

# Language and Integration Italy



In a number of European countries in recent years there has been a shift towards more rigorous conditions for those seeking to apply for citizenship and permanent residence. One of the new conditions for obtaining these is language proficiency. This poster illustrates the situation regarding language and integration in Italy.

## POLICIES

### Recent legislation and regulations governing citizenship

- **Linguistic integration**
  - Ordinance n. 455/1997: a network of public schools for adults' permanent tuition, called CTP (now CPIA) was founded. They provide language courses for immigrants free of any charge
  - Several Charity organizations, such as *Caritas*, *Comunità di S. Egidio*, are involved, on a voluntary basis, in language tuition for immigrants
- **Citizenship**
  - 1992 New act on citizenship (no language requirements)
  - 2007 Law proposal (still to be discussed and approved by the Italian Parliament): a A2 speaking test (KoS also included) as language requirement for citizenship
- **Resident permit**
  - 2009 Law proposal by decree (still to be discussed and approved) that will probably introduce the need for the new comers (and for the migrants entered in Italy in the last five years) to subscribe to an "Integration agreement" (the target will not include refugee and EU citizen). With this agreement, if a migrant wants a residency permit they must accumulate formative credit points. Points will be guaranteed by passing a language test (the level is to be defined).

### Consequences of language testing on residency rights

- No consequences of testing so far

## TEACHING AND LEARNING

### What courses are available for migrants?

- Language courses for integration
  - 2 or 3 days a week
  - 4/6 hours a week
  - 160/180 hours a year (from October to May)

### Who are the course providers and participants?

- 3,400,000 adult immigrants resident in Italy entitled to attend language courses. Courses are not compulsory
- 380,000 participants attending a language course
- 285,000 participants completed the course
- CTP Context:
  - 540 CTPs
  - 398 locations
  - 4300 teachers

## LANGUAGE TESTING

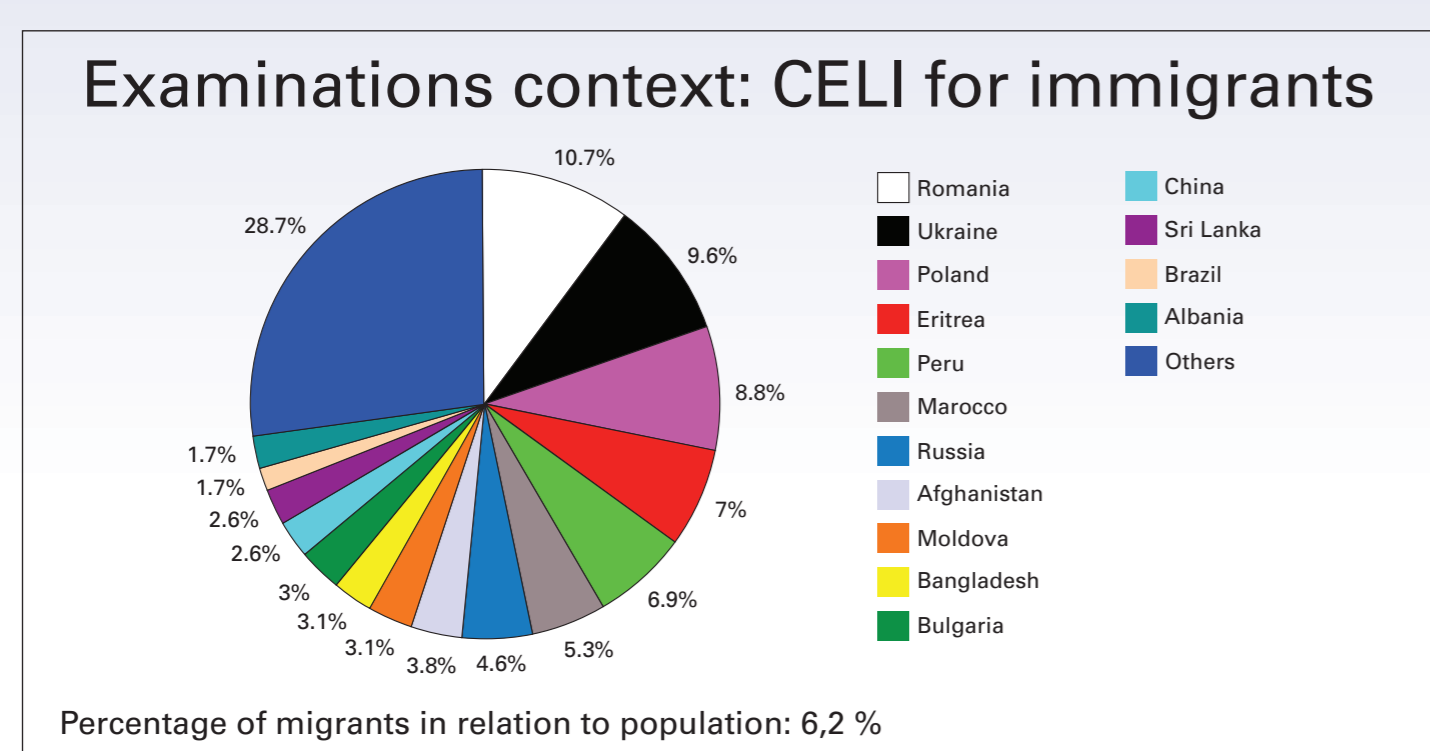
### What tests are required or accepted for migration purposes?

- No language requirements/no language tuition/no language assessment compulsory so far
- 13/05/2005 Decree recommends:  
"The evidence shows that certification provides migrants access to Italian society. The recognition of language skills, by means of standardised indicators, protects migrants and promotes knowledge of Italian values"
- CVCL certificates for integration purposes aimed at immigrants with poor schooling
  1. CELI *impatto* (A1 level – CEFR)
  2. CELI 1 *i* (A2 level – CEFR)
  3. CELI 2 *i* (B1 level – CEFR)

### Who provides the tests?

- Test developers officially recognised
  - CVCL – Università per Stranieri di Perugia
  - CILS – Università per Stranieri di Siena
  - Università Roma Tre
  - Società Dante Alighieri

### Who are the test takers?



Compiled by Lorenzo Rocca  
Università per Stranieri di Perugia  
lorenzo\_rocca@libero.it  
www.cvcl.it

Conference organised by



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