



**International Council for Education and
Rehabilitation of People with Visual Impairment**

Annual report 2019

Content

- 1 Preface**
- 2 Report from the Board**
- 3 ICEVI-Europe activities 2019**
- 4 Financial report 2019**
- 5 Budget 2020**
- 6 Looking to the future**
- 7 Members of the Board as of 31 December 2019**
- 8 ICEVI regions of Europe as of 31 December 2019**

1 Preface

Herewith the board of ICEVI-Europe presents the annual report 2019. This year was in many aspects a nice year. Many of the plans that the Board had for 2019 have also been implemented.

The Board and the Programme Committee met in February of the year in Jerusalem, Israel. One of the important items of the agenda was, of course, the European Conference in 2021 in Jerusalem. Almost at the same time, on February 8, 2019, a one-day ICEVI workshop in French took place at INSHEA in Suresnes, France on inclusive education for French speaking teachers and other professionals, with the theme: *“Visual Impairment and Inclusive Education: What’s New?”*

The French speaking ICEVI Day was followed by a conference of the Professional Interest group, “Teaching and Teacher training,” which was held on 16-17 April 2019 at INSHEA in Suresnes, France. The theme of this conference was *“What is good, can always be better. Wondering how to improve the mathematical performances of Blind students?”* The goal of the conference was to map which knowledge and skills (in both mathematics and assistive devices) visiting and mathematics teachers need in order to support blind students in mathematics. Approximately, 40 participants, from 14 different countries, joined the conference. Most of the participants were mathematics teachers or visiting teachers of blind students. Some of them were researchers, producers of assistive technology or professionals working at centres that offer transcription services and make information accessible for blind students. The thought-provoking presentations, inspiring small group discussions and engagement of the conference participants played a vital role in making this conference successful.

The great interest showed how such a conference envisioned a need. It was therefore decided to organize a follow-up meeting at the 2021 European Conference in Jerusalem.

On 31 May -1 June 2019, the first Rehabilitation Conference of ICEVI-Europe in Budapest took place at MOHA Ház with the theme, *“Expanding Independence in all Ages.”* This conference was successfully organized by ICEVI-Europe together with the Hungarian National Organization, LÁRESZ Association and with the generous financial support contributed by the Ministry of Human Capacities (EMMI) and the organisation ‘Equal Opportunities of Persons with Disabilities Non-profit Ltd.’ (FSZK). The conference welcomed international delegates from 16 countries together with 56 participants from Hungary. In total, there were 92 participants and 4 exhibitors. The conference languages were English and Hungarian and there was simultaneous translation for the whole conference. The goal of the conference was to exchange knowledge, expertise and best practices on the improvement of rehabilitation services for the visually impaired and in the education of rehabilitation specialists on the field of visual impairment, in order to empower people with visual impairments to take control of their own lives and live independently as full members of society. Here too, the interest was great, as well as, the desirability of leaving the theme of rehabilitation on the agenda for a follow-up conference during the 2021 European Conference in Jerusalem.

Finally, the Bulgarian Association for Education of Visually Impaired Children together with ICEVI-Europe organized the 7th ICEVI-Balkan Conference that took place on 20-23 October 2019 at Hotel Ramada in Sofia, Bulgaria with the theme, *"Free access, real educational inclusion and unlimited technologies."* A successful conference with an active participation and interesting presentations of the attendees, mainly from the Balkan region, but also by professionals from countries beyond the Balkans – France, Russia, Italy, Hungary and Lithuania.

In addition to these activities, ICEVI-Europe also participated in The 7th Africa Forum on Visual Impairment 2019 held on 7-11 October 2019 at the Elilly International Hotel in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. This was Africa's premiere conference for blindness activists and leaders with a focus on the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goal #4: Achieving equality in education through innovation, access and lifelong learning. ICEVI-Europe is also actively involved in the European Coalition on Vision. Their objective is better Eye Health in Europe. On 4 to 6 December 2019, ICEVI-Europe participated in the joint ITU-European Commission forum on ICT accessibility, with the theme, *"Accessible Europe: ICTs 4 ALL"* held in St George's Bay, St. Julian's, Malta. This conference gathered a variety of European stakeholders to discuss how to bridge the digital divide and equip all groups of society, including persons with disabilities and other groups of people with specific needs, to take advantage of the Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs), by enabling capacity building in digital skills. In principle, the focus of the conference was how to make Europe more accessible through use of ICTs.

2019 was therefore an active year thanks not only to the generous contributions of the ICEVI-Europe Board Members, but also to the engagement and active involvement of many ICEVI-Europe members and non-members. Prior to the European Conference in 2021 In Jerusalem, various conferences will also take place in the coming year beginning with that of the ICEVI-Europe Professional Interest Group on Early Intervention in Leuven, Belgium.

For conference announcement and the reports afterwards, you can always consult our website at www.icevi-europe.org, but also consult the issues of the ICEVI-European Newsletter found online by visiting the following link <http://icevi-europe.org/newsletter.php>

I would like to thank everyone who has contributed to the realisation of the objectives of ICEVI-Europe, namely the sharing of knowledge and experience in order to increase the quality of life of people with a visual impairment.

Please enjoy reading this annual report. It is our desire that this will stimulate you to cooperate with fellow colleagues in and beyond Europe and continue to participate in our future conferences of the ICEVI-Europe regions, professional interest groups and of course, our quadrennial European Conference.

May we take this opportunity to remind you to pay your annual membership contribution. Your membership fee is crucial to the work of ICEVI-Europe. Membership fees are the organization's lifeblood and they enable us to continue to promote international cooperation in broadening the knowledge and skills of professionals working in the education and rehabilitation of persons with visual impairment. At the same time, we strongly encourage individual professionals and

professional organizations, schools, centres, associations, institutions and service providers in the field of visual impairment to become individual and organization members of ICEVI-Europe, respectively. The more members ICEVI-Europe has, the more ICEVI-Europe can achieve in the improvement of services for visually impaired people all over Europe. For further information regarding the membership benefits and application form, as well as, payment details, please visit the relevant pages on the ICEVI-Europe website.

This Annual Report was sent to all of the National Representatives, being that they are members of the General Meeting, asking for their agreement. We have made some textual changes to the Annual Report, as per the feedback provided by the National Representatives, and it was approved by them.¹

On behalf of the Board,



Hans Welling
President

www.icevi-europe.org

¹ As a consequence of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, many activities that are referred to in this 2019 Annual Report have now been suspended/postponed in 2020, such as the 10th ICEVI-Europe Conference in 2021 in Jerusalem, Israel and many other conferences.

2 Report from the board

ICEVI-Europe is an association of professionals and service providers that supports persons with vision impairment to achieve their right to participate as full members of society with equal access to services, facilities and social and cultural life. We believe that people with vision impairment should be empowered to take control of their own lives to maximise their life chances and personal happiness, through access to appropriate specialist support and adaptations in education, training and habilitation/rehabilitation.

Making an annual report is therefore an excellent opportunity to look back and see how this can be realized.

The engagement with members is of course very important, as is the active cooperation between each National Representative and the board member that oversees his or her region. As usual, in 2019 we published and disseminated our 3 regular issues of the Newsletter for members and interested parties and kept the website up to date, but also, our Facebook page at icevieurope. In addition, the board members seek to keep contacts in their own region.

ICEVI-Europe had the pleasure of announcing that in May 2019 our ICEVI European Newsletter has been assigned the ISSN Number 2666-1527. Following this, in December 2019, we published and disseminated a Special Edition of our Newsletter, which was the Proceedings of the 1st ICEVI-Europe Rehabilitation Conference in Budapest, Hungary, "Expanding Independence in all Ages" held on 31.05.2019-1.06.2019. This Special Edition Newsletter is the first issue in a newly established tradition to share proceedings of not only Professional Interest Group meetings and conferences, but also regional conferences and our European Conference, held once every four years.

ICEVI-Europe was once again invited to participate as a European Co-Operation Partner in the upcoming, 37th VBS Congress for the Blind and Visually Impaired that will be held in Marburg, Germany from the 3rd - 7th August 2020 with the theme: *Life. Education. Participation. individual - specific – flexible*. We strongly encourage blind and visually impaired people and all of you who are interested in the field of education, training and rehabilitation for people with blindness and low vision to actively participate in this conference by exchanging knowledge and expertise and sharing best practices. Please visit the following link of the conference website for further information about registration, accommodation, the conference program etc <https://vbs2020.de/wp/>

At the same time, the board continues to work toward exploring opportunities for future cooperation between GPEAA in France and ICEVI-Europe with mutually beneficial outcomes. The board desires to realize this collaboration and successfully reach a cooperation agreement. Besides sharing information on the communication media of each association (website, Newsletter and Facebook for ICEVI-Europe and website and Educational Bulletin for GPEAA), the board of ICEVI-Europe wishes to

cooperate with GPEAA in order to organize joint conferences and workshops for French-speaking countries, as well as, possibly also organize workshops for professional interest groups.

A conference of the Professional Interest Group, Early Intervention is in preparation and initial communication has commenced for a conference of the Professional Interest Group, Vocational Training and Employment Rehabilitation.

We urge you to visit the following webpage on our website, <http://icevi-europe.org/professional-interest-groups.php> in order to become familiar with all 7 Professional Interest Groups under the umbrella of ICEVI-Europe and contact directly the Managerial Responsible Person(s) of an ICEVI-Europe Professional Interest Group of your choice, in order to register yourself as a member of that professional interest group. This presents a good opportunity to engage in the exchange of knowledge and sharing of best practices with fellow professionals and practitioners working in your same field of interest.

It is very important for specialists in the field of visual impairment to share their practices, to disseminate their publications and research or projects. Therefore, we invite you to submit articles and announcements to the Coordinator of our ICEVI European Newsletter, Andrea Hathazi (ahathazi@yahoo.com), identifying any special events, news, projects, activities, scientific work, research or good practices undertaken by your organization in your country in the field of visual impairment, in order to be published in the future issues of our ICEVI European Newsletter.

In this way, the board of ICEVI-Europe gave concrete substance to the objectives of the association. We encourage you to visit the website of ICEVI-Europe www.icevi-europe.org for further information on our upcoming events, Events in which professionals will meet to share knowledge and best practices, to stimulate cooperation and create networks in order to improve the quality of services to people with visual impairments.

The President of ICEVI-Europe attended the ICEVI EXCO Meeting of ICEVI-World on 10 October 2019 in Addis Ababa, Africa. One of the main items of discussion concerned the final preparations of the Joint General Assembly of the WBU and ICEVI which will be held at the Marriot Hotel in Madrid, Spain from 19 to 24 June 2020, which will be hosted by ONCE. He also continues to attend the meetings of ICEVI-World in his role as Regional Development Advisor in connection with the Regional Chairs/Presidents of the ICEVI regions, which entails discussing with the regions the process of making constitutions and registering themselves as legal entities.

