

INTRODUCTION

The current volume of the Polonia Journal, is devoted to education, equality of opportunity, cooperation against opportunities and threats of the XXI century. The areas connected with education have been depicted in a broad context and touch the issues of education in Europe, cooperation in the fields of education, European andragogy, social work in Europe, chances and dangers of globalization in the view of current pandemics situation. Authors of particular articles, focus on important and ongoing topics.

The first paper by Ludvigh Cintulovej and Pavela Beňa *Attitudes of young people under 30 to active citizenship and volunteering* refers to young generation of people and their commitment towards active public life. The research shows methods and forms employed by young people under 30 who have committed themselves into private and public life.

Zuzana Budayová in her article *Personality factors of coping with the workload of a social worker*, identifies and analyses factors of coping with the duties of a social worker and provides the examples of the strategies which can be applied by a worker in the professions of assistance to manage workload connected with such professions.

Pavla Gilíková in her paper *The needs of seriously ill and dying people* refers to the needs of seriously and terminally dying people who are placed in institutional and domestic care. The author emphasizes the question of an attitude towards death from the perspective of seriously ill and dying people. She describes their needs and depicts the problem of

death and as a natural component of life. In her second article *Workplace aggression among social workers* Pavla Gilíková refers to the question of aggression in the place of work; possibility of coping with aggression and discusses chances of building preventive measures and solutions of the above mentioned behaviour.

In the article *Lifelong learning of the means coping with and prevention from stress in profession* Iva Holeková deals with workload and stress which have become part of professional life which affects the standard of life, even poses a threat on people's health.

Authors Elżbieta Jaszczurowska and Mirosław Laszczak in their paper *EDUCATION – the silent victim of pandemics*, present their concerns of the area worst affected by pandemics- education. In the article weaknesses of the distant education have been presented in connection with social, economic and psychological aspects, which result from the disruption of traditional schooling.

Erik Javorský in his article *Stress as a factor influencing the performance of a social worker* focuses on stress and stressful situations, defines the symptoms of stress, successful methods to counteract negative psychological and physical results affecting performance of a social worker.

Wojciech Kaute in his article *Education, university education-tradition and contemporary challenges* analyses problems of education in cultural context and reflects upon education as an element of culture.

Educational issues are the topic of the next article *Psychological and hygienic aspects of the teaching profession* by Mariola Liszoková. She presents consideration on psychical health of teachers. Teachers are exposed to stress due to the requirements which are posed on them. Therefore, they have to take care of their mental and physical health. In her second paper

Differences in the Roma population in the Czech Republic Mariola Liszoková focuses her attention on the Roma population who are

perceived by the majority of the Czech society as unassimilable and peace disturbing individuals. The author reflects upon this ethnic minority in the context of history, culture and tradition.

Lucia Ludvigh Cintulova in her article *Analysis of the development of social services provided by the state and non-public providers in Slovakia* deals with the development of social services, as well as with the differences between public and non-public providers. The author focuses on the necessity of the improvement of the services basing on the sustainable development, connected with ageing population who require social care.

Then Andrej Mátel in his *article Global trends and Slovak National Specifics of Professional Ethics of Social Work* analyses the issue of ethics in the social worker profession being its integral part. The author presents the current version of the International Code of Ethics and the Slovak Code of Social Workers and Assistants Ethics. In the further part of the volume, Jaroslav Mužík in the paper *Theme for discussion about problem of education (intellectual legacy of J.A. Comenius)*, conducts research on the didactic process in the primary, secondary and tertiary education as well as the education of the adult.

René Rác in the article *System of health care for children and youth in difficult situation* discusses the question of the influence of the social work on children and youth, who are deprived of secure and adequate conditions for healthy development in a family. The author defines the symptoms of psychological deprivation of children which results in neglection.

In the article entitled *Social work in the context of drug addiction* Erich Schlesinger defines, characterizes and analyses the problems of drug addition against social work. He indicates the importance of social work methods with the addicts, also the possibility of help, for those threatened with social exclusion.

Also, the paper of Małgorzata Zarębska's paper is worthwhile mentioning. Her article *Capitalism, democracy, religion in the world of the global market. In the realm of Michael Novak's ideas* focuses on one of the fundamental issues of the European culture, which is the relationship between capitalism, democracy and the world of values.

Topics of the hereby volume can be treated as contribution to further debates on the social conditions as well as on those pertaining education, health situation of the functioning and development of a man. Words of gratitude are due for the authors for bringing those difficult issues up for the discussion from which we will all benefit.

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