



BLAGOEVGRAD, BULGARIA



ELECTRONIC ISSUE

# Methods and device of forming the National Identity

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In order to answer the question what it should be done about that point and in the light of the European program, devoted to the Heritage pedagogic, the following ideas and initiatives can be suggested...

### Getting used to live together

Sequence of artistic, investigative, debatable, playful or amusing initiatives, connected with the introduction of the European moral and cultural valuables and integration of the national identity in the European community in order to join to it without losing identity which is accepted from our ancestor and which have to be passed on through times and United European Community space – to nowadays future Bulgarians, who will live and develop in a dialogue with the different cultures and feel pride and sense of the belonging to our kin and multiethnic community of the Europeans. Organizing discussion forums clarifying the ethnocultural interactions and our indisputable integrations in them.

Activities connected with the establishment of civilization interactions among the representatives of different ethnics in our country. Conducting festivals or other cultural initiatives with the purpose of learning the culture specification and ideology of people who are different from the main population of the country. They could be arranged as well, as parents' and children's initiatives; joint celebrations of traditional secular or religions feasts; "Visiting (a gipsy family or....); "Let us taste your national dish (course)"; "Let us learn your folk dances"; "Let us sing together", "All of us are citizens of this country" – joined (collective) activities in out of class work – all the ethnics, who regard and realize the importance of being different in a community, and feel themselves citizens of a country in which different people live together peacefully and united for the sake of one idea, faith and pride in belonging to Bulgaria.

### What my kin, my family is proud of

(Generations' dialogue)

Learning the children's genealogy. Each youth composes a genealogic tree. Learning – from relatives, saved family memoirs, photos and other documents – what their descendant could be proud of and feels the mission to continue the tradition of what their ancestor achieved and should be kept on. Meetings, conversations, interviews etc with parents and grandparents, invited by children, who could share to the whole auditorium their cause of life, the efforts and means, which they have managed to attain a lot in life by, and these attainments (achievements) are their sings and peaks. At the same time – stimulating confidence in the audience in order to assure them that all the people have the ability to outstrip their ancestor, rise above and transfer the national tradition, family pride and ambition – if they really want it. Subject play fantasy – a conversation with my future children-what shall we relate them? What shall we tell them to beware about? What do they have to aspire to, which is considered to be important to them?

### Bulgarian woman-in the past and today

Forums, initiatives, devoted to the heroic Bulgarian women – mothers, grandmothers, girls, about the courage and willingness to self-sacrifice. About the Bulgarian woman who is faithful to her ethnic and religion and does not give up when she is faced to difficulties, she hold on fighting for her dignity even in the hard times of the foreign domination and patriarchal traditions supremacy, which make the woman a slave to the low, parents and husband. Today's woman features – between her aspires to education, career, prosperity at work and in house, conjugal, motherly duties. She is an embodiment of family coziness, keeper of the ever burning hearth fire, parent and teacher to her children, beloved person and wife. The heroism of today's woman, who manages to get over her hard living, but she is free, bold and optimistic, or not...Imitation game – a television bridge trough the time: a conversation with mother, grandmother, favorite teacher, favorite character from a film – what are you going to tell them today? What are you going to greet them for? What do you want them to forgive you for? What about the offences you have forgotten about or you have caused in the interaction with them?

### Heroic Bulgarians



Lots of studies, connected with the introduction and study of life and achievements of the glorious Bulgarian fighters pleads, who wanted freedom and justice for their achievements, moral and heroic characters and whom their countrymen and even their enemies appreciated. It is a ground for the whole our nation to be proud of that and realize that the new generation belongs to the glory of the past. There are a plenty of enterprises about this point, but the main is that the children themselves should want to take part in the kinds of enterprises with the responsibility of being descendant and followers of those heroic Bulgarians.

### An epopee about the forgotten – modern aspects

Joint enterprises of parents and children and representative all the ethnics from in our country, about studying and popularizing the lives and destines of our heroic countrymen which are forgotten nowadays. This could be done in a particular place or in all over the country. In could be investigated, for instance, the existence of all the ancient villages in a particular area, who important persons had lived there, what they had been kept in mind and history for, in order to be continued the historic succession. The investigative work could be organized as a competition between some groups of students in different ages. In common with adults or representatives of culture-educational departments, who could be able to give the necessary information. It could be thought of solemn presentation of the investigation results by posters, photos, manuscripts and so on. If there are any desires and inspirations, young talents could be stimulated – they could follow Ivan Vasov's deed creating poems or other kind of art work which reminds what these glorious heroes had done, i.e. they could rewrite another "Epopee" about the forgotten achievements of our people, achievements not only in social or political sphere but in sports, art, technical, agricultural and other kinds of spheres.

