

## **SCRIPT**

**TAPE, SOUND EFFECT: CHILDREN (0:37 – 0:44) + BELL (0:49 – 0:53)**

*JANA:* Hello, everybody, and welcome to our radio podcast. I'm Jana, reporting from Croatia within Erasmus + project European Active Citizenship. Today we're talking about the poverty of children. The economic crisis which has struck the whole world has hit the most vulnerable ones most, and these are the children.

In this radio podcast we will be talking about this problem with the representative of the charity called The Portal of Goodness, Mrs Petra Mikić, and with the Croatian Ombudsman for Children, Mrs Ivana Milas Klarić. The Portal of Goodness organizes different initiatives to provide free meals to children in primary schools all around Croatia. They still don't know the exact number of provided meals because people who wanted to help called the schools themselves and donated money for the meals. However, the number of the children in need is still increasing, so the problem is definitely not solved yet. This year the number of those children is 23 000.

**TAPE, RUNAWAY TRAIN (do 1.23)**

*JANA:* Our reporter Bruno Kovačić talked to Petra Mikic and found out more about the initiatives of The Portal of Goodness.

**TAPE, SOUND EFFECT- SCHOOL KITCHEN ( 00:10 – 00: 15 )**

*BRUNO:* What's the initiative 'Let no child in Croatia be hungry' and why did you initiate it?

**TAPE, ANSWER NO 1 (00.51)**

*OVERVOICE MARTA:* The initiative was founded in 2014 after an article in the newspapers about children stealing each other's meals in schools. We asked the principals if the incident was true and how school meals work in schools. We received the information that 1/3 of pupils in every school have no money for their meals. During 2014 and at the beginning of 2015 we collected money for around 1000 students.

*BRUNO:* Where do your funds come from and were they an issue?

**TAPE, ANSWER NO 3 (0:03 - 00.23)**

*OVERVOICE MARTA:* We collected payments through companies and received payments directly onto our bank account. We made sure that people knew where that money exactly went.

*BRUNO:* How did you select the schools which needed help?

**TAPE, ANSWER NO 4 (0:03 - 00.16)**

*OVERVOICE MARTA:* We started from the poorest districts where the development rate is under 75%. Some schools contacted us themselves.

*BRUNO:* How did the citizens respond to the initiative and is it still in progress?

### **TAPE, ANSWERS NO 5 (00.06-00.12) AND 6 ( 0:06 - 0.40)**

*OVERVOICE MARTA:* The whole Croatian society responded very well to our initiative because that's the Croatian reality. The initiative is still in progress. The results are extremely positive because this is the first attempt at a systematic solution to this problem. There are 2500 elementary schools in Croatia and only 1200 of them have organised meals for their pupils. This is the problem which the society has to solve.

### **TAPE, SOUND EFFECT-SCHOOL BELL (0.49 – 0.53)**

*JANA:* And now it` time for a commercial!

### **TAPE-COMMERCIAL**

*JANA:* The ombudsman for children Ivana Milas Klarić encounters the problem of child poverty every day.

### **TAPE MILAS-KLARIĆ ( 00:04 - 00:28 / 00:35 - 01:37 / 02:27 - 03:09 / 03:44 - 04:20 )**

*OVERVOICE MARTA:* Child poverty is still a big problem. Since children are not independent people, who earn money by working, child poverty automatically means poverty of their parents too. For example, they have issues financing transportation or going to their dream school. Poverty in general plays an important role when talking about human rights. That leads to the issue of poverty of the whole country, especially if it's a country of a low economic standing, like Croatia. However, the government is obligated to do more than it already does and figure out a way to improve the economy of our country. On the other hand, our civil society is doing as much as they can to solve that problem by organising charity funds and starting initiatives, but solving that problem is still the job of our government.

*JANA*: We hope that our podcast has made you aware of the fact how economic crisis and poverty can affect the lives of ordinary children. It is not necessary to wait for the governments to take steps, sometimes non-government organizations with the help of active citizens can do much more. Thank you all for listening to us and goodbye for today in the name of the whole team who released this programme

**TAPE, ANOTHER DAY IN PARADISE (do 1.40)**- Jana Šafar, Marta Čagalj, Bruno Kovačić, Mia Mataić, Ana Mihaela Velički, Karla Škrlec, Bruna Božičković, Julija Sliško, Vid Opačić, Mia Schwerer and our teachers Mrs Dvorščak, Tardelli, Killmann and Mr Letica.

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