



National competition in the Czech Republic

Partner from the Czech Republic – EUROFACE CONSULTING organized their national competition in person on 7th October 2020.

They were the only partner that managed to organize national competition in person during such an unstable situation.

Because of that, they had the opportunity to discuss with participants personally and get immediate feedback from them.

Skills Plus are the skills competitions for people with (labour) disabilities. No one is judged by his or her disability – only talent counts!

The Skills Plus competitions are competitions for teams and guarantee an unforgettable experience!



Preparations for the NC – how to begin?

Organizing a national competition requires quite some time, experience, and phone calls. It does not happen overnight. Therefore, the following answers from EUROFACE CONSULTING (Katarina Franckova) are very valuable for others for their national competition organization.

How did you organize NC for SKILLS+?

“In the previous year, we worked closely with the Nursery school, primary school, and secondary school for the hearing impaired in Valašské Meziříčí. On both sides, the cooperation is considered as very successful and that is why we decided to compete again in cooperation with this school.”

What were the challenges (if they were any) you were facing when organising the NC? Did plans change in any way from original ones?

“Thanks to the experience from last year's competition, we were quite well prepared for any situation. However, we also had a difficult COVID period and we had to adapt everything to this virus. The original plan was to organize a competition between several schools in the Czech Republic, but it was not possible due to the second wave of COVID. We were glad that we managed to organize the competition. In the morning - on the day of the competition - the government of the Czech Republic announced a lock down in the country and the immediate closure of all schools. However, we still organized the competition and were able to select participants for the international round. We were very lucky.”

In which field did you organize the competition?

“Students competed in the field of ICT and Green jobs.”

At what key/methodology did you select participants for competition?

“We are in constant contact with the school. Before the competition itself, we discussed with the teachers and the school principal several times about the competition itself and about the international competition. It was necessary for teachers to be actively involved in the selection of competitors who will be willing and happy to participate in the international round of the competition. Before the national competition, a test round of the competition took place in the school, when the teachers - as part of the school

lesson - were given the task and evaluated which of them will take part in the national round.”

Who were participants (from which organizations)?

“We managed to involve 3 organisations:

- The Nursery school, primary school, and secondary school for the hearing impaired in Valašské Meziříčí – participants and buddies,
- School for visually impaired pupils and pupils with speech defects Opava – judges,
- City council Kromeriz – stakeholder.

What was the overall satisfaction of the NC?

“At the end of the competition, paper feedback questionnaires were distributed to all interested parties. The results of the questionnaires, as well as the personal meeting, showed great enthusiasm and positive evaluation of the competition.”

What is your assessment of the NC? Would you change anything?

“The only thing we would like to change is the expansion of the competition to more schools and regions, but unfortunately this is not realistic in pandemic times. The atmosphere of the competition was very friendly and fun. We are already looking forward to the international round of the competition!”

Other partners’ plan for the national competition

What about other partners? Even though all partners would like to have their national competitions in person, they have a plan B in case the situation related to COVID-19 does not improve.

According to the first plan, NC should take place in fall 2020. But because of COVID-19, partners have rescheduled this for the beginning of 2021.

They are hoping for a face-to-face competition. If not, we will operate under plan B. Below, there are some plans and updates regarding national competitions.



In the Netherlands, the NC that were scheduled for December 1, 2020 have unfortunately been cancelled due to the COVID-19 situation. The Netherlands

will participate in the competitions in Hospitality & Catering led by Parc Spelderholt and Annemarie Advies & Coaching. Lentiz Lifeschool will participate in the Social Health & Care competition event. Finally, they also talked to Lentiz about a possible participation in the competition in the field of Electrician.

The new competition for Hospitality & Catering is scheduled for **January 26, 2021**. The competitions will take place at Hotel Resort Land & Zee in Scharendijke (Province of Zeeland where PRO WORK is located as well).

Naturally, they will observe all applicable precautions that apply at that time. In addition, the competitions that will take place in collaboration with Lentiz will be executed at the school itself, given the regulations. These will be held in **February or March 2021** hopefully. Finally, certificates have been made, medals for participants ordered and judging is planned to be done on site or online if necessary.



They plan to hold the Skills+ National Competition in the spring of next year. They hope it will be a face-to-face event observing all safety measures. Their participants will be people with various disabilities from Municipality Center for Social Rehabilitation and Integration and Day Social Center. They are very excited and already preparing to participate in two categories - Green job and Catering.



In Spain, they are in the preparation phase of the National Competition. Two competitions are going to be organized in the fields of ICT and Hospitality and Catering. They estimate that they will take place at the beginning of the year, first the ICT competition, probably online, and later the Catering face-to-face competition.



The Slovenian partner is in the phase of preparation of the national competition in the field of Hospitality and Catering and Green Job. They have already contacted the stakeholders and organisations that will be involved in the competition. They are planning to organize the competition in spring of 2021 (end of March, beginning of April).



They will be working on Green jobs and Hospitality. 3 teams for each area will be competing. They are planning to hold the competition in early December and to have it face-to-face if possible.



They are currently communicating with daily centres in town, which are willing to collaborate with them. The Greek team will be focused on Green Jobs and Social Care & Health.



The Belgian partner JKVG will be working on the field of ICT and Electrician. Several schools were planned at first, but due to the COVID-19 situation, only one school will be involved. If possible, the competition will be a face-to-face event held in December 2020.



Partner from Turkey will organize a face-to-face national competition in two companies. They will compete in Hospitality/catering and the other one for ICT. For Hospitality/catering they have already contacted the local hotel, where the competition will take place, and for ICT the NC will be in one of the IT companies. They have managed to find participants and so there will have 4 groups of 4 members each. Their NC is scheduled for January 2021.



Dante, partner from Croatia will organize competition in the field of Hospitality and Social health and it will be held in the school premises. They are in contact with the representatives of their Hotel and Tourism School and Hospitality and Social health. The planned activities are confirmed, and they will take place in the premises of a school. But, according to the current situation, they have been told not to plan anything before April 2021. It will be organized as a F2F event.

Skills Plus competitions are designed specifically for the target group, ranging from people with physical disabilities to people with mental disabilities. A truly inclusive competition is organized, which means that talents of different levels, who cope with all kinds of disabilities, compete in teams.



Find out more

<https://www.skillsplus.eu/>

<https://www.facebook.com/paraskillscompetitions>



Erasmus+

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