## Education, family, religion and Ethno-culture valuables

Young people could be stimulated to join series of intellectual occupations, paper assignments, discussions, investigations, competitions connected with our attitude to study and education and Bulgarian respect to erudite people and teachers. Within the framework of a participation in the large European community's initiatives devoted to the inheritance, there are enough causes of generalizing and popularizing the national culture valuables, relating to the family traditions and rituals, kin and tribe traditions, respect to deities and saints, our contribution to celebrating the feasts in the folk and religious calendar. Some of them could be: restore traditional rituals like "Lasaruvane", a prayer for rain, engagement, "Tlaka"-working bee, offering devoted to a Christian saint; or an international festival of the typical feasts and rituals of every ethnic group – the celebration of the Mohammedan Bayram, Jewish new Year, Jewish Easter, Karakachan wedding, a ritual about fertility and so on.

## Ecological aspects of the nationality – saving what belongs to the our children

In this point it could be included traditional and modern kinds of activities devoted to the human and nature ecology, precious plant and animal species, which inhabit our lands; amusing plays and occupations like the subject games "Meeting with the forest King", "Neptune feasts" a press conference or TV transmission performances devoted to this subject a tale or story invention with a continuation, an illustration of texts. Internet conferences about exchanging experiences with the other regions in the country; working out projects about "mending" the ozone hole, saving nature species which become extinct, adopting animals from the zoo, cultivating and spreading beautiful, healthy and becoming extinct herb and flower planting materials which are typical of our unique flora...

#### International initiatives



Participation of the children and youth in Olympiads and competitions – by E-mail or in Internet pages about suggesting ideas, decisions, solutions of universal problems like the fight against the poverty, depletion of important for the life natural resources; in virtual trips to unknown and attractive objects and in the meantime these objects to be popularized all over our country. Collaboration with the children and youth from other countries in order to combine their efforts to fight against the apartheid, violence and criminality, defend human rights, stand up for human dignity, virtual and real forums, discussions, amusing initiatives in order to join all the children who need particular cares tu the ideas and emotions of the rest children in the same age; competitions about the most quick-witted skilful or imaginative person, for example, by "Defending fantastic projects" ...

# To be responsible for being Bulgarian - at present and tomorrow



Conducting special works out of class activities. There could be different variants. For example, a virtual trip "Around the most favorite places in my country"- acquainting by Internet or personal impressions — with the most beautiful and preferred places in Bulgaria, interesting legends, historical evidences connected with these places; investigation — if it is possible, the names of these places connected with the Bulgarian spirit, the grandeur of the ancestor, the pride and courage of those who had been living before us. Al this increases their knowledge and skills about the subject of the inheritance.

### Let us preserve our language and writing



Series of discussions, literary and language competitions, Olympiads connected with the folk and personal creative works; poetic competitions, finding the modern aspects of those teachers' work that had in the ninth century (IX) yet acquitted and defended our people's right to learn and pray in their own language. Comparing "Journeys" around ancient Europe in the same historic time when the foreign had been persuaded to speak the lateen language only and their own one to be spoken in their houses and nowhere else; initiatives devoted to the everlasting deeds of the Saints Cyril and Metody, Saint Kliment Ohridsky, Saint Naum, their students and followers; working out a map of the areas and nations who had assimilated our alphabet and stimulated their enlightenment and culture based on our writing; a look at "The golden century of the Bulgarian literature" in the time of Simeon I King, describing the glorious deeds of those our cultural heroes by the means of the all the kinds of student creative works. The student could compose "A bank of ideas" – how to preserve our language and culture today from all kinds of attempts at their obliteration or destruction.

#### Where we are

Participation of the youth in developing projects, for example, "Our place among the others", reducing to comparative facts about our achievements and these which we are going to overtake; ideas of change, our country development, according to the Universal and European standards; working out a project about the school of the future or the school of talents; amusing initiatives and subject plays like "What is the secret of the great Bulgarian cleverness?" Or "Let us solve the mystery of the Bulgarian voices", which made our country famous in all over the world and even in the cosmos.