



Declaration



Original language:
Slovak

Country:
Slovakia

Source:
IUVENTA – Slovak institute for
youth

Link:
https://www.iuventa.sk/files/documents/4%20iuventa/publikacie/ilf_krok_za_krokom/_krok_za_krokom_web.pdf

(access date: 06/03/2017)

Target group
 Teacher / trainer
 Counsellor
 Social worker
 Youth worker
 future employer
 other: public

Type of best practice
 tool
 initiative/campaign
 project
 website only
 programme
 model
 training
 learning material
 other:

Experiences
 available for more than 5 years
 available for less than 5 years
 pilot phase / testing
 in development
 unknown

Summary:

The organization IUVENTA has already conducted many trainings for young people in gaining competencies through non-formal education, but they perceived it as very important that the public, the potential employers and also the institutions in formal education understand the importance of non-formal education, which also can be gained through volunteering or through trainings. That is why they created a "Declaration on the Recognition of Contribution of Non-formal Education in the youth work" in 2013.

It is a tool that promotes non formal education and links all of those who realize that non-formal education is to play an important role in the education of the young generation. It was a significant milestone, when important partners were attracted to promote non-formal education in the youth work.



Description:

In the context of formal education, young people, in particular at schools, acquire a huge amount of knowledge, but they often have much less space to develop their skills, abilities, and attitudes necessary for a successful career or for life as such. Non-formal education in the field of the youth work provides opportunities for gaining the above and that's the reason why IUVENTA works on further developments of the concept of NFE in Slovakia.

They also want to point out the big potential that non-formal education has in addressing current challenges in the education of young generation, i.e. that education is a broader term and includes not only formal school system, but also non-formal education, which is flexible, very practical, meets the needs of young people, and may respond to the needs of the labor market and society. In this way, it is a complement to formal education.

It was therefore a logical step to incorporate the activities that lead to the recognition of non-formal education in the youth work.

The idea was to create a document, in which all of those convinced would publicly and officially declare their support of NFE in youth work and willingness to cooperate.

This was how the document, which was given the name of the "Declaration on the Recognition of Contribution of Non-formal Education in the Youth work", originated. It is a tool that promotes this issue and links all of those who realize that non-formal education is to play an important role in the education of the young generation. The key was to get support and engage the representatives of all the relevant stakeholders that play an important role in the training and employment of the young generation (representatives of state administration bodies, local and regional municipalities, public administrative organizations, non-governmental organizations and employers).

At the same time, however, IUVENTA did not want it to be only a formal document, but wanted that anyone who signs the Declaration actually understands its content and meaning. Therefore, at the level of each region of Slovakia, "roundtables" were organized (a total of 8, one in each region), in which the representatives of the employers, schools and universities, municipalities, institutions offering non-formal education and other entities active in the field of youth work discussed together the benefits of non-formal education in the youth work and the possibilities of its further support.

Between 20th and 22nd June 2013, the international Innovative Learning Forum (ILF) was held, which was organized by IUVENTA. The ILF was attended by over 150 participants, among whom there were trainers, youth workers, employers, as well as representatives of local municipalities and some interesting guests.

An important moment during the Innovative Learning Forum was signing the Declaration. Representatives of several major institutions from the state, private, public and non-governmental sectors appeared in person to sign the Declaration or to support it by handing over the signature sheets. They perceive the benefits of non-formal education in the work with youth, which suitably complements formal education and contributes to gaining better positions for the young people on the labor market and in social life.

Contributing partner: Qualed