12 years of the Lifelong Learning Week in Croatia
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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

AVETAE Agency for Vocational Education and Training and Adult Education
LCGC Lifelong Career Guidance Centre
AFS Authentic Folklore Society
EU European Union
CASA Croatian Academy of Sciences and Arts
CRC Croatian Red Cross
CRA Croatian Reading Association
HEP Croatian Energy Company
CCE Croatian Chamber of Economy
CMRS Croatian Mountain Rescue Service
CNT Croatian National Theatre
CCTC Croatian Chamber of Trades and Crafts
CMS Croatian Mountaineering Society
CPLS Croatian Pedagogical-Literary Society
CEA Croatian Employers’ Association
CAEA Croatian Association for the Education of Adults
CES Croatian Employment Service
IT information technology
CR Cardiopulmonary resuscitation
FS Folklore Society
MoI Ministry of the Interior
TEC Training and Education Centre
SFF Small family farms
ES Elementary school
PHP “PHP: Hypertext Preprocessor”, formerly “Personal Home Page Tools”; programming language
POU Public Open University
BO Branch office
UATU Union of Autonomous Trade Unions
SS Secondary school
STEM science, technology, engineering and mathematics

Literature:

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12 years of the Lifelong Learning Week in Croatia
Lifelong Learning Week

The Lifelong Learning Week is a national educational campaign aimed at raising awareness on the importance of learning and education. It is a part of UNESCO’s campaign which was first launched in 1999 and it has been taking place in many countries worldwide ever since to sensitise the public about lifelong learning, to promote a culture of learning and to encourage personal motivation.
Through the Week's numerous activities, participants are encouraged to get involved into any form of learning. It is important to point out that learning should not be understood only as formal schooling or something relating to early phases of life – but rather, learning can take various forms, such as non-formal learning, courses, workshops, lectures, and independent learning (for example, reading). Moreover, experiential learning is another valuable form of learning (at work, throughout one's life, etc.) Also, learning is not limited to a certain age group but it is important and useful in all stages of life – from preschool period to old age. The Lifelong Learning Week has been designed as a campaign where the message about the importance of education and learning is being conveyed to the public in an indirect and, often, informal way. This is why a large number of very different activities is organised every year as part of this campaign – ranging from lectures, workshops, round tables to concerts, exhibitions, including bicycle races. Many institutions organise open days and other similar activities for the public where they share information about their work.

**WHY IS LIFELONG LEARNING IMPORTANT?**

Adult participation rate in lifelong learning in Croatia, which amounts to approximately 3%, is well below the European average\(^1\). Moreover, the information gathered through the Survey on Adult Education in Croatia in 2017\(^2\), which the company Ipsos carried out for the Agency as part of the *Promotion of Lifelong Learning* project, show that around 34% of Croatian population aged 25 to 64 took part in some type of formal or non-formal education programmes in the 12 months preceding the survey (July 2016 – July 2017) which means that two thirds of adult population were not engaged in any educational activities. This fact is one of the main indicators showing that people need to be more involved in learning and education processes. This is why it is very important to expand educational possibilities and inform the public about the best ways of using them.

According to Jukić and Ringel (2013), the present labour market seeks lifelong learners, persons who are willing to take over the responsibility for their progress and who are ready to invest their time and effort into a continued learning process. Boosting investment into human capital, i.e. into education, is one of the main priorities of economic policies in developed countries. Human beings, as entities able to work and create, reshape their own nature through work. The extent of constructiveness that they reach depends on how much they manage to realise their human potentials. Education, as a means of self-actualisation, meets the human need for understanding and creating the world around them, and it develops the capabilities which have been given to them only as possibilities. Knowledge boosts social inclusion, active personal growth, as well as competitiveness which is very important in today’s world. According to Maslow, the human need for education is one of the basic needs, and with that in mind, people are lifelong learners.

In the 21st century, individuals should constantly keep up with the changes in working conditions, work methods and organisation, technology, management and be ready to learn throughout their whole lives. The length of unemployment is proportional to the need for lifelong learning; the longer the period of unemployment, the larger the need for refreshing one’s knowledge and skills which are needed at the labour market. A well-educated and trained population is the most important factor of social and economic wellbeing of a country and of an individual.

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THE MEANING OF LIFELONG LEARNING IN THE CONTEXT OF INTERNATIONAL BODIES AND ORGANISATIONS

According to Rogić (2014), lifelong learning, lifelong education and sustainable development are ubiquitous key words in today’s education programmes and projects. Lifelong learning encompasses both the aim and the means of economic development and meeting the labour market demand on the one hand while creating a society based on respecting human rights and personal development of individuals on the other. Different understanding and various interpretations of the term lifelong learning have caused that the concept is still not completely understandable and clear. This is because certain temporal, spatial and sociological contexts had an impact on the introduction of the term. The first official publications on the topic were published by international organisations such as UNESCO, OECD and the European Commission.

In early 1970s, UNESCO commissioned a respectable group of experts who tackled the issue of the discrepancy between schooling and life. The report was issued in 1972 entitled Learning to be. The world of education today and tomorrow which introduced the concept of lifelong learning. The assumption was that the relevant knowledge would always change in short time intervals. In order to be able to participate in social life, people need to update their skills constantly. This entails mastering learning strategies which become more significant than mastering some specific content (Heuer, 2001, mentioned in Rogić, 2014). The report resulted in expanding the concept of education, learning and upskilling. It points out that these processes extend throughout all stages of life and at different levels. It also explains that education is not only a national or civil act but also an everyday act (Dohmen, 2001, mentioned in Rogić, 2014).

The most significant document issued by the European Commission on lifelong learning is A memorandum on lifelong learning (2000). It states that without comprehensive lifelong learning of its citizens, Europe will not be competitive at the international scale compared with the economies of the USA, Japan and other fast growing economies in the Far East (Pastuović, 2008, mentioned Rogić, 2014). It points out that there is a need to apply urgently the concept of lifelong learning and it explains why it has become a top priority of the European Union. Europe has turned towards creating a knowledge society and economy, and besides that, it has become a culturally, ethni-
cally and linguistically diverse society. Based on this, the main objectives of lifelong learning have been put into practice: improving employability and active citizenship what contributes to social cohesion and decreasing social exclusion. New basic skills necessary for an active participation in the knowledge society and economy have also been defined. These include IT skills, foreign language skills, technology, entrepreneurship and social skills (Europäische Kommission, 2000, mentioned in Rogić, 2014). Nevertheless, this does not exclude traditional basic skills such as literacy and numeracy because they are a precondition for acquiring the new ones. All the mentioned skills constitute a new level literacy – literacy of the 21th century.

Since its founding, OECD has been dealing with educational-political issues and, based on its idea, it perceives education strictly from economic development perspective. Primarily, it monitors economic objectives (fast economic growth, financial stability, prosperity) through which it also wants to emphasize the social aspect (Öhidy, 2008, mentioned in Rogić, 2014). In terms of lifelong learning, OECD sees it as an educational-political objective which should enable individuals to take part in learning processes throughout their whole lives. In 1973, OECD embraced the idea of lifelong learning for the first time and published the report entitled - Recurrent
Education – A Strategy for Lifelong Learning. It embraced it through the mentioned concept of recurrent education which places lifelong learning in the area of economy and global competition and it singles it out as the most important factor of social wellbeing. In this document, learning and education have a dual role: they are the moving spirit of economic growth but also the means through which the growth will be achieved (Gerlach, 2000, mentioned in Rogić, 2014). It was suggested in the study that the secondary school education should be reduced and that instead educational periods should be distributed throughout people’s lifetime. There, education was perceived in the context of personal development, social justice and work life.

In the document Life-long learning for all (1996), ministers of education tried to find the answer to social trends such as globalisation, demographic fluctuations, development of IT, unemployment, changes in work organisation and they found it in lifelong learning concept. Therefore, an emphasis was put on the principles of transparency, mobility, cooperation, flexibility and coherence which have been formulated on several levels: transparency is related to education system, political decision-making and evaluation of achievements while mobility refers to the level of relation between education and work. Cooperation should be present between education system and social partners, teachers and learners in schools but also in institutions outside the school system. Flexibility is related to education system which needs to stay flexible to be able to adjust to new situations. The same applies to individuals. Finally, coherence is related to social integration into a learning society which can only be achieved through lifelong learning as a concept involving all members of society.

The breadth of lifelong learning in the mentioned publications can be concisely shown in the following way: they emphasise the importance of cooperation and collaboration between different levels in education system, and equality in terms of rural areas, gender, ethnicity or religion, special needs, mobility and disadvantaged groups such as single parents, ex-convicts, long-term unemployed, parents who are back into work after a long absence from the labour market, retired people. Apart from formal, they also underline the significance of non-formal and informal aspect of learning and they change the role of learners and teachers. The objective of all these efforts are employability, mobility, social cohesion and active citizenship; active participation in society through democracy, innovation, and creativity. All of this requires proportional investment into human resources, i.e. it requires human capital as a factor of knowledge society.

THE INFLUENCE OF CROATIAN STRATEGIC DOCUMENTS ON THE PROMOTION OF LIFELONG LEARNING

Considering how significant and meaningful learning throughout one’s whole life is today, all efforts in developing and improving the Croatian education system are invested with lifelong learning concept in mind. The Strategy for Science, Education and Technology which recognises the concept of lifelong learning as the foundation of education which encourages individuals from any age group to learn and which provides them with a constant access to education and recognition of different forms of learning. The Strategy states that user oriented informative and advisory processes on the possibilities of lifelong learning and education will be improved using an integrated web portal and by expanding the established promotional activities and setting up new public events and other forms of presentations of such programmes in the media. More precisely, measure 1.3.1. is focused on expanding and improving the existing events which contribute to the promotion of lifelong learning – the Lifelong
Learning Week has been recognised in the Strategy as one of the events focused on achieving these goals.

The importance of promoting lifelong learning based on a strategic approach is also reflected in the Strategic Framework for the Promotion of Lifelong Learning in Croatia from 2017-2022. This document, developed as part of the project Lifelong Learning Promotion which is implemented by the Agency for Vocational Education and Training and Adult Education, provides some fundamental strategic guidelines for promotional activities related to lifelong learning in Croatia as well as for such activities focused on key target groups – it constitutes a kind of an action/communications plan. It focuses on children, learners and students in the formal education system; the existing learners and potential learners in adult education; employers; vulnerable social groups; decision makers in the area of education policy; and lifelong education providers.

The fact that since 2016 the largest part of activities related to the implementation of the Lifelong Learning Week in Croatia has been funded by the European Social Fund through the four year long 11,508,270.12 kuna worth project Lifelong Learning Promotion additionally underlines the European dimension of this national educational campaign i.e. of the Lifelong Learning Week.

LIFELONG LEARNING OR LIFELONG EDUCATION? – AN OVERVIEW OF TERMINOLOGY

Lifelong education – is a concept which perceives education as a lifelong process, starting with compulsory schooling and (formal) education, and lasting throughout one’s whole life. This term is often replaced with lifelong learning but they are not synonyms. Lifelong education includes only organised forms of learning while lifelong learning is a wider concept which in addition includes unintentional, unorganised and spontaneous acquisition of knowledge.

Lifelong career guidance – a continued process which enables individuals to identify their own possibilities, competences and interests at different stages of life in order to make decisions on education, training and employment, and to manage their professional careers. Career guidance covers various individual and group activities which include information provision, counselling, assessment of competences, support and teaching the required skills.

Lifelong learning – it is determined as a total of learning activities during a person’s life aimed at improving knowledge, skills and competences within a personal and civil as well as social and/or employment perspective. It encompasses learning activities in all stages of life (from early youth to old age) and all forms it comes in (formal, non-formal and informal) where learning is understood as a continued process in which results and motivation of individuals in each phase of life are determined by the knowledge, habits and experiences acquired earlier in life. There are four fundamental and interrelated objectives connected to lifelong learning: personal satisfaction and individual development, active citizenship, social inclusion and employability.

Knowledge society – a society whose activities and progress are mainly founded on production, distribution and application of knowledge. This is a social community (human society, state) where knowledge is one of the most important values, i.e.

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where knowledge is the main catalyst of economic and social development and where society invests into science and development of experts.

**Formal education** – education provided by different accredited education institutions according to approved programmes with the purpose of improving knowledge, skills and competences for personal, social and professional needs through which learners earn recognised certificates and qualifications. Most often, it is implemented as structural and chronological regular education for younger people (usually aged between 5 and 25) in primary and secondary schools, at universities and through specialised regular vocational and higher education programmes. In addition, it also includes formal adult education.

**Functional illiterate** – an individual who has not acquired basic literacy and numeracy skills and as a result is neither able to actively participate in the activities of their society which requires these skills nor use these skills for personal development and development of their community.

**Informal learning** – learning which is a result of daily activities related to work, family or leisure time. It is not organised or structured in terms of objectives, time or support for learning. Informal learning is in the majority of cases unintentional from learner’s perspective.

**Information literacy** – different interpretations define this type of literacy in different ways: from computer skills and access to information to critical thinking about the nature of information, technical infrastructure, and philosophical context and the impact of information.

**Learning outcomes** – the results of the learning process; acquired behaviour patterns, acquired knowledge and skills; developed competences in different areas.

**Experiential learning** – learning from general life experiences or certain activities of learners, mainly outside the traditional (pedagogical) surroundings.

**Curriculum** – a set of activities which is related to defining an education programme or a training programme. It refers to the content (the material which needs to be learned) and the learning process (actions and sources related to learning and teaching). It includes the defining of educational goals, content, methods (including assessment), materials and the organisation of teacher training.

**Qualification** – it is a formal outcome of the assessment and evaluation process which has shown that an individual has achieved certain learning outcomes in accordance with the standards prescribed by a competent body (institution) and/or that they possess the competences needed for a particular profession. It also includes earning a formal certificate issued by an authorised institution.

**Non-formal education** – any form of education which does not lead to new qualifications, i.e. new certificates or progress on the qualifications ladder. It includes organised learning processes focused on training adults for work, different social activities and personal development.

**Adult education** – a term which has different definitions at the international level. OECD (2013) points out that there is no consensus in Europe about a unified

*Lifelong learning – it is determined as a total of learning activities during a person’s life aimed at improving knowledge, skills and competences within a personal and civil as well as social and/or employment perspective*
definition of adult education due to the following reasons: a) it is hard to define an adult learner – learning, surroundings and learner’s age are different in terms of types of programmes and regions; b) the minimum age for defining an adult learner is missing; c) countries are different in their approach to vocational and non-vocational learning. Some of the existing definitions define adult education as: 1. a whole set of learning processes, formal and others, where adults (in line with the definition of an adult in their respective society) develop their capabilities, enrich their knowledge and improve their technical and professional qualifications or reorient them in order to meet their own needs or the needs of their societies (UNESCO); 2. all forms of learning undertaken by adults after having finished their initial education and training cycle which they started during childhood, regardless of how long the cycle lasts – therefore, if a person started higher education before accessing the labour market, this is not considered adult education (European Commission); 3. all forms of non-vocational adult learning, regardless whether it is formal, non-formal or informal (EU, UK).

**Leisure education, leisure-time education** – creating conditions in a systematic and intentional way for acquiring competences which will enable a person to have a creative and active life in their leisure time (time not dedicated to their profession or earning money for existential reasons).

**Basic adult education** – adult education which is related to basic knowledge necessary for being a responsible member of the society: literacy and numeracy, social and life skills, and understanding how to live in a community. Basic adult education primarily has the role of compensating for what was missed before and for including learners in the lifelong learning system. The goal of teaching plan and programme for basic adult education is to improve basic literacy and life skills in all areas of education. The primary tasks are: increasing the general level of education among adults to the elementary school level, training in parallel for the first occupation and creating conditions for a potential continuation to secondary education. If relates to the areas of primary knowledge and it is important for a being a responsible member of society: literacy and numeracy, social and life skills, and understanding life in the community.

**Literacy** – the capability to recognise, understand, interpret, create, communicate and calculate using printed and written material related to different contexts. It should be pointed out that the precise definition of literacy is different from country to country, and from organisation to organisation. Today, it is perceived as having several dimensions (reading literacy, document literacy and numeracy) which are not necessarily equally developed. Apart from general literacy, there are also other types of literacy (information, mathematical, scientific, methodological, environmental, etc.)

**Lifelong learning policy** – an approach according to which lifelong learning is dealt with as a separate public policy. It is wider than education policy and it includes the elements of social, economic and cultural policy where it is perceived as policy, i.e. a cycle which consists of defining problems, determining alternative answers, evaluating options, decision-making, implementation and evaluation of results. Its creation is defined by three elements: governance (specifically determined in globalisation and integration processes), expertise (expert bodies which determine problems and propose solutions) and order (common understanding of the way in which
In the last couple of years, lifelong learning policies have been gaining ground in public policies. For example, these policies have been recognised in the European Union as one of the key instruments for reaching its goals such as strategic goals laid out by Lisbon Declaration and Europe 2020 Strategy.
Since the first Lifelong Learning Week in Croatia in 2002, the first Week organised by the Agency for Vocational Education and Training and Adult Education in 2008 (the then Agency for Adult Education) until the last Week in 2018, the offer, the number of involved institutions and the counties where the Week has taken place, has been constantly on the rise. However, the continued work on improving the quality and relevance of all activities of the campaign is more important than the constant increase in the number of events organised as part of the Week. This chapter sums up the development of the Lifelong Learning Week in Croatia from its humble beginnings to having as many as 898 events which were implemented throughout Croatia during the 2018 Week where we hosted more than 700 institutions.
The Lifelong Learning Week was organised in Croatia for the first time from 13 to 20 May 2002. This made Croatia one of the many countries which recognise the importance of continued learning, i.e. of creating a “learning society”. The idea to organise the Week existed before but the cooperation between the Croatian Association for the Education of Adults and the Institute for International Cooperation of the German Adult Education Association contributed to its realisation as part of the project called Contribution to the Stability of South-Eastern Europe through Fostering Local and Regional Structures of Adult Education – the Stability Pact. This Lifelong Learning Week was held under the auspices of the Croatian President Stjepan Mesić. Nine public open universities responded to the invitation of the Croatian Association for the Education of Adults – in the towns of Daruvar, Koprivnica, Kutina, Novska, Ozalj, Pula, Šibenik, Velika Gorica and Zagreb which meant that the Week was organised throughout Croatia.

