



Report about project co-financed from FOSE sources

INVITING UKRAINIAN SCOUTS

Project description: We wanted to invite two children in age of 12-15 years from Ukraine to be the member of the small groups of our children. We followed with it several goals including:

- a) To give the Ukrainian guests the full experience of scouting style in Czech Republic
- b) To force the children to communicate in maximal amount together and learn each other. To give them opportunity to stay in contact after the camp.
- c) To give our children the sense of international scouting
- d) To brake some stereotypes of our children about people from abroad
- e) To be good host and to have happy guests on our camp.

Our group description: "Gatlida" is a very small group of scouts from Southern Bohemia (region of Czech Republic) from a very small town Nová Včelnice (around 2.500 inhabitants). Our group deals with mixed categories of children of both sexes in age from 5 to 15 years. When I am not counting our Ukrainian guests, they were 14 children as participants of our camp and 5 adult leaders. "Gatlida" is a member of scouting center "Fidelis et Fortis" with seat in another small town nearby called Kamenice nad Lipou (around 5.000 inhabitants), where also other two scout groups "Devítka" and "Činčapi Anpetu-Wi" realizes their programs.

Project realization:

Preparing phase: We spoke long time about the possibility to invite Ukrainian scouts for the summer camp of Gatlida. We inform about our intentions our center "Fidelis et Fortis" and they supported our plan. So we started to negotiate with Ukrainian union of scouts (Національна Організація Скаутів України) to gain their opinion about our project and once

they were for it, we started to think about the financing. Once we had full and also financial support from scout center “Fidelis et Fortis”, we tried to find financing from private sources. Then someone advised us to try FOSE foundation. We also voted one member of leading staff to be responsible for the whole project and the one was Vít Poláček – Prófa, external member of leading team, responsible for spiritual programs, who is working in Prague. That fact should be strategically important for realization of the project.

Invitation and preparation: After receiving the support from FOSE foundation, we wrote to Ukrainian scouts union to precise the invitation. We wanted to have two participants in age between 12 to 15 years with knowledge of English language (in case of emergency) and one rover or leader, who will accompany them.

We want to inform them, that we are paying every expense on our side. The Ukrainian union of scouts made it as competition, so we got finally the names of three winners – Anastasiia Chesnokova (13 years old from Kiyv), Yevheniia Danyliuk (14 years old from Dnepropetrovsk) and Yevheniia Kosmina (21 years old from Pervomaisk).

The first, what was needed was to book fly tickets as soon as possible. With booking of fly tickets from Kiyv to Prague and back again for Yevheniia Danyliuk and Yevheniia Kosmina, we got financial advantage in compare to previous financial plan, because the tickets were only for 453, 73 Euros. The problem was with the tickets for Anastasiia. We booked her the ticket from Kiyv to Prague for the same price as both fly tickets for the two other girls, but since she continued her travel together with her father to Vienna after the camp, we were asked, if we could buy the ticket from Vienna instead of Prague. We asked therefore FOSE if it was possible and after confirmation, we tried to get the fly ticket from Vienna to Kiyv for the best price. It emerged, that the fly tickets from Vienna were always more expensive than those from Prague. Nevertheless, because we promised to do so, we booked also the fly ticket from Vienna. We discussed it and we found it was fair for Anastasiia’s parents.

The second task was to get the visa for entering European union for the girl. We consulted it with international office of our own organization and we wrote invitation letters, which should help us to get the visa for free and prevent the problems. We needed two of them, since Anastasiia Chesnokova was holder of diplomatic passport. After all there were two types of problems – first was that Yevheniia Danyliuk has not received the letter with the crucial document. Because there were no more time to try to send it again and the possibility to send it with DHL was very expensive (and could damage our budget) we have to solve the problem diplomatically. After several calls with Czech consulate in Kiyv, we received the exception from rule and Yevheniia could apply only with scanned copy of invitation letter. The second problem had Yevheniia Kosmina. She received the letter in order, but the Czech visa center had their entire schedule booked and we had to call again to the consulate to ask for a special term for her. We admire that the Czech consulate helped us a lot and after the end of the project we sent the consul our letter of thanks.

More joyful was preparation of contact of ours and Ukrainian children. Both groups got their tasks. They have to write their profiles to introduce to each other. Both groups got

also the same tasks to create a show for the opening fire of our camp, to translate and send the song to each other and the Ukrainian girls should also think about a special Ukrainian dish and small workshop.

We prepared also a small information sheet in pdf to inform the girls as well as their parents about how our camp look like and what they should take with them.



Stay in Prague: The girls should arrive to Prague Airport, where Vít should await them and then accompany them to the camp. Because Vít lives in the flat nearby Prague castle, we decided to accommodate girls in his flat, where they get also food for breakfast and sometimes also for dinner. This should not only economize the budget for accommodation and food, but also for the public transport, because it is possible to be in 15 minutes in city center from that address. We tried to give our guests the possible look inside not only tourist classics in historical center of Prague – the visit included the interiors and exteriors of Prague castle, St. Nicolas Church, Petřín Tower, Mirror labyrinth, Charles Bridge and other important buildings in Prague. We had one day for it before the travel to the camp and then two other in time between our comeback and the flight back to Kiyv. In the second time also the father of Anastasiia joined us.



