



Erasmus+

Súkromná stredná odborná škola Pro scholaris

Work for an Inclusive School Heritage

Report

The 3rd Short-Term Joint Staff Training Event
in Žilina, February 25 – March 01, 2019





The report is covering the 3rd Short-Term Joint Staff Training. All the participants from Turkey, Romania, Spain and Italy arrived on the 24th of February 2019 and were accommodated at the Grand Hotel in Žilina. Project activities started on the 25th of February, 2019 and ended on the 1st of March, 2019 with the departure of all the participants on the 2nd of March, 2019. Activities were held at Private Vocational School Pro scholaris. Although teachers' training (C5) and students' learning activities (C6) were held in separate classrooms with own schedule, there was plenty of interaction and common activities like meals, coffee breaks, cultural activities, city-and-nature visits and thematic excursions.

The 3rd Short-Term Joint Staff Training (C5)

The activities realized during the 3rd Short-Term Joint Staff Training Event (C5) accomplished all the goals, duties and responsibilities resulting from the application form.

After a short welcoming on Monday by the headteacher, Mr. Tomáš Milata, there was the Workshop 1 aimed at "Designing curricular and extracurricular (learning) activities for improving the 21st-century skills" and realized in the school library. Project partners dealt with the analysis of good practices within the Pro-Social Behaviour Clubs in the high schools and activities realized at pilot schools.

Following the previous one, Workshop 2 was targeted at "Designing curricular and extracurricular activities for cultivating social inclusion in school environment". Digital presentations reflected good practices of the Pro-Social Behaviour Clubs which were shared at this expert meeting.

The first two workshops resulted in increased awareness about the activities done over the past 14 months of the project duration. This also means that project partners were inspired by each other in order to use the experienced practices of other project partners in order to improve the relevant topics in their schools environments.

On Tuesday, all participants attended thematic tour which included excursions to an institution aimed at special care of abused (or lone) women with children. It is called Áno pre život, n.o. (Yes for Life, NGO). We visited the asylum house and also the sheltered employment which has contracted several handicapped persons up to this day. The clients of the asylum house or the workers within the sheltered employment (protected workshops), respectively, produce gingerbreads and other cakes and sell them to the network of sweetshops in the region of Rajec. Besides the thematic excursion, project partners visited also the most spectacular cultural and historical highlights of the Rajec region including the village of Čičmany well-known for its amazing folk house decorations. On the way there, we stopped



by the largest mechanical wooden Bethlehem in Slovakia which is in operation and maintained for visitors in the village of Rajecká Lesná.

Besides the 4 official workshops (while 2 of which were realized on Wednesday), there was a big event successfully enjoyed in the Stanica-Záriečie Cultural Node on Tuesday. This musical event involved musicians from the student but also teacher participants. It resulted into a nice and joyful evening packed with music played and sung by the Spanish and Slovak participants. It was opened to the public hence other people could see and experience the result of social inclusion. Just because some of the performing participants were students from disadvantaged environment or students with special needs. The whole-week project activity was officially opened here and all the participants were welcomed by the headteacher, Mr. Tomáš Milata.

Wednesday was another working day. Workshop 3 was dedicated to the topic of “Designing curricular and extracurricular activities for cultivating social inclusion in school environment”. This aimed at a methodology used within the realized activities. The presentations enlightened the participants by the provided options in other partner or pilot schools.

During the Workshop 4, we talked and analyzed the contents of three different handbooks (How to Improve the 21st-Century Skills Handbook, How to Handle Social Exclusion in Schools Handbook, STEPS of Effective PBL Implementation Handbook) which have been finished already or which have to be finished until the recent period. All presentations of the project partners are available for free download from the project website www.wish-project.eu.

Thursday was filled with an excursion to the Youth Diagnostic Centre in the community of Lietavská Lúčka. We visited special educational facility which takes care of girls with problematic behavior. The participants were informed about the activities, operation, schedule and awards/penalties within the Youth Diagnostic Centre. Afterwards, thanks to the co-operation between the project co-ordinator and regional authorities, we all moved to the seat of the Žilina Self-Governing Region where all the participants were welcomed by the vice-chairman of the region’s authority, Mr. Peter Dobeš. Main natural, cultural and historical monuments of the whole region were introduced to the project partners by the executive director of the Žilina Tourist Board, Mrs. Iveta Chabadová who showed a spectacular video. Official closure ceremony connected with certificates’ giving was realized afterwards. Right after the lunch which was prepared and served by the cook-and-waiter students in the facility of regional authority, we moved to the Žilina city center where the students of SSOŠ Pro scholaris realized thematic city tour for all the participants. Besides the main squares, it comprised not the main city cathedral with a unique tower only but also the Rosenfeld’s Palace or a fabulous Jewish Synagogue to better understand the historical perspectives of Žilina.



Last day of the joint-staff training event was about the trip to Bojnice. The most beautiful castle in Slovakia attracted the project partners' attention and it was also tightly connected with one of the project topics – social inclusion. In practice, the castle is equipped with special forms of helping the visually impaired visitors. We attended a nice dinner all together experiencing the official ceremonial coordinators' meeting which was full of sharing the experiences from the last days of teachers' training.

All participants left Žilina on the 2nd of March, 2019, in early morning hours due to international flights or long drive home.



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