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CENTRE FOR
EDUCATORS
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BML BRIEF

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THE LANGUAGE ECONOMY

How is the global economy impacted by the bilingual and multilingual population?

What do policy-makers and educators need to be aware of in order to prepare students for the work world of today?



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STATE OF THE LANGUAGE ECONOMY

Click on yellow link to read articles



FUTURE OF THE LANGUAGE ECONOMY

TAKE-AWAYS...

- **Multilingualism has a significant impact on economic power.** This does not occur by chance. It requires deliberate policies and investment in multilingual education.
- **Foreign language needs in the U.S. job market have increased over the past 5 years.** This will require the workforce to upskill; multilinguals will be preferred for employment.
- 10 languages with the potential to add the most value to global strategic interests are: **Spanish, Arabic, French, Mandarin, German, Portuguese, Italian, Turkish, Russian and Japanese.**
- **Interest in Mandarin** as an important global language is growing; and many countries have officially incorporated it into their school curricula.
- **Multilingual countries like China and India, as well as Mexico, Indonesia and Turkey are gaining economically.** Countries focusing on language dominance are losing economic opportunities.
- **1 in 6 American businesses already incur losses due to lack of language skills** and low cultural awareness.

TAKING ACTIONS...

Starting early ensures future economic readiness

Languages boost learning and earning power. Aptitude in 2 or more languages should be the norm and standard of a quality education. Ignoring this reality will lead to loss of potential for students (future employees).

Practise and implement language preservation

When single languages are unilaterally promoted, the economy suffers in the long-term. Make policies and investments that ensure students will reap economic benefits in their future.

Build cultural understanding

With language-learning comes cultural sensitivity and awareness. It enables relationship-building, increases participation in other cultures and allows access to their indigenous knowledge-base.



Will your students be ready to fully participate in the global economy? A bilingual or multilingual education programme ensures their success. The *Centre for Educators of Bilingual and Multilingual Learners* can assess your school's needs and design a bi/multilingual programme based on our proprietary *BML Success Model*. Contact us at: hello@educatorsofbmls.com