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# Multiculturalism – Teacher's Role in the Integration Process of Immigrant Children

**In-service training in Ljubljana**

**18. 2. 2018 – 24. 2. 2018**

**Venue: City hotel, Dalmatinova 15, Ljubljana**



**Erasmus+**

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## Training Programme

### Programme summary

Migration is not a new phenomenon, but it is getting more relevant in our lives as in our everyday professional work. Integration and interculturalism are one of the most important elements for creating a diverse and open society. If we want to live in multi-cultural societies, it is important to teach our children how to be open-minded, tolerant, how to accept and live (in) diversity. Kindergartens and schools need to cooperate in two different processes in integrating immigrant children into educational system and society. Teachers need to ensure intercultural environment as a condition to follow integration. Ensuring inter-cultural, safe and encouraging environment is crucial for all children to develop their potentials. Strengthening values of multiculturalism and diversity can meaningfully contribute to personal development of all children (not only immigrant), their parents and teachers.

### Objectives

The course will equip participants with knowledge and skills for creating a inter-cultural environment in their schools and organisations. Participants will learn how to understand different cultures and how to change stereotypes, how to help creating a welcoming classes for all their students. Course will emphasize the role of teachers and their institutions in encouraging inter-cultural educational environment and familiarize them with certain methods of teaching immigrant students and integrate them in school. Participants will get familiar with programmes for successful integration of immigrant children into school systems in different countries through the exchange of good practices.

### Methodology

The course is designed as an interactive process with emphasis on establishing a mentor relationship between participants and trainer. It follows two-way communication process including discussions, interactive games, working in groups and pairs, presentations, case studies, thinking techniques and individual activities. The focus is on experiential learning and workshop approach. The participants will also receive a workbook with session's summaries and descriptions of activities used. We will recommend them interesting literature for further study.

### Competencies

Multiculturalism course informs participants how to contribute to the successful integration process of immigrant children into educational system and how to take active part in creating multicultural educational environment. Some of the acquired competencies in the course are:

- Understanding the perspective of immigrant children in new environment.
- Understanding the emotional and psychological distress of immigrant children.
- Recognising and understanding own cultural patterns, prejudices and stereotypes.
- Ability to better understand the communication and social barriers in the process of integration.



- Raising competencies to develop and implement activities for encouraging multi-cultural environment in classrooms and schools.
- Ability to actively establish and maintain multi-cultural atmosphere in the classroom.
- Learn how to effectively manage conflicts based on multiculturalism between children.
- Empowering teachers & counsellors for developing multiculturalism in their classrooms and schools.
- Learn how to establish fruitful cooperation with parents of immigrant children and other institutions in the local environment.
- Transfer of best practice: Experience with integration of immigrant children and developing multi-cultural environment.

### Your introduction - posters

One of the main goals of the course is to connect among each other. In order to achieve this goal we **kindly ask you to prepare a brief poster about you and your work** – you can use written material, photos, drawings and other creative methods. PPT presentations are not needed. Have in mind that you will have **5 – 10 minutes for the oral presentation**.

We will prepare a gallery from all the posters and the gallery will be in the classroom for the whole week. Here are **some guidelines that might help you:**

- 🌱 Tell us about you
- 🌱 Tell us about your organisation
- 🌱 Tell us about your work
- 🌱 Mention some interesting projects you work on

During the first day (Sunday evening) share with us your goals and objectives regarding this course.

### Venue

City hotel, Dalmatinova 15, Ljubljana, [Google map](#)

## AGENDA

### Sunday, 18 February 2018

Time	Content	Trainer
18.00 – 20.00	Welcome, icebreakers, personal learning & action plan Introduction to the working methods (interactive approach, practical arrangements) Presentations of delegates' posters	Brina Menart

### Monday, 19 February 2018

Time	Content	Trainer
09.00 – 10.30	Introduction to the course Intercultural education: for more supportive inclusion of migrant children	Marijanca Ajša Vižintin, Ph.D.
10.30 – 10.45	Break	
10.45 – 12.15	Teaching the language of the environment: best practices (from Slovenia) and exchange of experiences in different countries	Marijanca Ajša Vižintin, Ph.D.
12.15 – 13.45	Lunch	
13.45 – 15.15	Intercultural dialogue and intercultural school lessons as part of school curricula	Marijanca Ajša Vižintin, Ph.D.

**AFTERNOON & EVENING: EXPERIENCING LJUBLJANA WITH DINNER**

### Tuesday, 20 February 2018

Time	Content	Trainer
09.00 – 10.30	The development of intercultural competence for all inhabitants	Marijanca Ajša Vižintin, Ph.D.
10.30 – 10.45	Break	
10.45 – 12.15	Overcoming prejudices together with migrants, introducing their life-stories and experiences	Marijanca Ajša Vižintin, Ph.D.
12.15 – 13.30	Lunch	
13.30 – 15.00	Cooperation between school, (migrant) parents and local community: for more successful inclusion	Marijanca Ajša Vižintin, Ph.D.