2008
The activities of the first Lifelong Learning Week organised by the then Agency for Adult Education took place in three counties (areas) of special state concern which had the highest unemployment rate and in the City of Zagreb. Events took place in Zagreb, Vukovar, Gospić, Knin, and so on. Many activities were carried out during the Week. In each town, a Lifelong Learning Fair and a public discussion on the topic of education and lifelong learning in local communities were held. These activities were strongly supported by the community at the both county and local level. Moreover, all participants liked the idea of the joint promotion of education and learning. A number of workshops and panels were held in the City of Zagreb. More activities took place in Vukovar (at the College of Applied Sciences Lavoslav Ružička and in the Birth House of Lavoslav Ružička), Gospić (at the Polytechnic Nikola Tesla) and Knin (at the Polytechnic Marko Marulić). The pilot project called the Week 2008 provided the guidelines and set the grounds for the development of a comprehensive national education campaign aimed at promoting the values of learning and education.

2009
In 2009, the Agency for Adult Education organised the Week for the second time, in cooperation with the Ministry of Science, Education and Sports. It was held from 28 September to 2 October 2009 and its events took place in 20 counties and the City of Zagreb. The institutions which organised the 2009 Week were the Ministry of Science, Education and Sports, Agency for Adult Education, social partners (Union of Autonomous Trade Unions, Croatian Chamber of Crafts and Trades, Croatian Employers’ Association, Croatian Chamber of Economy), Croatian Employment Service (branch offices), county/municipal level offices competent for education and adult education institutions. The activities which were carried out throughout Croatia included lifelong learning fairs, open days, round table discussions, lectures, exhibitions, educational and creative workshops, discussions, cultural and social events, presentations of books and publications, folk dance, award ceremonies, meetings of different clubs, street festivals and alike. More than 100 institutions with different areas of practice from all over Croatia joined in to mark the celebration of this Week.

Text taken from the website of the Croatian Association for the Education of Adults
2010
Croatia's 2010 Week coincided thematically with the European Year for Combating Poverty and Social Exclusion which was launched by the European Parliament in October 2008. Therefore, one of the main objectives of the 2010 Week was to raise awareness on the importance of learning and motivate its participants to take part in learning activities where special attention was dedicated to persons who were excluded from this process, for whichever reason. The opening ceremony was organised in the National and University Library in Zagreb and it was attended by the representatives from the public, political and economic sector. The Week was marked around Croatia in some 60 cities and towns where different promotional activities of learning and education were organised. Institutions from different areas joined in (schools, adult education institutions, faculties and colleges, Croatian Employment Service, Financial Agency, Croatian Chamber of Crafts and Trades, Croatian Employers’ Association, Croatian Chamber of Economy, MojPosao and EduCentar, University Computing Centre (Srce), National and University Library in Zagreb, various NGOs, businessmen, cities and towns, counties and many others).

2011
In 2011, we had a record breaking Week compared to the previous three years judging by the number of participants, programmes, events, and visitors. The most important fact is that numerous activities took place in each county. Two new and very significant activities were launched then: a network of local coordinators and the Maslačak znanja (i.e. Dandelion of Knowledge) award for achievements in adult learning. This award ceremony has been taking place at every Lifelong Learning Week since then. In addition, it should be pointed out that www.cjelozivotno-ucenje.hr website was modernised as part of the IPA programme Regional Network of Local Learning Institutions. On that occasion, 10 adult education institutions based in the areas of special state concern received financial grants for the implementation of activities during the Week. A new long-term visual identity of the Week was designed and a cooperation agreement was signed with the Croatian Employment Service about its implementation. The opening ceremony took place in the National and University Library in Zagreb which co-organised the event.

2012
The sixth Lifelong Learning Week in Croatia took place from 24 to 30 September 2012 and it was organised under the auspices of the Ministry of Science, Education, and Sports. During the campaign, which took place around Croatia, according to registrations, there were 462 events and approximately 700 different participating institutions. In addition, approximately 4200 media posts were recorded. The year 2012 was the European Year for Active Ageing and Solidarity between Generations which is why the 2012 Week put a special emphasis on the education of senior citizens. Traditionally, for the third year in a row, the opening ceremony took place in the National and University Library in Zagreb which was also the co-organiser of the event. The network of regional coordinators was extended so that, in addition to the existing six coordinators, two new ones were appointed to serve as a liaison between the potential activity-providers in their respective regions and the national coordination of the Week. In this way, we continued to build the network of coordinators in order to further strengthen the promotion at both the regional and local levels throughout Croatia and to contribute significantly to geographic and thematic dissemination of the Week’s activities.
2013
The seventh Lifelong Learning Week in Croatia took place from 30 September to 6 October 2013 and it was organised under the auspices of the Croatian President Ivo Josipović. During the campaign, 500 events took place around Croatia with approximately 700 different participating institutions. There were about 4500 media posts about the Week’s events. For the fourth year in a row, the opening ceremony took place in the National and University Library in Zagreb which co-organised the event. In order to improve the promotional activities of lifelong learning and to ensure that the message about the importance of learning and education reaches as many people as possible, in 2013, the role of lifelong learning promoters was established. The aim was to invite public figures to endorse lifelong learning activities and to serve as role models for others when it comes to the necessity of lifelong learning. Gordan Kožulj, Croatian Olympic medalist, world and European swimming champion, was the national lifelong learning promoter in 2013. Thanks to his experience, he clearly demonstrated the importance of education.

2014
The eight Lifelong Learning Week in Croatia took place from 29 September to 5 October 2014. The Week’s activities took place in all Croatian counties. Different events aimed at promoting learning and education were organised. During the campaign, 569 events took place around Croatia with approximately 700 different participating institutions. There were some 4500 media posts about the Week. The opening ceremony was held in Hrvatski dom in Vukovar. The ceremony was organised by the Agency for Vocational Education and Training and Adult Education in cooperation with the City of Vukovar and the Public Open University in Vinkovci. This was the first time that the ceremony was organised outside Zagreb. In 2014, more public figures joined the Lifelong Learning Week and provided their support for this education campaign. Ivica Kostelić, Goran Bogdan, Danijela Trbović, Blaženka Leib, Davor Pavuna, Martina Tomčić and Slaven Knezović shared their message about the importance of lifelong learning.

2015
The ninth Lifelong Learning Week in Croatia took place from 28 September to 4 October 2015. There were approximately 540 events with 700 different participating institutions held as part of the Week. Events were organised throughout Croatia: in all counties, in large cities and in small towns. It is estimated that some 28 000 people participated in at least one of the activities held as part of the 2015 Week. There were participants of all ages: from kindergarten children to senior citizens. Just like in the previous years, organisers tried to come up with events which would convey the message on the importance and benefits of lifelong learning as informally as possible and show that learning and having fun can go hand in hand. The opening of the 2015 Lifelong Learning Week took place on 28 September in the City Hall in Rijeka. One of the activities of the Lifelong Learning Week was also the presentation of EPALE, a multilingual online community of adult learning professionals, i.e. an electronic platform intended for everyone working in adult education. Activities related to the development and promotion of EPALE have been regularly implemented during the Lifelong Learning Week since 2015. The entrepreneur Mate Rimac was the promoter of lifelong learning in 2015.
The Agency for Vocational Education and Training and Adult Education organised the tenth anniversary of the Lifelong Learning Week under the auspices of the Croatian President Kolinda Grabar-Kitarović and with the support of the Ministry of Science, Education, and Sports. All Croatian counties took part again in this campaign where the message about the importance of learning and education is conveyed in a direct and often informal manner. Institutions organised and carried out their activities together with their partners: state administration bodies, social partners, Croatian Employment Service, counties, local community; NGOs, cultural institutions, adult education institutions, schools and other organisations. A total of 700 different institutions held over 660 events focused on the promotion of learning and education: workshops, lectures, round tables, theatre shows, exhibitions and alike. In 2016, the campaign was implemented for the first time as part of the three-year project Promotion of Lifelong Learning worth 11,508,270.12 kuna and funded by the European Social Fund. The opening ceremony which was held on 26 September in the National and University Library in Zagreb marked the beginning of the campaign’s activities. Again, Croatian public figures gave their support and assisted in boosting the efficiency of the campaign: Olympic medallists Ivica Kostelić and Gordan Kožulj, European karate champion Maša Martinović and TV presenter Blaženka Leib who were also the promoters of the tenth Lifelong Learning Week. Their messages which echoed strongly in the public and their life experiences served as examples of the importance of learning and investing in oneself.

The Lifelong Learning Week in 2017 was launched on 2 October in the Public Open University in Koprivnica and it was closed on 7 October 2017 with the Lifelong Learning Fair which took place at Trešnjevački Square in Zagreb. This was the second year that the campaign was carried out as part of the four-year project Promotion of Lifelong Learning, worth 11,508,270.12 kuna and funded by the European Social Fund. The event, which took place the Public Open University in Koprivnica and was attended by over 200 attendees, was opened by the State Secretary in the Ministry of Science and Education Hrvoje Šlezak. Opening speeches were also held by the mayor of the City of Koprivnica Mišel Jakšić, the prefect of Koprivnica-Križevci County Darko Koren, and the Director of the Agency for Vocational Education and Training and Adult Education Mile Živčić. Musical performance was given by the students of Đuro Ester Primary School, Fortunat Pintarić Art School, Roma Dance Group from the Braća Radić Primary School, Seniors’ Mixed Choir from Koprivnica, Mariška Seniors’ Club and Pristići Group from the Tratinčica Kindergarten. During the opening ceremony, the Dandelion of Knowledge award was awarded for achievements in adult learning and each winner was given a charter and a 7000 kuna worth voucher for a learning programme of their choice. Also, Acknowledgements for the Contribution to the Development of Adult Education were awarded for the first time.

During the campaign around Croatia, according to organisers, there were 722 events (an increase of 9% compared to 2016) with more than 700 participating institutions from different sectors. Like every year, the media had a very important role for the Lifelong Learning Week because without their engagement and support in would not have been possible to reach out to all target groups. The attention of the public and the media was particularly high during the campaign, primarily because in 2017 a special emphasis was put on socially vulnerable groups: the unemployed, minorities and persons with disabilities. During the 2017 Week, there were about 5500 media posts.

In 2017, the campaign was strongly supported by public figures – Croatian swimmer and Olympic medallist Gordan Kožulj, TV presenter Blaženka Leib and the European Karate Champion Maša Vidić who were also the promoters of the campaign. Thanks to their messages, which echoed strongly in the public, and their life examples, they emphasised the importance of lifelong learning and investing into oneself.
12 years of the Lifelong Learning Week in Croatia
More than 250 000 Lifelong Learning Week participants

Even though the Lifelong Learning Week addresses all relevant institutions, organisations, companies, the media, etc., its focus is primarily on the learner – both those learners who are regular participants in education and learning activities and those for whom we hope will join the lifelong learning process in the future. Providing information to participants on how they can become a part of the lifelong learning process and motivating them to take this step is the backbone of each Lifelong Learning Week held so far.
The campaign in 2018 included 898 events with more than 40,000 participants. Moreover, the campaign aims at raising awareness of individuals on the importance and usefulness of learning throughout one’s life but also on how the learning process can be fun and rewarding. This is why we are truly glad that people have recognised the activities of the Lifelong Learning Week as a place where they can find information about learning opportunities, education offer in their place of residence, and take the first step in the direction of further work on themselves and their competences.

The fact that more than 250,000 Croatians took part in the activities of the Lifelong Learning Week since its beginning shows that the messages that we want to convey through this campaign really reach those who they are meant for. Throughout the years, the campaign has been developing, the extent of activities and their scope has been growing, as well as the number of participating institutions, the involvement of key actors at all levels has been growing stronger and, most importantly, the number of participants in the Week’s activities has been constantly increasing. An increase in the number of participants over the years also shows that innovations in the implementation of activities, from the network of regional coordinators to the role of lifelong learning promoters, have reflected directly on the Week’s turnout. All the Week’s activities enable potential learners throughout Croatia to get the information about educational opportunities in their places of residence because lifelong education and learning is necessary for all generations in order to be able to meet the challenges of the labour market and thanks to this improve the quality of their lives. The promotion of lifelong learning implies that learning is useful and necessary in all stages and circumstances of life. This is why all social groups participated in the activities of the Week – kindergarten children and senior citizens, the unemployed and top level managers, adults without qualifications and members of the academia, people from urban and rural areas. During the campaign, when trying to motivate people to participate in learning activities, special attention is given to motivating those who have been excluded from these activities for whichever reason.
One of the most important activities which has been taking place traditionally since 2011 as part of the Lifelong Learning Week is the Dandelion of Knowledge award ceremony for achievements in adult learning. These are individuals who decided to extend their knowledge and skills, work on themselves and their personal development. They had to overcome many hurdles in this process but the result of their determination and persistence was that they managed to achieve numerous positive changes in their lives. This proved that personal experiences of individuals, who have decided to get education despite unfavourable conditions and surroundings which were not always encouraging, profoundly motivate others to follow their examples.
Here are the _Dandelion of Knowledge_ award winners from 2018 and their stories:

**Goran Đurđević** (1971)

Goran Đurđević is a member of the Roma ethnic minority and the first person with a university degree from this group to declare his ethnicity since Croatia became a democratic country. Since then, in all his capacities, he has been encouraging other members of the Roma community to get education or to engage in learning activities which he participated in as well. He is the founder and a member of the presidency of the Croatian Roma Party (1991) and he founded a Roma NGO in Bjelovar-Bilogora County (2000). He also launched a traditional event called Roma Culture Days – Gypsy Weekend in the town of Bjelovar. He translates permanent historical and documentary exhibitions of Croatia’s indigenous Roma people into the Romani language. He also translated the first Roma catechism in Europe which was printed and presented by the Croatian Bishops’ Conference (2005). He co-authored the bilingual book entitled _Paramiće – stories for children and the young_ (2006). Also, he is the author of a permanent historical and documentary collection about the history of the Roma people in three languages (2007). He collaborated on the first Croatian-Romani dictionary published in November 2008. Goran Đurđević is an active member of the working group for monitoring and implementation of the _Decade of Roma Inclusion 2005-2015 Action Plan_ and of the working group formed as part of the project focused on developing quality education and improving the level of employment of the Roma in Croatia implemented with the Finish University of Jyvaskyla. He is the creator, founder, manager and volunteer of the first Roma House in Croatia which later became a Cultural-Education Hostel (2010). In 2011, he was elected spokesperson of the umbrella Roma association called the Centre for Roma Integration in the European Union in Zagreb. He actively volunteers as a translator working on the translation of the majority of historical written records into Romani for the Roma community, national institutions, different organisations, musical and literary artists around Europe and as a simultaneous interpreter at conferences and seminars in Croatia and Europe.

**Boris Rozman** (1979)

After having finished his three year secondary education to become a salesperson at _Davor Milas_ Trade and Commerce School in Osijek, Boris decided to get retraining at the same school to earn a qualification in sales and procurement. Thanks to this, he got employed as a salesperson/cashier in a dm-drogerie markt Ltd. store where he advanced to the position of deputy manager in a few years and soon after that became the manager of the store and stayed at the position for six years. The turning point in his career was in 2010 when he enrolled into an undergraduate university programme in accounting and finances at the Zagreb Teaching Institute based in the University of Split and earned a bachelor degree in economics, accounting and finances. He continued his education path in 2013 by enrolling into a graduate professional study programme in banking, insurance and financial management at the Libertas University and earned a specialisation in economics. During his career he has worked in different companies as a sales and procurement officer, sales manager and market manager. Since 2016 he has been working as Facility Management Director in the company _Fina gotovinski servisi_ Ltd. From a three year school student, thanks to his personality, entrepreneurial spirit, active engagement in further development and lifelong learning, Boris has managed to get to the position of a director. He has many interests in other areas of life as well. He is an active volunteer in the Centre for inclusive Work Activities. In 2017 he held a lecture at _Davor Milas_ Trade and Commerce School in Osijek as part of the 11th Lifelong Learning Week where he told his life story to the students and his former teachers, and pointed out on that occasion: “I found motivation only when I asked myself the question: ‘What would I like to do in my life, what would make me happy but would leave me enough free time to do other things that interest me?’ The only answer was that I had to enrol into a study programme and complete it. And I did it, with a great support from my family.” According to his teacher, Tatjana Petrač, from _Davor Milas_ Trade and Commerce School in Osijek, Boris Rozman is an example of how lifelong learning and further development at formal, non-formal and informal levels of education can help individuals achieve their potentials and contribute to their society for the benefit of everyone. Ms Petrač proposed him for the _Dandelion of Knowledge_ award.

**Nadir Elhag** (1983)

Nadir Elhag has been achieving incredible results through adult education. After having finished his secondary school education to become a plumber, he decided to get retraining to become a marine navigator. This provided him with qualifications needed for career advancement. Before enrolling into adult education, Nadir was long-term unemployed what made him think about taking a new direction in his life. A large step for him was changing the place where he lived and his social surroundings, without having a secured financial and family support. He earned money for his scholarship by working as a waiter and a sailor on the ships of Croatia’s passenger ship company.
Jadrolinija. He is still a sailor on the Marko Polo ship on the Split-Ancona line. He was often faced with prejudice because of his skin colour. His father came to Croatia from Sudan to study but returned to his county afterwards. Nadir does not only finance his own education but also takes care of his single mother.

Thanks to his experience in adult education, Nadir is happy to help his work colleagues from the ship company. He is a role model who encourages others to make positive changes and continue with their education in marine occupations. This is why Ms Natalija Palčić from the Kliper Maritime Adult Education Institution suggested him for this award. Thanks to the recommendations of his employers who have recognised his qualities, his persistence and motivation, he advances continuously in his career. He has almost completed his education programme which he has attended full-time. The defence of his final thesis will surely help him advance even further in his secure and promising nautical career. After he completes his cadet training, he will need to pass an international officer’s exam. Nadir believes that completing his marine navigator education will give him a secure job and potentially an opportunity to continue to higher maritime education, possibly even to senior officer level.

