated with other SIGs and chapters in JALT resulting in a series of high-stake joint events. In April we started to work on the next Kaken research project concerning the CEFR and Action Research and were able to send out a Call for Collaborators building a research team which was the goal for the first year.

For the CEFR & LP SIG 2020 was a year full of activities and we look forward to the next stage of the research and other events in 2021.

The CEFR & LP SIG wants to thank the JALT BizCom SIG, the ICLE SIG, the Nagano Chapter, the Akita Chapter and Akita International University for their wonderful cooperation and joint events in 2020.

The outstanding events in the fall were the CEFR and CLIL Symposium & Workshop at the end of October and the JALT 2020 Online conference in November with the Can Do-Workshop and the CEFR & LP SIG Forum. Six other presentations were related to the CEFR.

I want to thank all of the members for their engagement and the officers for their steady support.

We wish you all a pleasant yearend and a happy, healthy and joyful New Year in 2021!

Gabriela Schmidt

CEFR & LP SIG coordinator

On behalf of all officers

Alexander Imig (treasurer), Noriko Nagai (membership), Gregory Birch (program), Jack Bower (publication), Naoyuki Naganuma (CEFR research), Mark DeBoer (CEFR & CLIL), Nicole Sonobe (membership assistant), Morten Hunke, Rebecca Schmidt, Valerie Hansford, Shaun Allen (publication assistant)

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Report of JALT CEFR & LP SIG activities in 2020

Each SIG and Chapter in JALT has to fulfill requirements to receive and maintain their SIG voting status. These requirements include events, publications, communication, homepage and publicity and more administrative obligations inside of JALT, such as to attend the three EBMs (Executive Board Meetings), submit an annual report by December of each year, hold an AGM and report to members, submit a monthly statement on the financial transactions, and finally check the monthly membership status.

1. Events in 2020

April 9th, Kerstin Waechter. Joint event with BizCom SIG, ICLE SIG.

June 20th, PanSIG CEFR & LP SIG Forum.

July 11th, Joint event with JALT Nagano Chapter.

August 20th Katrin Lichterfeld. Joint event with JALT BizCom SIG.

October 23rd – 25th, CEFR & CLIL Symposium. Joint event with JALT Akita Chapter and Akita International University.

November 17th, Can Do Workshop (JALT 2020)

November 20th, CEFR & LP SIG Forum (JALT 2020)

December 19th, CEFR and Action Research Workshop

2. Publications

2.1 CEFR & LP SIG Newsletter no. 28, 29, 30, available at <https://cefrjapan.net/newsletter>

2.2 CEFR Journal volume 2 (June 2020) and volume 3 (October 2020), available at <https://cefrjapan.net/newsletter>

2.3 Book: Nagai, N., Birch, G.C., Bower, J.V. & Schmidt, M.G. (2020) *CEFR-informed Learning, Teaching and Assessment. A practical guide.* (Outcome of Kaken project April 2016 – March 2019)

3. Communication, Homepage and Publicity

Emails, mail letters to members

<https://cefrjapan.net>

<https://sites.google.com/site/flpsig/home/even>

Facebook JALT CEFR & Language Portfolio Special Interest Group (CEFR&LP SIG)

Twitter @CefrLp

SLACK cefrandlpsig.slack.com

4. JALT internal related activities

Coordinator attending EBM in February, June and November

Coordinator submitting an annual report to JALT SRL (in Dec. 2020)

Treasurer submitting monthly MAS and annual audit

Membership chair monthly membership status

Hold an Annual General Meeting (Nov. 20th)

5. Other achievements

Kaken research project granted in April 2020 (April 2020 – March 2023)

In total 2020 was a very successful year for the CEFR & LP SIG with events, publications and research. As a SIG we are in good shape! There is of course still space for improvement. If you have any suggestions, please get involved.

CEFR Companion Volume - 2020

In February 2020 the final version of the **CEFR Companion Volume** was published and on December 16th, 2020 a major launching event was held online by the Council of Europe. The video recording of the event will be available soon.

All resources for the CEFR and the CEFR Companion Volume are available at
www.coe.int/lang-cefr
<https://www.coe.int/en/web/common-european-framework-reference-languages/home>

There is an excel file with descriptors related to the CEFR Companion Volume 2020 version available in English, German, French:
<https://rm.coe.int/cefr-descriptors-2020-/16809ed2c7>

Japanese Translation

Some may wonder what is happening with the Japanese translation of the CEFR Companion Volume. Since January 2019 I tried to get information on the publication of the Japanese translation and I heard that Prof. Yoshijima was preparing the Japanese translation and had it almost ready. Then the CEFR Companion Volume was on hold for some time because of the section on sign language. The final version of the CEFR Companion Volume was published in February 2020.

Concerning the Japanese translation, I was asking various colleagues in Japan and finally Prof. Negishi while at the CEFR and CLIL conference. I was referred to the German Goethe Institute as the institution in charge of the Japanese translation.

I contacted the Goethe Institute in Tokyo in September and November directly. There was no clear answer saying they are working on it. Hopefully they will prepare it soon. I asked for a statement about the involvement of the Goethe Institute, because the Japanese translation of the CEFR in 2004 was also mediated by the Institute. This clarification is quite urgent as various versions could emerge in the meantime.

There are already different versions of the title of the CEFR Companion volume: ヨーロッパ言語共通参照枠 - 補足版 (ho-soku-ban) and ヨーロッパ言語共通参照枠 - 補遺版 (ho-i-ban).

CEFR-J

The CEFR-J held an online conference on November 28th, 2020 with the results of previous Kaken-research projects being published.

The program is available at <http://cefr-j.org/events.html>

Some of the presentations (video) and resources are now available at the CEFR-J Homepage – Resources: <http://cefr-j.org/download.html>

There are some new tools available which could be helpful. Prof. Negishi mentioned at the CEFR and CLIL conference the CEFR-J Text profiler CVLA (CEFR-based Vocabulary Level Analyzer):

<http://dd.kyushu-u.ac.jp/~uchida/cvla.html>

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Planning ahead - 2021

JALT 2020 Post conference proceedings until January 8th, 2021

PanSIG 2021 - Call for papers until January 25th, 2021

JALT 2021 conference November 12th – 14th, 2021 – Call for papers in January - February

CEFR and Action Research project

January – March 2021 working on stage 1

Workshop in the beginning of March 2021

March 2021 Preparing Stage 2 of the Action research cycle

2021 - At a glance

Date	Event	Notes
Beginning of March	Workshop CEFR & Action Research	
mid May 2021	JALT PanSIG 2021	Cfp January 25 th
August 2021	AILA	
August 2021	JACET conference	
November 12 th - 14 th , 2021	JALT 2021 conference	Cfp

For the most updated version of the events, please visit

<https://cefrjapan.net/events>

or

<https://sites.google.com/site/flpsig/home/even>

Links

CEFR & LP SIG: <https://cefrjapan.net>

CEFR Journal: <https://cefrjapan.net/journal>

CEFR events: <https://cefrjapan.net/events>

JALT: <https://jalt.org/>

Language Portfolio for Japanese University, bilingual (English/Japanese):
<https://sites.google.com/site/flpsig/flp-sig-home/language-portfolio-for-japanese-university>

The next NEWSLETTER #31 is planned for April 2021
* * * * * Call for submissions by March 25th, 2021 * * * * *