

16.00-17.30 CET 2nd October 2025

Presentation (open event)

Scenario-based assessment: The experience with CLES (Certificat de Compétences en Langues de l'Enseignement Supérieur)

Speaker: Laurent Rouveyrol

These presentations are meant for researchers, practitioners, educators, policy-makers and other agents to be able to talk and share their knowledge and expertise about topics related to the core values of the association, i.e., Action-oriented, Plurilingual and Intercultural Education.

Here follows the **abstract** of this presentation:

The CLES certificate (*Certification en Langues de l'Enseignement Supérieur*) as a multilingual certification system (9 languages) was first created in 2000¹ in France through a Governmental decree. The construct of the CLES, designed just after the publication of the CEFR, is *action-oriented*. The certification papers may be viewed as “projects” dealing with societal problems (B2) that test takers must handle from beginning to end. Documents are provided on the targeted topic (texts, videos) and test takers must extract the relevant pieces of information and organize their production (written and oral) in order to “complete the mission”. Intra-linguistic mediation is at the core of the process and founds the CLES construct. Since test takers are asked to endorse roles and defend positions before reaching a compromise, it may also be argued that the CLES is a *scenarized* certification system.

The presentation will also focus on the recent digital evolutions that the CLES has been through. The main issue was to make sure that the digitalization process would not harm the highly qualitative, *action-oriented* construct of the CLES. So far, English, Spanish and Chinese tests have been digitalized (B1 and B2).

And here the information about the **speaker**:

Laurent Rouveyrol is a Professor of English and applied linguistics at the University Sorbonne Nouvelle in Paris where he is the director of the Language Centre and also coordinates the research group SeSyLIA (Semantics, syntax, Language in action). His current research concerns the link between interactional linguistics and second language acquisition in relation to language testing (CLES). He has also been involved in the CLES (French Higher Education Language Certification) since 2006. He cofunded the NULTE network and is a member of the VITbox project (ECML, European Centre for Modern Languages).

The presentation will be followed by a **QsA section** for the participants to pose their questions to the speaker.

¹ <https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/jorf/id/JORFTEXT000041782410>