Until 2018, the Dandelion of Knowledge awards were awarded seven times, in 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016 and 2017. For more information about the winners, please read below. The award winners from previous years were:

**Klaudija Gatarić** (1989) completed secondary school education for a caterer followed by a re-training programme to become a beautician. But she was hungry for adrenaline. In 2016, she turned her hobby into her life calling by enrolling into a Firemen’s School – an adult education institution in Zagreb. This is how Klaudija became the first, and for now the only, professional firewoman in the history of the town of Karlovac! Today, she is the head of the seniors’ team, an operational member of Jurovo Volunteer Fire Brigade and since 2017 she has held the title of Volunteer Fire Brigade Commander which she has earned thanks to her hard work and professionalism. She was awarded the Dandelion of Knowledge in 2017.

**Sonja Šimatić** (1958) is a mother of three who has always wanted to have an occupation related to painting but life circumstances have taken her in a completely different direction. She successfully completed her studies at the Faculty of Economics. However, fifteen years ago she finally dedicated herself completely to painting and opened a small painting studio and a gallery on the island of Vis. This has always been her desire and ambition. Then she successfully completed a graduate study programme in Ljubljana despite the distance and frequent travel. This was followed by a graduate study programme in paining at the Academy of Fine Arts in Zagreb where she studied full-time in the class of university professor Rončević. In June 2017, she defended her thesis. The same year she was awarded the Dandelion of Knowledge.

**Gordan Radić** (1976) became a telephone operator after finishing secondary school and for a long time tried to find a job in the sector. He had temporary jobs as a switchboard operator or call centre operator for telephone sales. Being a person with visual impairment, in 2014, thanks to co-funding provided by the Institution for Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment of Persons with Disabilities he completed a training for a massage therapist. In 2016, he opened a small business which currently employs four persons (three with disabilities) and in the near future he is planning to employ at least three more persons with disabilities and finally define the company’s profile. He was awarded the Dandelion of Knowledge in 2017.
Mirjana Reštigorac (1968) did not have a possibility to continue with her education after finishing elementary school. She worked as an aide in a kitchen for ten years but the company closed down and she was left jobless. In early 2002, she got a job as an administrative assistant in a private dental medicine office. In 2006, she enrolled in a six month course for care assistants at the Public Open University in Zagreb. At the proposal and with the support of her employer and family, in 2014, she enrolled in a retraining programme at the Ambitio College, an adult education institution, to become a dental assistant which is a secondary school qualification. When a work colleague retired, she was employed as a dental assistant. She was awarded the Dandelion in 2016.

Neven Oršuš (born in 1996) enrolled in elementary school when he was ten but due to unfortunate life circumstances he did not manage to finish it regularly. This is why he started elementary education for adults so that he would earn this qualification. He enrolled in this learning programme at Koprivnica Public Open University and successfully completed it in 2012. In 2015, he took up a training programme in masonry through the Croatian Employment Service and soon he started to stand out as the motivator of the whole group. During the practical part of his training, two employers noticed his skills and afterwards offered him jobs. He was awarded the Dandelion of Knowledge in 2016.

Marjeta Trkman Kravar (born in 1958) is a teacher for the first four elementary school grades and a tour guide specialised in working with persons with disabilities. As a volunteer, she successfully participated in the Cook Look project implemented by the Teachers Association for Catering Education. She is an honorary member of the Slovenian Professional Tour Guides Club. At their invitation, she took part in a training to become a beekeeping tour guide provided by the Slovenian Beekeepers’ Federation. She frequently organises field exercises in Croatia. She is constantly attending additional training and upskilling programmes in order to further develop her skills and be able to do her job to the maximum standards. She is also an active volunteer in Maksimir Retirement Home and in the Association for Promotion of Equal Opportunities. She received the Dandelion of Knowledge award in 2016.

Ivica Cik (1965) lost his job after having worked for 25 years. Despite this, he was not discouraged and he actively started studying new trends and occupations. He applied for a training programme to become a qualified installer of autonomous energy systems powered by renewable energy sources through the Croatian Employment Service. After completing the programme, he attended additional courses and START UP seminars for beginner entrepreneurs. He took advantage of active employment policy measures and started his own business. He continuously passes on his experience with lifelong learning and has a positive influence on anyone in a similar situation. He was awarded the Dandelion of Knowledge in 2015.

Sandra Pezić (1981) completed her 12-year long elementary and secondary school education in Germany. Since her secondary school education was not recognised in Croatia, Sandra enrolled into and completed several programmes: training for oral and written communication in German language, secondary school education to become a salesperson and a retraining programme to become a sales and procurement officer. In addition, she earned a foreign language certificate. In 2014, she completed a training programme to become a teaching assistant. She worked as a volunteer in the Pupils’ Dormitory in Kutina where she taught German language. Later that year she opened her own business for tutoring and translation services with the support of self-employment measures. She received the Dandelion of Knowledge in 2015.

Andreja Sedlar (1963) finished a general education secondary school and a textile secondary school. She worked in different industries and she tried being an entrepreneur. In the meantime she became a mother. In her late thirties, after a period without work, she enrolled into Teachers College in Čakovec and found work in a kindergarten afterwards. When she turned 45, she enrolled into a graduate study programme in early pre-school education at the Faculty of Teacher Education in Rijeka. As part of a Comenius sub-programme, she took part in a professional development course in Malta after which the organiser appointed her representative of the association for Croatia. Also, as part of an eTwinning programme she participated in a professional development course in Rome. In the meantime, she was promoted to a kindergarten teacher mentor. She was awarded the Dandelion of Knowledge in 2015.
Kruno Topolski was placed into the Lipik Children’s Home when he was only six and he spent his whole childhood there. After graduating from secondary school where he studied to become a physiotherapy technician, he enrolled into the Faculty of Medicine of the University of Rijeka and finished his first year of physiotherapy programme with a B average. He has been engaged on numerous projects in youth participation area and in providing a coordinated and continuous support to the young during their final year in care and during their first year following their exit from care. He participates in many educational trainings related to improving life skills. He volunteered at the Special Olympics for children and adults with the highest degree of psychophysical disadvantages. He works as a mentor, learning assistant and leisure time organiser in the Oza Association in Rijeka. He received the University of Rijeka Rector’s Award for the student – volunteer of the year. He was awarded the Dandelion of Knowledge in 2014.

Verica Elvedi (1959) started working as a general nurse immediately after she finished school. Thanks to her professional and work-related qualities, she was given the opportunity to enrol into a study programme in nursing and she earned a higher qualification in this profession. When she moved to Zadar, she found a job in Zemunik Psychiatric Hospital as the head nurse of the acute medical unit. She initiated, actively participated and coordinated a whole range of projects and in 2011 she received the White Heart Award for achievements in nursing. She completed additional pedagogical and psychological education, updated her IT skills (ECDEL course) and English language skills. She has further developed her skills in aromatherapy through a course provided by Aromavita Public Open University in Zagreb. She was also promoted to a mentor position. She received the Dandelion of Knowledge in 2014.

Vid Oršuš grew up in a family of six children. Due to dire social conditions he dropped out from regular schooling as early as the first grade. At the age of eleven he started working as a wage labourer on farms. Long-term unemployment, living of social welfare, his wish for a better life and for learning were the best motives of then thirty one year old Vid to successfully complete elementary adult education at Koprivnica Public Open University. Vid has been encouraging everyone in a similar situation not to give up on education since he realised the importance of learning. He is strongly aware of everyday difficulties that the Roma community with low Croatian language skills is faced with in terms of integration and finding employment. He was awarded the Dandelion of Knowledge in 2014.

Tomislav Schneider was put in the Zagreb Children’s Home together with his sister in 2010 when their mother died and there was no one left to take care of the two of them. He completed a three-year programme at the School for Installations and Metal Constructions but he wanted to earn a higher qualification by continuing with his education. He enrolled into a four-year programme at the Electrical and Mechanical Engineering Technical School which he regularly completed and earned a mechanical engineering technician qualification. Since 2012 he has been working at the Zagreb Children’s Home and the Maksimir Retirement Home as part of public works projects. He still works there. The Dandelion of Knowledge Award was awarded to him in 2013.

Marija Landripet is a mother of three. For her, education did not only bring employment but also self-esteem, inner feeling of security and personal growth. She only had elementary school level of education what made her lose her self-confidence. Despite her serious health condition, she decided to continue with her education. She enrolled into a programme to become a professional baker. Soon after she completed it, she found a job. The Dandelion of Knowledge Award was awarded to her in 2013.

Vitomira Lončar is a professional actress. Because she suffers from epilepsy she had to quit her career as an actress but, despite the suggestion to retire, she decided for a fresh start through learning. She enrolled into a PhD programme in 2006 and earned her doctorate in April 2011 at the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences in Zagreb. She also completed a number of different trainings. In 2011, she earned a CQ trainer certificate which enables her to pass on her knowledge, both formal and non-formal, to others. What is more, she holds educational cycles for her colleagues and encourages them never to stop learning. She was awarded the Dandelion of Knowledge in 2013.
Ana Orkić was excluded from the education system until she was in her thirties. This was mostly due to the consequences of polio which she suffered from as a child and the community where she lived. When she came to Zagreb she finished an elementary school programme and a training programme to become a computer typist. Afterwards, she completed a three year secondary school programme to become a chef and a retraining programme to become a tourism and hospitality technician. She also successfully completed an upskilling programme to become a pastry chef – specialist in national pastry as part of IPA project called Tasty Competences. She took part in IPA project called Ears Wide Open as an assistant to the culinary workshops leader and in other catering-related workshops for persons with special needs. She stands out both as a volunteer and an educator which she has proved through the training in pedagogy, psychology and didactics which she attended at the Faculty of Teacher Education in Zagreb. She received the Dandelion of Knowledge in 2012.

Ljiljana Car, a member of the Roma ethnic minority, earned a secondary school qualification. She is an active promoter of education in the Roma community. She is engaged in a programme implemented by Koprivnica Public Open University as an assistant for the Roma population to help those whose lack of education is their main obstacle to integration into society. She believes that the key to improving the position of the Roma community is education which enables them to learn the Croatian language, socialise and have easier access to institutions and the labour market. She was awarded the Dandelion of Knowledge in 2011.

Ludmila-Milica Pocza is a retired nurse. She is a resident of the Koprivnica Home for the Elderly and Disabled Persons, a member of Podravka Cultural Club, she writes poetry (which has been published in printed collections of poems), performs in different events and holds independent poetry recitals. She is a member of Mariška Club for the elderly dedicated to improving their quality of life, she volunteers in the Fran Galović Library and Reading Room during workshops for children. She attended a course in basic IT skills thanks to which she is able to find friends on Facebook even at this age and despite her illness. She enjoys her new skills and the activities she does. She was awarded the Dandelion of Knowledge in 2012.

Miroslav Cindori is a retired crime inspector. Because of the nature of his work he had to develop professionally throughout his career. However, he took a big step after he retired. He completed a training programme to become a care assistant for the elderly and the disabled. He volunteered in a company which provides assistance and care to the elderly and the disabled called Beata Vitti and in the St. Frane Home for the Elderly in Zadar. He is currently attending training to become a massage therapist. In this way he gives his skills and love to those who need them the most. His motto is: “Knowledge is wealth which no one can take away from you!” He was awarded the Dandelion of Knowledge in 2012.

Stjepan Cipek (1933 – 2014), pedagogy and psychology professor, was an example of what it meant to live according to the principle of lifelong learning. Despite being at the end of his eight decade of life, he was preparing his master’s thesis. Stjepan Cipek was singled out at the University of the Third Age not only as a learner but also as a teacher. During his career, he worked as an instructor, teacher and professor, and he published more than 40 papers in the field of pedagogy and psychology. He participated in many professional trainings and he facilitated workshops and seminars. At the age of 73 he enrolled into the University of the Third Age which is a part of the Zagreb Public Open University. He actively participated in its extracurricular activities. He was awarded the Dandelion of Knowledge in 2011.

Zvjezdana Rončević was not able to complete her secondary school education because of a difficult social situation. She started working after completing elementary school. In the meantime she lost her job but in 2008, at the age of 47, she decided to enrol into a secondary school programme provided by the As Zadar Public Open University. She managed to complete it in 2011 despite difficult social circumstances and personal tragedies – unlike many other persons who are also faced with difficulties in completing their regular education but who lose their motivation and drop out. She was awarded the Dandelion of Knowledge in 2011.
Social networks and platforms in promoting lifelong learning

Modern information and communication technologies have been used in different ways during every Lifelong Learning Week implemented in Croatia so far. The website of the Week is one of its main communication tools. All registration and quality assurance processes are carried out exclusively via this website. To visit the website, please go to www.cjelozivotno-ucenje.hr.

Information regarding Lifelong Learning Week have also been published on all important social networks. Lifelong learning is being promoted on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter. Facebook is the social network with the largest number of users and with the biggest reach, and it is an excellent tool for encouraging interaction - users can ask questions, start discussions, share useful and relevant contents and get insight into events, novelties and other useful resources and advice for lifelong learning.

Messages that we have published on Facebook regarding the importance of lifelong learning as well as information on events organised as part of the Week have made a significant impact, allowing us to connect with a large number of people.
EPALE platform also plays an important role in implementing the activities of the Lifelong Learning Week. **EPALE** is an electronic platform for adult education in Europe and, in Croatia, it has been implemented within the competence of the Agency for Vocational Education and Training and Adult Education since 2014. Key project activities include project promotion in various events, making a film and distributing promotional materials, active cooperation with stakeholders and alike. With its numerous promotional activities EPALE is trying to motivate the existing and new users to become a part of the largest community of experts from the area of adult education in Europe. Target groups of the national EPALE project are institutions which provide formal and non-formal adult education, teachers, representatives of public institutions and others. The EPALE project cooperates on a regular basis with other projects within the Agency’s competence with the goal of a more efficient implementation of project activities, better and higher quality results and positive feedback from target groups. The platform is a place where teachers in adult education and all the others who work in this area could find target information on events organised as part of the Week that are important for their everyday work. Also, they could find useful content and develop partnerships and projects with colleagues from Croatia and Europe - the Week’s events have often been the first step in building cooperation that would later continue in the EPALE platform through many practical and useful opportunities. Thanks to its promotional activities EPALE is trying to bring the platform even closer to the adult education community in Croatia so that they could, as active participants, take part in improving and implementing the very platform. The EPALE project has strengthened the regional approach which has, through regional workshops throughout Croatia, managed to encourage potential users to become a part of the EPALE community with the goal of not only platform development, but also their own improvement in everyday work.

If you wish to join this online community of adult education experts, please visit [https://ec.europa.eu/epale/hr](https://ec.europa.eu/epale/hr). Registration and the use of the platform are completely free of charge.

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**The number of followers of the Lifelong Learning Week on Facebook from 2011 to 2019**

Facebook: TjedanCjelozivotnogUcenja

Instagram: tjedan_cjelozivotnog_ucenja

Twitter: @Tjedan2016
The role of the media - an important partner in conveying messages on the importance of learning

The media has been an important partner all these years - by providing the space for this educational campaign and for reporting on topics focused on raising awareness about the importance of learning. The media has proved to be a significant factor of success for the Lifelong Learning Week.
By providing their support they have become a part of our overall efforts to raise awareness about the importance and the necessity of lifelong learning. In 2008, a total of 50 media posts were dedicated to Lifelong Learning Week, in 2017 there were as many as 5500 media posts, and in 2018 over 7000 media posts both locally and nationally. It is clear that the continuous improvement of cooperation with the media ensured that the Week’s main message, motivating everyone to learn, regardless of their age and life circumstances, reaches as many people as possible.

The media covered the Lifelong Learning Week in different ways - writing about why learning is important, reporting on events organized as part of the Week, opening up a space for discussions about the role of lifelong learning in today’s society. The implementation of this campaign through the Lifelong Learning Promotion project since 2016 has enabled that the project funds, secured from the European Social Fund, be directed towards the implementation of a broader media campaign including taking on a wider media space. In addition to classic print media ads, this has also allowed us to send messages about the importance of learning through billboards, radio and television ads, and on-line ads.

Among the video material used to promote lifelong learning, a short film „A New Beginning”, which was also produced as part of the Lifelong Learning Promotion project, stands out. It is a film about people who have changed their lives through learning and education. The film was screened at the events of the Week, and a very good impact was achieved by sharing the film through social networks, primarily Facebook and YouTube, which made it possible for those who could not personally engage in some of the activities organised during the Week to get to know the main messages of the campaign.
Cooperation and joint work  
– the key to success of the Lifelong Learning Week

From the very beginning of the implementation of the Week organized by the Agency for Vocational Education and Training and Adult Education, it was clear that the goals of this educational campaign could only be achieved through cooperation and joint work with other institutions and organizations.
The Week has been carried out all these years with the support of the Ministry of Science and Education. A major partner in the campaign has traditionally been the Croatian Employment Service, which is, with its branch offices and Lifelong Career Guidance Centre’s offices throughout Croatia, involved in the campaign by organizing a series of activities aimed at promoting learning and education, especially with the aim of increasing employability and competitiveness in the labour market.

A number of institutions and organizations on all levels have contributed to the successful implementation of the campaign. Special mention should be made of regional coordinators who have been partners with the Agency in implementing the Lifelong Learning Week since 2011. These are adult education institutions that cooperate with the Agency in designing and implementing the Week’s activities, in animating and motivating institutions at local and regional levels to join learning and education promotion activities and to inform people about learning opportunities in their communities. Many organizers organize open days or similar activities aimed at informing the public about the work of their institutions. We especially emphasize events such as free workshops or lectures - the experiences of the past years show that such events are best appreciated by visitors. On the other hand, these activities are often the best way for people and potential participants to learn more about the work of these institutions and their education offer. Moreover, choosing some of their programmes or courses can be the first step in continuing with their further education. As in previous years, regional coordinators were responsible for disseminating promotional materials and for providing information regarding the organisation and implementation of the Week in their respective counties.

