

The abstract on Lifelong Learning (LLL) - Slovak Republic

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The main goal of the [Strategy of Lifelong Learning and Lifelong Guidance](#) in the Slovak Republic - passed by the Government of the Slovak republic in April 2007 - is the completion of the system of lifelong learning and the system of lifelong guidance. **The aim is flexible obtaining of new qualifications for the citizens apart from formal also in non-formal system of education and in the system of informal learning with the assistance of complex counselling and guidance services during the entire life.** Approach of the state policy and value of LLL was underlined by [Act on further education](#)¹, adopted in 1997, which has to be replaced by Act on LLL in July 2009.

Importance of education including LLL in the knowledge-based society is crucial, with respect to employment, social status, career building, creativity etc. Job related reasons are dominant in the Slovak Republic. Academia Istropolitana institution created by the Ministry of education for LLL made [survey and analyses of LLL](#)² and attitudes towards LLL among accredited Institution on the market in Slovakia. Results showed among others, **necessity of well functioning system of LLL evaluation and feedback for absolvent.** It could be assumed that foreign language and ICT related trainings dominate in courses offered in LLL in Slovakia, courses which offer a good opportunity for self-employment were popular, as a new trend healthy lifestyle focused courses are mentioned by providers.

There is a long tradition of adult education in Slovakia. The current mission for LLL is to make the access towards education easier as well as to make access to the new qualification and employment easier during the entire active life of citizens. The most important reason of establishment of the LLL and LLG strategy is the need to systematically roof the existing subsystems of education, in such a way that they would respond to the real needs of citizens, employers, public administration and involved educational institutions.

Initiative how to involve more people in learning processes is visible in the numbers of [institutions](#) which are associated in the [Association of Institution for LLL](#)³. The largest from the non-state training institutions and the only one with a regional network is the [Academy of Education](#) with centres in 38 cities spread over the whole country.

Adult education is managed by the ministries within the framework of their competencies. In the Slovak Republic they are [the Ministry of Education](#), [the Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family](#) responsible for financing retraining, the [Ministry of Health Care](#) for the further education of physicians and health personnel and the [Ministry of the Interior](#) for the further education of staff in public administration. [Higher education institutions](#) expand under the umbrella of lifelong learning deriving from the study programmes of their faculties. Institutionalised centres of lifelong learning or continuing education have been established at several universities; popular are Universities of the third age.

¹ Slovak language only

² Slovak language only

³ Slovak language only

According [law on further education](#) (§ 10), financing for adult education is provided from a variety of sources. There are subsidies from State budget, other sources of finance are fees from participants, employers' funds, the budget of the National Labour Office, funds from municipal budgets, funds from foundations and other natural persons and legal entities. Informal is LLL financed by foundations and donations.

For personal relationship in processes of LLL are easy to use key competences set in the Reference Framework, may be in next different order: Communication in the mother tongue and in foreign languages, Learning to learn, Social and civic competences; Cultural awareness and expression, Digital competence, Sense of initiative and entrepreneurship and at least Mathematical competence and basic competences in science and technology.

For more info see:

http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/ressources/eurydice/pdf/041DN/041_SK_EN.pdf

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