

### III. Z ŻYCIA NAUKOWEGO

**Report from the International Conference  
“The problems faced by youth.  
The perspective of education-assistance  
programmes”**

**Faculty of Educational Studies AMU Poznań**

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The International Conference *The problems faced by youth. The perspective of education-assistance programs* was organized by the Faculty of Educational Studies Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznan and Evangelische Hochschule Darmstadt (event co-financed from funds provided by the Polish-German Youth Cooperation). The conference issues concerned problems that affect young people, as well as practical solutions and educational-aid programs which can provide great support in this area. In the scientific committee of the event participated: Renata Wawrzyniak-Beszterda (AMU), Sylwia Jaskulska (AMU), Mateusz Marciniak (AMU), Marina Metz (EHD), Manfred Aust (EHD), Agnieszka Cybal-Michalska (AMU), Agnieszka Gromkowska-Melosik (AMU), Hanna Krauze-Sikorska (AMU), Kinga Kuszak (AMU), Magdalena Pioruek (AMU) and Waldemar Segiet (AMU).

The conference was officially opened by Agnieszka Cybal-Michalska (Dean of the Faculty of Educational Studies, AMU), who welcomed the guests in the building of the Faculty of Educational Studies Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań, presented information about the department and expressed the satisfaction of undertaken scientific cooperation and wishing all participants the best time during this meeting. The first speaker was Dobrochna Hildebrand-Wypych (AMU), who presented the issues related to the role of language in the formation of national identity. The author touched on the following topics: ethnic nationalism, territorial nationalism, languages as a tool in inter-ethics and social-psychological explanation. The next speech was prepared by Emilia Szymczak (AMU) and it concerned the issue: “women in engineering: historical and contemporary perspectives”. The author presented famous women, engi-

neers in history, aspect – women in college, as well as their contribution and importance in the development of science. The next presentation was entitled: „Intercultural competence: a social work on the example of Germany“ – prepared by Marina Metz (EHD), who unveiled practical solutions in the field of knowledge development as well as students' skills improvement in this area. Presentation prepared by Renata Wawrzyniak-Beszterda (AMU), Sylwia Jaskulska (AMU) and Mateusz Marciniak (AMU), showed the results of research about higher education institutions in Poland from the students' point of view, as well as their experiences and proposed changes. Next speakers: Agata Matysiak-Błaszczyk (AMU) and Maciej Zychowicz (AMU) explored the subject of imprisoned childhood, referring to the report concerning research with regard to mothers in Mother-Child Houses functioning right by the Polish penitents. Subsequent speakers: Vanessa Karch (EHD) and Karla Jasic (EHD) presented a topic: „Current problems in open offers of youth work“ and discussed the subjects: simultaneous work and starting a family, support in the area of child-care while young parents take up a job, as well as the challenge of combining parenting and working full time. The topic of „work“ was also continued by Jessica Kogoi (EHD) and Christin Leichtfuss (EHD), however they presented it in the context of coordinating and combining work with full-time school. The next speech was prepared by Marlena Kaźmieska (AMU), who presented the subject: „Workcamps in experiences of teenagers“. The speaker expounded the issue on the basis of the activities organized by the „One World“ Association – Service Civil International Poland, which deals in preparing workcamps, as well as helping young people in searching for various travel options, creation ideas and application to the program. The author also presented her history of participation in workcamps and showed a wealth of possibilities that it gives participants in the field of improving skills, for example social or language, as well as opening to new experiences, culture and inspiring people. The next speech entitled „Students on the professional career role – linking theory and practice in the Social Work at the EHD program“ was prepared and presented by Manfred Aust (EHD). The author referred to theoretical issues, as well as pointed out practical solutions implemented by students of Evangelische Hochschule Darmstadt and drew attention to issues that are worth reflecting and discussing, such as the project of practical hospitalization, or the active process of making the land for all its residents constant a friendly and safe place. The continuation of this topic was the speech of Elisabeth Diehl (EHD), Jonas Wimmer (EHD) and Johann Boettner (EHD), who presented a report containing various models of practical operation and gaining the skills by the students of social work at the universities in Germany. The authors showed the most significant forms of developing students workshop as: apprenticeships, supervisions, class inspections and exchanges. The next speech referred to the topic of study social work abroad. Speakers – Julian Raab (EHD) and Nicole Jakobs (EHD) presented this issue on the basis of their own experiences referring to both – the encountered problems and the benefits resulting from studying in another

country. Hannah Purrucker (EHD) and Linda Fraunberger (EHD) also presented their experiences of traveling abroad during their studies, however this form of activity concerned the practical aspect of social work. Lecturers shared their own experiences related to working with orphaned and abandoned children in Austria, work with young girls in Africa, helping refugees in Germany, as well as supporting immigrants, a multi-cultural group. They paid attention to the huge amount of experience that could gain during staying abroad, as well as stressing the need to explore awareness in the aspect of culture of every individual person and to promote the independence and equality of all people and to support them for the best possible future. Agnieszka Bojarczuk-Tuncer (AMU) presented the issue of volunteering based on the Departmental Center of Voluntary Service "Volontario" on the Faculty of Educational Studies at the Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznan. She presented it as an example of personal development and as a form of activity that is very valuable for a human being – evoking her own experiences, student opinions, as well as examples of specific activities and initiatives organized by "Volontario". The next speech entitled "Prevention and peer support" on the example of the "PAT" program was presented by Anna Schmidt (AMU), who began by defining the most important theoretical issues, indicating and characterizing the "PAT" program implemented in Poland, as well as referring to experiences her own work with a socio-therapeutic group involved in activities realized during the program. Another presentation was prepared by Michalina Kasprzak (AMU). The speaker raised the subject: creative functioning in the local community center as educational support for children's youth. The author pointed out actions taken in local community centers and their importance in developing children's skills, but also satisfying their basic needs. Next presentation was entitled "The day care for places free for teenagers" and was prepared by Jagoda Dudziak (AMU) and Agnieszka Smogulecka (AMU). The speakers showed the functioning of day-care rooms, as well as indicated the offer of classes and activities for teenagers – supporting their development, expanding interests and giving the opportunity to spend free time actively. The last speech was prepared by Weronika Łepkowska (AMU), who shared with listeners her history of participation in the Erasmus + international exchange programm. She presented challenges and the moments which were difficult for her, but also the huge number of experiences and opportunities that she has provided in the project. The conference was summed up by a discussion, exchange of experiences, knowledge and ideas, as well as asking the questions to the speakers.

The conference was an inspiration for further exploration and reflection, learning from each other and sharing practical and educational experience. It also made possible to establish new relationships and cooperation, which can bring many interesting inspirations in the field of practical solutions in aspect of social work.

*Anna Schmidt*