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## Wednesday, 21 February 2018

Time	Content	Trainer
09.00 – 13.00	Study visit to Primary school Maks Durjava Maribor an to Secondary school for Food and Food Technology – presentation of the programmes and good practices for successful integration of immigrant children in Slovene school system	
13.00 – 14.00	Lunch	
<b>AFTERNOON &amp; EVENING: HALF DAY EXCURSION WITH DINNER</b>		
We will be back in Ljubljana in the evening		

## Thursday, 22 February 2018

Time	Content	Trainer
09.00 – 10.30	Understanding the multiculturalism, integration and importance concepts in intercultural education.	Ivana Majcen
10.30 – 10.45	Break	
10.45 – 12.15	My intercultural classroom. Examples of good practices.	Ivana Majcen
12.15 – 13.30	Lunch	
13.30 – 15.00	What to consider when working in multicultural classroom. Starting points of inclusion when meeting immigrant child.	Ivana Majcen

## Friday, 23 February 2018

Time	Content	Trainer
9.00 – 10.30	Addressing emotional and psychological distress of immigrant children in the process of integration into new environment.	Urška Živkovič
10.30 – 10.45	Break	
10.45 – 12.15	Responding to the needs of immigrant children and providing help and support to them and their families	Primož Jamšek
12.15 – 13.30	Lunch	
13.30 – 15.00	How to create supportive environment	Urška Živkovič Primož Jamšek

## Saturday, 24 February 2018

Time	Content	Trainer
9.00 – 10.30	Key learning points, action plan, conclusion, farewell	All

## Trainers



Marijanca Ajša Vižintin is research fellow at the Slovenian Migration Institute ZRC SAZU. She was a co-editor of academic journal *Dve domovini / Two Homelands* in 2013–2014 (<http://twohomelands.zrc-sazu.si/>). Her main research and study interests are the inclusion of migrant students in Slovenian school system and the development of an intercultural education model. Her research subjects also include Slovenian emigration to Germany and Bosnia and Herzegovina. Marijanca Ajša Vižintin was awarded the ZRC Silver Emblem in 2014 for her PhD thesis “The Inclusion of Immigrant Children of the First Generation and Intercultural Dialogue in Slovene Primary Schools”. She actively participates at Slovenian and international conferences (Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kingdom of Bahrain, Croatia, Italy, Germany, Hungary, Sweden) and coordinates the national programme »Only (with) others are we« (2016-2021; <https://lezdrugimismo.si/>). Besides her other publications she has published twelve scientific articles and a scientific monograph »Intercultural education: inclusion of migrant children« (2017).



**Ivana Majcen** is a primary school teacher and doctoral candidate at the Faculty of education in Ljubljana. Since she herself has a migrant experience, she was interested to help children who are entering Slovenian school. As a student she was involved in projects working with children who are coming from different cultural and language environment, so she worked as a teacher in Roma village and asylum seeker house – helping children with home works and did some social learning. This encouraged her to continue improving in her work, so she spent one semester in Sweden working in schools and conducting a research on comparison of Slovenian and Swedish intercultural education. For her work she received an University award. Since then she is working on different projects connected with intercultural pedagogy and education. In 2013 she wrote a handbook for teachers, named *Intercultural? Yes!*, has been working together with ISA institute at the »Developing intercultural environment as a new form of co-existence« project and lately for the project »We are all migrants« that was recognising immigrants living in Slovenia as a contribution to our society. She has traveled a lot and been recognising different practices in different countries. She published few articles describing her work in practice or some research results she collected in Slovenia.



Urška Živkovič is working in Slovene philanthropy as coordinator of volunteers working with refugees and coordinator of activities in Daily centre for migrants in Maribor. Her working experiences with refugees started in October 2015 in Slovenian-Austrian border. She worked in temporary accommodation centre Šentilj, was part of Slovene philanthropy-UNICEF Child friendly space in Dobova and in Asylum home with unaccompanied children.

During her Psychology studies she gained various volunteering experiences. One of the most valuable one was her 3-month long volunteering as part of European volunteering service in Ghana, where she was enhancing literacy skills of local children.



groups by himself.

Primož Jamšek is working at Slovene Philanthropy since 2001, first as a volunteer – guardian of unaccompanied minors, later as a coordinator of volunteers, since 2008 as Head of Programme Volunteering. He was co-founder of national program for development and promotion of voluntary work in Slovenia, which still nowadays provide support to volunteers, voluntary organisations and campaigns. From 2015 he is developing and leading voluntary and other social care programs in refugee camps and asylum centres in Slovenia. Nowadays he is working with asylum seekers and refugees on daily bases – organising free time and educational activities. He is a social worker with a huge experiences of volunteering with vulnerable

## Organizer

### Brina Menart



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## Travel to Ljubljana

Maybe you've already noticed that Slovenia is a small country and Ljubljana is a small city, located in the centre of Slovenia. That makes planning very straightforward. From whichever direction you enter Slovenia, you will probably end up in Ljubljana.