The Camp: The program for the camp was created already before and people of our team were thinking how to integrate the girls as much as possible. The program usually consists

on long game with always around 14 episodes, mostly every day one of them. Anastasiia and Yevheniia were sent to different groups, where they have to absolve the program together with Czech children. Unfortunately it showed that the ability to speak English was not as high by Czech children as it was expected. Maybe the problem was also, that they were too shy to use their knowledge. Fortunately from the beginning of the camp, the children tried to understand each other with using and inventing other ways. After two days they created the system, how to find if they understand precisely what they wanted to express and they started to use a mixture of Czech and Ukrainian language. There were also dictionaries in the kitchen to help the understanding or searching the right word and they were often used.

The girls were seemed like every participant of our camp with the privileges and duties coming from it. They have to serve in kitchen as well as for night watches, what was in the beginning little exotic for them, but they fulfilled their duties and manage everything of it. They were at every time connected with Czech children. The only exception was on the day planned for visits of parents of Czech children. We want to prevent their homesick and took them to the trip to nearby historical town of Jindřichův Hradec.

While Anastasiia and Yevheniia were the participants with accommodation in the same tee-pee tent as other scouts in the same age, Yevheniia Kosmina became really important member of leading team and helped us to create all the programs and games.

Anastasiia and Yevheniia were asked to prepar for our children two programs – in one the scouts could create traditional Ukrainian doll, in the other they learned tongue-twisters.

We build two flagpoles in same height for Czech and Ukrainian flag and we have begun every day with Czech and Ukrainian national anthem. Both groups learned how to sing and how to pronounce the text of both anthems. We learned also several songs from both lands.

The visit of Ukrainian scouts supported also the motivation of everyday spiritual programs. This year were topics of those focused on how to deal with other and different people. Under the motto of cultural anthropologist Clifford Geertz, who wrote in one of his studies: "Understanding of the culture of other people means, that you find that they are normal and in the same time that they are unique. (More I can understand, what people in Morrocco do, then I see that they are more logical and more original in the same time)"



The project evaluation by the participants from both sides:

As it is our tradition there is every day evaluation and then also big evaluation on the end of the camp by the camp fire, where everyone can express his or hers positive or negative thoughts about the camp. Among one of most positive mentioned thing was the participation of Ukrainian girls and the possibility to learn the differences in scout tradition from both lands. The Ukrainian girls told us that the simplicity of our equipment was on the beginning very unusual, but that they learned how to deal with it.

Project objectives and their fulfillment:

Because our most goals were more abstract, it is sometimes not so easy to confirm if it was fully fulfilled. Foremost we were happy, that the camp ended without any problems, without injuries. That we can overcome the problems and managed to have all invited girls in our camp and that we could send them in order to their parents back.

- a) To give the Ukrainian guests the full experience of scouting style in Czech Republic
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We can confirm that the goals a) and c) were fulfilled only by taking the project to the last phase. The goal b) failed in forcing to communicate in the same foreign language, but the problem was resolved by children abilities and also by using Ukrainian and Czech language, both Slavic languages. It is still too early to say, if the children will be able to keep the contact for longer period from now on. We hope that the evaluation on the end of the camp and also reaction on our facebook proved that our guests enjoyed our camp and the whole trip and they were happy here. About d) no one can be sure and only the future can tell us about how we had succeeded. There can be one indicator about that – by the workshop with making of Ukrainian doll, which is mentioned as a symbol for the land, some of our little

scouts were doing some stupid things with the doll. Before I could react, one of the boys in the same age said them: “You have to show more respect to the doll as the symbol, because once the girls will learn what you are doing, they will be disappointed. Try to imagine that someone will be doing such a thing with the Czech national symbol – the Lion.” To learn children to be empathetic to foreigner and their feelings was one of our goals and hearing that confirmed a little, what can be not fully confirmed in complexity.

Financial results:

Because we have ordered the fly tickets a little earlier, we got a little advantage in the beginning in our budget. Unfortunately, we had to pay unexpected taxes for the girl’s luggage. Therefore was the final result very close to our expectations. (For complete results please see our financial statement). The expected budget was 38400 Czech crowns (1380 Euros), the final expenses were 35788,37 (1324,17 Euros) exactly 2611,63 CZK less (96,61 Euros)*. Due to currency course we became from 1078 Euros not 30000 CZK as it was planned, but 1438 CZK less. Due to lot of savings in project, our group gave for the final expenses 1173,36 CZK less.

Expenses sums seperately	Sum in CZK	Sum in EUR
Fly tickets, air transportation	25098,27	928,71
Public transportation Prague	372	13,75
Four days in Prague, including food and visiting sightseeings	3509,1	133,83
Transportation to the camp and back again	1006	37,2
Fees for the camp	4500	166,48
One day trip to Jindrichuv Hradec from the camp	1303	48,2
Total	35788,37	1324,17

Incomes:

FOSE foundation: 1078 EUR

Our sources: 267,4 EUR

Total income: 1345,4 EUR*

(* the difference is caused by the currency course change between CZK and EUR between the dates of planning, receiving the support of FOSE and final realization of project. In the planning there was 1 EUR converted to 27,82 CZK, by receiving was 1 EUR 26,49 CZK and by realization 27,03 CZK)

Organization: Junák – Český skaut, z.s., the Czech scout head organization

Skautské středisko Fidelis et Fortis Kamenice nad Lipou

Project coordinator: Vít Poláček

Coordinator e-mail: vit.polacek@gmail.com

Coordinator telephone: +420777982901

Coordinator full address: Raisova 2315/6, Plzeň 3, 30100, Czech Republic







