

International Network on School Bullying and Violence



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International Network on School Bullying and Violence

The aim of the Network is to stimulate and support more effective measures against school bullying and violence.

The international network was part of the 2005 -6 OECD Programme of Work and is now part of the Programme of Work 2007 – 11.

The Slovak Republic has been undertaken international co-ordination for years 2007 – 2008.

Objectives of the Network

The network aims to support countries seeking to combat school bullying and violence by:

- Sharing and disseminating information on experience, research and good practice in the field;
- Providing a platform for co-operation on particular issues, for example on the problems of implementation or evaluation;
- Facilitating contacts for example among practitioners in different countries, or between researchers on the one hand and policy-makers and practitioners on the other;
 - Providing a point of linkage with other international networks working in related fields

The structure of the network

- Strategic management undertaken by a Steering Group. This includes the OECD Secretariat, Norway, national co-ordinators from 4 participant countries (Germany, Canada, Hungary and Slovakia - elected by all participant countries)
- An international co-ordinator based in Norway 2005 – 2007
- An international co-ordinator based in The Slovak Republic 2007 – 2009
- National co-ordinators in all 22 participating countries

Role of the OECD Secretariat

The OECD Secretariat is to:

- Advise on the design of the initiative
- Provide continued advice to the international coordinator and the Steering Group on the development of the network
- Maintain links between this and other OECD activities, and report back to the Education Committee on the progress of the work and evaluation at the end of 2006
- Advise on arrangements for the Steering Group

Role of the Ministry of Education of the Slovak Republic

- Responsible for national policy and strategy towards the international network
- Providing resources for these activities to international co-ordinator and a modest additional budget for expenses
- Member of the Steering Group

Role of international co-ordinator

- Undertaken day-to-day management of international co-ordination
- Taken the lead in developing a longer term work programme for the network in liaison with participant countries
- Actively engage, sustain and develop communication among a network of national co-ordinators
- Develop a website to share information among participants

Role of the international co-ordinator

- Maintain links with international bodies and networks engaged in complementary activities
- In close consultation with national coordinators, make proposals to the steering group on the scope of activity beyond the pilot phase
- Provide a secretariat for the steering group in consultation with the OECD secretariat
- Maintain contact with OECD countries not initially involved in the activity and explore the scope for their involvement

Role of the national co-ordinators

- Provide a national point of contact with the international network
- Feed information about national developments to the international network
- Within the country, feed back information from the network about international developments
- Provide input and advice to the steering group managing the international network

Role of the national co-ordinators...

- communicate readily with the international co-ordinator
- distil and communicate in his or her country the complex information available through the network
- contribute to the development of the network as a tool for his or her own country and others
- create initiative, motivation and interest in the topic
- national co-ordinators need to be supported by effective liaisons with Ministries for Education as well as local initiatives and independent researchers.

What is accomplished?

- An article on definitional issues
- Most of involving countries have collected information on Policy, Research and Best Practice
- A website is developed
- A communication platform is developed
- Two working groups
 - Legislation, Policies and Strategies in the field
 - Best Practice
- A study on policy in the field
- An evaluation of the work in the network