3 ICEVI-Europe activities in 2019



Report from the Baltic and Nordic countries by Anne Kristine Grosbøll

Region: Nordic-Baltic region

Period: 2019

Area of Reference	Description
Seminars, workshops, capacity building programmes, if any conducted during the reporting period	<p>Finland: 1st Rehabilitation Conference of ICEVI-Europe in Budapest 31st May – 1st June 2019 Outi Lappalainen ja Maarit Tilli (Orientation and Mobility Specialists, Valteri Centre for Learning and Consulting, Onerva), Poster presentations.</p> <p>Follow-up and gathering of feedback for the EBU ADVISE-project (Finnish Federation of the Visually Impaired).</p> <p>Nordic Braille delegation in Helsinki 9th -10th October (10.10 Braille delegations open day to all partners)</p> <p>Iceland: On the 21st of August 2019 the National Institute for the Blind, Visually Impaired, and Deafblind in Iceland conducted a course/workshop for teachers in mainstream schools and special departments within the schools that teach visual impaired students and students with cerebral visual impairment (CVI). The aim was to introduce teachers to the basic concepts of visual impairment and give them ideas on how we can work with visual impaired children. 25 teachers and professionals from different schools participated in the course/workshop and we got a good response afterwards.</p> <p>Norway: Statped has arranged workshops in accessibility on PC and in reading for educators working with students and adults with visual impairment. We have also produced learning resources for teachers and parents, published on the webpage statped.no.</p> <p>Statped has produced a video resource about vision and visual function in a pedagogical perspective. These are primarily for teachers who work with children with visual impairments. They are published on the webpage statped.no.</p>

Area of Reference	Description
	<p>The Norwegian University of Science and technology had five courses in 2019:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1: Educational principles and teaching methods of people who use braille. Credits 20, two semesters. 2: Mobility learning of visually impaired children, youth, and adults. Credits 20, two semesters 3: Educational technology for the visually impaired. Credits 20, two semesters 4: Introduction to Visual impairment and the work of teacher of the visually impaired. Credits 20, two semesters 5: Special educational needs in teaching and (re)habilitation of students with VI. Credits 20, two semesters <p>Denmark: Scandinavian Vision and Brain Conference September 4th and 5th 2019, IBOS arranged the Nordic Conference on sight and brain damage. Presentation and workshops on topics as Post Commotio, Whiplash injuries, Stroke, Cerebral Thrombosis, etc. - combined with the effects on the vision. Contact: Annemarie Enevoldsen, annemarie.haack.enevoldsen@kk.dk Lea Johanne Sarfelt, lea.johanne.sarfelt@kk.dk</p>
Collaborative activities and meetings with world bodies such as WBU, IAPB, UN, World Bank, and other organizations at the regional level	<p>Estonia: Estonia: participating in the preparatory process for the presentation of the Estonian shadow report on the implementation of UN CRPD</p>
ICEVI collaborative work with national governments within the region	<p>Estonia: Collaboration with the NGOs (Estonian Chamber of Disabled People, Estonian Blind Union, Support Center of Deafblind, Kakora, etc.), educational institutions (special schools Tartu Emajoe School and Helen's School in Tallinn) and rehabilitation services providers specialized on visually impaired clients and the Ministry of Social Affairs, Estonian Social Security and Labor market agencies. The main topics have been: upcoming changes in disability and workability assessment, services at national and local level, accessibility etc.</p>
Publications from the Region, that may be of interest to the viewers of ICEVI website	<p>Sweden: Support materials in mathematics education: SPSM have produced three support materials in mathematics education: Räkna med mig- <i>Count with me</i> is a guide which gives support and guidance in teaching mathematics to pupils with blindness, primarily for elementary school use. The guide is based on the latest Swedish curriculum from 2011 and it provides knowledge and information for both unexperienced and skilled teachers. The guide describes how a teacher can create an accessible learning environment; work with adapted books, and how to guide the pupils to abstract mathematical thinking with a basis in concrete experiences. A downloadable PDF can be found at: https://webbutiken.spsm.se/globalassets/egenproduktion/filer/rakna-med-mig-tillganglig-version.pdf More information about the guide in Swedish can be found at: https://webbutiken.spsm.se/rakna-med-mig-pdf/</p>

Area of Reference	Description
	<p>Räkna med abakus- <i>Count with abacus</i> is a guide addressed to teachers who teach pupils with severe visual impairment or blindness. The instruction provides useful methods for introducing the abacus. It shows the four arithmetic operations addition, subtraction, multiplication and division, and contains exercises and examples that can be used individually and in groups. This guide is based on the method of the abacus with one ball above the bar, and four balls below the bar, which is the most common way to use the abacus internationally. The guide can be ordered from: https://webbutiken.spsm.se/rakna-med-abakus-handledning/</p> <p>Räkna med abakus, övningsbok- <i>Count with abacus, exercise book</i> is designed for pupils with severe visual impairment or blindness but is suitable for anyone who wants to do math with an abacus. The exercise book can be used in parallel with the regular mathematics book. It is also available in a print version and is therefore usable for joint exercises with sighted peers. The Braille book can be ordered from: https://webbutiken.spsm.se/rakna-med-abakus-ovningsbok-med-punktskrift-och-svartskrift/ The book in print can be ordered from: https://webbutiken.spsm.se/rakna-med-abakus-ovningsbok-med-svartskrift/</p> <p>Denmark: Podcast series IBOS has produced a series of podcast in Danish in collaboration with Synscenter Refsnæs and the Association of Parents to blind and visually impaired. The aim of the podcasts is to make relevant professional knowledge available for the parents and young adolescents. 12 different podcasts with different themes, as e.g. social competences, the first job and flirting, will be produced. The podcasts will be uploaded to our homepage and our Facebook-site as they get produced. https://www.ibos.dk/fileadmin/user_upload/podcastkursus SociakeKomp-e-tencer_1506_2018.mp3 Contact: Julie Giese, h41v@kk.dk</p>
Any other information such as research, best practices, etc., from the region	<p>Estonia: In summer 2019 when Estonia celebrated the 150th anniversary of our Song Festival, the audio descriptions and tactile drawings were first time provided to the Folk Dance Festival and concerts. Several workshops and training sessions have been carried through on specific topics, e.g. rehabilitation services, visual impairment, deaf blindness, accessibility, audio descriptions, etc.</p> <p>Norway: In November 2019, a new parliamentary report was presented by the Ministry of Education and Research. It is called 'Early intervention and inclusive education in kindergarten and school' and will contribute to restructuring in the educational system in Norway, so that the help will be closer to the children and students who need special education and help</p> <p>Sweden: (1) Report "Image description for accessibility – guidelines, research and practices"</p>

Area of Reference	Description
	<p>In 2019, Jana Holsanova published the report "Image description for accessibility – guidelines, research and practices" at MTM. Image description is the most important method for making images available for people with visual impairment and blindness. What challenges and problems arise when creating image descriptions? How do we create image descriptions that are short and easy to read, provide understanding and do not burden the reader cognitively? The report examines practices for image description in Sweden and reviews the existing national and international guidelines for image description. This inventory results in a number of suggestions for improvements, development efforts, new research projects and studies focusing on both the production of image descriptions and on the use of image descriptions by the end users.</p> <p>A downloadable PDF can be found at: https://www.mtm.se/contentassets/7d7d8ecd7c504e32b4684089d3d66d2c/rapport-bildbeskrivning-for-tillganglighet-mtm.pdf</p> <p>(2) New research project: How the Blind Audience Receive and Experience Audio Descriptions of Visual Events</p> <p>Jana Holsanova, Roger Johansson and Viveka Lyberg Åhlander received a project grant from FORTE (Swedish Research Council for Health, Working Life and Welfare) for a three-years multidisciplinary project "How the blind audience receive and experience audio descriptions of visual events". Project period: 2019-2021</p> <p>Audio description (AD) offers a richer and more detailed understanding, experience and enjoyment of, for example, films for blind and visually impaired audiences. The task of the sighted audio describer is to select relevant visual information from i.e. a film scene (events, environments, objects, people, their appearance, clothing, facial expressions, gestures and body movements) and express this information aurally, by using vivid descriptions. These verbal descriptions of visual content activate internal images of the blind audiences and enhance their meaning-making process. However, there is still little knowledge about how the scene content should be described so that the end users get involved and empathize with the story.</p> <p>The theoretical aim of the project is to gain a better understanding of the principles that underlie successful communication between the sighted and the blind via audio description (AD). The aim of a series of experiments is to identify similarities and differences in how the sighted and the blind understand, segment and experience visual, spatial as well as temporal properties of an event. The project also includes workshops with researchers, practitioners of AD, interest organisations and blind users of AD. The applied goal is to increase the quality of AD and to support the training of audio describers and AD practices, and ultimately facilitate the understanding and accessibility of visual information for the visually impaired.</p> <p>(3) Interdisciplinary Collaborative Initiative on Audio Description and Accessible Communication (ADACOM)</p>

Area of Reference	Description
	<p>In 2019, Jana Holsanova was awarded a strategic thematic collaborative initiative from Lund university, focusing on central societal challenges and based on interdisciplinarity and cooperation with non-academic actors as well as research excellence. The initiative Holsanova is directing focuses on "Audio description for accessible communication". This interdisciplinary initiative includes five researchers from three faculties at Lund university and five collaborative partners from a number of government agencies and disability organizations (MTM [Swedish Agency for Accessible Media], SPSM [The National Agency for Special Needs Education and Schools], SRF [The Swedish Association of the Visually Impaired], US [Swedish Association of Visually Impaired Youth] and Syntolksutbildning [The Audio Description Education]) who will collaborate on research and development in the field of audio description and image description for three years. The co-operation gives an excellent opportunity to discuss research-relevant issues with partners outside academia, identify knowledge gaps and thereby speed up the advance in the research field. The researchers also get new inputs based on the needs of the users and practitioners and can include the target group with visual impairments and blindness in the research. The network also contributes with new contacts and communication channels for dissemination of knowledge and can also be an active partner for grant applications. Finally, the co-operation includes joint publications, workshops, popular lectures and brainstorm about future interdisciplinary projects.</p> <p>Denmark: Further development of Pre-employment Programme (PEP) The Association of Young People with Disabilities (SUMH) has, with IBOS as a partner, received funding for an employment project based on IBOS' Pre-employment Programme (PEP), 2017-2020. SUMH and IBOS want to develop and extend PEP to more target groups. The programme has achieved good results with empowerment and employment for visually impaired participants, but it has been a challenge to recruit for a group oriented programme from such a small, dispersed and not always identifiable target group. You can find further information about PEP here: www.ibos.dk/pep Contact: Lise Plagborg, ab9r@kk.dk</p> <p>The potential of electronic glasses in vision rehabilitation for people with Stargardt disease In collaboration with the eye clinic Kennedy Center, IBOS is involved in a project testing the potential of electronic glasses (EG) in vision rehabilitation for people with Stargardt disease. The aim of the project is to clarify, whether EG can improve the visual function and everyday life of a group of people diagnosed with the same eye disease (Stargardt disease) compared to other rehabilitation interventions.</p> <p>The project is designed as a pilot project, in which 10 people with clinically and genetically verified Stargardt disease at working age (18-66) will be included for testing, instruction and lending EGs. Four different EGs have been selected: eSight3, IrisVision, Acesight and Jordy2. Participants are instructed in the use of the electronic glasses and then borrow the glasses for testing at home, at work and other daily</p>

Area of Reference	Description
	<p>activities for two weeks. The effect of the intervention (the EG) is primarily measured on the participants' qualitative feedback as well as the effect on the quality of life assessed by the NO VFQ-25 and supplementary questions. Reading ability and activity performance will also be compared.</p> <p>Through the pilot project, we want to uncover how experienced users of assistive technologies assess EG, the effect of using EG and whether EG honours the vision-enhancing effect for various activities and participation, which is expected.</p> <p>For more information or input, please contact: Joaquim Torner Jordana, Kennedy Center, joaquim.torner.jordana@regionh.dk Pernille Duelund Højstrup, IBOS, pernille.duelund.hoejstrup@kk.dk Bo Schack Larsen, IBOS, bo.schack.larsen@kk.dk</p> <p>BlindTech – The use of AI by blind people The University of Copenhagen has in collaboration with IBOS received funding for a project testing how people with visual impairment or blindness use accessible AI solutions in everyday life. We are looking at two different situations: 1) digital assistants in the home, such as Google Home, and 2) apps on the smartphone when on the move, such as Seeing AI. The project will last for approx. three years and consist of ethnographic studies, analyses, workshops, development of learning material and dissemination of results. Some of the questions we explore are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - How are the technologies used in everyday life? - How do they take part of social situations? - How do the blind creatively manipulate the opportunities offered by the technologies and situations to make the most of them? - What are the advantages and disadvantages of the way the technologies are designed today according to context of use? - What are the challenges of using the technologies in social contexts? <p>For more information or input, please contact: Birgit Christensen, IBOS, Birgit.christensen@kk.dk Lea Johanne Sarfelt, IBOS, lea.johanne.sarfelt@kk.dk</p> <p>Master Projects “What matters most in the experience of learning in school for children with blindness.” Author: Bente Pedersen, Synskonsulent, Synscentralen Vordingborg, DK. Conclusion: Students and parents experience that it is meaningful that teachers are empathetic and committed, and that they are knowledgeable about and want to perform the task of teaching a student with blindness. It is important for the students that they can be active, and that they feel confident in their ability to master the tasks set for them at school. This creates motivation and a desire to learn. They experience that it inhibits their learning if the teacher lacks knowledge about teaching students with blindness. It also inhibits the teacher's qualifications for understanding the student and the student's needs.</p>

Area of Reference	Description
	<p>There is a need for further research into intersubjective conditions and the students' self-understanding.</p> <p>“The Meaning of Meeting Others with Visual Impairment. A Lifeworld Phenomenological Study among People with Visual Impairment”</p> <p>Author: Lea Johanne Sarfelt, Special Consultant, IBOS, DK.</p> <p>Conclusion: Meeting others with visual impairment, who are or have been in the same situation as themselves, is important for the participants in terms of living with a visual impairment. Both in relation to practical and emotional aspects. This study supports that group rehabilitation or peer support could be a more permanent part of vision rehabilitation in Denmark.</p> <p>Master Project 30 hp. Nordic Master in Vision Rehabilitation (120 hp.). Supervisor: Inger Berndtsson, Gothenburg University. 2019.</p>

