

The Role of Croatian SLT Study Program in the ERASMUS+ Project: ABC – Assisting Better Communication

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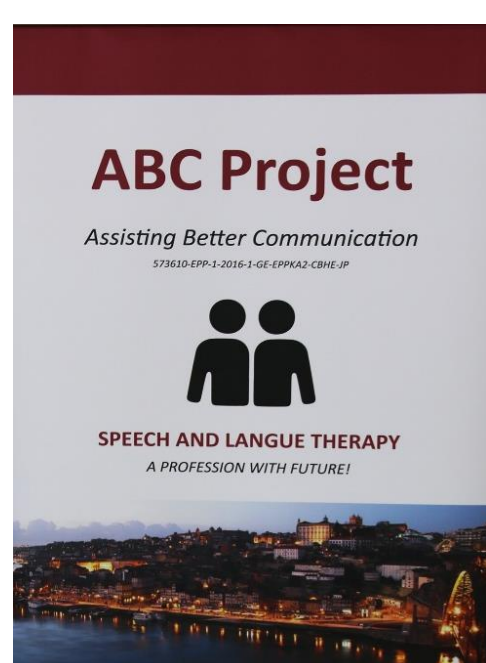
Programme: Erasmus+

Sub-programme: Cooperation for innovation and the exchange of good practices

Action: Capacity building in higher education

Project Reference: 561770-EPP-1-2015-1-IL-EPPKA2-CBHE-JP

Project Lifetime: 15th of October 2016 - 14th October 2019



Applicant & Project Coordinator: Ilia State University (Georgia)

Partners

Georgia: Georgian Institute of Public Affairs
 Shota Rustaveli State University
 Georgian Portage Association
 Step Forward

Bosnia and Herzegovina:

University of Tuzla
 University of East Sarajevo

Israel:

University of Haifa
 Gordon Academic College of Education
 Ono Academic College

Netherlands:

University of Groningen

Portugal:

Polytechnics Institute Porto
 University of Aveiro
 Coimbra Hospital and University Centre
 ARCIL

Croatia: University of Zagreb

INTRODUCTION

In Georgia, communication, speech and language therapy (SLT) as a profession does not exist. During last 10 years the need for SLT services have become more and more evident due to the progressive awareness of communication, speech and language related disabilities, both in children and adults. However in most cases these clients are being served by persons with no qualification in SLT, but from different related disciplines, such as linguistics, education, and/or psychology, which cannot assure the quality of the SLT services.

Development of modern European standards-based specialty in SLT will respond to the increased needs for quality services also in the project participating countries: Israel, and B&H. The ABC project aims to enhance the profession of SLT in participating countries through courses and programs offered at different levels of professional education.

Besides the universities from Portugal and Netherlands, two departments from the University of Zagreb are involved in the project: Department of Hearing Impairments, and Speech and Language Pathology Department. The role of Croatian team is to support the SLT program in the field of hearing impairments as well as in stuttering.

OBJECTIVES

1. Content for SLT preparation programme

- development of SLT curricula based on the recommendation of CPLOL
- developing working groups, study visits, training of trainers, development of materials and activities for trainings, courses, thematic modules...

2. Piloting of the SLT Curricula

- will be followed with mainstreaming and institutionalization of the newly elaborated and piloted modules in the University study plan with actions like certification and accreditations on the corresponding levels

3. Application of modern teaching methodology

- quality assurance focuses on teaching and learning
- quality assurance focuses on the project management

4. Dissemination of the contemporary SLT issues

- introduction of professional ethics and standards
- creating the basis for the professional association
- conferences, open-lectures for specialists and parents, short videos, media activities...



METHODOLOGY

- Kick-off meeting in Porto, Portugal
- Quality Assurance Team
- thematic working groups in accordance to SLT general curricula content
- creation of the technically sustainable and user-friendly online platform
- ensure easy access to online lectures and materials
- capacity building of the working group members
- ToT training activities in Groningen, Zagreb and Portugal
- online lectures
- international multidisciplinary conference
- SLT curricula content development
- SLT assessment tools, working materials and readers reflecting Georgian, Bosnian, Serbian and Hebrew language features will be prepared
- mid-term meeting in Zagreb, Croatia
- final meeting in Batumi, Georgia

DISSEMINATION

Long term goal of the development of SLT profession in Georgia is to come into compliance with standards and requirements of the Standing Liaison Committee of E.U. Speech and Language Therapists – CPLOL.

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