2018 LIFELONG LEARNING WEEK REGIONAL COORDINATORS

1. Vukovar-Srijem and Brod-Posavina Counties
   Vinkovci Public Open University
2. Požega-Slavonija and Osijek-Baranja Counties
   Obris Public Open University
3. Sisak-Moslavina, Virovitica-Podravina and Bjelovar-Bilogora Counties
   Daruvar Technical School
4. Koprivnica-Križevci, Međimurje and Varaždin Counties
   Koprivnica Public Open University
5. Lika-Senj, Primorsko-goranska and Istria Counties
   Public College - education and culture institution in Rijeka
6. Zadar and Šibenik-Knin Counties
   Finis College
7. Split-Dalmacija and Dubrovnik-Neretva Counties
   Vocational School for Crafts and Technical Professions
8. Karlovac, Krapina-Zagorje and Zagreb Counties and the City of Zagreb
   Crafts College – adult education institution
Acknowledgements for the contribution to the development of adult education

Since the focus of the Lifelong Learning Week campaign is on individuals, i.e. people we want to motivate to change their lives and improve their life circumstances through education, the most important partners in this process are andragogy experts, specialists in the field of adult education who, through their professional work, make it possible for lifelong learning and education to become reality.
Therefore, as part of the 2017 Lifelong Learning Week, the Agency for Vocational Education and Training and Adult Education has launched the practice of awarding the Acknowledgment for the Contribution to the Development of Adult Education, which seeks to highlight, promote and acknowledge individuals who have been active in this field for over forty years and who have left their mark on adult education in Croatia, at both professional and scientific level. The first recipients of the Acknowledgment for the Contribution to the Development of Adult Education were Professor Emeritus Nikola Pastuović, PhD, from Zagreb for his scientific contribution to the development of adult education, Ljudevít Šimunović, professor, from Zagreb, and Josip Nakić Alfirević, professor, from Koprivnica for contributing to the development of adult education practice.

For the second time in a row, the Agency for Vocational Education and Training and Adult Education awarded the Acknowledgement for the Contribution to the Development of Adult Education, aiming to highlight, promote and give credit to individuals who, having been active in this field for at least twenty years throughout their career, have left their mark on adult education in Croatia, at both professional and scientific level. The acknowledgements were awarded at the official opening ceremony of the 12th Lifelong Learning Week on 1 October 2018 in Split.

The Acknowledgements for the Contribution to the Development of Adult Education in 2018 were awarded to: Milan Matijević, PhD, for scientific contribution to the development of adult education, Jasna Čurin, professor, and Dušan Petričević, PhD, for contributing to the development of adult education practice.

The Selection Committee has also decided to award this acknowledgement posthumously. A posthumous acknowledgement was awarded to Zvonimir Erceg, professor, for his contribution to the development of adult education practice.

For more information about the recipients of the Acknowledgements for the Contribution to the Development of Adult Education in 2018 please see below:

**ZVONIMIR ERCEG, professor,** (1944 · 2015) received the Posthumous Acknowledgement.

After graduating from the Teachers’ School in Zagreb, he enrolled into the Faculty of Pedagogy in Rijeka and earned the title of professor of production and technical education. In his professional field of work, he gained experience working in elementary school and in the field of adult education. He also participated in the implementation of education policies in the Ministry of Education and Sports where he worked in the Directorate of School Education as a senior expert advisor for trade schools, pupils’ homes and adult education. As a delegated member of the working group for the drafting of the Adult Education Act and rulebooks he provided professional assistance to adult education institutions.

He was very active in designing and organizing professional conferences (seminars and consultations at the local, national and international level) and in the implementation of EU projects. He also founded the portal www.mojeobrazovanje.hr. In 2009, encouraged by principals from numerous educational institutions and at his own initiative, he founded the Society of Adult Education Institutions. Gathering the then prominent andragogical staff, he established a modern, self-sustaining association, with clear goals and a programme. As a man of broad knowledge, he actively participated in a number of social organizations and local self-government units. In particular, he advocated a modern approach to ecology, the use of renewable energy sources, safe working environment, i.e., safety at work, promoting the ideas of lifelong learning and the importance of adult education. For more than ten years he was a professional andragogy expert at the current Open University in Zagreb, the largest adult education institution in Croatia. He was also a consultant at the Ministry of Science, Education and Sports for more than ten years in the field of adult education. It was this duty that provided him various contacts with adult education institutions in Croatia: colleges, culture centres, foreign language schools, and education departments in the private sector. He has built up a wide network of contacts with top scientists in the field of education and organised a series of successfully prepared professional and andragogical conferences, consultations, seminars, round tables. His knowledge and capabilities, acquired throughout his long career, have enriched the education provision at his own Zvonimir College of Andragogy, where the Society of Adult Education Institutions also carried out its activities. From 1 June 2009 until January 2015, he was the President of the Society of Adult Education Institutions.
Prof. MILAN MATIJEVIĆ, PhD, full professor with a tenure, received the Acknowledgement for his scientific contribution to the development of adult education.

After completing his studies in pedagogy and sociology at the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, in his professional career, he went from being an educator in a youth correctional facility, through providing adult literacy classes and teaching future pedagogues and teachers, to being the head of doctoral studies for elementary and secondary school teachers. He has been employed as a full professor since 1987 at the Faculty of Teacher Education in Zagreb. He was elected full professor with a tenure in 1999. At the university, he taught methodology of social sciences, educational research, andragogical didactics, teaching techniques, educational technology, andragogy, lifelong education, teaching and education theories, curriculum, history of education and pedagogy, assessment in primary education and several postgraduate courses at the University of Zagreb. He was also a faculty member at the universities in Osijek, Zadar, Split, Sarajevo and Ljubljana. He has gained many years of experience teaching youth and adults.

He was the vice dean for teaching at the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences - Pedagogical Sciences of the University of Zagreb and the Faculty of Teacher Education of the University of Zagreb. He was the Head of the Department for Pedagogical Research at the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences in Zagreb, the Head of the Chair of Andragogy of the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences in Zagreb and the Head of the Chair of Pedagogy and Didactics of the Faculty of Teacher Education in Zagreb. Over the past quarter-century, he has spearheaded numerous scientific and research projects funded by the Croatian Ministry of Science and Education and the Croatian Science Foundation, which include: Internal Reform of Elementary Schools and Preparing the Young for the 21st Century, Innovation School; Hypermedia Education Technology and Media Didactics; The Internet in Education and Multimedia Didactics; New Educational Technologies and Lifelong Learning; and Schools and Teaching Tailored to the Net Generation. He wrote more than twenty books and one hundred scientific papers in the field of education of youth and adults. His research and scientific work are related to didactics, teaching methodology at all levels of education, distance education, alternative pedagogies and schools, models of assessment at all levels of education, new media in education. The titles of the published books speak of his research and professional interests: Let Us Learn by Doing; A Modern Adult Education Organization; Humour in Teaching; On the Doorstep of a Self-Governing School; Elementary Schools around the World; Elementary Schools on the Doorstep of the 21st Century; Didactics; Alternative Schools; Assessment in Elementary Schools; Learning on Request, etc. He has enriched the Croatian scientific bibliography with a total of 167 scientific and professional papers in the last 15 years, including four textbooks. Google Scholar has recorded 307 citations in the last 5 years (552 citations in total).

He was awarded the Ivan Filipović Annual Award for Science in 1990. He is a member of several scientific journals’ editorial boards. He has actively participated in numerous scientific conferences both in Croatia and abroad. He spent more than one year in various types of professional training abroad (Germany, Finland, the Netherlands, Scotland, England, Poland, Switzerland, Austria, the Czech Republic, Hungary, India, the U.S.A., etc.)

JASNA ČURIN, professor, also received the Acknowledgement for her contribution to the development of adult education practice.

Jasna Čurin, professor of psychology, has been involved in adult education at the Zagreb Open University for thirty-five years. She has been working as the Head of the University of the Third Age Department, which has been created as a joint project of the Zagreb Open University and the Chair of Andragogy of the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences in Zagreb, since the launching of this pilot programme. The first University of the Third Age in Croatia has proved to be an excellent model for raising the quality of life of senior citizens and, as Ms Čurin points out herself, “a spark that makes old age more fulfilling and better quality through educational activities.” Jasna Čurin has continuously been involved in the development of quality of the University of the Third Age, which has quickly grown thanks to its offer and the number of learners into a fully structured education programme tailored to the needs of the elderly who are participating in non-formal education and which is attended by about 1000 learners each academic year. By actively creating the programmes of the University, she has also expanded the range of additional activities that are co-created by learners themselves. She has greatly contributed to the promotion of the University, and in recent years she has been intensively working on international cooperation and the evaluation, development and implementation of EU projects. From the beginning, the University of the Third Age has learned from the experiences of similar European institutions, which the world has long recognized, and it has developed close cooperation with many of them, especially those in Slovenia and Germany. Since 2014, the University has been a member of the international association of the Universities of the Third Age (AIUTU).

By coordinating the Department and a team of fifty external associates, she perfected her marketing knowledge and business skills. From time to time, she organises professional training for teachers who teach in groups, as well as for trainees themselves, in order for them to better understand the lifelong learning process as its stakeholders. She refined her communication skills through professional training and workshops.
and extensive experience in working with people, especially the elderly. She has been continuously present in the media over the past years, together with her team of associates and trainees, where they have been systematically promoting the importance and the idea of lifelong learning. She has always highlighted the activities and the impact of the University as something that should be mirrored by others in the society with the aim of improving our relations with senior members of our community and motivating them to become more engaged community members in the future than they are today. Through her active participation in professional conferences and by publishing several expert papers, she sought to bring the practice closer to theory. She is constantly improving her skills in the field of andragogy and psychology as an active member of the Society of Psychologists of Croatia and the Croatian Andragogy Society. For several decades, Jasna Ćurin has been actively contributing to the quality of life of the elderly by working at the University for the Third Age, giving its learners a stable place where they will always find motivation and opportunity for acquiring new knowledge, where they will be able to integrate into the educational process, create new social relationships, build self-esteem and find a place where they can increase their quality of life and, in the true sense, actively grow older. This work has always been more than a job for me, more than doing what is required. There are no great things without enthusiasm, they cannot be limited by working hours. Working in the field of education for the elderly, leading a complex programme such as the University of the Third Age in a community that still holds too many prejudices towards the elderly can never be a job only. This is a CALLING! I would like to thank those who have recognised this in my work.

DUŠAN PETRIČEVIĆ, PhD, received the Acknowledgement for his contribution to the development of adult education practice.

At the Junior College of Pedagogy in Rijeka he earned the title of vocational-theoretical teacher in the field of mechanical engineering. At the Faculty of Pedagogy in Rijeka, he earned the title of professor in industrial pedagogy, and a master and doctor of science degrees in the field of social sciences - the scientific field of pedagogy. He gained his working experience as a mechanical engineer, vocational-theoretical teacher in secondary vocational schools, organiser and teacher in factory centres for education of workers, senior adviser for vocational education at the Institute for Education and as the head of the Development Department at the Croatian Ministry of Education and Sports.

From 1997 to 2013 he worked as an external associate (teacher) at the Faculty of Teacher Education in Zagreb and the College of Occupational Health and Safety in Zagreb. At the Faculty of Teacher Education, he taught the methodology of vocational-theoretical teaching for vocational teachers in secondary vocational schools, adult education institutions and other vocational education institutions, as well as the methodology of practical teaching for teachers of practical education in secondary vocational schools, driving schools and other organisations that train people to perform certain tasks. At the College of Occupational Health and Safety he taught classes in two courses: the pedagogy of work at a post-graduate course and adult education at a specialist course. He has also been engaged as the chairman in examining committees for vocational exams taken by vocational teachers and as an examiner for vocational teaching methodology in the committees of the Agency for Vocational Education and Training and Adult Education. His research interests are focused on adult education as well as vocational education. He independently carried out research on the topics of: Profiles of metallurgical engineers and advancement of metallurgy studies, Shortage of industrial workers in the Banovina region and School System in Germany. He conducted research on the topic of: Vocational and professional teacher training in Croatia.

He authored several books: Pedagogy of Work, Methodology of Vocational and Theoretical Teaching, Methodology of Practical Teaching and Curriculum of Occupations and Qualifications, as well as Starigrad - Paklenica Monograph. He has reviewed several textbooks and scientific and expert articles. He has published several scientific and expert articles on vocational education and training of students and adults, as well as on pedagogical-psychological and didactic-methodological education of VET teachers. He is the co-author of the following books: General Manual for Secondary School Teachers, Education Worldwide, Europe-oriented Croatian Education, and the Basics of Contemporary Pedagogy. He has participated in several national and international expert and scientific conferences. He is the founder and the first president of the Croatian Andragogy Society. He is a member of the Academy of Educational Sciences, Croatian Andragogy Society, Croatian Pedagogical-Literary Society and Matrix Croatica. He has been retired since 2000.
International Literacy Day

International Literacy Day is a UNESCO initiative. The purpose of this initiative is to remind the international community every year of the status of literacy and adult education at the global level. The idea of marking the day was announced in September 1965 in Tehran, at the World Conference of Ministers of Education on the eradication of illiteracy. The initiative to proclaim one day in a year an international literacy day was presented at this conference with the aim to mark and highlight the importance of international literacy. The selected date was 8 September and UNESCO began celebrating International Literacy Day as early as 1966.
The Agency for Vocational Education and Training and Adult Education has recognized the importance of International Literacy Day and has been celebrating it regularly in various ways since 2008. The data from the last census show that today less than 1% of illiterate persons are over 10 years of age in Croatia. However, this refers mostly to reading and writing skills, and any person who could read and write a short, simple essay about their daily life with comprehension, regardless of what language or script they read or write, is considered literate. Clearly, much more is needed to live in today’s modern society, which is also reflected in the expansion of literacy terms onto other areas. If we look at the situation regarding information literacy, data from the last census show that in some dimensions of this literacy over 40% of Croatian citizens are illiterate. If we measured some other dimensions of literacy, it is possible that the results would be even worse.

It is clear that we cannot be satisfied with this situation, and International Literacy Day is an opportunity to address this problem. This day should be used to once again draw attention to the importance of literacy - both basic writing and reading skills and all other types and dimensions of literacy.

Activities organized as part of the celebration of the day include various forums, panel discussions and round tables. Furthermore, in order to emphasize the importance of literacy at the global level and in Croatia, the Agency for Vocational Education and Training and Adult Education has highlighted the most important topics related to adult literacy and literacy in their media posts on the occasion of International Literacy Day. Some of the topics addressed as part of International Literacy Day were literacy and active citizenship, key competencies as a tool against poverty and social exclusion, literacy and the development of key competencies of persons in prison, financial literacy, etc. As part of International Literacy Day, we covered media literacy in adult education at the EPALe platform.
The twelfth edition of the Lifelong Learning Week
1 – 7 October 2018
The Agency for Vocational Education and Training and Adult Education has been organising the **Lifelong Learning Week** for twelve years in a row – a national education campaign which encourages the promotion of learning and education in a simple way through direct communication with people. The activities of the 12th Lifelong Learning Week, which took place from 1 to 7 October 2018 started on 1 October with an opening ceremony at the Croatian National Theatre in Split.

Informing the public about how they themselves can become part of the lifelong learning process and motivating them to take that step is the backbone of all previous Lifelong Learning Weeks. The campaign was further developed each year, the scope of activities and areas of implementation were expanded, the number of activities increased, as well as the institutions involved, the involvement of key actors at all levels was increased, and, what is particularly important, the number of participants continued to grow. This year, people will again have the opportunity to attend free workshops, lectures, round tables, concerts, while a number of education institutions will open their doors and allow potential learners to find information about their educational offer.

The European dimension of the campaign is underlined by the fact that it is being carried out under the **Lifelong Learning Promotion** project which is 11,508,270.12 kuna worth and funded by the European Social Fund. The project is aimed at raising awareness on the importance of lifelong learning and increasing adult participation in order to strengthen their competitiveness at both the national and local level.

Public figures such as Anamarija Asanović, Oliver Makar and Marko Torjanac also provide great support for the campaign as its promoters who emphasize the importance of lifelong learning and investing in oneself based on their own personal example.

One of the most important activities of the Week is awarding of the **Dandelion of Knowledge** award for achievements in adult learning, which puts the learning individual at the forefront, the person who has decided to expand their knowledge and skills, work on themselves and their development, and who has had to master many obstacles on their way. This year’s winners of the **Dandelion of Knowledge** award Boris Rozman, Goran Đurđević and Nadir Elhag have managed, thanks to their determination and perseverance, to make many positive changes in their lives.

Awarding of the Acknowledgements for the Contribution to the Development of Adult Education started during the last year’s Week - the winner of the acknowledgement for scientific contribution to the development of adult education is Prof. Milan Matijević, PhD, and the recipients of the acknowledgement for contributing to the development of adult education practice are Jasna Ćurin, professor, and Dušan Petričević, PhD.

In order to bring the idea of lifelong learning even closer to the target groups of this campaign, the **10th Lifelong Learning Fair** was held in Zagreb on the 6 October, which is a continuation of our mini-campaign called Lifelong Learning Fair in Zagreb’s neighbourhoods, which was successfully launched in 2017 at Trešnjevka Square. At the Fair, adult education institutions will present to the public their adult education programmes and offer a voucher to attend one of the programmes for free which has already become a tradition.

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**Key Numbers:**
- **898 events**
- **700 institutions**
- **7,000 media posts**
- **8 regional coordinators**
- **40,000 event visitors**
Zagreb County organised seventeen events during the 12th Lifelong Learning Week. Here you can find only some of the events while a more detailed list of events is available at http://www.cjelozivotno-ucenje.hr/category/zagrebacka-zupanija/.