This report is submitted by: Dorthe Marie Degn
Date: 16.01.2020



Report from the English speaking countries by Steve McCall

Region: English speaking region

Period: 2019

Area of Reference	Description
Regional and Sub-regional committee meetings conducted, if any	<p>The February a meeting of the ICEVI Europe Board was hosted by The Hebrew University in Jerusalem. Board members stayed at the University's Meirsdorf residential apartments and the Board sessions were held at the University. The board meeting was followed by the first meeting of the conference programme committee for the 2021 ICEVI European Conference which will be held in Jerusalem. ALEH, the Israeli society for the visually impaired organized visits to the conference venues and accommodation sites, and the conference themes and the practical arrangements were discussed. The members of Board on the programme committee meeting were impressed by the enthusiasm of the host committee and the quality of the arrangements to date which suggest that the conference will be an exciting and memorable one. The historic city provided a hospitable, relaxed and enjoyable backdrop to the very positive meetings.</p> <p>For further information about the arrangements for the conference go to the conference website, https://www.birmingham.ac.uk/schools/education/research/victar/index.aspx</p>
Global campaign activities, if any	N/A
Seminars, workshops, capacity building programmes, if any conducted during the reporting period	<p>England</p> <p>VIEW, the professional association for teachers of the visually impaired, held its annual conference in Birmingham in March. It was attended by qualified teachers of the visually impaired from across the UK. The conference was organized by Rory Cobb, the ICEVI national representative for England and speakers included Sarah Hughes, the ICEVI national representative for Wales. Sessions were delivered by Clare Jackson, a clinical psychologist from Addenbrookes Hospital, Naomi Dale a neuro psychologist from Great Ormond Street Hospital and Dr John Harris from the Royal Society for Blind children in London. For full details please go to https://viewweb.org.uk/view-conference-2019/ where you can also find details of the 2020 conference. Teachers, researchers and exhibitors from Europe will be very welcome to attend.</p> <p>Representatives from Queen Alexandra College in Birmingham attended the ICEVI workshop on mathematics in Paris and in January 2019 the College will be hosting a fact finding visit for Colleagues in Denmark interested in</p>

	<p>institutional development. The visit was coordinated with help from ICEVI Europe. The visiting group will also be meeting with RNIB management colleagues in London, For further information about the College go to https://www.qac.ac.uk and for information on the RNIB go to https://www.rnib.org.uk/</p> <p>Ireland ChildVision the National Education Centre for Blind Children www.childvision.ie organised a series of training seminars and workshops on education and visual impairment for parents and professionals throughout 2019. For information on the 2020 programme see http://childvision.ie/site/whats-on/workshopevents/</p> <p>Scotland John Ravenscroft (Professor of Childhood Visual Impairment, Institute for Education, Teaching and Leadership, University of Edinburgh). the ICEVI representative for Scotland was the keynote speaker at the Understanding Visual Processing Difficulties conference held in June at the Stormont Parliament Buildings in Belfast https://www.angeleyesni.org/upcoming-events/2019/6/7/understanding-visual-processing-difficulties-conference</p> <p>Wales: The Annual Wales Eyecare Conference was held in Cardiff and attracted a range of professionals from health, education and rehabilitation to explore the future of eyecare services in Wales. The Welsh Association of Vision Impairment Educators (WAVIE) group chaired by Sarah Hughes, the ICEVI national representative for Wales, continued its role in keeping VI educators across the country informed and in touch with current national matters, contributing to the national consultation on the new national curriculum. https://twitter.com/WAVIEWales</p>
Collaborative activities and meetings with world bodies such as WBU, IAPB, UN, World Bank, and other organizations at the regional level	<p>Steve McCall, The Board member for English speaking countries represented ICEVI Europe at an international conference held in Malta in December. 'Accessible Europe: ICTs for all' was an ITU conference https://www.itu.int/en/about</p> <p>The conference focused on promoting accessible and affordable technology for people with disabilities and was attended by the new European Commissioner for equality, Helena Dalli.</p>
ICEVI collaborative work with national governments within the region	N/A
Awards, Recognition, etc., to ICEVI members from the region	N/A
Publications from the Region, that may be of interest to the viewers of ICEVI website	<p>Insight Magazine is a free online publication produced by the RNIB for professionals working with children with visual impairment. It contains practical advice and ideas for teaching children of all abilities across the school and preschool curriculum. In the archive you can also access the best articles from previous Insight publications which cover a wide range of useful and relevant topics. To see the resource, go to: https://www.rnib.org.uk/insight-online</p>

	<p>A new edition of 'Learning through Touch' was published in November. This best-selling book by Mike McLinden, Steve McCall and Liz Hodges provides in depth advice about supporting learners who are blind and who have multiple disabilities.</p> <p>https://www.taylorfrancis.com/books/9780429260735</p>
Any other information such as research, best practices, etc., from the region	<p>England VICTAR (the Visual Impairment Centre for Teaching and Research) at the School of Education, University of Birmingham lists on its website details of research carried out in 2020,</p> <p>https://www.birmingham.ac.uk/schools/education/research/victar/index.aspx</p> <p>in 2020 VICTAR undertook an evidence assessment for the Government of Wales on the effectiveness of educational interventions to support children and young people with vision impairment. A copy of the review can be found here:</p> <p>https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/statistics-and-research/2019-09/effectiveness-educational-interventions-support-children-young-people-vision-impairment.pdf</p> <p>Scotland The Institute of Education at the University of Edinburgh also lists details of research publications in visual impairment and education. These include collaborative work with ICEVI members. For a list of publications see:</p> <p>https://www.research.ed.ac.uk/portal/en/persons/john-ravenscroft(df10489-2902-42d5-b3c6-eab51472497e)/publications.html</p>

This report is submitted by:

Steve McCall - ICEVI Europe representative of the English speaking region



Report from French speaking countries by Nathalie Lewi-Dumont

Region: French speaking

Period: 2019

Area of Reference	Description
Regional and Sub-regional committee meetings conducted, if any	France: Feb 8 th : Suresnes, INSHEA. Visual impairment and inclusive education. What's new? Organized by INSHEA, INJA and ICEVI-Europe French speaking countries
Global campaign activities, if any	<p>Belgium: Oct. 17-19 Tactile books Tactus award http://www.tactus.org 16/10/2019 Eqla (ex ONA) launches a campaign #commetoutlemonde, "as everybody" https://eqla.be/campagne-eqla-commetoutlemonde/</p> <p>Switzerland Screening http://eprints.whiterose.ac.uk/148275/1/Switzerland-Country-Report-Vision_def.pdf</p>
Seminars, workshops, capacity building programmes, if any conducted during the reporting period	<p>France</p> <p>January 17th, Lyon: Brailletnet: National meeting about accessible digital books. Report :https://www.brailletnet.org/compte-rendu-rencontres-nationales-livre-numerique-accessible/</p> <p>April, 16-18th. Suresnes, INSHEA ICEVI-Europe Professional Interest Group: "What is good, can always be better; wondering how to improve the mathematical performances of blind students?"</p> <p>May 13, Paris: Ariba Spring conference: https://www.acuite.fr/sites/acuite.fr/files/articles_pj/ariba_-_sfo_13_mai_2019.pdf</p> <p>Oct, 4th and 5th: ALPHV Conference (Psychologists for people with VI), Lyon: Évolutions et remaniements des pratiques dans l'accompagnement de la personne déficience visuelle « Evolution of support practice for people with VI https://www.alfphv.net/?journee=24</p> <p>Oct 10-11, Nancy, GPEEA annual conference: "La petite enfance, sur le chemin de la scolarisation". Early childhood, on the way to school" http://gpeea.fr/2019-la-petite-enfance-sur-le-chemin-de-la-scolarisation/</p> <p>Novembre 22nd: ARIBA Autumn Conference, Bordeaux: "Research and initiative in low vision" Ariba Conference http://www.ariba-vision.org/sites/default/files/ARIBa%20Bordeaux%2022.11.19_programme_0.pdf</p> <p>Nov 22-23: CTEB Toulouse, National conference, "Culture and access"</p> <p>Dec., 2-3, Paris Conference on Technology and visual Impairment, Organized By FAF (French Blind Federation) https://www.aveuglesdefrance.org/actualites/8eme-edition-des-jetdv</p>

Area of Reference	Description
	<p>Belgium: April 25th: Louvain_la Neuve: A literature centered evening to make people aware of visual impairment, followed by a conference https://uclouvain.be/fr/instituts-recherche/ipsy/irsa-25-avril.html 18 mai 2019 Colloque <i>Basse-Vision – les nouveaux défis</i> organisé par La Lumière à Liège. https://www.lalumiere.be/fr/news/view/212/colloque-basse-vision</p> <p>19 septembre 2019 - Charleroi annual exhibition organized by EQLA (previously ONA) Oct 5th - Université de Mons (UMons), Mons Symposium 2019 « Dis-moi comment tu vis, je te dirai comment tu vois » “Tell me how you, live, I will tell you how you see” https://www.amisdesaveugles.org/4e-symposium-ada-1.html</p> <p>Novembre 5-11th The Extraordinary Film Festival (TEFF) A lot of movies about Visual Impairment, including a Film made by Eqla Organization « Petits Combats de la Vie Ordinaire » « Petits Combats de la Vie Ordinaire » (Small fights of ordinary Life) https://teff.be https://eqla.be/petits_combats_teff/ 14 novembre 2019 - Bruxelles (Belgique) Conférence organisée par l'Irsa (Institut royal pour sourds et aveugles), Marie-Anne Schelstraete, professeur à l'université catholique de Louvain</p> <p>Switzerland <i>I'm able</i>, learning braille for all. Also for children with learning braille for all. Also for children with associated disabilities.</p> <p>Social skills and adaptative behavior development of young children with severe visual impairment attending an inclusive kindergarten in Switzerland</p> <p>REVISA - REVISA – (Recognition and identification of Visual Impairment in School Age) https://www.ucba.ch/fileadmin/pdfs_fr/recherche/REVISA/2019.07.01_Information_projet_REVISA.pdf</p>
Publications from the Region, that may be of interest to the viewers of ICEVI website	<p>France: ANAE review, n° 159, April: “Visual impairment among children and adolescents: How can we develop their perceptive and cognitive competences”</p> <p>Movie (in the movie theatres, then DVD) <i>Dans la terrible jungle</i>, a movie with the adolescents of La Pépinière, a school for VI with multiple impairments in the North of France. https://www.acaciasfilms.com/film/dans-la-terrible-jungle/</p> <p>Belgium: Van <u>Van Audenhaege, Alice</u>, directed by Anne Bragard, <i>Évaluation de la conscience de l'écrit et des prérequis à la lecture chez l'enfant déficient visuel</i> :</p>

Area of Reference	Description
	<p><i>Comparaison d'enfants voyants et non-voyants. Master's degree, Faculté de psychologie et des sciences de l'éducation Université catholique de Louvain. [Screening visually impaired child's written language awareness and prerequisite to reading acquisition. Comparaison between sighted and blind children]</i> https://dial.uclouvain.be/memoire/ucl/fr/object/thesis%3A22197</p> <p>Switzerland Spring, S. (2019, mars). État des lieux sur l'enseignement spécialisé pour les enfants d'âge scolaire handicapés de la vue ou sourdaveugles. <i>Revue suisse de pédagogie spécialisée</i>, 1. https://docplayer.fr/154906417-Revisa-identification-et-reconnaissance-de-la-deficience-visuelle-en-age-scolaire.html</p>
Forthcoming events from the region for the next six months	<p>France: January 16th: Research and schooling of students with VI Inja, Paris January, 23 Lyon: Braillet: National meeting about accessible digital books May: Spring conference of Ariba June 5th: Suresnes, INSHEA. Visual impairment and inclusive education. Learning from all senses. Organized by INSHEA, INJA and ICEVI-Europe French speaking countries</p> <p>Belgium January 09-11 Brussels Blinded - A sensational journey into music – https://www.fondationisee.be/Blinded-A-sensational-journey-into-music.html</p> <p>10th anniversary of the Leuven DisABILITY Filmfestival. 9 - 13 March 2020. Facebookpage: https://www.facebook.com/disABILITY-Film-Festival-306923876815154/ Homepage: http://www.disabilityfilmfestival.be</p> <p>Switzerland "NeuroPedagogy of Vision: from Perception to Cognition," will take place in Lausanne on October 8th, 2020</p>
Any other information such as research, best practices, etc., from the region	<p>Luciole, a new font for people with VI https://www.ctrdv.fr/index.php/item/232-luciole-une-police-de-caracteres-pour-les-professionnels-de-la-deficience-visuelle The Technical regional centre for VI (CTRDV) in Lyon area, created a new font adapted for people with VI. The Touch Foundation has a new website: http://fondationdoutoucher.org</p>

This report is submitted by Nathalie Lewi-Dumont, Juliette Boudru, Lucien Panchaud
Date: January 23rd.



