



## REPORT: MEETING WITH PARTNERS, PRAGUE, CZECH REPUBLIC November 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> 2013

**Name of event:** Meeting with partners, Prague, Czech Republic

**Date(s) of event:** November 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> 2013

**Location of event:** Prague, Czech Republic

**Activities (training, seminar, tournament, etc):** Meeting with partners

**Number of participants:** 14 – CCD's representative in the meeting was Nadina Balagić.

**Background of participants (type of school, age, ethnic background (if relevant) etc):**

Participants in the meeting were representatives of the partner organizations in the project:

(SDA) – Slovak Republic

(ADK) – Czech Republic

(IDEA NL) – Holland

(DC) – Latvia

(ARDOR) – Romania

(EDS) – Estonia

(IDEA UK) – UK

(CCD) – Bosnia i Herzegovina

(OK) – Serbia

(YEF) – Macedonia

(ACCD) – Serbia

### Motions/topics/focus:

Meeting agenda was:

- Report on the activities of working groups
- Goals for 2014
- Applying for future similar projects
- Reporting during current project

### Describe what happened/what the participants did in a bit more detail:

#### REPORT ON THE ACTIVITIES OF WORKING GROUPS

##### Internal Governance

- Mission statement and membership recommendations were created before Galway meeting.
- Draft statutes wording on membership were created before meeting in Prague.

##### Transnational Cooperation

- The group used Capacity Evaluation Tool developed by McKinsey, which is a general assessment tool for any type of organization.
- 14 of 19 organizations sent their replies prior to Prague meeting.
- The chairman of the group will deliver the analysis to the members

- Possible choices for IDEA's future development: Capacity Building or Status Quo.

#### Website

- IDEA SEE is not proactive in accepting opinion or suggestions of the working group.
- The working group will create a plan how to use the website by the end of the year.

#### Internal communication

- The group reached an agreement on what should be used on IDEA's website.
- If some materials for publishing are not in English, they should be translated.

#### Karl Popper

- GA is in charge of the KP rules.

#### Evaluation

- Research requires time, money and effort.
- Proper research needs control groups.
- Many researches show no significant difference in critical thinking between debaters and non-debaters, but tend to show differences in tolerance and active citizenship.

#### GOALS FOR 2014

- Capacity building – Issues that need most of the work are: funding model, fundraising skills and volunteer management.
- Methods to solve the above mentioned issues are: trainings and cooperation among IDEA members.
- Website – Issues that need most of the work are: lack of motivation to contribute to Debatebase, lack of content control.
- Method to solve the above mentioned issues is: hiring a content manager who comes from the organization which is IDEA member.
- Evaluation – Issues that need most of the work are: receiving external recognition, fundraising for the future evaluations, recruitment of personnel, receiving feedback about activities which members implement.
- Methods to solve the above mentioned issues are: appointing a coordinator for the international research, give financial assistance to national research coordinators, identify institute(s) to confirm and help in the research, organize a coordination meeting (during which research coordinators will receive instructions about conducting research correctly).

#### REPORTING

- Country coordinators and working group coordinators will send reports according to the Debate@Europe format
- Country coordinators will give a description of the activities (e.g. demo debates, tournaments), write the number of the participants, gender breakdown, what happened during the activity, what's the permanent impact and if they found any new cooperation partners. The report will also contain the description how sustainable are the activities, and were there any changes from the original application and if feedback on the project was received.
- Objectives/summaries will be sent to the coordinators.
- The deadline for the report is before **January 1<sup>st</sup> 2014 (according to the contract)**.
- All reports and additional documentation should be sent prior to **January 6<sup>th</sup> 2014**.
- Scanned copies of the signatures must be sent via e-mail.
- Copies of the bills need to be sent in hard copy (via mail) and have organization's stamp on them. Bills should also be signed by the executive director.
- Abstract of the contracts with staff/coordinators/personnel... need to be made in English.
- As additional support to their reports partners can send print screens of their websites.



## APPLYING FOR FUTURE SIMILAR PROJECTS

- The next application focuses on capacity building.
- It is a 4 years grant, 200 000 EUR each year, 70% of the budget is given from the donor – EU.
- The project must have meaningful impact and activities which are contributing to the goals of the EU.
- Partners agreed with three proposed objectives.
- All the aspects of the activity must be put in the budget.
- EU does not accept cost share from other EU sources.
- Most serious objection for this year's budget is that money is not tied to capacity building.
- Topics for 2014 will be youth inclusion, and will probably change in 2015, 2016...
- Costs of the working groups will go in the central budget.
- Local budget: 70% from EU, 30% from the organization.
- Central budget: 70% from EU, 30% from IDEA.
- IDEA will send proposal to the partners and ask for their opinion and suggestions.

## **IDEA STRUCTURE**

IDEA NL (1999)

IDEA US (2000) - tax purposes (NGO)

IDEA Central (2011) - to deal with the money and network functions

Debatewise became IDEA UK (2011)

In 2011 and later following IDEAs were established:

IDEA MEXICO

IDEA SEE

IDEA HONG KONG --- IDEA CHINA

IDEA CENTRAL ASIA

IDEA MENA

The tasks and areas or work of IDEAs

IDEA NL:

- membership activities
- Dutch language branching activities
- EU Projects

IDEA US:

- Publishing (books, magazines)
- Asia, China

IDEA UK

- Russian language activities
- Debatebase

IDEA SEE

- Regional development of debate (partners from Serbia, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Macedonia state that they were not contacted by IDEA SEE to create a sustainable cooperation) and establishing debate programs where they do not exist.
- Web site [www.idebate.org](http://www.idebate.org)

### **Remarkable things (quotes, publicity of the event, impact on participants or public, reception, etc):**

Participants in the meeting pointed out that these meetings with direct contact and introduction with other partners is a good tool for achieving better and sustainable partnerships.

**Lessons learned (if any):** Personal communication and meeting with representatives of partner organizations provide better communication in the future and achieving strong partnerships.

Please add 1-3 pictures of the event to the email.

Please provide a link to any video material or photo albums of the event.

