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*An earlier beginning for a better learning: teaching Chinese as a foreign language in Italian high schools*

This main purpose of this paper is to provide an overview of issues regarding the development of the teaching of Chinese as a foreign language in Italian high schools, a topic that was also thoroughly discussed in the latest meeting of the Italian Association of Chinese Studies, held in Rome in February 2007. After a brief introduction of the many aspects involved, as government regulations, the specificity of language teaching and learning in high school compared to university courses, the aims and perspectives of students, families and teachers, etc., the Author proposes a more structural and organized involvement of Italian University, Ministry of Education and Regional Committees in order to give a positive response to the demand of a very new opening to Asian languages and cultures in high schools' programs and *curricula*. An overall confrontation is also recommended among many different experimental activities that have been undergone all over the Country in the past four years, where a meaningfully large number of high school students have been enthusiastically committed to such a demanding learning task.

«要学得更好，就要开始得越早：在意大利高中作为外语来学习的汉语的教学»

本文的主旨是提供关于在意大利高中作为外语来学习的汉语的教学发展的概述。此论题也在于2007年在罗马举行的最新一届的“意大利汉学学会”上被全面地讨论过。在对涉及到的许多方面——诸如管理规定，与大学课程相比高中语言教学的特殊性，学生、家长和教师的目的和看法，等等——作出简要的介绍之后，为了积极地响应高中教学大纲和课程上对新开设的亚洲语言和文化课程的需求，作者提出了结构上更强、组织上更完善的由意大利大学、教育部或教育部门和地方委员会共同参与的方案。也对最近四年来整个意大利所进行的不同的试验性教学活动作了总的比较分析。近年来，意大利为数众多的高中学生对如此难学的学习任务已经充满了信心。