Report from the South European countries by Ana Isabel Ruiz López

Region: Southern European Countries -Spain
Period: 2019

Area of Reference	Description
Regional and Sub-regional committee meetings conducted, if any	SPAIN: Not any regional or subregional meetings
Any other information such as research, best practices, etc., from the region	SPAIN: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Language improvement camps (English), CRE of the ONCE in Pontevedra. 5 Italian and 0 Portuguese student. - Exchange between ONCE and the NCBI of Dublin, Ireland. Total participants: 21 (11 Spanish students and 10 Irish students) - Participants in International program: 75, 15 Italian, 15 Spanish, 15 French. 15 English, and 15 German students - Participation in the ONCE Physiotherapy University School Course 2018/19: DEGREE IN PHYSIOTHERAPY: 2 Students from Portugal

This report is submitted by Ana Isabel Ruiz López
Date: January 16, 2020



Report from the German and Dutch speaking countries by Kathleen Vandermaelen

Region: German and Dutch speaking region
Period: 2019

Area of Reference	Description
Regional and Sub-regional committee meetings conducted, if any	Austria Meeting with the representative of German speaking countries in July 2019
Seminars, workshops, capacity building programmes, if any conducted during the reporting period	Belgium Seminar: Centrum Ganspoel, BLL, De Kade-Spermalie: creating an expertise matrix and exchange knowledge regarding visual impairment
ICEVI collaborative work with national governments within the region	Austria Advertising the European conference in 2021 in Israel in different boards and groups
Publications from the Region, that may be of interest to the viewers of ICEVI website	Austria - Germany Website of Verband für Blinden- und Sehbehindertenpädagogik https://www.vbs.eu/de/
Forthcoming events from the region for the next six months	Austria - Germany Big Congress of VBS in Marburg/ Lahn, Germany; VBS Congress 2020 in Marburg 37th Congress for pedagogy for the blind and visually impaired from 03.08.2020 - 07.08.2020 at the Deutsche Blindenstudienanstalt eV (blista) „Life. Education. Participation. individual - specific – flexible“ congress website: https://vbs2020.de/wp/ Belgium “Kennisdeeldag: Kijken naar (niet) kijken” Seminar on visual impairment organized by Center Ganspoel for physicians, hospitals, schools, therapists, welfare organizations

Area of Reference	Description
Any other information such as research, best practices, etc., from the region	Austria Informal Meeting with colleagues of India and visits of different institutions and best practice in South India "Braille without borders" http://www.braillewithoutborders.org/GERMAN/founders.html Next visit in East India in March 2020 is in preparation.

This report is submitted by
 Kathleen Vandermaelen - ICEVI Europe representative of the German and Dutch speaking region
 Gerti Jaritz - ICEVI Europe contact person - Austria



Report from East European countries by Vladimir Ruchin

Region: Eastern European Countries

Period: 2019

Area of Reference	Description
Regional and Sub-regional committee meetings conducted, if any	<p><u>Armenia</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There were conducted meetings with different organizations and individuals and was presented ICEVI. <p><u>Kazakhstan</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Sub-regional conference ICEVI on people with visual impairment.
Global campaign activities, if any	<p>- <u>Belarus</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> International scientific-practical conference "Continuing professional education of persons with special needs." <p><u>Russia</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> International Conference within the framework of the General Assembly of Rehabilitation International. <p>-</p>
Seminars, workshops, capacity building programmes, if any conducted during the reporting period	<p><u>Azerbaijan</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Three pilot projects "Inclusive Education" are being carried out in the country on the basis of 15 secondary schools and 13 preschool educational institutions. The project involves 268 children with disabilities, including children with visual impairments. <p><u>Armenia</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There was held seminar theme: The Necessity of Braille Textbooks for Pupils. Participants: RA MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, SCIENCE, CULTURE AND SPORT, Human Rights Defender of RA, Yerevan State Pedagogical University. <p><u>Belarus</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A program for the comprehensive diagnosis and correction of disorders of the main lines of development in children of early and preschool age. 15 students from Molodechno Special School take part in the excursion to the United Institute of Information Problem of Academy of Sciences. The students were informed about the rules of the admission to BSPU. Interaction together with Institute of Special Education of BSPU. <p><u>Georgia</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Meeting with the directors of various vocational institutions, to discuss the progress of inclusive vocational education. Meeting with representatives of international non-governmental organizations of inclusive vocational education. <p><u>Kazakhstan</u></p>

Area of Reference	Description
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting with heads of city enterprises, local authorities to support inclusive education. • A reading and writing contest for blind people in Braille. <p><u>Russia</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seminar and action "Children to children." • Multimedia Contest "Freedom to Help." • Competition in the framework of the program "Creating Opportunities." • International inclusive camp "RITMA Territory: I am an entrepreneur of my life" • Organization of technical support for visually impaired students. -
Collaborative activities and meetings with world bodies such as WBU, IAPB, UN, World Bank, and other organizations at the regional level	<p><u>Azerbaijan</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting of Ministers of Education in Paris as part of the 40th session of the General Conference of UNESCO. • Meeting Minister of Education of Azerbaijan with UNESCO Deputy Director General for Education. <p><u>Armenia</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collaboration with: Special Inclusive department of Yerevan State Pedagogical University and "Mankan Achker" charitable foundation HUI http://www.hui.am/evs/armenia/11 (Hosting of Volunteers and Camp in summer). • Holding an Exhibition of the works of our pupils at the Union of Artists of Armenia https://www.facebook.com/specialschool14/photos/pcb.1311820835664803/1311802772333276/?type=3&theater. • Teacher Professional Development Program implemented in collaboration with the World Bank. <p><u>Russia</u></p> <p>Preparing delegates for WBU-ICEVI General Assembly 2020.</p>
ICEVI collaborative work with national governments within the region	<p><u>Azerbaijan</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A program for the development of inclusive education was adopted, including the preparation of documents and discussion of research results. The goal is to attract people with disabilities at all levels of education and create a barrier-free environment for this. • A draft law of the Republic of Azerbaijan has been prepared. Focus group: people with disabilities and people who are not able to study in the general curriculum. • Draft new regulation on psychological-medical-pedagogical commissions. • Trainings for members of commissions in order to teach assessment tools. • Monitoring the educational situation of the existing psychological – medical – pedagogical commissions. <p><u>Belarus</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regularly questions of training the visually impaired persons have been discussed with the leadership of the Belarusian Republican association of the Visually Impaired. <p><u>Georgia</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Ministry of Education of Georgia is working to pay attention to the students with special educational needs, including visually impaired people.

Area of Reference	Description
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Opening the International Education Center 2019. I
Awards, Recognition, etc., to ICEVI members from the region	<p><u>Kazakhstan</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> According to the results of the National Rating, the NGO "Help Me" received the status of "The Best Enterprise of Kazakhstan 2019" and received the title "Quality Star."
Human interest stories from the region as a result of ICEVI initiatives	<p><u>Georgia</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> International Human Rights Day. Many school competitions have been announced for the students of Georgian general education institutions within the framework of the Ministry's Subproject Support Program. <p><u>Kazakhstan</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A program for employment of people with disabilities A joint project with students of the university named after S. Yesenov on the accessible environment in medical institutions. <p><u>Russia</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> International Day of Persons with Disabilities Human Rights Day.
Publications from the Region, that may be of interest to the viewers of ICEVI website	<p><u>Azerbaijan</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Boarding school for blind and visually impaired children. 45 graduates of a boarding school for visually impaired children became students of higher educational institutions, 31 people became students of vocational colleges <p>- <u>Armenia</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Publication of Braille textbooks and special notebooks Service for the Protection of Historical Environment and Cultural Museum-Reservations" <p>http://hushardzan.am/en/archives/25290?fbclid=IwAR01TAuiVu4C95c500t654JsCcWkcD1ZrAqzg1x3KlvLZN99ujOUAlqgaK0</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> New Art Stage "Lav em" educational and cultural projec.t <p>https://www.facebook.com/pg/NewArtStage/about/?ref=page_internal.</p> <p><u>Belarus</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> During 2019, ICEVI- journals was distributed among special schools for blind people in Belarus Belarusian representatives traveled to Nizhny Novgorod (Russia) to the Center for training the blind persons (Kamerata)/ Inclusive Development Concepts <p>- education of persons with special needs.</p> <p><u>Russia</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Report at the European Conference ICEVI in Budapest "System of Education of the Blind and Visually Impaired Children in Russia."
Forthcoming events from the region for the next six months	<p><u>Armenia</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Active participation of Armenia in the processes of the European educational space in the context of the Bologna process. <p><u>Belarus</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Belarus is preparing reports on the problems of using information technologies for blind people at a conference in Greece in 2020 <p><u>Russia</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Competition for tiflocom commenting on performances for blind people. Meeting for the supply of equipment for tiflocom commenting is held among libraries for blind people, theaters and NGOs

Area of Reference	Description
Any other information such as research, best practices, etc., from the region	<p><u>Azerbaijan</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Ministry of Education funded the construction of a house consisting of 120 one-room apartments for graduates, deprived of parental care and without a residence. • Translation of textbooks for the training of teachers in the field of special education, including the electronic version, as well as updating the curriculum and syllabuses. <p><u>Armenia</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Here is our school of inclusive education page, for information. https://www.facebook.com/. 2020. <p><u>Belarus</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Activities together with Association of Parents of Vision Impaired children in Minsk in Belarus. • Interaction together with Institute of Special Education of BSPU. <p><u>Georgia</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The conference «Inclusion of visually impaired - Challenges and perspectives for modern society". June 2020. <p><u>Russia</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Competition "The Best Inclusive School in Russia." -

This report is submitted by **Ruchin Vladimir**
Date **December 23**



Report from the Balkan countries by Andrea Hathazi

Region: Balkan Region

Period: 2019

Area of Reference	Description
Regional and Sub-regional committee meetings conducted, if any	The national representatives of the Balkan region had the opportunity to share experiences, have constructive discussions and make suggestions for activities and events during the 7 th ICEVI Balkan conference that took place in Sofia, Bulgaria, 20-23 October 2019. There were discussions about the organization of the next ICEVI Europe Balkan Conference. The national representatives also made suggestions for common projects and research studies.
Global campaign activities, if any	<p>Bulgaria Changes in the social system going on, including the social benefits for children and people with disabilities. Implementation of the ICF.</p> <p>Croatia The Faculty of Education and Rehabilitation Sciences University of Zagreb, the Department of Visual Impairments has participated in developing strategies for equalizing opportunities and rights for persons with disabilities in Velika Gorica</p> <p>Cyprus - National Transposition of the Marrakesh Treaty Directive - In February 2019 the School and the Organisation worked in close partnership to ensure that the Cyprus Parliament adopted a fair legislation for the transposition of the EU Directive into national law enabling in this way access to Published Works for visually impaired persons. - European Elections 2019 – The right to vote independently (participation of Maria Kyriacou into a short video on Accessible elections produced by The European Blind Union. - European Accessibility Act</p> <p>Romania The International Day of People with Disabilities was celebrated on the 3rd of December 2019 by the Office for Students with Disabilities and the Department of Special Education within Babes-Bolyai University in Cluj- Napoca in</p>

Area of Reference	Description
	<p>partnership with Be Inclusive Association. The day consisted of several workshops aimed to raise awareness to students and the civil society about disability. The program also included an exposition of products of several special and inclusive schools and organisations of people with disabilities.</p>
<p>Seminars, workshops, capacity building programmes, if any conducted during the reporting period</p>	<p>Bulgaria 7th ICEVI Balkan conference took place in Sofia, Bulgaria, 20-23 October 2019. Its main theme was "Free access, real educational inclusion and unlimited technologies". It gathered together representatives from almost all Balkan countries, but also participants from France, Italy, Hungary, Lithuania and Russia. The local organizer from Bulgarian side was Bulgarian Association for Education of Visually Impaired Children.</p> <p>Croatia Faculty of Education and Rehabilitation Sciences University of Zagreb, Department of Visual Impairments was involved in the following projects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Erasmus + project "Building Bridges - Promoting Social Inclusion and Wellbeing for parents of children with special needs" – research about family wellbeing finished in February 2019. During last two months of the project a Program for enhancing social inclusion and wellbeing of families of children with special needs (a Manual for trainers and Workbook for parents) and 4 workshops for parents of children with disabilities were delivered. - Project "Together in Sport", coordinated by Sport Association of Pozega. Within the project we held the workshops about specific needs of children with VI and MDVI. We also pointed out possibilities of different adjustments of sports and sport gears to improve inclusion of children with VI and MDVI in different sports activities. - Project "Independence Support Network", coordinated by Centar Ozalj. Within the project a workshop for improving the early intervention programs and working with parents with children with VI and MDVI was organised. - Project „Participation of vulnerable groups of children“, coordinated by UNICEF Croatia. We held the focus groups with children, their parents, kindergarten teachers, teachers and expert associates from schools and kindergartens in order to analyze children’s participation and respecting rights of children. <p>Continues lectures and workshops for expert associates and teachers in regular kindergartens and schools in Croatia on different topics: Working with parents of children with visual</p>

