



NOMINATION OF PARTICIPANTS / *NOMINATION DE PARTICIPANTS*

Country / *Pays* : Croatia

Workshop / *atelier no 4/2011*

22-24 March / *mars 2011*

1.

First names / <i>prénoms</i> :	Surname / <i>nom</i> :
Silvije	Devald
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Institution – work place / <i>institution – lieu de travail</i> :	
Vladimir Nazor Primary School, Daruvar	
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2. Preferred working language / *Langue de travail préférée*: English
Your CEFR level (see the global scale) / *Votre niveau CECR (à voir l'échelle globale)*: C2

Command of other workshop language / *maîtrise de l'autre langue de l'atelier*
CEFR level (see the global scale) / *Votre niveau CECR (à voir l'échelle globale)*: None

3. Professional background / *Parcours professionnel*:

I graduated History and English Language and Literature at the Faculty of Philosophy at the University of Zagreb in 2002. I got my first teaching position while still a student, in 1995. I have been working as an English teacher for 15 years. During that period I have worked in primary and secondary schools, as well as language courses, and taught students from kindergarten to adult age and various level of knowledge. In the past two years I have been actively involved in mobility programmes in education, since the beginning of Croatian participation in Lifelong Learning Programme of the European Union.

My CV, in Europass format, please, find attached to this application.



4. Experiences and expertise (please highlight the ones which are required in the participants' profile of the event) / *Expertise et expérience (veuillez souligner celles requises dans le profil des participants à l'événement)*

I have been involved in LLP for two years. I had heard about Comenius before, but I knew Croatia could not participate then.

My first experience in mobility was a Comenius Contact Seminar in Oulu, Finland, in September 2009. It was a real revelation to me. All the things I had thought about, a European network of teachers, possibilities of international cooperation in education, things I imagined would be useful, had already been functioning throughout Europe, through Comenius partnerships and eTwinning.

There I met a group of teachers and during the next four months we developed a project idea which we applied as a Comenius Multilateral Partnership. However, the project was approved in all countries except Croatia where it was put on a stand-by list due to limited funds in the Croatian National Agency.

In Oulu I also met a school manager from a primary school in Sibiu, Romania. That contract proved useful in my next international project. I organized an English teacher exchange with that school in April 2010. For one week, I was in their school in Romania, teaching about Croatia, and an English teacher from Romania came to my school. It proved an excellent experience, for both students, who had the opportunity to be taught by someone from a different culture, learn about life in another European country, and teachers, who met a new colleague and found out a lot about living and working in a different educational system, as well as practice their English in everyday situations. The funding for the project implementation presented a problem, but I managed to secure it from the local and the regional government. I described the experience in an article I published in the school magazine.

The next experience was eTwinning. I was introduced to the portal by the teachers at the Contact Seminar. Soon I joined a project, later I started some more projects where I involved not only my pupils, but also my coworkers. In May 2010 I was promoted to the status of eTwinning Ambassador for Croatia at a Professional Development Workshop in Villasimius, in Sardinia. There I met some more teachers, found out about the advantages of eTwinning and in September started a new eTwinning project.

Unfortunately, I was taken ill then, had to go on sick leave and had to put all my activities on hold. I returned to work in January, resumed my work on eTwinning projects, I am in the process of developing a project idea for Comenius Bilateral Partnership with the school in Sibiu, Romania. I have been trying to organize another teacher exchange, this time with Hungary and involving not only English, but also History and Maths teachers from my school, who have shown interest in it, but so far I have not been able to find adequate partners.

Throughout the past two years I have been active in the teachers community as well. I have given lectures and workshops on Comenius and eTwinning on school level, at teachers' assemblies, on county, regional and national level. It is something I enjoy, I believe I have experience to share and I have been getting positive feedback from the participants of my workshops. It is the work I intend to do in the future and share my future experiences in mobility.

5. Multiplier's capacity / *capacité de démultiplication*:

As national representative nominated to the event you will be expected to act as a multiplier. The following are examples of multiplying activities. Please tick and/or add any other activities you are planning to organise.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	I intend to present an account of the project / event in my place of work.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	I intend to give a presentation of the project / event outside my place of work (professional association, conference etc.).
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	I intend to publish an article / paper about the event, the project and / or the ECML.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	I intend to put information about the project and/or the ECML on a website.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	I intend to initiate a project or join an existing one related to the theme of this ECML project.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other:

Please indicate in which way(s) your experience from this workshop is likely to have a direct impact on the language teaching profession on a local/regional or national level:

As I have previously shared all my international experience, I intend to continue with it. First, I will share the experience with my pupils, in English classes; then with my coworkers, in teachers' assembly; at the county and regional level, at County and Regional English Teachers' Assemblies; and, if given a chance, at national level, at HUPE (Croatian English Teachers' Association) Conference, or some other event organized by the Ministry of Education or Croatian National Agency.

I also expect to make valuable contacts with teachers from Europe and start an eTwinning, ACES or Comenius project in the future, involving not only pupils from my school, but colleagues as well.