



## 'European Dimension' Event Summary

### Event title:

***Heritage Education for common European Future: Educate, Discover, Protect, Preserve Heritage for Common Future.***

### Initiator of the project:

***Milena Antonic*** / Institute for the Protection of Cultural Heritage of Slovenia

### Partner countries:

Croatia, Slovenia, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

### Event background:

The event idea is based on the local project, currently ongoing in Slovenia. "Educate, Discover, Protect, Preserve Heritage for Common Future", began in 2007 and was proven successful and popular among both the participants of the project and the general public.

Through this project, children in schools systematically learn about local and national cultural heritage. The event is also taking part in the "Cultural Bazar", which is implementing cultural arts education in schools. The main idea is to raise the awareness of the significance of cultural and art education for children and youth.

### Origins of the event proposal:

The event idea was inspired by the personal experience of the coordinators involved in this collaboration. The common conclusion was that the generation of 'adults', i.e. people responsible to make decisions about cultural heritage nowadays, is not fully aware of the importance and obligations all of us have, in order to protect, preserve and respect common cultural heritage on all levels. The issue on hands is that this kind of approach can be seen as a pattern for future generations.

The idea of the "Educate, Discover, Protect, Preserve Heritage for Common Future" is to educate new generation (school children primarily) on how to understand the meaning and importance of heritage preservation. Overall goal is to prepare them to respect and value common cultural heritage once they are adults, so that the new generation is based on responsible people who will make right decisions to protect our common cultural heritage.

### **Short description of the event:**

The main goals of the event are to shape the positive relation to cultural heritage and raise the awareness about its importance and value. Objectives are to recognize, detect, get to know, preserve and respect cultural heritage; create the positive attitude towards local, national and European heritage; develop specific aesthetic qualities of the heritage in the partner countries and on the European level; and collaborate on the development of the contemporary culture.

This event will be taking place in three European countries, on the school level throughout the whole year. Focus of the cooperation will be on specific subjects, which are common for all participating countries. Chosen subjects will be introduced to the children in different ways, which will enable them to discover, recognize, analyze, debate, create and develop the importance and values of local, national and European heritage. The culmination of the event would be in the EHD week, in a form of an Exhibition in all of the participating countries. Results of the event would be presented to the public, visitors and all interested groups. The idea is to have the event supported by dedicated website and communicated through public relations to media on national and European level.

The complete project is going to be implemented through various events in schools and local communities in all of the participating countries. Main activities include presentations, lectures, workshops and on-site visits. The activities will take place on different locations in Slovenia, Croatia and the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. The important dimension is the fact that the themes for the workshops and lectures would be in the similar scope of cultural heritage.

One of the examples can be the education on the 'Baroque style' or 'the Altar in the church'. The activities' scope would consist of different phases, including introduction of the style and the artists; presentation of the work of the responsible person in the given field (e.g. restorer) and different elements of the education needed for that kind of position; workshops including practical exercises on how to restore artifacts or use other artistic methods; homework for the children (detecting objects in their local environment, comparison and detection of differences), etc. The comparison with other European countries would emphasize the importance of cultural heritage and overpass the national boundaries between different countries. It would also broaden the horizons and give a wider perspective on the importance of common European cultural heritage.

### **European dimension of Heritage Education :**

The event itself will focus on the collaboration on types of common cultural heritage, which should be respected in everyday life. The focus for this should be from the early childhood, where the children would have the opportunity to learn how to protect and preserve common cultural heritage, on the local, national and European level.

The project will also focus on the cultural heritage of other European countries and on the concept of common European heritage. This will enable children from different countries to search for common roots, cultural similarities and learn to appreciate and respect cultural diversity of European heritage. The event will aim to get the answer to several important questions:

- the level of awareness children have, when it comes to the preservation of cultural heritage
- how is the process of heritage education implemented in participating countries
- what is the level of knowledge that young people have on the concept of European Cultural Heritage
- what is European Heritage and how it can be promoted among young generations.