Area of Reference	Description
	<p>impairment and MDVI, Planning and working with children with VI and MDVI in regular class, Inclusion of children with MDVI in regular schools</p> <p>- Workshop about communication of children with MDVI for volunteers of Blue service who provide support to families of children with disabilities.</p> <p>Mali dom's Education Center</p> <p>During reporting period, Mali dom's Education Center continued with various Education programs and in 2019 educated more than 80 experts within following programs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early Developmental Support – (9 modules, September 2018 - until May 2019), 12 participants • Assessment and Therapeutic Procedures in the Activities of Feeding, Eating and Drinking for children with Developmental Disabilities –31 May and 1 June 2019, 6 participants <p>Collaboration with Perkins International has continued throughout 2019. on the project "Strengthening Expertise for the Development of Assessment programs" for employees of Special hospital for children's chronic diseases Gornja Bistra. This year, with the support of, Mali dom-Zagreb continued to co-operate with Special hospital Gornja Bistra with the aim of further strengthening the competencies of hospital staff.</p> <p>Therefore, from February to June 2019, a project has been implemented. Each team in the education process was guided by their mentors through educational meetings in Special hospital Gornja Bistra as well as through mentoring program in Mali dom. Functional profiles were created as well as individual maps with plans for 9 children. 6 experts from Mali dom participated in the project and educated 8 staff members from Hospital.</p> <p>We also held tailor – made programs for different institutions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Low Vision Assessment and Rehabilitation – Centre for the Blind in Ljubljana, Slovenia – January 2019 • Basics in Vibroacoustic therapy – VIBRAC level I – Skopje, Macedonia – April 2019 (20 participants) • Enhanced Handling and Positioning in Early Infancy – for doctors and nurses from Health Centre Zagreb – March 2019. (17 participants) • Expert visit within Erasmus+ Project of 4 members of staff of Institution for the Blind from Athens, Greece – May 2019

Area of Reference	Description
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experts from Mali dom-Zagreb visited the Home for children with disabilities "Kolevka" in Subotica, Serbia in collaboration with Perkins International. In addition to working with the beneficiaries, meeting with parents, we also held a series of workshops on the proper treatment and positioning, sensory integration and encouragement of research, learning and communication in dealing with children with multiple disabilities -6th to 8th November 2019, (30 staff members). • In cooperation with Perkins International, the Educational Center "Mali dom-Zagreb" carried out trainings for experts in Belgrade from 04 to 11 December 2019.: "Application of the elements of music therapy in the work with children with visual impairments and disabilities" was held for 16 professionals of the Veljko Ramadanovic School of Visual Impairment in Zemun. The educational program "Low Vision Assessment and Rehabilitation" in the Elementary School "Dragan Kovacevic" in Belgrade. Education "Undesirable Behaviors-Prevention and Intervention Strategies" for professionals of the Veljko Ramadanovic School of Visual Impairment in Zemun. <p>On May 9 and 10, 2019, we celebrated the tenth anniversary of Mali dom - Zagreb with a special ceremony with distinguished guests and a two-day Expert Conference at the Panorama Hotel in Zagreb that hosted over 100 experts from different institutions.</p> <p>On September 16 and 17, 2019 we hosted a seminar on Cortical/cerebral Visual Impairment (CVI) - Identification, assessment and intervention strategies for children with CVI, held by Christine Roman-Lantzy, Ph.D., world renowned expert in the field from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Seminar gathered more than 50 experts and parents of children with CVI.</p> <p>Rehabilitation Centre Silver held 15 workshops about programs (orientation and mobility and daily living skills for visually impaired, assignment of assistance dogs, sensory integration therapy with therapy dog, etc.) In workshops is emphasized how to approach visually impaired and other persons with disabilities and role of assistance dogs in lives of persons with disabilities.</p>

Area of Reference	Description
	<p>Cyprus</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ERASMUS Plus KA1 project - In 2019 staff of the School participated once again in a job shadow programme and visited for a week the Child Vision in Dublin, Ireland. <p>Greece</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Capacity building programme: PrECIVIM (Promoting Effective Communication for Individuals with a Vision Impairment and Multiple Disabilities) was approved by the Erasmus+ Programme in relation to Key Action 2). 2019 is the third year of the project and the consortium is consisted of the following organizations: University of Thessaly, Greece (Coordinator), Babes Bolyai University, Romania/Roehampton University, UK/Amimoni - Panhellenic Association of parents and friends of visually impaired people with additional handicaps, Greece/ Special School for the Deafblind, Greece/ Liceul Special pentru Deficienti de Vedere Cluj-Napoca, Romania/Whitefield Academy Trust, UK/ St Barnabas School for the Blind, Cyprus, and TRAPEZA PLIROFORION & PERIEHOMENOU A.E., Greece. By the end of 2019, all training events have been conducted as well as the majority of interventions. The best practices guide has been designed and the final outcome will be delivered in 2020. 2. Capacity building programme: ErISFaVIA (Early Intervention Services for Families with Children with Vision Impairment and Additional Disabilities) was approved by the Erasmus+ Programme in relation to Key Action 2/2019-1-EL01-KA201-062886). The kick-off meeting took place in September 2019 and the consortium is consisted of the following organizations: University of Thessaly, Greece (Coordinator)/, Babes Bolyai University, Romania/ Blindeninstitut München, Germany /Amimoni & Syzoi, Panhellenic Associations of parents and friends of visually impaired people with additional handicaps, Greece/ Liceul Special pentru Deficienti de Vedere Cluj-Napoca, Romania/ Ayse Nurtac Sozbir Gunebakan, Turkey/ Istanbul Medeniyet University/ Turkey, Mali dom – Zagreb/Croatia, and St Barnabas School for the Blind, Cyprus. The central notion of the present project lies in the presence of a crucial situation which addresses a need that has been internationally acknowledged as very important and crucial and refers to children with vision impairment and

Area of Reference	Description
	<p>additional disabilities or deafblindness with their families regarding early intervention programmes and services.</p> <p>3. Capacity building programme: ToMiMEUs (Towards a Multisensory and Inclusive Museum for Individuals with Sensory Disabilities). The project is financed by the European Social Fund (Erasmus + Programme/Cooperation for Innovation and the exchange of good practices Project Agreement Number: 2019-1-RO01-KA202-063245 and the coordinator is the Muzeul Etnografic al Transilvaniei (Romania). 2019 was the year where all the members of the consortium met to discuss roles and activities of the project (kick-off meeting). The underpinning notion of the present project lies in the fundamental right of all people for equal access to cultural heritage and cultural life.</p> <p>4. Capacity Building in Higher Education (Project InSide: Erasmus+ programme). The consortium of this project consists of 11 African universities (such as from Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia, etc.), University of Macedonia (UoM/coordinator), University of Athens as well as the Johannes Kepler University. The main aim of this project is the inclusion of Higher Education students in the process of distance education.</p> <p>5. Festival entitled: "Reflection of Disability in Art» (R.o.Di.)", December 2019, organized by University of Macedonia (UoM), the Department of Educational and Social Policy (UoM) and the Department of Music Science and Art (UoM).</p> <p>Turkey</p> <p>Güven Z., Atasavun Uysal S .:'Development of motor, sensory and physical activities in multiple disabled children with low vision'.Seminar in Gören Eller Visually Impairment School in Ankara.</p> <p>*Ayyıldız, E. (2019). "The education of Children with Multiple Disabilities", II. Traditional Autism and Special Education Days, Maltepe Guidance and Research Center (Seminar).</p> <p>*Ayyıldız, E. (2019). "Multiple Disabilities", Veysel Vardal School for the Blind, Istanbul (Seminar).</p> <p>The project ErISFaVIA (Early Intervention Services for Families with Children with Vision Impairment and Additional Disabilities) was approved by the Erasmus+ Programme (Key Action 2)-Turkey is a partner of this project (The coordinator of Turkey's is Emine Ayyıldız from Istanbul Medeniyet University)</p>

Area of Reference	Description
Collaborative activities and meetings with world bodies such as WBU, IAPB, UN, World Bank, and other organizations at the regional level	<p>Turkey</p> <p>*Atasavun Uysal S. Study on the Situan Analysis (SITAN) on Children with Disabilities, Team Leader, UNICEF, LRPS-2017-9135402, Ankara. (2017- continue). (Team Leader in that Project)</p> <p>*Atasavun Uysal S. Material development in the curriculum of the children with visual impairment in the lecture of physical activities, TÜBİTAK- MEB, 2019, Ankara. (Researcher in that Project)</p> <p>*</p>
ICEVI collaborative work with national governments within the region	<p>Croatia</p> <p>Employees of Rehabilitation Centre Silver participate in the working group for drafting the rulebook about using of assistance dogs. Law about using Assistance dog was adapted in 2019 (NN39/19)</p>
Awards, Recognition, etc., to ICEVI members from the region	<p>Greece</p> <p>The Accessibility and Support Lab for higher education students who have disabilities was awarded the Education Leaders Awards 2019. In specific, Prof. Kostas Papadopoulos (Department of Educational & Social Policy/ University of Macedonia) was nominated for his innovative and supportive services regarding the education of students who have vision disability in tertiary education.</p>
Human interest stories from the region as a result of ICEVI initiatives	<p>Bulgaria</p> <p>A blind winner of the TV show “Bulgaria got talent”!!! His name is Andrian Asenov and he is totally blind.</p>
Publications from the Region, that may be of interest to the viewers of ICEVI website	<p>Bulgaria</p> <p>The presentations from the 7th ICEVI Balkan conference will be published in a special issue of the European Newsletter in January 2020.</p> <p>Croatia</p> <p>Faculty of Education and Rehabilitation Sciences University of Zagreb, Department of Visual Impairments conducted two very interesting preliminary studies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - about the divorcement rate of parents of children with disabilities - screening of CVI in regular schools <p>Results are not published yet.</p> <p>Cyprus</p> <p>The St. Barnabas School in close collaboration with older staff members published an album dedicated to the history of the School and the education for persons with visual impairments in Cyprus since 1929. The publication is available currently in Greek in print and electronic versions</p> <p>Greece</p>

Area of Reference	Description
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="564 230 1350 495">1. Argyropoulos, V., Kanari, Ch., Papazafiri, M., & Nikolarazi, M. (2019, October). "Effective communication for individuals with vision impairment and multiple disabilities: The case of PrECIVIM project". 7th ICEVI Balkan Conference "Free access, real educational inclusion and unlimited technologies", 20-23 October 2019, Sofia, Bulgaria. <li data-bbox="564 495 1350 763">2. Argyropoulos, V., Papazafiri, M., & Kanari, Ch. (under publication) "Communication skills, collaboration networks and teachers' training in education of children with multiple disabilities and vision impairment or deafblindness". Proceedings of the 2nd Panhellenic Conference of Teaching Practice Network, Volos, Greece (in Greek/25-3-2019). <li data-bbox="564 763 1350 920">3. Argyropoulos, V., Hathazi, A., & Nikolarazi, M. (2019). Undergraduate Student Education Programs Regarding Braille Literacy: A Transnational Comparative Study. <i>Higher Education Studies</i>, 9(4), 44-57. <li data-bbox="564 920 1350 1111">4. Argyropoulos, V. & Padeliadu, S., Avramidis, E., Tsiakali, T., & Nikolarazi, M. (2019). An investigation of preferences and choices of students with vision impairments on literacy mediums for studying. <i>British Journal of Visual Impairment</i>, 37(2), 154-198. <li data-bbox="564 1111 1350 1267">5. Argyropoulos, V., Paveli, A. & Nikolarazi, M. (2019). The role of DAISY digital talking books in the education of individuals with blindness: A pilot study. <i>Education and Information Technologies</i>, 24(1), 693-709. <li data-bbox="564 1267 1350 1424">6. Argyropoulos, V., & Nikolarazi, M. (2019). Bridging the gap between teaching and researching in the field of visual impairment. Proceedings of IASTEM International Conference (pp. 33-36). London. United Kingdom. <li data-bbox="564 1424 1350 1615">7. Argyropoulos, V., & Gentle, F. (2019). Formal and non-formal education for individuals with vision impairment or multiple disabilities and vision impairment. In J. Ravenscroft (Ed.) <i>The Routledge Handbook of Visual Impairment</i> (pp. 118-142). Abingdon: Routledge. <li data-bbox="564 1615 1350 1850">8. Argyropoulos, V., & Halder, S. (2019). Disability within contemporary inclusion dynamics: a global point of view. In S. Halder & V. Argyropoulos (Eds), <i>Inclusion, Equity and Access for Individuals with Disabilities: Insights from Educators across World</i> (pp. 1-15). Cham: Palgrave McMillan. <li data-bbox="564 1850 1350 2004">9. Halder, S., & Argyropoulos, V. (2019). Challenges and strategic pathways to participation, equity, and access. In S. Halder & V. Argyropoulos (Eds), <i>Inclusion, Equity and Access for Individuals with Disabilities: Insights from</i>

