

EDC/HRE Police and Practice in Croatia: Action plan in 2005

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National context for EDC policy and practice:

- National Human Rights Education Committee established by Croatian Government in 1996
- Aims
- to develop HRE programmes from pre-school to the university level, including adults and media training
- to promote and introduce the programmes into school and out-of-school education and training
- to monitor and evaluate the outcomes

Implementation process of HRE/EDC policy into practice:

- The ministerial act on integration of EDC/HRE to the Framework Plan and Programme for Primary Schools in 1999
- HRE/EDC as an integral part of the school curriculum may be implemented:
- cross-curricularly
- as an optional subject
- extra-curricular project activity

Content areas of the National HRE Programme:

- Universal human rights and fundamental freedoms
- Democracy and civil society
- Interdependency of society, culture and nature
- Peace and non-violent conflict management and resolution
- Cultural pluralism and intercultural dialogue
- Self-awareness and personal responsibilities

Teacher training in EDC/HRE:

- In-service regular TT for all categories of teachers in primary and secondary education began in 1998/99
- The network of 21 regional co-ordinators were nominated in 2000 to facilitate the implementation of HRE/EDC in schools
- Dissemination activities of the Council of Europe documents in EDC project began in 2002 / Recommendation (2002) 12 of the Committee of Ministers to member states
- NGOs involved in HRE/EDC projects in schools⁵

Action Plan for the "Year":

• Objectives

- Overview of the current situation in HRE/EDC
- Further development of HRE and EDC policies
- Promotion dissemination of examples of good practice in education
- In-service teacher training
- To improve co-operation and partnership of stakeholders in formal and non-formal education
- To improve cooperation among school, civic society and local community
- To rise public awareness through the media
- To provide didactic material and other resources

Overview of the current situation in HRE/EDC:

• Task:

 To gather information on projects and activities in formal and non-formal education as well as science and research projects – creating an electronic database

- Target groups:

schools, universities, NGOs, youth associations

 Stakeholders: Institute for Education, Government Office for Cooperation with NGOs, Research and Training centre for HRE/EDC/Faculty of Philosophy, University of Zagreb

Further development of HRE/EDC policies:

- To include EDC/HRE into the Croatian Education Standards which is currently under construction
- To innovate the existing National HRE Program to encompass the entire vertical structure of the education system; lifelong learning; partnership between formal and non-formal education
- To strengthen the implementation of the National HRE/EDC program
- **Target groups**: decision makers at national, county, local and school level
- **Stakeholders**: Ministry, Institute for Education; county offices

Promotion and dissemination of examples of good practices in education:

- to organize the Fair of National HRE Program projects to make and disseminate CDs with examples of good practice presented at the Fair
- to encourage school activities notably through the opendoor or school day programs
- To stimulate school library activities making it the core of all students activities in the field of HRE/EDC
- To provide media coverage and follow-up of activities
- **Target groups:** schools, universities, institutes, NGOs, youth associations
- **Stakeholders:** Ministry, Institute for Education, county offices

In-service teacher training:

- 4 seminars in pre-school education; topics: Partnership with parents in accomplishing children rights; Social inclusion of ethnic minorities – 120 participants
- 4 seminars focused on primary education teachers; topics: Personality development and social competence; Project teaching and student active involvement – 90 participants
- 2 seminars from primary and secondary teachers; topic: Key competences of learning for EDC – 80 participants
- 5 seminars for secondary school teachers; European youth homes; Right to proper education, Projects in teaching and out-of-school activities

Improvement of cooperation & partnership in formal and non-formal education:

- **Task:** to produce a catalogue of non-formal HRE/EDC programs currently implemented by civil society organizations
- **Target groups**: civil society organisations, youth associations
- **Stakeholders**: National Foundation for Civil Society Development in cooperation with the Ministry of Science, Education and Sports and the Institute for Education

Improvement of cooperation among schools, civic society and local community:

- to encourage the cooperation of schools and civil society with local community through county coordination programs on human rights
- to stimulate the cooperation between school libraries and municipal libraries in carrying out activities in the field of HRE/EDC
- Target groups: schools, local community
- Stakeholders: county offices, schools

Raising public awareness through media:

- To organise the Fair of projects based on the National HRE/EDC program (above mentioned) & to introduce HRE/EDC programs implemented in formal and nonformal education as a joined activity of the Institute for Education, the Ministry and the National Foundation for Civil Society Development
- Prize awarding ceremony of the competition in the CoE network "Europe in School", Zagreb, European House, 9 May 2005; topic: What does it mean to be a citizens in a changing Europe (114 primary schools, 85 secondary and 2 universities)

Didactic materials and other resources:

- To translate, print and/or disseminate materials included in EDC Pack produced by the Council of Europe
- Tool for Quality Assurance of EDC in Schools;
- Tool on Teacher Training for EDC/HRE;
- to disseminate the already translated COMPASS manual for youth education on HR (published in Croatian by the European House Slavonski Brod)
- Dissemination of the European Charter for Democratic School without Violence
- Preparation of a distance learning module in the EDC/HRE field by scholarship students of the National Foundation for Civil Society Development

Final remarks:

- The Action plan was accorded on the 3rd session of the National Committee for the 2005 European Year of Citizenship through Education.
- It remains open to various stakeholders of HRE/EDC programs and projects
- The integral part of the Action plan are programmes and projects of associations and NGOs financially supported by the Ministry of Science, Education and Sports in the school year 2004/2005.
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