

SOCVOC Newsletter 4

What is SOCVOC?

SOCVOC, is a start-up European project in which educators from five different countries make their best practices and creative training available to prisoners in an open, digital learning environment and by giving training and presentations at various events.

The core of the project is to develop an easy-to-use guidebook consisting of good practices of methodologies of learning social skills to low-skilled adult learners while they are learning a profession and train the teachers how to use this information available on the project website. And at the same time offering exercise opportunities, digital and non-digital, on the matter to the learners in prison. In this way they can get started with the processing of the social skills, combined with getting to know a digital environment and starting to use it. If you'd like to learn more about what this project entails you can go to www.socvoc.eu

Third Transnational Meeting in Skopje

On February 18th 2024, the partnership had the third Transnational Meeting in Skopje, North Macedonia. During the meeting, the host organization made short presentation about the Macedonian prison system. Also, all partners presented their project local activities related to the WP 2, 3 and 4, particularly the piloting of the task sheets for teachers to enhance social skills of prisoners in local context.



After the Meeting, the partners went on a nice walking tour in Skopje city centre with a tourist guide and had a drink rest in one traditional Pub in the Old Bazaar.

3 days Face-to-face Training for Prison Educators in Skopje

From the 20th to 22nd of February 2024 the partners had a 3 day face-to-face training in Skopje, where each partner contributed in sharing expertise related to the 21st century life skills. The Faculty of Security - Skopje, as a project partner was host of the training. 10 prison educators, representatives of five countries (Netherlands, Poland, Estonia, Belgium and Macedonia) had the opportunity to exchange good practices, methods and experiences for improving social skills of prisoners during their vocational training. The primary goal of the training was to augment the capacity of adult educators to design effective learning materials and employ specific teaching strategies and methods.

Each partner organisation held 2 workshops that cover main project areas:

- Enhancing Social Skills for Prison Learners
- Blended Learning with Open Resources
- Digital Educational Materials and Publications
- Empowering Prisoners' Social Skills for Employment
- Promoting Social Skills in Prison Education
- SOCVOC Platform Guide



- Inclusive Content for Prison Learners
For the training purposes, a Methodology was drafted that provided a structured framework for conducting training for prison educators. It included descriptions of: a) the training's objectives, b) the required personal skills and qualifications of the educators, c) the new, upgraded approaches and procedures during working with prisoners divided in modules and sessions with provided tools and methods, d) anticipated training outcomes and deliverables, e) evaluation techniques and the assessment of knowledge acquisition among the educators.

For more info, please visit: <https://socvoc.eu/channels/presentation-for-training/>



During the last day, on 22nd of February 2024 the partners visited the Tetovo prison located near Tetovo city center. The director of the prison, Mr. Qefali Havziju, introduced the partners to the way of serving the prison sentence and the challenges they face within re-socialisation process. After a tour of the prison premises, the visit ended with a suitable cocktail. As an expression of gratitude for the visit, the partners received a modest gift, a handmade clock placed in an engraved wood that is made by the prisoners within their working activities.