Area of Reference	Description
	<p>Educators across World (pp. 665-688). Cham: Palgrave McMillan.</p> <p>10. Argyropoulos, V., & Papadimitriou, V. (2019). Examining the inclusion of people with visual disabilities in workplace: a Greek case study. In S. Halder & V. Argyropoulos (Eds), Inclusion, Equity and Access for Individuals with Disabilities: Insights from Educators across World (pp. 243-262). Cham: Palgrave McMillan.</p> <p>11. Argyropoulos, V., & Kanari, C. (2019). The role of non-formal learning environments in education and socialization of children with visual disability: the case of museums. In S. Halder & V. Argyropoulos (Eds), Inclusion, Equity and Access for Individuals with Disabilities: Insights from Educators across World (pp. 125-151). Cham: Palgrave McMillan.</p> <p>12. Argyropoulos V., Ravenscroft J. (2019) Assisting People with Vision Impairments through Technology. In: A. Tatnall (Ed.), Encyclopedia of Education and Information Technologies (pp. 1-10). Cham: Springer Nature.</p> <p>Romania</p> <p>Hathazi, A., Rosan, A. (2019) Facilitating Factors and Barriers in Implementing Inclusive Education in Romania In S. Halder & V. Argyropoulos (Eds), Inclusion, Equity and Access for Individuals with Disabilities: Insights from Educators across World (pp. 603-618). Cham: Palgrave McMillan</p> <p>Hathazi, A. (2019), Particularities of play in the context of disability. Approaches, models and good practices in Catalano, H., Albulescu, I (2019), Didactics of Play, collection Contemporary Pedagogical Ideas , București, Editura Didactică și pedagogică, p.188-205</p> <p>Conference papers</p> <p>-10th IEEE International Conference on Cognitive Infocommunications, October 2019, Nepal, Italy, Assessing Visual Attention in Children Using GP3 Eye Tracker. Authors: Cristina Costescu, Adrian Rosan, Nagy Brigitta, Andrea Hathazi, Attila Kovari, Jozsef Katona, Ilona Heldal, Carsten Helgesen, Serge Thill, Robert Demeter</p> <p>-10th IEEE International Conference on Cognitive Infocommunications , October 2019, Nepal, Italy, Examination of Gaze Fixations Recorded during the Trail Making Test Authors: Attila Kovari, Jozsef Katona, Ilona Heldal, Carsten Helgesen, Cristina Costescu, Adrian Rosan, Andrea Hathazi, Serge Thill, Robert Demeter</p> <p>- 10th IEEE International Conference on Cognitive Infocommunications , October 2019, Nepal, Italy, Analysis</p>

Area of Reference	Description
	<p>of Gaze Fixations Using an Open-source Software Authors: Attila Kovari, Jozsef Katona, Ilona Heldal, Carsten Helgesen, Cristina Costescu, Adrian Rosan, Andrea Hathazi Serge Thill, Robert Demeter</p> <p>- 10th IEEE International Conference on Cognitive Infocommunications , October 2019, Nepal, Italy, Recording Eye-tracking Parameters during a Program Source-code Debugging Example. Authors: Attila Kovari, Jozsef Katona, Ilona Heldal, Carsten Helgesen, Cristina Costescu, Adrian Rosan, Andrea Hathazi Serge Thill, Robert Demeter</p> <p>Turkey *Şanlı BB, Atasavun Uysal S, Topuz S.: ' Effect of gait parameters on participation in multiple disabled children with low vision 'Turkish J of Physiotherapy 2019;30(2):28-29. *Güven Z, Yildiz Kabak V, Demircioğlu A, Yadigar N, Atasavun Uysal S. 'Comparison of hand and finger grip strength and performance-based hand dexterity between children with low-vision and their typically developed peers: a pilot study', Turkish J of Physiotherapy 2019;30(2):142. *Ayyıldız, E. (2019). "A Less-known Disability Condition in Türkiye: Multiple Disability", Insight Pendik RAM E-Magazine, 1 (1). -</p>
Forthcoming events from the region for the next six months	<p>Cyprus April 2020 The School for the Blind will organize a dissemination event to present the outcomes of the ERASMUS+ Project PrECIVIM</p> <p>Greece International events based on the Erasmus+ PrECIVIM project</p> <p>Turkey 6th Awareness Week of Children with Multiple Disabilities and Visual Impairment (27-30 April, 2020)</p> <p>Romania Dissemination conference within the Erasmus+ PrECIVIM project</p>
Any other information such as research, best practices, etc., from the region	<p>Croatia Faculty of Education and Rehabilitation Sciences University of Zagreb, Department of Visual Impairments organized a study visit to University of Edinburgh within the project LOSPER – Croatian qualification framework. We visited Moray House School of Education and Sport, Department for Childhood Visual Impairment, CALL Centre University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh University Student Disability Office, Royal Blind School, Oaklands School & Visual Impairment Unit, Beatlie School. This way we thank all our hosts for</p>

Area of Reference	Description
	<p>being so welcoming during our visit and hope to be seeing them again soon</p> <p>Director of Center Silver, as chairman of the European Committee for Standardization of Assistant Dogs successfully organized and held a meetings Netherlands and Zagreb, regarding standardization in the field of work with assistance dogs. Employees of the Center participated in the meetings as working group members. The Director of the Center is the president of the European Committee for Dogs Assistants CEN TC/452.</p> <p>Assistance dog trainers held presentation at International Scientific Conference “Improving the quality of life of children and youth”, Istanbul, Turkey – ASSISTANCE DOGS AND THEIR ROLE IN REGARD TO BLIND AND VISUALLY IMPAIRED CHILDREN</p> <p>Cyprus</p> <p>In 2019 the School celebrated its 90th year anniversary. A number of celebrations, activities, actions were planned throughout the year. Among the most important were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A concert on May 28, 2019 at the School’s open amphitheater with the participation of the Greek singer Pantelis Thalassinis - The production of a Greek musical, June 13, 2019 by the Theatrical Group of the School - Production of a logo for the 90th anniversary that was displayed in all the activities - The publishing of an album outlining the history of the School and the education for persons with visual impairments in Cyprus since 1929 <p>A group of students is participating in the following European funded projects organized by the Ministry of Education, Civilization a, ~@Sports and Youth:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Religious students tours - PROMISE project interactive workshops organized by the Cyprus Institute of Research - WALK THE GLOBAL WALK a European project in close collaboration with our local Municipality <p>Greece</p> <p>Intellectual Outputs regarding best practices guide and policy recommendations will be released based on the findings of the PrECIVIM project</p> <p>Turkey</p> <p>*Güven, Z. “Comparison of Factors, Motor-Sensory- Hand Strength, Affecting Handwriting Kinematics and Pen Holding Position in Children with Low Vision and Typical</p>

Area of Reference	Description
	<p>Development”. Master Thesis, Hacettepe University, Institute of Health Sciences, 2019 (Thesis advisor: Songül Atasavun Uysal).</p> <p>*Ayyıldız, E. (2019). “How Does it Feel to be a Parent of a Child with Multiple Disabilities? The Perceptions and Experiences”, 7th ICEVI Balkan Conference, 20-23 October, Sofia.</p> <p>*Ayyıldız, E. “Children with Multiple Disabilities and Their Education” (Undergraduate course at Maltepe University in Fall Semestr, 2019-2020)</p> <p>Romania</p> <p>Miraje Cultural Festival - Art has no limit 2019 Edition, 10th of May -15th of May 2019 organised by The School for the Visually Impaired in Cluj-Napoca with the aim to support the inclusion of people with disabilities in the community (https://www.ldv.ro/noutati.php?do=art&id=329). More than 300 students with and without disabilities participated from 10 cities from the country on the stage of Miraje festival in order to perform. There were also other special events and activities such as Coffee in the Dark, the Alive Library and The Postal Card competition with the theme Theatre through the eyes of the children.</p>

This report is submitted by Andrea Hathazi, ICEVI- Europe Balkan Regional Representative

Bulgaria: Mira Tzvetkova-Arsova, ICEVI- Europe National Representative for Bulgaria

Croatia: Marianne Marijana Konkoli Zdesic, ICEVI- Europe National Representative for Croatia; Sonja Alimović

Cyprus: Maria Kyriacou, ICEVI- Europe National Representative for Cyprus

Greece: Vassilis Argyropoulos, ICEVI- Europe National Representative for Greece

Romania: Andrea Hathazi, ICEVI- Europe National Representative for Romania

Turkey: Emine Ayyıldız , Songül Atasavun Uysal, ICEVI- Europe National Representatives for Turkey

Date: December, 2019



Report from the Central European countries by Beata Pronay

Region: Central European region

Period: 2019

Area of Reference	Description
Regional and Sub-regional committee meetings conducted, if any	<p>HUNGARY, POLAND, SLOVAK REPUBLIK none</p> <p>SLOVENIA TIFLO section, a section within Association of Special Pedagogues of Slovenia, which is a group member of ICEVI and assembles professionals working in the field of education for children and young people with visual impairment, continued its mission in 2019 playing an important role in providing new knowledge and information for the professionals in the field. However, the frequency of meetings has dropped to only one this year. The meeting took place at the beginning of July. The observation tools developed within Erasmus+ project SMILE! were presented and comments for further changes were given in the discussion. One of our colleagues presented steps in the process of raising awareness in classes in mainstream schools where pupils and students with visual impairment are being schooled. Many ideas for workshops were discussed. Members of TIFLO section are also active in different commissions working under the umbrella of TIFLO section. A special attention was drawn to the role of assistants of pupils and students with visual impairments in mainstream schools. TIFLO section was also active within the umbrella association, which celebrated its 70th anniversary this year.</p>
Global campaign activities, if any	<p>HUNGARY LÁSS (Sports and Leisure Association for the VI): popularisation of 5-a-side football on the Hungarian day of parasport, February 22, (180 school students)</p> <p>SHÛTI</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the Centre of Students with Special Needs at ELTE University, Budapest together with BEAC (ELTE Sport Centre) organized a national goalball championship as an awareness raising campaign. 21 11 2019 Organized Open Days for secondary school students, parents and teachers and for freshmen with the aim of awareness raising <p>POLAND, SLOVAK REPUBLIK SLOVENIA Active participation in several international projects and preparing new applications: - SMILE! Erasmus+ KA1 project dealing with socialisation issues of children and young people with visual impairment, successfully</p>

