



The Summer Academy: DEMOCRATIC SCHOOLS FOR ALL

Bratislava, Slovak Republic
10 – 14 July 2017

The Summer Academy: Democratic Schools for All is a training programme dedicated to support democratic school environment in the Slovak and Czech Republic. Its aim is to strengthen the competences of school leaders, teachers and other educational professionals in citizenship and human rights education. Furthermore, it aims to encourage joint actions and partnerships between schools.

The Academy is a great opportunity to learn practical tools and strategies on how to create a more democratic and inclusive school environment for all children through a whole-school approach. It is based on the content and quality criteria set in the national curriculum in the field of education for democratic citizenship and human rights and it is aimed at supporting the development of civic competences of teachers and pupils which are directly related to the implementation of Framework of Competences for Democratic Culture which identifies competences that are summarized in four main categories: 1. values, 2. attitudes, 3. skills and 4. knowledge and critical understanding.

The training program provides school teams with effective tools which can be used not only for teaching and project activities, but also in shaping the school's orientation on the development of democratic competences. As the analyses of school needs and priorities are built into the training programme, participation at the Academy allows school teams to prepare an action plan which meets the challenges their school is dealing with.

The Summer Academy is organised by the National Institute for Education in cooperation with European Wergeland Centre. The Academy is organised with support of the Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport of the Slovak Republic and the Council of Europe.

THE AIMS OF THE SUMMER ACADEMY

- Enhance competences of teachers and school leaders aiming at supporting principles of democratic school.
- Provide a forum to exchange effective practices and experiences in developing democratic competences of pupils.
- Support participants to develop and implement school-based EDC/HRE projects which promote a democratic and inclusive school environment for all pupils.
- Encourage dialogue and cooperation between different actors in education.
- Put into use of the Council of Europe Charter for EDC/HRE and Council of Europe materials.
- Expand a network of multipliers in EDC/HRE.

WHAT IS A DEMOCRATIC SCHOOL LIKE?

- There is a friendly school atmosphere, which fosters cooperation and respect.
- Pupils feel more confident and actively listen to each other.
- Teachers feel more confident in using interactive methods in teaching.
- Pupils with weaker academic results are more involved in school.
- Relations between the different actors (teacher – pupil, teacher – parent, pupil – pupil, etc.) are co-operative.
- Pupils are showing greater interest in community affairs.
- Cooperation between schools and other organizations exist, and as a result, pupils are more involved in volunteer activities in their neighbourhood.
- Pupils express their opinions without fear, and take responsibility for what is happening in their school.

HOW TO SUPPORT DEMOCRATIC PRINCIPLES AT SCHOOL?

The Academy helps schools to take actions for becoming a more democratic and inclusive school. School teams may decide that their school will, for example:

- organise trainings for teachers and enable them to use participatory methodology in classroom;
- establish school / pupil parliaments and support their active participation in school life;
- develop opportunities for parents to express their opinion about the education that is offered to their children;
- encourage students to engage in activities aimed at the development of civil society.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

Participants join the training as a school-community team of three members from the Slovak Republic. Each team consists of:

- 1) a representative of school management (a school head or a deputy);
- 2) a teacher of any educational/academic subject;
- 3) a representative of the NGO active in the field of HRE/EDC at least two preceding years;

in case school does not cooperate with an NGO it can nominate:

a representative of parents;

or a representative of a local government;

or a teacher of any general/academic subject.

Application form is available at the website of the National Institute for Education in SR.

Please fill out the application form by **26 May 2017** the latest and send it to addresses below:

michaela.ujhazyova@statpedu.sk and Cc to: denisa.duranova@statpedu.sk

Practical information

Venue:

Bratislava, details about the venue will be provided to selected candidates

Working languages

The training will be held in English. All members of a team should have a basic understanding of English to be able to participate actively, while at least one member of the team should have a very good command of English. Recommended level is at least B2 according to CEFR. Interpretation from/into English/Slovak will be provided during the training.

Travel expenses and subsistence

Trainings, travelling expenses, accommodation, and food are provided by the organisers.

Further information on travel reimbursement will be provided to selected candidates.

Certificate of participation

Upon completion of all phases of the training, participants will receive a certificate of participation.

Further information

For more information about Summer Academies, please visit the European Wergeland Centre (further EWC) web site:

<http://www.theewc.org/Content/What-we-do/Summer-Academies>

Team of trainers

The training is conducted by a team of experienced trainers, both from Slovakia and international field.

BRIEF TIMELINE FOR SCHOOLS – 2017/2018

SPRING 2017: APPLY (until 26 May 2017)

- Commit to become a more democratic school! Get the school management support!
- Build a school-community team & apply together.
- We will inform you about the results of the application procedure until 30 May 2017.

JUNE: PRE-TASKS

- Assess the situation at your school to identify how democratic and inclusive your school already is, using EWC tool.

JULY 10–14: FACE-TO-FACE TRAINING ACADEMY

- Take part in the face-to-face training
- Design an action plan on how to become a more democratic school

SEPTEMBER 2017 – MARCH 2018: IMPLEMENTATION

- Consult with your school on your action plan
- Implement your actions involving members of the school community, with support from EWC trainers and National Institute for Education in SR.

APRIL / MAY 2018: EVALUATION & REPORTING

- Evaluate changes at school
- Reflect on your achievements and limitations, and identify lessons learned
- Report to EWC until 15 May 2018 - Share your results beyond your school! You can inspire others!
<http://www.theewc.org/Content/What-we-do/Summer-Academies>
- Receive certificate until 15 June 2018

AFTER COMPLETION OF ACADEMY – PLAN FUTURE STEPS

- Continue your work in the next school year

Please note: The success of the training activities depends on the commitment of all participants. By accepting to take part in the Summer Academy, participants agree to participate actively in all the phases.

Should you have any questions about the Academy, please do not hesitate to contact:

PhDr. Denisa Ďuranová: denisa.duranova@statpedu.sk

Mgr. Michaela Ujházyová, PhD.: michaela.ujhazyova@statpedu.sk