- **EU Funds and Lifelong Education - Jastrebarsko**
  The Crafts College and Jastrebarsko Craftsmen Association organised a workshop in Jastrebarsko titled *EU Funds and Lifelong Education*. EU funds are constantly in the centre of attention and it is often said that not enough funding is being drawn. In addition, we are approaching the end of operational period. Therefore, it is important to have an overview of the possibilities of obtaining grants that are available for the craftsmen and entrepreneurs in the upcoming period. During this workshop, craftsmen and entrepreneurs were given opportunities to strengthen their capacities and competencies of their employees in different areas.

- **IT and the Third Age – Jastrebarsko**
  On 3 and 8 October *IT and the Third Age* workshop was held in Jastrebarsko Cultural Centre. Senior citizens were shown how to use the Internet and its tools. All the participants learned how to browse the Internet, fill out online forms and download online contents.

- **Linen and Weaving Workshop From Linen Thread to Linen Canvas - Ivanić-Grad**
  Ivanić-Grad Public Open University celebrated European Heritage Days and the Lifelong Learning Week by organising two workshops with the aim to preserve, exhibit and study intangible cultural heritage. Workshop participants learned answers to questions such as: What is linen?; How are linen clothes made and what are the stages of linen processing in order to make linen fabric?; What is a loom and how is it used to make fabric? Workshops were facilitated by Mrs Nevenka Radočaj and all the participants had an opportunity to use a loom and test their weaving skills. Workshop participants: students from Đuro Deželić Elementary School in Ivanić-Grad, students from Ivan Švear Secondary School in Ivanić-Grad and the citizens of Ivanić-Grad.

- **Panel discussion The Challenges of Interpreting Moslavina Cultural Heritage in the Context of Modern European Practices - Ivanić-Grad**
  As a part of European Heritage Days activities, Association of Heritage Friends from Ivanić-Grad, which is also an institutional member of the Croatian Association for Heritage – Interpret Croatia, organised a panel discussion on interpreting cultural heritage in Moslavina. The goals of this panel were: to open a public dialogue on the state of cultural heritage in Moslavina, to encourage cooperation between cultural stakeholders in Moslavina, to raise awareness on the importance of preservation and good quality presentation of cultural heritage, to present and compare examples of good practice from other European countries, and finally, to give audience an opportunity to ask questions. Panel discussion was organised by the Association of Heritage Friends from Ivanić-Grad and Ivanić-Grad Public Open University. The panellists were: Jasmina Uroda Kutlić, Moslavina Museum, Kutina; Silvija Pisk, Historical Association Moslavina, Popovača; Maja Cepetić Rogić, Association of Heritage Friends Ivanić-Grad; Vida Pust Škrgljua, Ivanić-Grad Museum; Iva Ćaleta Pleša, Interpret Croatia, Zagreb. The discussion showed that there is a significant interest for investing into heritage as well as acquiring new knowledge and skills on the interpretation of heritage demonstrated by various associations, museums and the local government.

- **Open Days - Ivanić Grad, Sveti Ivan Zelina, Samobor and Vrbovec**
  During the Open Days of the Sveti Ivan Zelina Craftsmen Association all who were interested were given information on offers and services provided by the Association and presented with the opportunities for lifelong education in craft professions. Also, all interested micro, small and medium-sized entrepreneurs and craftsmen from the Craftsmen Association were shown the possibilities regarding professional training and master exams.

- **Cultural Discussion: Croatian – Czech Cultural Encounters and Mutual European Roots - Ivanić-Grad**
  On 4 October 2018 Ivanić-Grad hosted the event *Croatian – Czech Cultural Encounters*
and Mutual European Roots to mark the end of programme celebrating European Heritage Days and the Lifelong Learning Week that was organised by the Association of Heritage Friends from Ivanić-Grad and Ivanić-Grad Public Open University. The aim of the programme was to present rich cultural and heritage diversity along the European continent and show the need for its protection and preservation. Mrs Ana Gašparović, the president of the Association of Heritage Friends from Ivanić-Grad moderated a talk during which the president of the Croatian-Czech Society mentioned many activities that the Society is engaged in. He singled out its rich publishing work and presented the newspapers Susreti and nine published books. The first president of the Society Mr Zlatko Stahuljak reminisced about the period when he served as the first Croatian ambassador in Prague. In the second part of the programme a member of the Society, Czech Mirko Knjižek recited his poetry in both Croatian and Czech. He was followed by the performance of Zagreb County’s Češka Beseda members who sang several Moravian songs.

**E-Citizens Workshop – Vrbovec**

E-Citizens system is available to every Croatia citizen who is older than 15 and has electronic credentials from the List of Accepted Credentials. Mrs Jasna Benko, the head of Finance Agency (FINA) Vrbovec branch, presented the e-Citizens system. FINA is in charge of issuing credentials (ePaas and/or mToken) for citizens. Workshop participants had an opportunity to learn how the system worked. Many of our citizens do not know how to use this system, so this was a chance for them to hear some useful advice on the topic.

**Lecture and Demonstration of Virtual Welding Machine – Vrbovec**

Virtual Welding Machine lecture served as a means to show the possibilities of adult education by including them in the priority education programmes designed for improving skills and knowledge of its participants in order to increase employability. The Crafts College representatives held a lecture and showed the use of virtual welding machine. The virtual machine improves the training of future welders while cutting costs as well.

**Chinese Language Workshop for Children and Chinese Language Workshop for Adults – Zaprešić**

Anglo School for Foreign Languages organised a 45-minute Chinese language workshop for elementary school children who were given an opportunity to learn their first Chinese words. All those interested in Chinese language and culture could join a 45-minute Chinese language workshop for adults and take a peek into the world of learning Chinese.

**Presentation of Ban Josip Jelačić Secondary School Adult Education Programmes on the 20th Trade Fair in Zaprešić**

Ban Josip Jelačić Secondary School presented its adult education programmes and promoted lifelong learning concept at the local level. The activities took place in the school’s gym during the traditional Trade Fair.
Krapina-Zagorje County organised fourteen events during the 12th Lifelong Learning Week. A more detailed list of events is available at http://www.cjelozivotno-ucenje.hr/category/krapinsko-zagorska-zupanija/.

- **Education and Professional Development Opportunities through Adult Education Programmes – Krapina**
  Secondary School Krapina organised a presentation of adult education programme in engineering. The participants were introduced to the programme content, enrolment requirements and the form of programme provision.

- **Open Days – Krapina**
  Krapina-Zagorje County Chamber of Trades and Crafts marked yet another Lifelong Learning Week and organised Open Days where all those interested could learn more about lifelong education in craftsmanship.

- **Public discussion: Lifelong Learning and Career Management – Donja Stubica**
  All the things that a person can accomplish in their professional life largely depends on opportunities for learning new skills and developing competences, and this contributes to the process of discovering their professional interests throughout their lives. During the workshop organised by the Croatian Employment Service, Krapina Regional Office, participants were able to learn about career management tools and lifelong learning opportunities that meet labour market demands, from developing basic language and digital competences to acquiring professional competences and education for the sought-after occupations. During the public discussion anyone could find out how to become a part of lifelong learning process themselves.

- **Learning Foreign Languages and Importance of Linguistic Competencies in a Job Interview Workshop – Donja Stubica**
  Workshop participants had an opportunity to learn how to present their language competences in their CV and how to explain them more clearly in a job interview. Also, they learned about different ways in which employers assess candidates’ foreign language knowledge during the selection process, how they evaluate the results and what the possibilities of language learning are. One option was provided by the Croatian Employment Service Krapina Regional Office that organised enrolment into adult education language courses for those who seek employment in the field where the knowledge of English, Italian or German is considered as an advantage. The workshop informed the participants to what extent can the general language course enhance our writing and comprehension skills (reading, listening) and our spoken production and interaction competences.

- **Lecture: Essential Oils – Health Benefit for the Entire Family – Krapina**
  Saša Radulović, a certified aromatherapist and the manager of Anias de Moras Centre in Zagreb, held an interesting and fragrant lecture on 3 October 2018 in the Small Auditorium of Krapina Public Open University. The title of the lecture was *Essential Oils – Health Benefit for the Entire Family*. In order to use aromatherapy as successfully as possible and in the least complicated way, it is important to follow a few guidelines. All the participants found out how to use essential oils effectively in combating infections and how they could be used to advance the learning process as well by recalling what you have learned. They also learned about different creative ways in which essential oils can be used.

- **Bedekovčina Secondary School’s Stand: Distribution of Promotional Materials and Explaining the Importance of Lifelong Learning – Bedekovčina**
  Students volunteers from Bedekovčina Secondary School used their stand to explain to the public the importance and possibilities of lifelong learning and education.

- **Online Quiz – Zabok**
  Zagor Network of Associations set up an online quiz for the youth on the topic of volunteering. The contestants who won one of the first three places and gave all correct answers were given a symbolic award. The results were announced the following day and the winners were notified via e-mail on how to collect their awards.
Workshop on How to Recognise Personal Needs and Potentials for the Acquisition of New Knowledge and Skills? – Krapina

Croatian Employment Service organised a workshop on How to Recognise Personal Needs and Potentials for the Acquisition of New Knowledge and Skills? The aim of the workshop was for the participants to self-assess their own potential, knowledge and skills compared to the labour market needs and to raise awareness on the fact that learning enables the acquisition of knowledge and skills that the labour market demands and thus enhances their employability. Workshop activities served as a means to emphasise the need and opportunities for personal development through learning, development of civic competences, acquisition of knowledge and skills required at
12 years of the Lifelong Learning Week in Croatia

Krapina-Zagorje County

the labour market. All of these enable people to actively participate in the society and to pursue their personal development.

- EU Project ISKRA Opening Conference – Experience of Creative Activities – Zabok

EU project ISKRA - Experience of Creative Activities is funded by the European Social Fund within the Art and Culture 54+ call for proposals. The project is implemented by Zagreb Public Open University in partnership with Zabok Public Open University, Čakovec Public Open University and OBRIS Public Open University. The first aim of the project is to strengthen capacities, expert knowledge and skills of workers in the field of culture, artists and employees of partner organisations on the topics of geragogy and andragogy, so they could organise and hold cultural workshops for persons who are older than 54. The second goal is to hold art, music and photography workshops for persons who are older than 54 in order to improve their personal skills. Each partner institution will hold workshops at their respective university (9 workshops in total for 102 participants) and at the end of the cycle there is going to be a final exhibition and a concert. In addition, at the end of the project there is going to be a joint exhibition (art and photography) and two concerts in order to present the work of all the participants. In the long run, ISKRA project is going to raise the quality of life of elderly people in the local community; it is going to eliminate stereotypes and the problems that the elderly are faced with and it will increase their visibility and creative potentials so that they are more socially included; it is going to contribute to their further lifelong learning process and the experts in the field of art and culture will show a greater degree of quality in their work with the elderly and it is going to promote new forms of structured work and geragogy initiatives in Croatia that are based on the concept and experience of the University of the Third Age.

- Features and Application of AutoCad Programme – Krapina

A workshop entitled Features and Application of AutoCad Programme was held at Krapina Secondary School. The participants were introduced to the most important features and advantages of using AutoCad in engineering and learned a few basic options.

- Info stand – Zabok

Zagor Network of Associations set up an info stand to inform the public about the 12th Lifelong Learning Week. All those interested could learn about all relevant information and take promotional material.
Sisak-Moslavina County organised twenty-eight events during the 12th Lifelong Learning Week. Here you can find only some of the events while a more detailed list of events is available at http://www.cjelozivotno-ucenje.hr/category/sisacko-moslavacka-zupanija/.

**Novska Public Open University is open to new knowledge- Novska**

On 1 October 2018 there was a ceremony held to mark the 12th Lifelong Learning Week during which different business, organisations, education providers, crafts and NGOs presented their work, knowledge and skills. Around thirty NGOs that are active in Novska used their exhibition stands and the space behind the city library to present their activities. The participants were of all ages and various occupations – kindergarten, elementary and secondary school children, police officers, fire fighters, municipal workers, amateur athletes, mountain rescuers and humanitarians. They all wanted to show that we should never stop learning and that learning is worthwhile.

On 2 October 2018 there was an interesting puppet show workshop held on the stage of Novska Public Open University cinema led by Ivana Pokrivka and Amir Sinanović. The workshop called *From an Idea to a Show* is designed for early education teachers and preschool teachers. The participants were able to see how the puppet show is made, what it all looks like and they were able to create their own show. All the stands were visited with great interest. Secondary school students presented a solar-powered automobile, police officers and fire fighters showed the equipment they use and Croatian Mountain Rescue Service members from Novska station emphasized the importance of continuous professional development. Red Cross Novska employees and volunteers demonstrated resuscitation techniques.
**Sisak-Moslavina County**

- **Matej Perkov's Travelogue: *I Want to Touch the Sky* - Kutina**
  In 2016 Matej Perkov set off to Georgia accompanied by four of his fellow members from the Croatian Mountaineering Association Kapela. As a part of his lecture there was a promotion of his new book *I Want to Touch the Sky* in which he wishes to recount his idea of “mountain romance”. Apart from 15 stories about his individual expedi tions, the author retells stories from alpine ascends in which he was accompanied by his Croatian Mountaineering Association Kapela co-members. During this lecture Matej Perkov, traveloguer and high-altitude climber, presented his own experiences and adventures from different mountain tops as a form of lifelong learning: the Alps, the Dinaric Alps, the Atlas Mountains, the Damavand, the Tatras, the Carpathian Mountains.

- **Ceramic Workshop by Terakota Ceramic Association and an Introductory Lecture from Moslavina Museum - Kutina**
  Traditionally, as a part of Lifelong Learning Week, Terakota Ceramic Association organised the first of its many ceramic workshops for the public at Kutina Public Open University. In 2018, as an introduction to the workshop, the Moslavina Museum held a lecture on its cultural heritage and the history of ceramic in these parts.

- **Kutina’s Ballerinas Open Days – Kutina**
  Kutina Public Open University’s ballet ensemble presented its long-time work and invited everyone interested in the most beautiful dance form to enrol into a ballet course and learn ballet moves, theatre culture and help create magical ballet shows.

- **Presentation: *The Forms and Possibilities of Lifelong Learning* - Sisak**
  Viktorovac Secondary School organised a lecture called *The Forms and Possibilities of Lifelong Learning* where students had an opportunity to learn what lifelong learning is, what its different forms are and the possibilities it offers. The students could not but notice the inevitability of lifelong learning that is not only necessary because of labour market needs or geopolitical changes, but it is also a constant human inborn necessity.

- **Exhibition about the History of Adult Education at Glina Secondary School - Glina**
  At the Public Library and Reading Room in Glina the visitors could find information about the adult education programmes for obtaining a qualification in commerce and economy carried out by Glina Secondary School. There was an exhibition set up that allowed the visitors to assess the results and achievements of the respective adult education programmes.

- **Work and/or Education After Completing Three-Year Secondary Education Presentation and Workshop - Sisak**
  Students were introduced to the possibility of further education after the completion of three-year secondary education (vertical continuation of education in the Croatian education system) and the possibilities of further education while working. After the lecture, the students made plans and projections about their own future as a part of workshop activities.
Karlovac County organised nine events during the 12th Lifelong Learning Week. Here you can find only some of the events while a more detailed list of events is available at http://www.cjelozivotno-ucenje.hr/category/karlovacka-zupanija/.

- **Radio Shows on the Topic of Lifelong Learning: The Importance of Lifelong Learning; Competencies; The Learner and the Lecturer - Ogulin**
  Radio shows on the importance of lifelong education, the programmes and competences it offers and similar topics aired from 1 until 5 October, hosting experts in the field of adult education, programme attendants and lecturers. The aim of the radio shows was to give to the public a number of useful information on lifelong education and to encourage them to acquire new knowledge and actively participate in the community life.

- **Body Exercise, Mind Exercise Workshop – Karlovac**
  The head of Element yoga studio Ines Kartelo held a workshop for the adult users of the public library. The aim of the workshop was to raise awareness among the participants on the important role of health, exercise, diet and natural immunostimulants in learning and acquiring new knowledge.

- **Let’s Learn Sign Language Workshop – Karlovac**
  Zorica Pluščec and Dijana Leka from the Karlovac County Association of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing held a workshop entitled *Let’s Learn Sign Language*. The aim of the workshop was to teach senior citizens the basics of sign language so they could communicate more easily with people with hearing loss and to raise awareness and sensitivity within the local community.
Varaždin County organised twenty-four events during the 12th Lifelong Learning Week. Here you can find only some of the events while a more detailed list of events is available at http://www.cjelozivotno-ucenje.hr/category/varazdinska-zupanija/.

**Entrepreneurship and Entrepreneurship Education Fair – Novi Marof**

Novi Marof Secondary School organised the *Entrepreneurship and Entrepreneurship Education Fair*. Small and medium sized businesses, craftsmen and family farms had an opportunity to present their work on the stands that were used as both exhibition and trading points. There was also a public debate on the topic of *Lifelong Learning and Self-Employment* in which prominent entrepreneurs from this area took part in, such as Mrs Bernarda Cecelja, owner and manager of *Bernarda* company and Mr Ivica Kruhek, owner and manager of *Marker* company who contributed to the debate by sharing his experience.

**Education – My New Chance Workshop – Varaždin**

The purpose of *Education – My New Chance* workshop was to promote educational activities of the Croatian Employment Service, to introduce unemployed persons to education programmes, selection procedures and education implementation and their rights and obligations. They were able to learn from the stories and experiences of former participants who completed one of the programmes and used to be in the same situation as workshop participants (being unemployed) and who found employment in the field for which they obtained a degree.

**Krešimir Mišak’s Lecture – How Real Became Unreal – Lepoglava**

The opportunity to hear the lecture of Croatian Radiotelevison host who has been tackling interesting and mysterious topics for years in his TV show *Na rubu znanosti* was welcomed by a broad audience. As he himself explains, it is very difficult to find a title that would sum up all he has to say, so he chose this particular one, but without a doubt the audience could expect quite an interesting and mystery-filled experience.

