

# GROWING IMPORTANCE OF LANGUAGE EDUCATION OF EMPLOYEES IN THE EUROPEAN UNION

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## **Abstract**

This paper deals with the growing importance of language education of employees working in business companies in the EU. Globalization has already caused a wide range of far-reaching changes to occur throughout the world, in every country and at every level. Business enterprises are forced to defend their market share against much stronger competitors than they were used to in the past. Abilities and knowledge of employees are critical factors for success of their employer. Unlike competitors of the EU like USA or Japan, EU has to overcome major obstacle in form of large number of languages dividing member states of the EU. Business enterprises inside the EU have to realize the growing importance of language education of employees. While EU currently has programs to support the language education of people living inside the EU, business companies often do not invest required amount of resources into language education of their employees.