## Strengthening of global awareness in local communities –

## Kolping 2020 Strategy

## Examples of teaching global education issues

## Štiavnické Bane, Slovakia

## 21st April – 24th April 2016

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|  | **Participants** | **Organisation / Country** |
| 1  2  3  4 | Mrs Monika Dabrowska  Mrs Halina Liszka  Mrs Walentyna Iwanek  Mr Jozef Pabian | Zwiazek Centralny Dziela Kolpinga w Polsce, Poland |
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| 5  6  7  8  9 | Mrs Cosmina Muscalu  Mrs Mihaela Bereș  Mrs Monica Benedic  Mrs Henrietta Blejan  Mr Alexandru Frincu | Organizatia Centrala a Familiilor Kolping din Romania, Romania |
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| 10  11  1213 | Mrs Mažeikiené Liauda  Mrs Giraityté Aruné  Mr Statkevičius Tomas  Mr Likša Liutauras | Lietuvos Kolpingo draugija, Lithuania |
| 1415  16  17 | Mrs Mateja Šavc  Mrs Magdalena Šverc  Mrs Nives Felic  Mr Andrej Šauperl | Zduzenje Koplingovih Socialnih Dejavnosti Slovenije, Slovenia |
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| 18  19  20 | Mr Matthias Knauff  Mr Werner Stoffers  Mr Burkhard Wulff | Kolpingwerk e.V., Germany |
| 21  22  23 | Mrs Margita Marková  Mrs Júlia Čížová  Mr Pavol Zaťko | Kolpingovo dielo na Slovensku, Slovakia |