**How (and Why) Should I Become an E-Citizen? – Varaždin**

The participants of this workshop wanted to have access to their personal documents (citizenship certificate, birth certificate, work experience record…) without having to go to different institutions that issue those documents and e-Citizens system enables them to do just that and much more. E-Citizens is a project initiated by the Croatian government in order to modernise, simplify and accelerate the communication between the citizens and the public administration and to ensure transparency of public institutions in providing services. One can choose between forty services that e-Citizens and Personal Mailbox offer, but one needs to register first. This workshop informed the participants how to register and use e-Citizens services.
Game of Chance Addiction – Martijanec
On 3 October, Ms Ana Rakić, MA in Social Pedagogy from Sveti Ivan Psychiatric Hospital in Zagreb, held a lecture entitled Game of Chance Addiction for teachers, parents, experts in education and social care services and all those who are interested in the topic. Ms Rakić works at Gambling Addiction Daily Hospital and apart from treating addicts, she deals with the prevention of gambling among the youth. The participants learned how game of chance addiction develops among the youth, what prevention mechanisms are and how to treat addicts.

Exhibition – Extracurricular Activities at Žiger School for Foreign Languages – Žiger through History – Varaždin
Since its foundation Žiger School for Foreign Languages has organised various extracurricular activities in order to motivate and encourage its learners for lifelong learning and independent learning. The activities include: editing school magazine, organising study visits and language competitions and staging a play at Špancirfest festival. During the Lifelong Learning Week the School’s hallway hosted an exhibition that reminded the learners and visitors of school’s interesting history and all those events that took place since its beginnings.

Making Usable Items from Disposable Bags – Workshop – Varaždin
On 3 October 2018 Vanja Perši, professor, held a workshop entitled Making Usable Items from Disposable Bags. This workshop is in line with the global trends and it showed just one of the ways in which we can recycle plastic waste and help protect the environment. When buying snacks, students usually throw away plastic bags, so there were special boxes installed for the disposal of their plastic bags. These bags were later reused and served as a material for making new items that can be used more than once.
Koprivnica-Križevci County

12 years of the Lifelong Learning Week in Croatia

Koprivnica-Križevci County organised ninety-three events during the 12th Lifelong Learning Week. Here you can find only some of the events while a more detailed list of events is available at http://www.cjelozivotno-ucenje.hr/category/koprivnicko-krijevacka-zupanija/.

■ Digital Skills Workshop – Koprivnica
On 25 September 2018 Koprivnički poduzetnik Ltd. organised a lecture on the following topic – Economic Freedom in Cryptocurrency. Koprivnički poduzetnik Ltd. in cooperation with CryptoKC (informal group of crypto enthusiasts) organised a lecture called Cryptocurrency which was divided into theoretical and practical part. On 3 October 2018 there was an award ceremony held for the participants of the Croatian Makers League and a presentation of the new round of IT workshops. On 13 October 2018 there were IT workshops organised and the topic was Web Application Development - C#, ASP.NET, SQL Server.

■ Lecture The Healthiest Plants in the World – Virje
The Healthiest Plants in the World is a lecture designed for the public about the plants that in different ways and with their different properties help human health. The lecture was held by Irena Tišljar from Virje, a biology and chemistry professor, who is in her spare time engaged in aromatherapy, natural cosmetics and natural medicines.

■ 20th Fruit Days of Koprivnica-Križevci County – Đurđevac
Fruit Days of Koprivnica-Križevci County is an event dedicated to fruit production in Koprivnica-Križevci County. The organisers were the City of Đurđevac, Croatian Agricultural and Forestry Advisory Service, City of Đurđevac Tourist Board, PORA Regional Development Agency of Koprivnica-Križevci County and Fruit Growers and Producers Association of Koprivnica-Križevci County. The event was dedicated to the promotion of fruit production and to emphasize the value of developing Croatian production. On 28 September 2018 at the Đurđevac Town Museum there were expert lectures held on the following topics: 10-year Dynamics of Hazel Growing, Current Issues in Hazel Growing, the Difference between Conventional and Ecological Hazel Growing, Presentation of Measure 10 of Rural Development Programme. On 29 September 2018 the event included a fair where producers where able to showcase and sell their products and a diverse cultural and artistic programme.

■ Making of Autumn Decorations – Koprivnica
The learners from G3 and G4 educational groups and their teachers Jelena Peras and Natalija Domitrović joined the first and second grade students from Srijem District School and their teachers to make autumn decorations out of modelling clay. They used the material to shape autumn motifs which were then painted in autumn colours. These decorations will be used as a part of the Tree art installation that is set up in the foyer of Centre for Education and Rehabilitation Podravsko Sunce. This workshop helped children show their creativity, and cooperation with Srijem District School will raise awareness among the students about the need to assist special needs students and the fact that these children have their own potentials that need to be developed.

■ The Art of Making Ivanec Embroidery Workshop – Koprivnica
Koprivnica City Museum in partnership with Original Folklore Association Koprivnički Ivanec and Đuro Ester Elementary School (home economics group) marks this year’s European Heritage Days by organising workshops that teach the art of making Ivanec embroidery which is listed as intangible cultural heritage. The workshops, held at Mijo Kovačić Gallery, were organised for school children. Workshop instructor Gordana Horvat introduced Ivanec embroidery to the participants. It is a special way of decorating women’s festive traditional clothes that are part of folk costume inherent to Koprivnički Ivanec parish. The learning stages are the following: first, the participants observe the way in which the instructor makes the motif of vurica (little clock) and at the same time they are trying to create their own motif on a blank canvas without the use of template and guided by the instructor to ensure that all the motifs are made correctly. This motif is the first of many motifs acquired by the participants, because it serves as a basis for all other motifs and it helps achieve the routine in embroidery making. The materials used are a special type of thread and an old woven cloth that is originally used to make Ivanec embroidery.
■ The Hidden in the Homeland Collection – Virje
The Hidden in the Homeland Collection was a title of the educational workshop organised for elementary school children who had an opportunity to come in contact with library’s homeland collections, reference publications and written historical sources. In addition, the children enjoyed the storytelling of legends from Drava area.

■ Calligraphy Workshop - Koprivnica
In the 19th century one of the subjects in the lower grades of elementary school was calligraphy. Its purpose was to teach students different types of letters (upright, circular and italic), but it was also meant to develop students’ sense of aesthetics, to encourage neatness, patience, cleanliness and order. Calligraphy was also seen as a way of preparing students for more complex tasks that would follow later and for other subjects that contained calligraphy elements (handwork, drawing, geometry…) During this workshop, the participants had an opportunity to learn the basics of calligraphy and show their skills. They used feather and ink, learned how to sit and hold a pen properly and they were taught good manners. Prior to the workshop, there was an expert guided tour of the exhibition on the development of public schools in Koprivnica area. The workshop was designed for all age groups, the only prerequisite were basic reading and writing skills.

■ First Aid Training and Training of Education Workers in Giving First Aid to Students with Health Issues - Koprivnica
Board of Koprivnica Red Cross City Branch made a decision about first aid training and training of education workers in giving first aid to students with health issues based on the Rulebook on the manner in which education workers and institutions act in taking measures to protect the rights of students and to report any violation of these rights to the competent authorities. This Croatian Red Cross programme was positively reviewed by the Ministry of Science and Education and Education and Teacher Training Agency. The main purpose of this training was to provide teachers with basic knowledge about different illnesses and conditions so that they are able to detect changes in the students’ behaviour and the occurrence of early symptoms. With newly acquired skills they will be able to calmly give first aid and prevent further complications and, in extreme situations, even save lives. These skills help teachers and education workers gain the feeling of security when assisting students which helps them control panic and deal with the stressful situation, which often prevents prompt reaction, much better.
Bjelovar-Bilogora County organised fifty-eight events during the 12th Lifelong Learning Week. Here you can find only some of the events while a more detailed list of events is available at http://www.cjelozivotno-ucenje.hr/category/bjelovarsko-bilogorska-zupanija/.

**Nonviolent Conflict Resolution Workshop – Daruvar**

Economy and Tourism Secondary School from Daruvar organised a workshop entitled *Nonviolent Conflict Resolution* with the aim to raise awareness among first grade students about the concept of conflict, different forms of conduct and about empathy as being one of the means of conflict resolution. During the workshop the students tried to look at a situation from three different perspectives and understand the difference between concepts of interest and need and practice ways of conflict resolution.

**Educational Workshops for Encouraging Creative Thinking – Daruvar**

Public Library and Reading Room in Daruvar organised educational workshops for encouraging creative thinking. The workshops called *Čiča miča gotova je MOJA priča* were designed for children who are 3 to 6 years old in which workshop facilitators changed the ending of famous fairy tales.

**Kid’s Junior IT kamp, microbit – Bjelovar**

The focus of this workshop was on learning foreign languages adapted to preschool and school children, their abilities and reasoning. The content was presented in a way that was understandable to the children and using multimedia approach. Because this course is adapted to children, their needs and wishes, in the end they are going to acquire target language and improve their language competences.

**We are Learning About Our Town – Bjelovar**

Just before the beginning of the Lifelong Learning Week and the Town Day, the students from Commerce and Trade Secondary School in Bjelovar walked around the town discovering interesting facts about their town and presented their findings to their classmates. They were led by their professor Mirela Alebić, assisted by professor Gordana Crničić.

**How Multilingual Are We? – Daruvar**

The students from Czech Elementary School *Jan Amos Komensky* attended a workshop entitled *How Multilingual Are We?* where they investigated, using different sources, how Daruvar got its name after which they, along with their teachers, answered that question in different languages. Providing answers in various languages (Czech, Croatian, German, French, English, Russian and Hungarian) raised the awareness among the participants on the importance of learning foreign languages and encourage others to engage in this activity. Workshop facilitators tried to show that in order to get more extensive results, it is important to know how to search for information in foreign languages as well.

**Working in Microsoft Publisher – Čazma**

During the 12th Lifelong Learning Week, on 1 October 2018 at Čazma Secondary School’s school library there was a workshop entitled *Working in Microsoft Publisher*. Students from the 1st c and 1st d class attended the workshop where they had an opportunity to learn about the options that Microsoft Publisher offers (the choice of template, inserting a text and photographs) when preparing either printed or digital publication. In addition, there was also a presentation of publications that Čazma Secondary School has issued so far using Microsoft Publisher: English language magazine *Sparkles*, e-yearbook *New Generation* and a collection of stories called *Priče iz davnine iz Moslavine* or the *Ancient Tales from Moslavina*. 
Primorje-Gorski Kotar County organised fifty-three events during the 12th Lifelong Learning Week. Here you can find only some of the events while a more detailed list of events is available at http://www.cjelozivotno-ucenje.hr/category/primorsko-goranska-zupanija/.

■ Lifelong Learning Fair – Rijeka
As part of the Lifelong Learning Week programme fifty colleges, institutions and NGOs presented their work on Korzo promenade. The twelfth edition of the Lifelong Learning Week sought to sensitize the public to lifelong learning, to promote learning culture and to stimulate personal motivation to learn. During the Lifelong Learning Week, various workshops, presentations, courses, conferences, open days and other events were organised in Rijeka.

■ Workshop for Senior Citizens Memory Gym – Rijeka
The workshop, called Memory Gym, was designed for seniors and members of retirement clubs. The workshop was held as a part of the Lifelong Learning Week activities that remind the public that learning does not stop when they graduate, and that adults can benefit from learning as well. The aim of the workshop was to develop new learning and memory styles for the elderly using games and fun exercises, and to improve their ability to concentrate and focus attention using all their senses, motor skills and voice, and to show how the process of learning occurs in everyday life even when they are unaware of it. The memorization techniques that the participants could try are based on new scientific knowledge and are adapted so that they could be learnt easily during the workshop which was led by Katarina Banov, a psychologist at the City of Rijeka Pensioners’ Association.

■ IT Workshop for Senior Citizens – Rijeka
The IT Workshop for Senior Citizens is designed for seniors to enable them to acquire basic computer skills, learn about computer structure, writing, formatting and saving a Word document, browsing and e-mail correspondence with the help from secondary school IT professor and students from the Secondary School of Economics. The students helped the participants open a Gmail user account and provided them with basic information about sending and reading e-mails, adding attachments, opening and saving pictures, etc.

■ Efficient Time Management Workshop – Rijeka
On 2 October 2018 Efficient Time Management workshop led by Dario Zorić was held at the Business Corner of Rijeka City Library. The main objective of the workshop was to teach participants how to organise their activities better and for the participants to learn how to distinguish what is important as opposed to urgent, how to solve more than one important task during the day and how to identify and eliminate time thieves and thus gain „extra” time. After graduation, Dario Zorić continued his professional development in leadership and management in Europe and the USA and has a ten-year experience in the design and implementation of projects, workshops and conferences and work in the field of education.

■ Children in Nature – Rijeka
At a lecture entitled Children in Nature organised by More kindergarten - an institution in foundation, the participants discussed the conditions of modern life for children in the urban environment. Children are spending less time in nature and this fact is of an increasing concern to parents, educators and scientists. Recently, the concept of nature deficiency disorder has emerged. Research has shown that by reducing the amount of time spent outdoors and playing freely in the nature, the number of children in the urban environment. Children are spending less time in nature and this fact is of an increasing concern to parents, educators and scientists. Recently, the concept of nature deficiency disorder has emerged. Research has shown that by reducing the amount of time spent outdoors and playing freely in the nature, the number of children with different difficulties increases.

■ Free Bachata Workshop – Rijeka
Bachata is a very beautiful and distinctive guitar music originating from the Dominican Republic based on the Cuban bolero. As a Latin dance, bachata is very popular, sensual and creative, and allows fusion with other dances such as Argentinian tango (bachata-tango) or rueda (bachata-rueda). The Salsero Dance Centre has organized...
Primorje-Gorski Kotar County

a 90-minute free bachata workshop in order to introduce the participants to this sensual dance. All were welcome and those who were more interested could join the beginner’s course which began on 10 October 2018.
Lika-Senj County organised eight events during the 12th Lifelong Learning Week. Here you can find only some of the events while a more detailed list of events is available at http://www.cjelozivotno-ucenje.hr/category/licko-senjska-zupanija/.

- **Open Days – Gospić**
  Dr. Ante Starčević Public Open University organised numerous trainings for children and adults in order to present their programmes. They presented a project *Let’s Open the Door to Employment*, which included selected verified adult education programmes. The University also offers elementary education for adults and foreign language courses. In addition, they held workshops for children and adults. The participants had the opportunity to learn how to play instruments and become a member of the Wind Orchestra or Tamburitza Band. During Open Days, the cultural heritage of the area was also presented and the participants were able to become members of the Folklore Ensemble. Also, everyone present had an opportunity to learn rhythmic gymnastics and some dance steps, join the majorettes and learn all about drama as an art form.

- **Exhibition GLAGOLITIC SCRIPT FROM STUDENTS’ WORKSHOPS – Senj**
  S. S. Kranjčević Elementary School from Senj and Senj City Library organised an exhibition of students’ works on the topic of Glagolitic script. The works in clay-frames, magnets and vases with Glagolitic motifs and bags with hand-sewn Glagolitic motifs were made by the elementary school students - members of the Sinjal school cooperative. The added value of this Glagolitic script exhibition is the fact that it was created and taught about by the children from Senj, who carry this rich tradition as their legacy. It was open until 15 October 2018 and the exhibits were for sale. *Sinjal* used the earnings from the sale to procure materials so that they could continue to honour our Glagolitic script with new wonderful works.

- **Chess Tournament – Senj**
  The open chess tournament *Chess for Everyone* was organized jointly by the Senj Chess Club and the Senj Grammar School Graduates Club. The Club also introduced activities of *Let’s Learn Retro* playroom where they play all year round – it is possible to play cards, dominoes or *Ludo* board game. The workshop *Veselo s Bonacom* or *Be Jolly with Bonaca* was also organised, where the vocal and instrumental band (consisting of Senj Association of Pensioners and Senj Grammar School Graduates Club members) *Bonaca* organised a gathering to mark the beginning of new season. The gathering, full of songs and music, was an open event and everyone interested could join the band.
Virovitica-Podravina County organised four events during the 12th Lifelong Learning Week. Here you can find only some of the events while a more detailed list of events is available at http://www.cjelozivotno-ucenje.hr/category/virovitchko-podravska-zupanija/.


*Stjepan Ivšić* Secondary School from Orahovica presented its work in the central square with the following programme:

1. Catering and Economics Professional School Council:

   **Vegetarian Breakfast** – healthy vegetarian breakfast preparation and tasting workshop.

   Students enrolled into catering programme demonstrated the preparation of several vegetarian dishes for the public which they were able to taste as well. Students are also going to make a brochure that will be handed out to the public. In the brochure, Ana Matezić Sudarić wrote a text on vegetarianism from the ethical viewpoint, Mirjana Boloban focused on nutritionism, while Danira Vinković presented several simple vegetarian recipes. Trainee company *KupkOr* organised bath bombs workshop and the presentation of school’s trainee company work.

2. Agriculture Professional School Council

   **Production of White and Red Wine** – there was a presentation and an exhibition of the students enrolled into fruit grower – wine grower – wine maker programme.

**Kis magyar nyelvlecke – a short lesson in hungarian – Suhopolje**

An educational and fun gathering for children who are 1 to 4 years old was organised at *Matija Gubec* Municipal Library in Suhopolje where the children played games, sang and listened to fairy tales in Hungarian. As part of the workshop *Magyar Teadelutan - Tea Party in Hungarian* there was an educational gathering for senior citizens. Tea and cookies were served and a lesson in Hungarian was held.

**Open Days – Virovitica**

As a part of the Lifelong Learning Week activities at the *Eduka Plus* Business School in Virovitica, visitors were able to get a closer look at all the training programmes that the School offers.
Požega-Slavonija County organised eighteen events during the 12th Lifelong Learning Week. Here you can find only some of the events while a more detailed list of events is available at http://www.cjelozivotno-ucenje.hr/category/pozesko-slavonska-zupanija/.

- **Use of Smartphones for the Senior Citizens – Jakšić***
  The participants of the *Use of Smartphones for the Senior Citizens* workshop learned how to use smartphone settings, access the Internet, record video and sound and install and use applications such as Viber or WhatsApp. Workshop participants were residents of the retirement home, members of pensioners associations and all senior citizens who were interested in the topic. The workshop was led by Igor Štavlić, MSc and Senka Pavić, BA in Economics from Obris Public Open University.