Area of Reference	Description
	<p>finished its first year with the training event in Prague at High School for Visually Impaired in Prague (GOA) in February. The first event in the second year took place in Zagreb at Mali dom rehabilitation centre in October. Participants presented examples of good practice and discussed possibilities to share this knowledge with teachers in mainstream school in order to promote development of social skills of the target group.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Centre IRIS was successful in applying a new KA2 School partnership Erasmus+ project in spring 2019 as the coordinator. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - According to the intentions, SMILE! has been upgraded into SMILE too and a KA2 School partnership Erasmus+ project has been developed. The application was a joint work of six partners, The Centre IRIS being the coordinator, and The Royal Blind School, Scotland UK, Royal Dutch Visio, The Netherlands, High School for Visually Impaired in Prague (GOA), The Czech Republic, Lega del Filo d'Oro, Italy and Jordanstown School, Northern Ireland UK as partners. The main goal of this three-year project is to develop training programmes for teachers in mainstream school and parents of children and young people with visual impairment to assist the development of social skills. The kick-off meeting took place in Ljubljana at the Centre IRIS in October. <p>The Centre IRIS is a partner in a KA2 School partnership Erasmus+ project coordinated by the School for visually impaired pupils Veljko Ramadanović, Belgrade, Serbia. The project's goals are to develop a training programme for teachers who teach blind and partially sighted pupils in inclusive education settings and to create a booklet to support the training programme. The project is in its first year with two other partners one from Italy (Istituto Regionale Rittmeyer) and another from the Republic of North Macedonia</p>
Seminars, workshops, capacity building programmes, if any conducted during the reporting period	<p><u>HUNGARY</u> <u>LÁRESZ: 1st ICEVI European Rehabilitation Conference: May 31-June 1</u> <u>ELTE Barczy Gusztav Faculty of Special Needs Education: Lectures on CVI</u> <u>by Prof. John Ravenscroft (university of Edinburgh) and Gabriella Varga (LÁRESZ), for students and TVIs (available on Youtube)</u> <u>Federation: audiodescription workshop with Joel Snyder</u> <u>PhD+audiodescription platform meeting for qualified Hungarian audiodescribers</u> <u>Budapest School for the Blind: Erasmus + projects:</u> <u>I EXPRESS II.:</u> March 2018 submission of the KA2 application for the continuation of the collaboration coordinated by VISIO from the Netherlands. Meeting in Valladolid, Spain in November <u>SMILE project:</u> February 2018 submission of the KA1 project (We got the grant.). meeting in Prague, February, and in Zagreb, October <u>PsyCoVIA project:</u> KA2 strategic partnership 2019 July submission <u>Budapest School for the Blind: Visiting</u> a new potential ENVITER member in <u>Turin</u>, Italy in January 2019 <u>ENVITER board meeting:</u> January 2019, Lisbon</p>

Area of Reference	Description
	<p>MDVI Euronet meeting: May 2019, Ljubljana, Slovenia (the assistant director and a teacher were taking part actively).</p> <p>“Blue Sky” meeting: planning the future projects under the ENVITER umbrella, April 2019 Copenhagen (4 colleagues were participated).</p> <p>Visiting a partner school in St.Petersburg 2019 May with 4 colleagues</p> <p>ICEVI-Rehabilitation Conference 2019 May, Budapest –many of our colleagues participated, plus had lectures</p> <p>ENVITER annual conference 2019 October: Vinko Bek, Zagreb,Croatia</p> <p>Tyflology Congress 2019 November Krakow (the director participated and had a presentation)</p> <p>POLAND</p> <p>20.05 – Hungry Fingers Tactile graphics workshop at Valteri Centre for Learning and Consulting, Onerva. Finland</p> <p>31.05 – 01.06 Hungry Fingers Tactile graphics workshop at the 1st ICEVI Europe Rehabilitation Conference in Budapest, Hungary</p> <p>26-27.09 ‘OSOBA (Person) – “30 years of Education and Integration in Poland’, International conference organized by The Maria Grzegorzewska University of Special Education, Warsaw.</p> <p>12 – 31.10 Hungry Fingers Tactile graphics workshops in India (Indian Institute of Technology(New Delhi), Bethany Society (Shillong), Mother Elizabeth School for Children with a Visual Impairment, Nongbah , Meghalaya).</p> <p>21-23.10 17th International Conference ‘Reha for the Blind in Poland’ . Organizer: The Szansa dla Niewidomych Foundation, in collaboration with the Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński University (UKSW), Mazovia Local Government, Warsaw City Council and Centre for the Blind in Israel.</p> <p>02. 11 Hungry Fingers workshop at the British University in Dubai: <i>Universal Design in Education: Including a congenitally blind learner in an English language classroom.</i></p> <p>08-09.11 Cracow – International Typhology Congress. Organizer: The Friends and Parents of Children with a Visual Impairment Society in collaboration with the President of Cracow, Cracow Pedagogical University and the Niepełnosprawni Razem Foundation.</p> <p>All-year awareness raising workshops:</p> <p>The Laski Centre for Blind Children: Project “Dusk conquerors” - workshops for sighted children about visual impairment. So far over 1000 children took part in the workshops titled “Close your eyes, open your senses”. Participants can learn about everyday life, specialist technology and education of learners with low vision or total blindness.</p> <p>KUL CAN, Lublin: “Classroom without blackboard” and “The world of senses” - all-year workshops giving sighted school age children a chance for better understanding of blindness and for hands-on experience with educational resources designed for learners with a visual impairment.</p> <p>PZN (Polish Association of the Blind):</p> <p>Specific projects:</p>

Area of Reference	Description
	<p>Training of 16 typhlogists in specialist access technology Developing standards for training guide dogs and guide dog trainers. Planning to train 50 specialists. Facilitating participation of young English speaking Poles with a visual impairment in Erasmus exchange programmes Partnership with several European countries in the Romanian project InRadio. International project for developing accessible resources for teaching natural science to young learners in cooperation with several European countries</p> <p>SLOVAK REPUBLIK Airport staff training on proper assistance to air passengers with disabilities: The training covered all types of disabilities and gave hands-on experience to the staff at the M.R. Stefanik airport in Bratislava. All types and tricks concerning proper assistance are summarized within the toolkit designed for airport employees.</p> <p>SLOVENIA - Three members of TIFLO section – teachers of mathematics participated at the ICEVI Teacher and Teaching Training conference in Paris. They presented the system to teach mathematics to blind pupils and students used in Slovenia. - The annual two-day conference of Association of Special Education Teachers of Slovenia entitled The quality of life of persons with SEN was held in March in Portorož with active participation of our members. - Most children and young people with visual impairment are being educated in inclusive forms of education, therefore many activities tend to empower professionals in mainstream schools. For example, the national project PoMoč Hand in Hand coordinated by The Centre IRIS, with all kinds of activities, tailored to the needs of schools, namely one or several-day courses, workshops either at the Centre or at schools/pre-schools where children and young people with visual impairment are educated, proves the need for this kind of support. It gives good results, all the activities are well attended. Hopefully, the support will become part of the established practice in the future and thus successful practice developed within the project will lead to changes in education system.</p>
Collaborative activities and meetings with world bodies such as WBU, IAPB, UN, World Bank, and other organizations at the regional level	<p>HUNGARY Hungarian Federation of the Blind and Visually Impaired: participation in the yearly EBU assemble in Rome (October 2019) (the director participated) There were not any professional activities with the Perkins School for the Blind in 2019. No contact with the new regional coordinator.</p> <p>POLAND PZN (Polish Association of the Blind) – close cooperation with WBU. WBU ‘Hungry Fingers, KUL CAN (The John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin: and the National Agency for Special Needs Education and School (Stockholm) – Swedish version of the “Transfograph” educational set.</p> <p>SLOVAK REPUBLIK none</p> <p>SLOVENIA There are four commissions working under the umbrella of TIFLO section where experts from universities, people from the Union of the</p>

Area of Reference	Description
	<p>Blind and Partially Sighted of Slovenia representing the interested public, and professionals working in the field of education join their efforts to solve important questions that arise.</p> <p>The commission collecting the terminology in the field faces many problems e.g. lack of certain expressions in Slovene, different translations for the same term, etc. However, its work is approaching the end and hopefully it will be published in a digital form next year.</p> <p>The commission for Slovene Braille was able to establish that the new 6 dot Braille Code had been successfully accepted and used, nevertheless, there are a few changes needed and especially the 8 dot Braille Code must follow the same process.</p>
ICEVI collaborative work with national governments within the region	<p>HUNGARY none</p> <p>POLAND PZN (Polish Association of the Blind): Monitoring and participating in creating legal documents concerning persons with special needs – in cooperation with various Government bodies: the Parliament (Committees for Media, Culture, Social, Family and Senior citizens Policy; Voting by correspondence; Ministry of Finance (exemption from obligatory use of cash registers by sole traders with a severe visual impairment); Ministry of Transport (working on warning systems in electricity powered vehicles). PZN - Evaluation of suitability for persons with a visual impairment and certification of Braille labels on medicines, accessibility of buildings, specialist equipment and software.</p> <p>SLOVAK REPUBLIK Completion of a cross-disability project aimed at accessibility of environment, information and communication for people with various disabilities, the elderly and city visitors; this project was carried out in close collaboration with the Nitra Municipal Office. One of the main project outputs is a strategic document that discusses specific accessibility recommendations regarding public transportation, information and civic services.</p> <p>SLOVENIA The system supporting inclusive forms of education faces serious problems due to lack of qualified teachers in all areas of special needs and in the field of visual impairment as well. The government has established a commission to find suitable solutions to diminish the problem. Besides representatives of the Ministry and all faculties, principals and itinerant teachers are also members of the commission so we believe that measures proposed will have positive effects on the situation.</p>
Awards, Recognition, etc., to ICEVI members from the region	<p>HUNGARY Ágnes Somorjai got a prize (Prize of Excellence, for her director work) from the Educational District She got a recognition from the Polish Hope Association for Parents of VI children, to be chosen as a member of the Honorary Committee of the Tyflo Congress in Krakow</p> <p>POLAND Lodołamacz – Ice breaker. Two awards (at regional and national level) received by Bogusław ‘Bob’ Marek from KUL CAN (Lublin). Award granted in recognition of work towards removing barriers</p> <p>SLOVAK REPUBLIK.</p>

Area of Reference	Description
	<p>none</p> <p>SLOVENIA</p> <p>Within Association of Special Pedagogues of Slovenia three awards were given to our members in 2019: Ana Mohorko works as an itinerant teachers and a low vision trainer, Neva Laščak is a music teacher, and Jera Svetek, an art teacher who works in the department providing adapted teaching materials.</p>
Human interest stories from the region as a result of ICEVI initiatives	<p>HUNGARY</p> <p>none</p> <p>POLAND</p> <p>PZN (Polish Association of the Blind):</p> <p>Braille essay competition. An 8 year old from Szczecin received 3rd prize</p> <p>PZN: Free contact lenses distributed among persons with a visual impairment</p> <p>SLOVAK REPUBLIK, SLOVENIA</p> <p>none</p>
Publications from the Region, that may be of interest to the viewers of ICEVI website	<p>HUNGARY</p> <p>ICEVI Newsletter 2019 October edition, Prónay, B. & Varga, G. reported on the 1st ICEVI Rehabilitation Conference, Budapest, 2019 31 May – 1 June</p> <p>ICEVI Newsletter Special Edition 2019 Prónay, B & Duhonyi, A. (eds.) 1st ICEVI Rehabilitation Conference, Budapest, 2019</p> <p>Kovács, K. (2019) Empowerment of Students with Disabilities in University Setting. In Halder S., Argyropoulos, V. (eds.) Inclusion, Equality and Access for Individuals with Disabilities. Insight from Educators across World. Palgrave Mcmillan, Singapore. pp 581-602</p> <p>POLAND</p> <p>1. "Spatial scaling in congenitally blind and sighted individuals: similarities and differences". Szubielska, M., W. Möhring and M. Szewczyk. <i>Journal of Cognitive Psychology</i>. Volume 31, 2019 - Issue 4, pp.478-486</p> <p>Paid access: https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/20445911.2019.1624554?casa_token=aCmTc87cNDUAAAAA%3ATenZYDtczY4t1es5bFnGgKUOxllox1irugQeLqJOJtkWZ1OucpOspogDjb1QCvA9kB2-kW6pCWy</p> <p>2. "Przegląd Tyflogiczny" . Rozwijanie i rehabilitacja wzroku osób słabo widzących . Nr 1-2/2019 Warszawa: Polski Związek Niewidomych (PZN)</p> <p>3. „Program rozwijania umiejętności posługiwania się wzrokiem" N.C. Barraga i J.E. Morris. Warsaw, Polski Związek Niewidomych (The third Polish edition of the N.C. Barraga i J.E. Morris programme.)</p> <p>PZN publications in large print, Braille and digital:</p> <p>Polish Association of the Blind: „Pochodnia – a monthly magazine; „Pochodnia information bulletin” - bi-weekly; „Our children” - quarterly for parents and teachers; „Promyczek” and „Światelko” - monthly magazines for children.</p> <p>SLOVAK REPUBLIK, SLOVENIA</p> <p>none</p>
Forthcoming events from the region for the next six months	<p>HUNGARY</p> <p>Budapest School for the Blind: SMILE project meeting: Budapest 2020</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blue Sky meeting: April 2020, Trieste, Italy