### Plane

The first option is flying to Ljubljana. It is likely that you will change your flight connection in Vienna, Frankfurt, Rome or any other city, but at least you will get very close to Ljubljana centre. From international "Jože Pučnik Airport" (also known as "Brnik airport") to the city centre it will take you around 20 - 30 minutes by car. If you will have luck with the weather, you will have beautiful view over the Alps when your plane lands.



You have numerous options to reach Ljubljana centre from the airport. The cheapest one is a public bus, but there are also Shuttle buses ([shuttle GoOpti](#)) and taxis (*keep in mind if you rent a taxi at the airport, you'll pay around 40 €, if you call it from Ljubljana centre, you'll pay about 25 €*).

Maybe you will notice some good flight connections with Ljubljana's neighboring cities. Trieste, Klagenfurt, Rijeka, Zagreb and even Venice and Vienna are not far away. The best option to reach Ljubljana from those cities can be [shuttle GoOpti](#). If you are ok spending a couple of hours in the car you will reach Ljubljana from Venice for approximately 25 €.

### Train & Bus

[Train station](#) is conveniently located in the centre of the City (10 minutes from Prešeren square). If you are travelling from central European capitals, train can be interesting and comfortable travel option

Another option is Bus. The [central bus station](#) is in the middle of Ljubljana (next to the train station). It's easy to pick a taxi and come to hotel from there.



## Travel around Ljubljana

There are four options to travel around Ljubljana. Travel around the city centre is easiest on foot, city centre is also very close to the City Hotel. You can rent a bike. Ljubljana is bike-friendly city and bike-lanes are all over the city. You can take public bus. It costs 1,2 € for 90 minutes ride.

In case you will need taxi, there are a lot of possibilities regarding which taxi company to choose. Please note it is cheaper if you call a taxi by phone comparing to price if you stop them in the street.



Below are the numbers of two of the cheapest taxi companies:

- Taxi Rondo (+386 70 900 900)

## Top sights in Ljubljana

### Ljubljana Castle

The Ljubljana Castle, the city's most prominent landmark, is a medieval fort overlooking the old city centre. The castle has a lot to offer and numerous events are organized throughout the year. Visitors can also see a permanent exhibition called Slovenian history.

Opening time: 9 am – 9 pm

<http://www.ljubljanskigrad.si/>



### Ljubljana Old Town

Ljubljana' Old Town is small, but beautifully preserved piece of baroque and Habsburg architecture. It's three squares (Mestni, Gornji and Stari trg) are situated on the west bank of Ljubljanica river, right beneath the Ljubljana castle.

Its best explored on foot with brief stopovers in one of numerous cafes and restaurants.



## The river Ljubljanica and its bridges

The heart of Ljubljana's social life is the Ljubljanica river embankments, densely scattered with lively cafés offering outdoor seating. A good way to see the old city centre and its famous bridges, picturesque buildings and vibrant embankments from a completely different angle is to join a tourist boat cruise along the river. You can hire a canoe and paddle through the city centre..



## Churches

The artistic and especially architectural legacy found in the Central Slovenia is intensely marked by the richness of the ecclesiastical art.

### Franciscan Church

Location: [Prešernov trg 4](#)

### Križanke Church

Location: [Trg Francoske revolucije 2](#)

### The Cathedral – Church of St Nicholas

Location: [Dolničarjeva ulica 1](#)

### Ursuline Church

Location: [Slovenska cesta 21](#)



## The unique legacy of the architect Jože Plečnik

The famous architect Jože Plečnik (1872-1957) tried to model Ljubljana on ancient Athens. The multitude of his creations in the city, referred to as a whole as "Plečnik's Ljubljana", is considered to be one of the 20th century's most important total works of art.

**Central market - market halls by architect Jože Plečnik**

**Triple Bridge**



**Church of St Michael**

Location: [Črna vas 48](#)

**Križanke Summer Theatre**

Location: [Trg Francoske revolucije 1](#)

**National and University Library**

Location: [Turjaška ulica 1](#)

**Plečnik House**

Location: [Karunova ulica 4](#)



## Shopping

**Maximarket** ([www.maxi.si](http://www.maxi.si))

Location: [Trg Republike 1](#)

Open: Mon – Fri 9.00 – 21.00, Sat 8.00 – 17.00



**Galerija Emporium** ([www.galerijaemporium.si](http://www.galerijaemporium.si))

Location: [Prešernov trg 5a](#)

Open: Mon – Fri 10.00 – 21.00, Sat 10.00 – 20.00



**Nama** ([www.nama.si](http://www.nama.si))

Location: [Tomšičeva ulica 1](#)

Open: Mon – Sat 9.00 – 20.00



**Mercator Centre Ljubljana** ([www.mercator.si](http://www.mercator.si))

Location: [Cesta Ljubljanske brigade 32](#)

Open: Mon – Sat 9.00 – 21.00

**BTC City** ([www.btc-city.com](http://www.btc-city.com))

Location: [Šmartinska cesta 152](#)

Open: Mon – Sat 9.00 – 20.00



## Don't Forget!

- ✓ Passport
- ✓ Airplane ticket
- ✓ Camera
- ✓ Dictionary
- ✓ Enjoy yourself!

In case of emergency please call:

Brina (+386 51 353 907)