- **Show your potential Workshop – Požega***
  At *Show Your Potential* workshop there was a presentation for unemployed people who are considering self-employment and who are exploring how to start a business or a trade. Participants were shown successful examples of self-employment and they learned about services offered to beginner entrepreneurs by entrepreneurial centres and other supporting organizations in the county. They heard a more detailed explanation about the procedure for obtaining self-employment support from the Croatian Employment Service. This is the first in a series of six presentations held within LIPA project - a local initiative for entrepreneurial activation, which is implemented by the project beneficiary Croatian Employment Service, Požega Regional Office.

- **Lecture and Workshop Medicinal Plants from Požega Area – How to Collect and Use It - Požega***
  As a part of the exhibition *History of Diseases in the Ancient World* there was also a garden with medicinal plants which was the reason for organising the lecture and workshop *Medicinal Plants from Požega Area – How to Collect and Use It*. The lecturer was Snježana Pešut-Pilon, senior adviser in the Croatian Agricultural and Forestry Advisory Service of Požega – Slavonija County who presented the most important medicinal plants from Požega area and offered a practical advice on how to collect and use it.

- **Code of Good Driver – Požega***
  The participants of the workshop *Code of Good Driver* were introduced to the basic rules of behaviour that need to be shown on the road, towards other traffic participants, to fellow passengers, to the vehicle and the physical conditions in which they are not allowed to drive. They were also shown what consequences they might experience if they do not act in accordance with the basic rules. The workshop was designed for both employed and unemployed people, drivers, secondary school seniors, students and all interested citizens. The workshop was led by Pero Dupček, a mechanical engineer and an external associate at Obris Public Open University.
Brod-Posavina County organised fifteen events during the 12th Lifelong Learning Week. Here you can find only some of the events while a more detailed list of events is available at http://www.cjelozivotno-ucenje.hr/category/brodsko-posavska/.

**Lecture Important Guidelines for Career Choice – Slavonski Brod**
The Croatian Employment Agency’s Lifelong Career Guidance Centre organised a lecture *Important Guidelines for Career Choice* for the parents of students who are in the final grade of elementary school. Choosing an occupation is an important decision that determines one’s career development and parents have a significant influence in the decision making process. Work plays an important role in a person’s life, and research shows that by choosing the right profession that will realise our potential, we are more likely to succeed and achieve a sense of job satisfaction. If we take into account the fact that we spend one-third of our day in a workplace, we can see why it is important to address this topic. The aim of the lecture was to explain which factors influence the choice of occupation and to present the labour market situation in Brod-Posavina County.

**Taking a Group Selfie in front of Secondary School of Industry and Crafts’ Solar Tree – the Tree of the Future**
Photography Workshop – Slavonski Brod
With the professional guidance of the head of the photo workshop Marta Živatović, professor mentor, the participants of the workshop *Taking a Group Selfie in front of Secondary School of Industry and Crafts’ Solar Tree – the Tree of the Future* made quality photographs, and were themselves part of these photographs as well. The motif in the photographs was a solar tree in front of Slavonski Brod Secondary School of Industry and Crafts that acts as a symbol of the tree of the future and renewable energy.

**Lecture Computer Science in Cloud – Slavonski Brod**
Tomislav Ćosić, professor adviser, held a lecture at Slavonski Brod Secondary School of Industry and Crafts titled *Computer Science in Cloud* where he introduced all the participants to the contemporary use of the Internet and data storage that makes data accessible at any time and any place.

**How to write a good CV? – Slavonski Brod**
Career Information and Counselling Centre held Open Days for all those who needed to write a complete and good CV. The participants could write a CV and cover letters by themselves with the professional assistance from the Centre’s advisor. The aim of this activity was for the participants to write CVs on their own and it was divided into several parts – independent writing, learning about the form and all important aspects of CV and learning the difference between a CV and a cover letter.
Zadar County organised thirty-three events during the 12th Lifelong Learning Week. Here you can find only some of the events while a more detailed list of events is available at http://www.cjelozivotno-ucenje.hr/category/zadarska-zupanija/.

**Participation in Education Fair – Zadar**
Zadar County Chamber of Trades and Crafts participated in the Education Fair. They had a stand with the promotional materials regarding education activities available in the county that are organised by the Chamber. Considering the specificity of the Chamber and the public powers exercised by the Chamber in the field of vocational and lifelong education, there was a professional adviser for education and lifelong learning available at all times giving out information, advice and answers regarding lifelong learning and education provided by the Chamber. Brochures, leaflets, CDs and other promotional materials were available for all those interested.

**Exercise Your Brain by Searching Sources of Information at the Research Library of Zadar – Zadar**
All those who participated in the workshops organised by the Research Library of Zadar learned the importance and necessity of information. The participants were urged to think critically which, in turn, would help them ask very specific questions and thus obtain the best possible information. Some frequently asked question were addressed as well: how to fill out a form for thematic search, how to find work related to users’ specific field of interest, how to search for works of specific author or institution or works published in journals, what are the advanced search options and what are their features, etc. During the workshop the participants learned how to search the library catalogues (classic, digitized and electronic), use reference sources (Library’s on-site collection) and search full-text databases.

**Presentation: Use the Opportunity of Free Adult Education – Zadar**
At Career Information and Counselling Centre, the participants were able to obtain all relevant information regarding free adult education opportunities in Zadar County. They were introduced to the measures carried out by the Croatian Employment Service with particular emphasis on the measure Education of the Unemployed and they also learned about other various projects in the county. In addition, the participants got acquainted with the possibilities and conditions of completing elementary school education and were shown the necessary steps that need to be taken in order to obtain a recognition of foreign education qualifications.

**The Importance of Movement for Children – Škabrnja**
The Importance of Movement for Children workshop promoted the importance of children’s play and pointed out the harmful effect of sitting in front of the TV for hours or playing video games on the computer. Škabrnja Basketball Club coach Božo Škara, using games and laughter, introduced the children to the world of basketball.
Zadar County

to show the importance of sports and physical exercise whereby the child’s motor skills (coordination, strength, speed, flexibility, balance, precision …) are developed. He also pointed out that there is a connection between developed motor skills and a healthy lifestyle.

■ **Read! Draw! Create! – Looking for the Stars – Zadar**

Read! Draw! Create! is an ongoing programme carried out by Zadar City Library’s Aleksandar Stipčević – Arbanasi Branch. It is designed for preschool and early school age children. Every Thursday at 5 pm the children had an opportunity to learn something new and discover the interesting world of books. The name of this workshop is **Looking for the Stars** and it was held to mark World Space Week (4 – 10 October). Children explored the space using encyclopaedias and iPads.

■ **Lecture: How Can Participation in the Erasmus+ Programme Help me in the Labour Market? – Zadar**

At the lecture **How Can Participation in the Erasmus+ Programme Help me in the Labour Market?** held at the Career Information and Counselling Centre in Zadar, the participants learned about opportunities of participating in the Erasmus+ programme activities that can help them experience an international environment and further develop knowledge and skills and thus navigate the labour market more easily. The focus of the lecture was on the activities of the Youth in Action Programme (European Voluntary Service, youth exchange) and student mobility (student exchange, professional training). During the lecture, the participants could hear about the experiences of people who participated in the Erasmus+ programme which helped them in career development and finding employment.
Osijek-Baranja County organised twenty-five events during the 12th Lifelong Learning Week. Here you can find only some of the events while a more detailed list of events is available at http://www.cijelozivotno-ucenje.hr/category/osjecko-baranjska-zupanija/.

■ Presentation of Good Business Practice Examples: Being a Manager and an Entrepreneur in the EU - Osijek

Biti Bolji Association along with Poduzetnik magazine organised a visit of Siniša Marijan, chairman of the board at Končar Electrical Engineering Institute Zagreb to Davor Milas Trade and Commerce Secondary School in Osijek. Mr. Siniša Marijan presented an example of good business practice and emphasized that only knowledge and competence bring advantage in the market. Trends show that those who are not competitive in the global market are losing or will soon lose the „match“ in the Croatian market as well. Siniša Marijan says: „It is a common misconception for entrepreneurs who think that having a good product is all it takes and forgetting that the market is the one that gives the final product rating. And usually, one cannot succeed on the market overnight.‟ The key to the Institute‟s successful business are, above all, competent, humble, motivated and hardworking associates in whom there is still a sense of community and a tendency to take on challenging projects that are sometimes perceived as an impossible mission to a bystander. Of course, a successful and stable business of the KONČAR Group also enables our success and gives us the opportunity to develop new products and services, i.e. to increase our sales in export and outside the Group. Only if we compete at the global level, can we show how much we are worth. Mr Siniša Marijan went through all the typical stages within a company - from a trainee he continued as a development engineer, researcher, project manager, department manager and finally a member and, at present, the chairman of the board.

■ Learning French – Osijek

Using the slogan „ACCEPT THE CHALLENGE - TRAIN THE BRAIN!“ as part of the Lifelong Learning Week activities, the French Alliance Osijek organized an introductory French language lesson for children and adults. The lessons were held at the premises of the French Alliance Osijek from 1 – 5 October 2018. The participants had an opportunity to learn a few basic French words and play a quiz where they could show how much they know about France.

■ Creative and Health Workshop – Osijek

On 1 October 2018, marking the International Day of Older Persons, City Day Centre for the Retired in Osijek organised a diverse programme for senior citizens. There was an exhibition of creative workshops members’ work and in addition, a creative workshop (napkin technique, silk painting, jewellery making) was held as well. All those who were interested had an opportunity to check their blood pressure and the level of blood sugar for free with the assistance and counselling from health professionals. The visitors could enjoy in the sporting events as well, namely darts and bowling competitions. Folklore Society Zlatni klas from Višnjevac gave a performance in the entainment part of the programme accompanied by tamburitza orchestra.

■ Don’t Get Lost in the Forest – Learn about It Workshop – Osijek

Javor Scout Club from Osijek organised a topographic workshop for secondary
Osijek-Baranja County

12 years of the Lifelong Learning Week in Croatia

COUNTY EVENTS IN 2018

School students called Don’t Get Lost in the Forest - Learn About It. The activities carried out in the workshop were to calculate the azimuth and to find a specific point on the map. The aim of the workshop is to acquire special skills by applying mathematical methods and encouraging active stay in the nature. The workshop was led by Monika Feher.

- **Creative Workshop – Scrapbook Bookmarkers – Bistrinci**
  Community Service Centre Klasje Osijek organised a bookmarker workshop for the beneficiaries of a part-time stay in Bistrinci, the Klasje Osijek Center branch. This event marked the anniversary of founding the first orphanage in Osijek (4 October 1870). Adults, children’s parents, friends and guests joined the workshop as well.

- **Healthy Desserts – Osijek**
  The participants of Healthy Desserts workshop were briefly introduced to the characteristics of desserts in general, learned how to make healthy and tasty desserts easily and how to choose and process ingredients. They made a few desserts at the workshop, a homemade “rafaelo”, chocolate balls and a few desserts more. The workshop was open to secondary school students, the unemployed and to all interested citizens. It was led by Ivana Vunak from Obris Public Open University and Andrej Kristek, a professor at the Hospitality and Tourism Secondary School in Osijek.
Šibenik-Knin County

Šibenik-Knin County organised nineteen events during the 12th Lifelong Learning Week. Here you can find only some of the events while a more detailed list of events is available at http://www.cjelozivotno-ucenje.hr/category/sibensko-kninska-zupanija/.

■ Public Discussion: Personal Emotional Growth and Its Purpose – Šibenik
There are certain situations in our lives that keep repeating and it makes us unhappy, but we don’t see a way out. As we were growing up, we formed specific systems of belief that are a starting point for everything that we create and manifest. These systems, formed at an early age and influenced by our family and surroundings, determine the way in which we are going to interpret any given event or a situation, how we are going to behave around other people and they also determine what we can or cannot do. In order to develop emotionally it is necessary to question the validity of these beliefs. Šibenik Public Open University organised a public discussion entitled Personal Emotional Growth and Its Purpose. The following are the questions that participants tried to answer during the discussion:
- Do my beliefs and behaviour hurt my health and emotions?
- Does my behaviour create negative family and business relationships as well as relationships in general?
- What do I need to change about myself in order to live more happily?

■ Computer&Coffee – Tisno
Tisno Public Library and Reading Room organised Computer&Coffee workshop for the senior citizens with the aim to introduce them to the basics of computer use. The participants had an opportunity to learn how to use MS Office, e-mails, surf the Internet and maybe open a social network account. The workshop was led by Laura Lilly, a recent resident of Tisno who has a long experience in teaching science.

■ Let’s Play BrainBox – Šibenik
Juraj Šižgorić Public Library in Šibenik organised the playing of the fun Brainbox games for 4-year-olds. These games help develop the ability to observe and remember and enable early understanding of mathematical concepts, English, colours, shapes, animals, etc.

■ Creative Flower Arranging and Cookery – Vodice
As part of the 12th Lifelong Learning Week activities there were two free workshops presented at Izvor znanja College – the use of flowers in cooking and creative flower arranging. Duška Zaninović-Duki, a true virtuoso, created interesting and tasty delicacies. Apart from the knowledge that is essential, what adds value to her dishes and what made them irresistible is her imagination. Lavender, cinnamon and chocolate cake, polenta with brown butter and sage aroma, tuna with pickled sea fennel…these are just a few of the dishes that were presented. Mrs Blanša Videk participated in the workshop as well. She is a chef at the famous restaurant Peškarija where the learners
from *Izvor znanja* College have their professional training and have a dinner party to celebrate the award of certificates. Mrs Divna Stančić’s floral arrangements complemented the beauty of the dishes. Whether she uses artificial or fresh flowers, it is all the same when it comes to her creations.

- **2nd Croatian Championship in Dry Stone Wall Building – Murter**
  The 2nd Croatian Championship in Dry Stone Wall Building is an event that first took place in 2011 in Kolan on the island of Pag. Apart from the competition itself there was also an entertainment programme for the contestants and participants to enjoy. The competition was held at a designated competing area and all the material will be later used to reconstruct a dry stone wall in Colentum. The teams from Murter, Betina, Jezera, Tisno and from all around Croatia and Eastern Adriatic countries consisted of experienced dry stone wall builders and everyone who was interested. The 2nd Croatian Championship in Dry Stone Wall Building project is a part of the programme that marks 2018 European Year of Cultural Heritage. The goals are: to increase the public’s sensibility toward dry stone wall building, to establish expert and organisational criteria for similar competitions in the future, exchange of contacts and knowledge between current builders, registration of new builders, passing on an art of dry stone wall building to new generations, the promotion of Colentum archaeology site, the popularization of dry stone wall building in the media.

- **Communication and Listening Skills – Pirovac**
  As a part of Exercise Your Brain 12th Life Long Learning Week activities, FINIS University from Zadar organised a workshop entitled *Communication and Listening Skills* at Pirovac Elementary School. The 7th and 8th grade students were able to learn how to use effectively linguistic and non-linguistic tools in polite communication. Their own communicative skills were revealed in an exercise in which they had to give specific drawing instructions to their partner. An exercise in which the teams had to survive a shipwreck in the Pacific taught them the importance of cooperation and team work. The participants gained new experience, had fun and the winning pair was given mugs as a reward.
Fifty-six events were held in Vukovar - Srijem County as a part of the 12th Lifelong Learning Week. Here you can find only some of the events while a more detailed list of events is available at http://www.cjelozivotno-ucenje.hr/category/vukovarsko-srijemska-zupanija/.

- **Free Ballroom and Latino Dance Workshop – Vinkovci**
  At the ballroom and Latino dance workshop organized by the Twist Creative Centre in Vinkovci, the participants were able to learn more about the origin of ballroom and Latino dances. They learned about rhythm and how to use rhythm in dancing to specific kinds of music. The participants also learned about the basic steps, the technique of performing the steps and body coordination depending on the dance. Above all, they had the opportunity to see how fun, relaxing and anti-stress it is.

- **Virtual Reality in My Classroom – Vukovar**
  As part of the Lifelong Learning Week, Vukovar Secondary School took its students on a virtual journey through time and space and presented them with a distant past and a distant future. They had fun and learned a lot thanks to Virtual Reality RK5 glasses. The activities offered to the students were diverse, there was something for everyone, from kinesiology: *What Happens Inside Your Body?* (virtual travel through human body), *Kids workout 1 Beginners* (guided exercises that last 15 min), chemistry: *Mars - The Red Planet* (planet Mars and its peculiarities), *Greepeace’s 360° Scotland Expedition #EndOceanPlastics* (effect of plastics on the environment), and computer science: *Travel The MULTIVERSE*! - *Minecraft 360°* (travelling across the universe) ENIAC Computer History Archives Project (everything about ENIAC) and *How a CPU is made* (everything about the processor) and many other interesting activities such as *Travel Around the World Without Leaving Home* (travelling around the world and learning about interesting cities and their landmarks), *Tomba di Tutankhamon* (Tutankhamon’s tomb).

- **STEM Workshop for Pensioners – Vukovar**
  As part of the 12th Lifelong Learning Week, the American Corner of the Vukovar City Library conducted - STEM - Seniors and Technology Educational Moments - workshops for pensioners. The aim of the workshops was to bring different technologies closer to learners in an interesting and easy to understand way. The 3D pen is the first in a series of technologies that the learners learned about and used. Afterwards, there was a workshop where pensioners learned how to use computers, tablets and smartphones.

- **Science Lecture – Vinkovci**
  A scientific lecture was held at the Centre for Scientific Work of the Croatian Academy of Sciences and Arts in Vinkovci about Stjepan Daković, a priest, secondary school professor and catechist, organist, choral conductor, musicologist, cultural worker, humanist, polyglot, translator and neo-Latin poet whose life and work is connected with Vinkovci and the area of Đakovo or Bosna and Srijem Diocese. By reading his classicist commemorative verses in Latin and its Croatian renderings, the lecturer evoked the classical Latin heritage and history of Cibali, i.e. present-day Vinkovci. Stjepan Daković tried his hand in poetry in his old age and began publishing in 1934 at the age of 72, reaching his literary peak in the most productive period from 1934 to 1942, i.e. between 72 and 80 years of age.