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| **Date** | **Activities** | |
| **21st April 2016** | **Workshop Day 1** | |
| Introduction of the participants, programme and topics | Participants from Lithuania and Germany, who arrived at lunchtime, were given a tour of the historic centre of Banská Štiavnica. After the arrival of the rest of the participants the programme was introduced and the importance of Banská Štiavnica region as the venue was highlighted. The town itself, along with its surroundings has been inscribed in the UNESCO world heritage list thanks to its technically advanced historic mining hydro-electric system which was used to power mining facilities, to provide drinking water supply and used for fishing.  The region is often dubbed as a mecca for minerals. There is a protected landscape area as well as archeological findings. Relative to the topic of the workshop is the fact that there are primary and secondary schools focusing on natural sciences and global teaching is part of their curricula. A few years ago there was a Department of Ecology and Environmental Science of the Zvolen Technical Faculty based in town.  After dinner, the participants were given a guided tour of the private brewery Erb. | |
| **22nd April 2016** | **Workshop Day 2** | |
| Examples of teaching global education issues at primary schools | In the morning we were reminded that 22nd April is the Earth Day which was introduced as a reaction to the global destruction of the environment.  As an example of teaching global education we visited Maximilián Hell Primary School at Štiavnické Bane which, thanks to its focus, is not only well-known across Slovakia, but also abroad. There is an emphasis on the environmental education and as part of their compulsory school subjects they are instructed in falconry and horse rearing. The pupils are expected to care for animals every day and in their holidays, too. Also, within the school grounds there are various types of gardens – the vertical one, which is on the wall of the school building, as well as tropical and herb gardens. Besides, there are birds of prey and exotic birds, two aquaria with fish native of African lakes of Tanganyika and Malawi. The purpose of such a system of teaching is to make pupils aware of their responsibility for nature and to encourage them not to spend much time at their laptops and mobile phones. Many of these children will consequently opt for secondary schools and colleges focusing on natural sciences, agriculture or forestry. | |
| Examples of teaching global education issues **at universities** | Friday afternoon was spent at the Kolping Society premises. Dr. Žuffa illustrated the pace of global changes we are confronted with on the examples from the field of construction business, information technologies and medicine. Global issues and very fast changes have an impact on social activities the participants are involved in. A five-minute discussion followed, where the participants were discussing the raised issues. The participants from Slovenia talked about their cross-generational projects, their visits to old people´s homes, organising a “family week” where families attend workshops.  The Polish members also concentrate on working with the elderly, who are taught computer skills through workshops. They are instructed how to use the Internet and e-banking. The Polish participants also mentioned that the Kolping Society Poland collaborates with the Kolping Society Uganda. They managed to raise enough money to provide solar panels to generate electricity.  In Lithuania, they organise the “Kolping College” and an an eco-school where they raise awareness about the environment. Another project is called “Ellegiance Against Consumption.”  The German participants remarked that the global topic that influenced them the most were the refugees.  Mr Žuffa then introduced some ideas about how to deal with global topics. According to him, people should try to understand the changes. Secondly, one thing that is vital is informing people about them and thirdly, receiving feedback.  As a follow-up, there was a role-play (blue-red), which was meant to highlight the need for cooperation when trying to reach some goals.The results were analysed at the end of the game.  Finally, the lecturer focused on the examples of global issues as dealt with at universities. He introduced research in the field of religion and the changes in the religious beliefs in the participants´countries. Overall, there has been a shift towards secular values on one hand, and on the other, from institutional authorities towards individuals. | |
| Examples of teaching global education issues **by NGOs** | After lunch, the director of Dobrá novina (Good Tidings) programme of eRko Marián Čaučík explained the history of eRko and the Dobrá novina campaign and focused on global education, solidarity and awareness raising aspects of the campaign.  Dobrá novina is a Christmas carol singing campaign connected with a public fund raising for development projects as well as for global education and a volunteer programme. Campaigning started in Slovakia in 1995 and has been organized by eRko - Christian Children Communities Movement. The main aim has been to revive old traditions and connect them with development, solidarity and global justice issues. Since then Dobra novina has grown to the biggest regular volunteer action in Slovakia in terms of volunteers involved with more than 2,6000 children and youth involved in the campaign annually.  Every year a concrete theme is communicated through the campaign to children and young people involved. The organizers try to present concrete development projects that are supported from Dobra novina and link it to global issues. Three practical themes have been explained: Water and climate change, Human rights and People with Disabilities and the Life in the Slums of Nairobi.  Marián Čaučík elaborated more on the theme of Water, which was the main topic of the last year ´s campaign in December 2015/January 2016. Dobra novina chose the theme of Water with a motto "Maji ya Maisha = Water is Life (in Swahili) to highlight the difficulty in accessing drinking water in the Kenyan region of Turkana and the importance of development interventions providing water for the local population. eRko is supporting the Turkana Water Project implemented by the Catholic Diocese of Lodwar, where two teams are maintaining the pumps in the whole region. In the methodological materials for youth and children eRko links the topic to that of climate change, which has been affecting Turkana in the last few years and to the encyclical Laudato si which was published last year by Pope Francis. Through various materials and activities eRko motivates the children to participate in the campaign and increase their knowledge about life in developing countries in sub-Saharan Africa. Practical examples from the target countries of Dobra novina eRko also suggest actions that could lead to changes of our lifestyles to become modest, appreciative of the environment and inspired by the gospel.  As practical concrete example of tools for youth to learn about the life of their peers in Kenya, "Box from Nyeri" and "Slum in the box" have been introduced together with a series of films about Nairobi slums. The participants could see and play with various subjects from everyday life in Kenya which complemented the presentation and made the impression very concrete and realistic. | |
|  | Before dinner, there was a short hike to the hill and the calvary at Horná Roveň with a spectacular view of the surroundings of Banská Štiavnica. After dinner, majority of participants spent some time in the town. | |
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| **23rd April 2016** | **Workshop Day 3** | |
| Examples of teaching global education issues **on local history** | In the morning we visited another place which renowned Banská Štiavnica- the building of the first technical college in the world, founded by Emperess Maria Theresa in 1762. She invited the most prestigious scholars of the day to teach, study and develop cutting-edge technologies. The buildings of this academy, currently used as secondary technical schools, are surrounded by an exceptional botanic garden, which was started after the study of forestry was introduced. Its aim was to serve as a training ground for future foresters, so that they knew how to professionally care for trees. From the first half of the 19th century both domestic as well as exotic trees were planted, including redwoods and cedars. | |
| Global teaching -devastation and conservation of sights | Afterterwards, we went to the Calvary. It is the most important Baroque calvary in Slovakia and in the whole of former [Kingdom of Hungary](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kingdom_of_Hungary) – likely in the whole of Europe. This calvary is a complex of 3 churches and 22 chapels with precious frescoes, furnished by wooden and blacksmith movables and wooden painted reliefs. All of the structures and chapels are westward facing built on a volcanic hill. However, at the same time, this particular sight is a cry out against devastation. In 2007 the Calvary was inscribed in a list of 100 most endangered sights in the world. Since 2011 a complex reconstruction has been carried out.. | |
| Examples of teaching global education issues **in local history** | After lunch we visited a heritage-listed building – the Baroque- Classical mansion with an extensive park in Svätý Anton. With reference to global learning it is undoubtedly interesting that Earl Ferdinand I. of the House of Coburg- the Bulgarian tsar lived there for quite a long time. He was very keen on collecting herbs and insects. In 1925 he was appointed a member of the German Academy of Sciences called Leopoldina. From 1930 to 1933 he led several expeditions do Eastern Africa, Egypt and Sudan. He brought back a number of birds which he reared on the grounds of his villa. He also became a member of the German ornithological Society and in 1942 he was given an honorary doctorate from Erlangen University. | |
| Mass at a village of Ilija and meeting local Kolping family- global teaching in history | In the afternoon we met the members of the Kolping family Ilija and joined the holy mass celebrated by the national Prases Pavol Zaťko. The Mass took place in an ancient church where a unique Romanesque Arch is situated. Father Zaťko gave practical examples of teaching in the old days with reference to the village and the arch.The architecture of the arch was influenced by an Irish-Scottish school of masonry which serves as a good example how knowledge spread across Europe. Christianisation meant the spread of culture and education in this part of the world. |  |
| Free time | Before dinner, participants chose either to visit a nearby spa and try out an exceptional thermal water bath in a cave or go to the centre of the town. |  |
| Dinner and social event with the evaluation | After dinner in the Kolping House, the evaluation followed. The participants spent the rest of the evening debating and fostering partnerships. |  |
| **24th April 2016** | **Workshop Day 4** |  |
| Conclusion and evaluation | In the morning the evaluation continued and the seminar drew to a close.  The participants appreciated both extensive and varied programme of the event spent at different localities of the Banská Štiavnica region.  They spoke highly of the visit of the primary school where they could experience a practical example of good practice – how children can be taught to think globally from an early age.They want to share this experience in their home countries.Also, the participants were impressed by the speech given by Marián Čaučík as an excellent example of global teaching with international links between Slovakia and Africa. Also, they highlighted generational ties when children from Slovakia support via their volunteering activities their peers in Africa. Besides, they liked other global projects aimed at adults.  Finally, the participants favoured a contrasting example when the Africans, who are the target group of the presented projects, conveyed the message through a film in which they showed how they deal with global problems in their local conditions. |  |
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