Area of Reference	Description
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PsycovIA meeting, The Netherlands, 2020 January, and the next meeting in Italy in 2020spring <p>LÁSS: 10th Ski Camp for people with BVI (32 participants), January 2020</p> <p>ELTE: participation in ToMIMEUS project (Erasmus+)</p> <p>POLAND</p> <p>“Invisible Heritage” – joint Polish Ukrainian project starting January 2020. The John Paul II Catholic University and Vasyl Stefanyk Precarpatian National University in Ivano-Frankivsk</p> <p>SLOVAK REPUBLIK</p> <p>none</p> <p>SLOVENIA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A new five-year study programme at the Faculty of Education, University of Ljubljana, is being developed. The programme will educate and train among others also qualified teachers of children and young people with visual impairment. - Ljubljana, the Centre IRIS, is preparing for hosting the ICC camp in 021.
Any other information such as research, best practices, etc., from the region	<p>HUNGARY</p> <p>Budapest School for the Blind: Making contact and dual exchange program, visiting each other's institutes with the Levoca (Slovakia) School for the Blind in 2020 spring</p> <p>LÁSS: active participation in the Central European 5-a-side football league (5 tournaments), Budapest Tournament: June 14-15, with 85 participants (teams from Budapest, Wroclaw, Krakow, Vienna, Brno, Prague)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IBSA 5-a-side football development camp: Budapest, July 10-14 (44 participants) • Charity Santa Run, December 8, (accessible running festival, with 800 participants) <p>Federation: launching the “Distant Eye” project: provision of distant visual support for BVI users, through iOS, guaranteed for a period of 3 years, almost 1000 iPhones distributed to individuals with BVI</p> <p>Views to the Future project: online platform for collecting best inclusion practices from all fields of education, in support of teachers in mainstream settings</p> <p>LÁRESZ Association:</p> <p>Nano's mischief – a multisensory developmental book by Romana Chalupova, ZEMÉ, Z.S. with a set of games was introduced to the professionals in Bruges 9th ICEVI European Conference was translated into Hungarian and was given over to NGOs mediated by LARES Association</p> <p>Manual 'Get the feel' Vandamme, E., Praet, M., Bonamie, E. (eds.) © Mobile Support Service Accent – also introduced during the Bruges 9th ICEVI European Conference get the copyright permission for the Hungarian translation to LARES Association and is already under production with the support of the NFSZK and EMMI.</p> <p>POLAND</p> <p>Several small research projects on appreciation of art by persons with total blindness run jointly by The Institute of Psychology (The John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin and The Faculty of Art of UMCS (Mme Curie University) in Lublin.</p> <p>November 2019 “Touching art” – exhibition of tactile art work organized by the Faculty of Art of UMCS (Mme Curie University in Lublin).</p>

Area of Reference	Description
	SLOVAK REPUBLIK none

The report was submitted by Judit Gombás PhD, ELTE Bárczi Gusztáv Faculty of Special Needs Education, ICEVI-Europe National Representative from **HUNGARY**
Date: December 16, 2019

The report was submitted by: Bogusław 'Bob' Marek and Grażyna Walczak, ICEVI-Europe National Representative from **POLAND**
Date 17 12 2019

The report was submitted by Timea Hokova, PhD, UNSS, ICEVI-Europe National Representative from **SLOVAK REPUBLIC**

Date 18 12 2019

The report was submitted by Marija Jeraša ICEVI-Europe National Representative from **SLOVENIA**

Date 16 12 2019

No report arrived by this time from **CZECH REPUBLIC.**

**THE COMPLETED REPORT WAS SUBMITTED BY BEATA PRONAY REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVE
CENTRAL EUROPE**

Date 22 12 2019

4 Financial report 2019

<u>Balance</u>	<u>31-12-2018</u>
	39977 €

Cash	0 €
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Total	39977 €
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<u>Profit and loss</u>	<u>31/12/2019</u>
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Income

Membership Contributions	5380.00 €
Donations	4432.74 €
Conference fees	8102.51 €
Other	21.00 €

Total Income	17936.25 €
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Expenditure

Administration Costs	7,200.00 €
Bank Fees	183.26 €
Travel and Accommodation	1433.45 €
Conference Costs	4970.00 €

Total Expenditure	13786.71 €
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RESULT	4149.54 €
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Balance as per 31.12.2019	44126.54 €
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5 Estimate 2020

<u>Balance</u>	<u>31-12-2019</u>
	44,126 €
Cash	0 €
Total	44,126 €
<u>Profit and loss</u>	<u>31-12-2020</u>
Income	
Membership contributions	5,100 €
Donations	11,984 €
Conference fees	1,500 €
Total Income	18,584 €
Expenditure	
Administration Expenses	8,200 €
Bank Fees	220 €
Travel and Accommodation	2,400 €
Conference Costs	9,875 €
Total Expenditure	20,695 €
RESULT	2111 €
Balance as per 31.12.2020	42015 €

6 Looking to the future

Every new year is also a new challenge. What are we going to do, what do we want to do? What are the plans and wishes of ICEVI-Europe?

Of course, 2020 brings us closer to the 10th ICEVI-Europe conference in Jerusalem. An anniversary and also in a special city. Certainly, we hope that we can say afterwards that "it was a successful conference" succeeded on the basis of the presentations and the mutual discussions. Also succeeded by meeting with professional colleagues. That is certainly one of the key elements of a conference.

In this sense, it is also hoped that the conferences of the professional interest groups will be followed up in the coming years. The meeting with colleagues can be a basis for deepening the profession and providing innovation services. In this respect, we look to the next conference- the 8th Conference- of the Professional Interest Group, ENPVI, the European network for psychologists and related professions working in the field of Visual Impairment, which will likely be held in 2020 in Prague. At the same time, we look forward to the prospect of organizing, possibly, jointly with the European Blind union, a conference of the ICEVI-Europe Professional Interest Group, Vocational Training and Employment Rehabilitation. This continues to be an important item in the service of people with visual impairment and a high priority item on the agenda of the last, General Assembly of the EBU. A good starting point for a conference such as this is looking to the 2030 Agenda of the Sustainable Development Goals and translating that into our field of work. Specifically, looking to SDG Target 8.5: By 2030, achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all women and men, including for young people and persons with disabilities, and equal pay for work of equal value and SDG Target 8.6: By 2020, substantially reduce the proportion of youth not in employment, education or training. It is the hope of the board, that there will be follow-up conferences of the professional interest groups in 2021 at the European conference in Jerusalem.

Initial communication with prospective members of the local organizing committee has taken place for the next regional conference, the 9th Conference of the East European Countries. We would like to emphasize once again, that ICEVI-Europe members are strongly encouraged to take on a proactive role by taking the initiative to organize activities of the association, in cooperation with a member of the board. It is essential that fellow colleagues have a platform to exchange their knowledge and expertise and actively partake in determining the course of action of ICEVI-Europe.

In the same way, this is the case for cooperation with the European Blind Union, EBU. The plans for the coming years offer many opportunities to exchange ideas and support each other. Who does not speak about an inclusive society and the right of people with visual impairment, including those with additional disabilities, to an independent life?

As less than a year and a half approaches before the commencement of the **10th ICEVI-Europe Conference**, it is the board's sincere hope that all members, non-members, fellow colleagues and stakeholders join us as conference participants at






the Hebrew University of Jerusalem in Israel on August 8-12, 2021 (with August 13 - 14, 2021 as Optional days for excursions) to festively celebrate our milestone conference. **Save the Date and follow the news on the ICEVI-Europe website!**

There are plenty of challenges for the coming years. Challenges that can only be realized in cooperation with each other within ICEVI-Europe.

I hope that we succeed in continuing our advocacy work in the field of visual impairment in old and new ways.

Surely, I also hope that everyone's professional and personal goals come to fruition. I wish members and non-members of ICEVI-Europe a nice future.

7 Members of the Board as of December 31st 2019

<p>Mr. Hans Welling, <i>President</i> wellingja@yahoo.com</p>	
<p>Mrs. Andrea Hathazi, <i>Vice-President representing the Balkan countries</i> ahathazi@yahoo.com</p>	
<p>Mr. Steve McCall, <i>Treasurer representing the English speaking countries</i> s.mccall@bham.ac.uk</p>	
<p>Mrs. Kathleen Vandermaelen, <i>Secretary representing the German and Dutch speaking countries</i> kathleen.vandermaele@ganspoel.be</p>	
<p>Mrs. Nathalie Lewi-Dumont, <i>representing the French speaking countries</i> nathalielewi@gmail.com</p>	
<p>Mrs. Anne Kristine Grosbøll <i>representing the Baltic and Nordic countries</i> AKG@ibos.kk.dk</p>	
<p>Mrs. Beata Pronay, <i>representing the Central European countries</i> pronaybea@gmail.com</p>	
<p>Mrs. Ana Isabel Ruiz López <i>representing the South European countries</i> airl@once.es</p>	









Mr. Vladimir Ruchin <i>representing the East European countries</i> r-vl@yandex.ru	
Mr. Francis Boé Advisor of ICEVI-Europe to GPEAA francis.boe@free.fr	
Mrs. Darija Udovicic Mahmuljin Advisor of ICEVI-Europe Darija.Udovicic@Perkins.org	
Mrs. Betty Leotsakou † Immediate Past President <i>July 2013- January 6, 2017</i>	







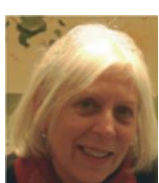
Martha Gyftakos
 Executive Assistant to the Presidency of ICEVI-Europe
mgyftakos@yahoo.com

8 ICEVI REGIONS of Europe


Baltic and Nordic Countries


Denmark Mrs Dorthe Marie Degn , ab8e@sof.kk.dk	
Estonia Mrs Monica Lõvi , monica.lovi@tek.tartu.ee	
Finland Mrs Päivi Toikkanen , paivi.toikkanen@valteri.fi	
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English speaking Countries






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<p>Israel Mrs Nurit Neustadt-Noy nuritnoy@gmail.com</p>	

French speaking Countries








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France Mrs Michelle Collat (French speaking) , michele.collat@orange.fr	
Switzerland Mr Lucien Panchaud cphv@fa2.ch	






South European Countries

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Portugal vacancy	
Spain Mrs Elena Gastón López , eql@once.es	
Spain Mrs Ana Isabel Ruiz López , airl@once.es	
Andorra Mrs Mariona Carbonell del Castillo , mariona.carbonell@gmail.com , school: eensm@andorra.ad	
Malta Mr Francis Turchett socblindmalta@gmail.com	
Monaco vacancy	
San Marino vacancy	



German and Dutch speaking Countries



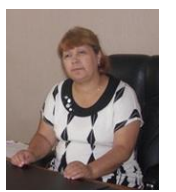

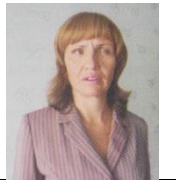



Austria Mrs Gertrude Jaritz , gerti.jaritz@hotmail.com	
Belgium Mrs. Stefanie Van Passen , Stefanie.VanPassen@de-kade.be	
Germany Mrs Elke Wagner , wagnerluke@aol.com	
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Germany vacancy	
The Netherlands Mr Peter Verstraten , pverstraten@robertcoppes.nl	
Switzerland Mr Christian Niederhauser , c.niederhauser@blindenschule.ch	
Lichtenstein vacancy	
Luxembourg Mr Frank Groben , frank.groben@ediff.lu	
South Tirol (Italy) Mrs Elisabeth Gitzl , info@blindenzentrum.bz.it	

Central European Countries







<p>Czech Republic Mrs Marketa Skalicka, marketa.skalicka@ranapece.eu</p>	
<p>Hungary Mrs Judit Gombas PhD, gombas.judit@barczy.elte.hu</p>	
<p>Poland Mrs Graszyna Walczak, grawal20@wp.pl</p>	
<p>Poland Mr Boguslaw 'Bob' MAREK, forblindkids@gmail.com, kulcan@kul.pl</p>	
<p>Slovak Republic Ms Tímea Hóková, hokova@unss.sk</p>	
<p>Slovenia Mrs Marija Jeraša, marija.jerasa@center-iris.si</p>	



East European Countries

<p>Armenia Mr Aleksan Aharonyan, specschoo14@yandex.ru</p>	
<p>Azerbaijan Mrs Melahet Hacıyeva, melahet.haciyeva@gmail.com</p>	

Belarus Mr George Losik , georgelosik@yahoo.com	
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Kazakhstan Mrs Karlygash (Klara) Rakisheva , Klara_help@mail.ru	
Moldova vacancy	
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Balkan Countries

Albania Mrs. Zhaneta Muca shvsh@shvsh.org.al	
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Romania vacancy	

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