- **Mindstorms Robotics Workshop – Vinkovci**
  The Locus Association in Vinkovci organized a workshop called Mindstorms - a brainstorming workshop that results in incredible robots that perform even more amazing and fun escapades, under the motto *Let your imagination run free and make crazy robots and encourage them to do what you want.* The robotics workshop offered all interested participants a new world of practical application of STEM knowledge and new technologies. We can also describe this workshop as a journey into the future and training of grey cells.
Vukovar-Srijem County

**Guidebook for Persons Registered in the Unemployed Register – Vukovar**
Joint briefing, called the “Guide for persons registered in the unemployed register”, was intended for unemployed persons who are registering with the Croatian Employment Service register. The purpose of joint briefing was to acquaint the unemployed with the rights and obligations they can exercise when registering with the unemployed register and with the services of Lifelong Career Guidance Centre Vukovar.

**Workshop „From Apple to Chips“– Vinkovci**
School of Agriculture and Forestry in Vinkovci is one of the many institutions that have marked the Lifelong Learning Week. Teamwork, good atmosphere and a beautiful sunny day were the perfect opportunity to make a fine treat, well known to many. One could sing *Anything is possible when little hands come together* - while watching the students work diligently at the “From Apple to Chips” workshop that showcased the creativity and ability of students of this school in two hours. The aim was to mark the Lifelong Learning Week and to show that agriculture is something that needs to be constantly taught, that is, it can no longer be done following the old ways. The workshop was opened by Ružica Zucić, professor of vocational subjects and head of vocational committee at the School of Agriculture and Forestry, who told us more about the workshop itself. „The students will show us the process of drying apples as a raw material to the final product - apple chips, which we will offer on the market, on doorsteps, on fairs and as an activity of the students who are members of our student cooperative Agro. We bought the apples with EU funds thanks to the projects we applied for, but we expect even more and strive for more,” Ružica said.
A hundred and one events were held in Split-Dalmatia County as a part of the 12th Lifelong Learning Week. Here you can find only some of the events while a more detailed list of events is available at http://www.cjelozivotno-ucenje.hr/category/split-sko-dalmatinska-zupanija/.

**Education Fair – Split**

Various providers, institutions, NGOs, societies and all other actors in the city of Split and its surroundings who provide learning programmes, either formal, non-formal or informal, presented their work at the Education Fair. Participants were able to find information about different institutions at the stands that were set up in front of the Croatian National Theatre, while an entertainment programme was simultaneously taking place in order to mark this festive event. The event was organised by the Vocational Technical School as the regional coordinator of the Lifelong Learning Week campaign, which also had its stand. The Education Fair was attended by: Aspira University College, Contemporary College in Split, Mentor Association, Claritudo Ltd., Žnjan-Pazdigrad Elementary School, Secondary school Dental Centre Marušić, Technical School for Civil Engineering and Surveying, the League for Prevention of Addiction, Association of Scouts Split, School of Tourism and Catering Split, Callegari - Italian School for Fashion and Design, Kliper – Maritime Adult Education Institution, Zona Club, Zlatna vrata, Božić Public Open University, Imotski Vocational Industrial School, and others.

**Marko Marulić Split City Library, Little Secrets of Parenting: “Raising a happy child” lecture held by psychologist Prof. Ina Reić Ercegovac, PhD – Split**

For a child to grow into a confident, happy and capable adult, the next few sentences that every parent should say to their child will help, and those are: I love you, I am proud of you, I am sorry, I am listening, it is your responsibility, you can do it, and sometimes you have to firmly and consistently say no. All interested participants could find out all about this topic at Marko Marulić Split City Library in a lecture called „Raising a Happy Child“ that was presented by psychologist Prof. Ina Reić Ercegovac, PhD.

**LICA DUŠE Association of Families of Persons with Mental Disabilities, Open Days – Split**

Open days held by the Association of Families of Persons with Mental Disabilities was an opportunity for fellow citizens to be informed about its work. The Association is a non-governmental, non-partisan, humanitarian organization that brings together families of people with mental disabilities, their relatives and friends, experts in the profession and people with this experience, and all people of good will who wish to improve the mental health of individuals, families and society as a whole. The Association has a support group that provides families with a sheltered space where they can share concerns, share experiences, support each other, empower and change, learn with others and from others.

**Educational Research on Female History of Split – Ženski Split – Split**

When talking about Split, the Emperor Diocletian, and the great men like Marko Marulić and Ivan Meštrović are almost always mentioned, while the women who, like the men, are also a part of Split’s 1700 years long history are almost never mentioned. Those who visited the educational research on women’s history of Split had an opportunity to walk the streets of Split and learn more about the women who shaped this city, about the first female entrepreneurs, doctors, painters and activists, and learn interesting stories from Split’s female past and get to know until-now completely hidden and equally important part of Split’s history.

**Introduction Class on Arabic Culture and Language – Split**

Organized by the Domine Association, a course in Arabic language and culture was presented by Antonia de Castro Burica, a young doctoral student who packed up her things to go to the Middle East a few years ago in an effort to make her Arabic language more than a hobby. She spent almost two years in Egypt and, of course, learned much more than just the language. She returned to her homeland with a very
ambitious plan: to bring this still exotic language closer to everyone who is curious, hoping that their curiosity will grow into something more. Arabic is the official language in 25 countries of the world and is spoken by more than 400 million speakers. Participants in the Arabic language and language learning class had the opportunity to learn the basics of standard Arabic, including script, pronunciation and the basics of noun and verb grammar, and learn a bit about the history and culture of Arabic-speaking countries, literature, art, music and of course, food.

- Sewing and Embroidery Class – Split
  For all interested participants, who have always been interested in sewing and embroidery but had nowhere to learn, a sewing and embroidery workshop was organized. At a workshop organized by the Domine Association, participants had the opportunity to touch on the basics of sewing, tailoring and embroidery. Along the way, everyone who was interested could relax and gain useful knowledge. The course was led by Maja Krstić who has many years of experience in running similar workshops and courses and in organizing fairs and exhibitions of handicrafts.

- MI Association – Split, “Be a volunteer” Workshop – Split
  At a workshop organized by the MI Association in Split, all interested participants could learn more about the definition of volunteering and the legal framework for volunteering, as well as about the rights and obligations of volunteers and volunteer organisers. Participants also received examples of good practice for volunteer programmes in Split and the surrounding area, and were informed about how all volunteer activities are recorded. All participants received a volunteer booklet as a gift to start their volunteer adventure.
Twenty-eight events were held in Istria County as a part of the 12th Lifelong Learning Week. Here you can find only some of the events while a more detailed list of events is available at http://www.cjelozivotno-ucenje.hr/category/istarska-zupanija/.

**LET’S GO TOGETHER! Atilio Gamboc Retirement Home Umag and Ante Babić Public Open University from Umag – Umag**

Through the Let’s go together! Project, Umag Public Open University has opened its doors to employers in order to develop a better relationship with them and foster economic and educational cooperation with the aim of promoting the importance of lifelong learning. *Atilio Gamboc* Retirement Home from Umag presented its institution, jobs and staffing needs, and Umag Public Open University presented its educational programmes in the health and social care sectors. Visitors (the unemployed, young people, students, graduates, students of the public open university and all others) could find out in one place the real demand for personnel from the labour market and the possibility of enrolment in an appropriate educational programme that would give them the necessary competences to perform jobs in that sector.

**Lifelong Learning - Why, How, Where? Workshop – Pula**

The workshop *Lifelong Learning - Why, How, Where?* wanted to familiarise all the participants with the concept of lifelong learning - what it stands for, what are the benefits, what are the forms of lifelong learning and where to get involved in such programmes. Participants also received information on the various programmes funded by the Croatian Employment Service and which competences are acquired through these programmes.

**Music Kindergarten Open Class – Poreč**

Under the slogan *Parents, bring your children to an open day of music kindergarten!*, at the music kindergarten of the Poreč Public Open University, children learned rhymes, used rhythmic instruments and melodic percussions. This enriches musical experience and affects fine motor skills, musical memory, hearing, rhythm... with games and stories as basic motivational tools. It was facilitated by Antonella Picinić.

**Save a Life – Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation Workshop – Pula**

*Save a Life* workshop organised by Secondary Medical School Pula, showed the visitors what they can do when they find themselves in a situation where there is an injured person who is not breathing and does not have a pulse. The cardiopulmonary resuscitation workshop demonstrated resuscitation skills - cardiopulmonary resuscitation of a person in cardiac arrest. Afterwards, participants were able to practice the procedure on the CPR doll themselves.

**HEIDI – Children’s Play – Pula**

Directed by Mario Kovač, Naranča Theatre presented the play called Heidi, based on the novel by Johana Heuser Spyri, about a careful and sensitive girl who carefully observes the world around her, detects its imperfections and flaws and then selflessly corrects them, repairs them and restores faith in people. The show lasted for 55 minutes and was meant for children older than 5 years of age and their parents. Admission was free.
Five events were held in Dubrovnik County as a part of the 12th Lifelong Learning Week. Here you can find only some of the events while a more detailed list of events is available at http://www.cjelozivotno-ucenje.hr/category/dubrovacko-neretvanska-zupanija/.

- **European House Dubrovnik Association, Mini Lessons in the Croatian Language and the English Language Mini Test – Dubrovnik**

  European House Dubrovnik Association is a non-profit and independent civil society organization dedicated to promoting common European values in Croatia and promoting Croatia abroad. During the Lifelong Learning Week at the European House Dubrovnik, interested participants were able to improve their knowledge of Croatian and test their knowledge of English. For foreign visitors in Dubrovnik, the association organized mini-courses of Croatian, and Croatian citizens could test their English through tests and conversations.

- **The Importance of Non-Verbal Communication for Job Interviews – Dubrovnik**

  The workshop organized by the Croatian Employment Service - Dubrovnik Regional Office included the preparation for an interview, communication skills when talking to employers, how to behave during an interview, which are the most common questions from employers and candidates, as well as a successful presentation of candidates. The workshop was intended for all job seekers who want to successfully introduce themselves to employers, highlight their qualities and draw employers’ attention to themselves in order to get a job.

- **Lifelong Career Guidance Centre, My Interests – Dubrovnik**

  Knowing your own values and interests is not an easy task, but it is necessary in the decision-making process in order to choose your profession and develop your career. Exercises, questionnaires, and other activities in this workshop could help students make good self-assessments and decide on which secondary school to select. The workshop was intended for students in the 7th and 8th grade of elementary school.
Twelve events were held in Međimurje County as a part of the 12th Lifelong Learning Week. Here you can find only some of the events while a more detailed list of events is available at http://www.cjelozivotno-ucenje.hr/category/medimurska-zupanija/.

- **Crafting Textile Toys – Čakovec**
  Textile profession students (tailor and assistant tailor) presented the knowledge and skills they acquired during their education in their professions. During the workshop at the School of Economics in Čakovec, toys were made using various techniques used in the textile industry (machine sewing, hand sewing and embroidery, felting...).

- **Arrangement Workshop Čakovec**
  Participants of the arrangement workshop learned about basket-weaving technique from natural materials and accompanying arrangement of baskets with autumn motifs. Each participant was able to independently make a decorative basket out of natural materials, with the assistance from the workshop facilitator and 2nd year secondary school florist students from the School of Economy Čakovec. Participants could arrange their baskets by using collected autumn fruit and flowers and take their creations as a decoration for their interior or exterior. Workshop was led by secondary school professor Ljiljana Škrobar.

- **Managing Different Generations of Employees – Čakovec**
  Didasko - Linguistic Education Centre organised a free one-hour human resource management training in Čakovec. Today, for the first time, four different generations can find themselves together in a workplace: baby boomers, generation x, generation y and generation z. For this reason, it is extremely important to analyse the characteristics of different generations in the context of human resources management, so that communication and motivation can be effectively developed among them, all of which contribute to better interpersonal relationships, employee satisfaction, and indirectly higher productivity. The topics of the Managing Different Generations of Employees workshop were: Generational categories of employees, Characteristics of different generations: baby boomers, generation x, generation y and generation z, Intergenerational communication, and How to enhance intergenerational collaboration in the workplace.

- **Technological Meet-up of Professionals Creating a Custom WordPress Theme – Kuršanec**
  The Me<CoDe/> Group's October meet-up was dedicated to WordPress, a platform for creating CMS (Content Management System) websites. Throughout the lecture, the meet-up participants were introduced to what WordPress was, what steps were necessary to create a theme structure, how to install WordPress on a server and connect to a...
database, how to select and install themes, hooks and post types, and how to enter and edit content filters. In order to participate actively in the meet-up, it was necessary to have a PHP development environment, i.e. WEB server, PHP and MySql, and Wordpress installed on the computer. The meeting was led by Srđan Srđenović of Dot Studio. Srđan has been involved in programming since the time of 286, GoTo and Clipper, and for the last 15 years he has been focused on web application development.

**Youth Mobility – Čakovec**
Public institution REDEA, EURODESK Croatia and ACT Group jointly presented youth mobility opportunities to the youth of Međimurje with the aim of encouraging them to participate. Due to different knowledge and experiences, all aspects of mobility were presented: volunteering, youth exchanges, short mobility and the challenges that mobility brings.

**Knitting a Ceker or a Basket – Čakovec**
The users of the NOVINŠČAK Home who have traditional Međimurje skills of knitting baskets from corn husks demonstrated to other users, employees and anyone interested in learning this skill how to make their own basket. They also explained the whole process of making baskets, from the preparation of husks to the end result, that is, making of the baskets themselves, what they were used for, how they should be maintained and the like.
Forty-five events were held in the City of Zagreb as a part of the 12th Lifelong Learning Week. Here you can find only some of the events while a more detailed list of events is available at [http://www.cjelozivotno-ucenje.hr/category/grad-zagreb/](http://www.cjelozivotno-ucenje.hr/category/grad-zagreb/).

**Towards the Lifelong Learning Week - The game Has Begun, Marking the European Day of Languages**

The Zagreb Public Open University’s University of the Third Age joined the celebration of the European Day of Languages, held on Wednesday 26 September 2018 in the premises of Zagreb Public Open University. The programme consisted of a course in language basics (English, German and Italian) and a language café (English, German, Italian). In the short language basics course, participants could learn how to introduce themselves, count to 20, and ask their interlocutor some basic questions. The Language Café was intended for students who already know a foreign language and want to maintain or increase their vocabulary. This was a good opportunity for all interested participants to test their knowledge and decide exactly which language course they would like to enrol in. All language course participants received a small gift upon completion, and all participants had the opportunity to participate in a short quiz.

**Living in a Time of Digital Revolution – a Digital Marketing Workshop**

Social networks have become an increasingly important and indispensable channel of communication between a business, brand, or an individual with customers, consumers, or fans. By engaging in social networking activities on a daily basis, companies strengthen their visual identity, create trust and closeness, and actively communicate with other users, which ultimately leads to greater website traffic, better search engine placement, and customer trust. In this workshop, participants were able to find out exactly what the job of a social networking coordinator is, and get tips on how to build a career in digital marketing from the lecturer’s rich experience in this business.

**English for Juniors - English Language Workshop for Children**

*English for Juniors* was a fun and creative English language workshop for young beginners. A music workshop was held at EdukaCentre Zagreb where the young participants could learn the alphabet and the basics of presentation in addition to songs. The aim of the workshop was to encourage your child and show them that learning a foreign language is not difficult.

**Information Literacy Class for the Elderly**

*Information Literacy Class for the Elderly* was a free programme on information literacy for senior citizens. The training programme was tailored to individual needs of users and included the basics of working on: a computer (Internet search, writing texts, etc.), tablet (taking and viewing photos, reading eBooks, searching the Internet, shopping on-line, etc.) and smart phone (connecting to a Wi-Fi network, using various applications for communication and access to social networks, and those that facilitate daily life such as mobile banking, booking medical appointments, ordering taxis, etc.).

**Eko džeMix Workshop**

A workshop on preparing organic jams and making promotional labels and packaging was organized by the Secondary School - Education Centre, with the goal of promoting organic food production. As part of the school, there is a practical classroom for catering where the participants cooked jams while they used the school’s bookstore and the student cooperative to package these jams as part of creating the visual identity. The workshop was attended by students from the school and pensioners from a nearby retirement home. In this way, the flexibility of learning was promoted, participants complemented each other, learned from each other, protected the environment and learned about healthy eating and living habits.

**The Importance of Lifelong Learning in the Area of Graphic and Web Design**

In the field of graphic and web design, there have been significant changes in the last few years that have influenced the development and the need for new technologies and
competences in the European labour market. Through this workshop held at the School of Graphics, Design and Media Production in Zagreb, students were informed about the importance of continuous development and the acquisition of new competencies by engaging in mobility projects to gain a better position in the labour market.

**Lifelong Learning Fair, Zagreb**

As part of the national education campaign of the 12th Lifelong Learning Week, under the motto *Exercise Your Brain!*, the Agency for Vocational Education and Training and Adult Education together with its partners, organised the Lifelong Learning Fair, which took place on 6 October (Saturday) 2018 at the Avenue Mall in Zagreb from 10 am to 14 pm. The aim of the Agency was to present at the Fair the offer of education providers in the City of Zagreb and to encourage as many people as possible to participate in various learning programmes.

Adult education institutions gave visitors of the Fair an opportunity to attend adult education programmes free of charge whose total value exceeded 80,000.00 kuna. Visitors could find out at the Fair how to fill in a voucher (motivation letter) and become a nanny, EU funded project manager, ECDL operator, massage therapist, accountant, chef/pastry chef, sports programme instructor, motor vehicle driver, carer, salesperson in tourism and hospitality industry or hairdresser, how to win a voucher for a free foreign language course of their choice, or an Italian language course in dental tourism or a natural cosmetics workshop. The Fair also featured campaign promoters Oliver Mlakar and Marko Torjanac.