

SLOVENSKI ŠTUDENTI PO SVETU

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Po osamosvojitvi čutimo študenti v Sloveniji še posebno potrebo po odpiranju v svet. če hočemo stopiti enakovredno ob bok najbolj razvitim narodom, si nikakor ne moremo privoščiti kakršnegakoli zapiranja vase. Za kaj takega je v prihajajoči eri globalne vasi naša država veliko premajhna. Istočasno pa si slovenski, številčno šibak narod nikakor ne sme dovoliti, da zamrejo stiki med matico in diasporo. Sedaj, ko imamo svojo državo in sami odločamo o svoji usodi, lahko pogumneje zastavimo okvire novemu, vseslovenskemu sodelovanju. Vse to podjetje pa ne bo imelo prihodnosti, če v te načrte ne vključimo mladih, predvsem bodoče inteligence.

Kot plod takšne miselnosti je v Mednarodni pisarni Študentske organizacije Univerze (ŠOU) nastal projekt z naslovom Slovenski študenti po svetu. Projekt deluje že poldrugo leto, z letošnjim študijskim letom pa je postal stalna dejavnost Mednarodne pisarne. Ob začetku dela smo si postavili za cilj vzpostavitev stikov s slovenskimi študenti v zamejstvu in širše v Evropi pa tudi drugod po svetu, če bi le obstajal interes za sodelovanje. Zavedali smo se, da začenjamo takorekoč vse znova, saj so bile v burnih časih v začetku devetdesetih potrgane še tiste skromne vezi, ki so obstajale od poprej. Naša predvidevanja, da je skrajni čas, da podamo roko kolegom in sonarodnjakom za mejo, so se pokazala za pravilna, saj je bil odziv nad pričakovanji. Navezali smo stike s slovenskimi študentskimi klubi v Celovcu, Gradcu, na Dunaju, Zagrebu, Splitu, na Reki in v Trstu. Klubu v Zagrebu smo pomagali, da je po nekaj letih premora zopet začel z delom in sicer v okviru Slovenskega doma. Klub slovenskih študentov - Trst pa je popolnoma novo združenje slovenskih študentov na tržaški univerzi, v katerem se zbirajo člani z obeh strani meje. Omenjeni klubi so se v zadnjem letu dodobra spoznali s študentsko organizacijo Univerze, saj jih je ta v zadnjem letu večkrat gostila, imeli pa smo tudi prvo srečanje slovenskih zamejskih klubov aprila lani v Ljubljani.

Ljubljani. Trudimo se, da bi taka srečanja zamejskih študentskih klubov in Študentske organizacije postala tradicionalna. Letošnje srečanje bo spomladi v Trstu.

Če je v primeru zamejskih študentov faza spoznavanja že za nami, pa moram reči, da smo z izseljenskimi študenti šele na začetku. Daleč najdlje smo prišli v navezovanju stikov s slovenskimi študenti v Avstraliji. Nanje smo naleteli bolj po naključju, presenetila pa nas je njihova aktivnost in pripravljenost na sodelovanje. Zaenkrat imamo stike le s Sydneyem, želeli bi pa bi spoznati tudi študente iz drugih mest. Ker v skladu z novimi avstralskimi trendi poudarjanja multikulturalnosti kažejo veliko zanimanje za slovenski jezik, zgodovino, etnologijo in nasploh vse slovensko, jim na Študentski organizaciji nameravamo pripraviti obisk, kjer se bodo spoznali z deželo svojih prednikov in kolegi, ki tukaj živimo. Še v letošnjem študijskem letu nameravamo vzpostaviti kontakte s slovensko študentsko populacijo v državah obeh Amerik. Predvsem so tu v ospredju Argentina, ZDA in Kanada, ker je tam slovenska skupnost najštevilčnejša. Poudariti moram namreč, da se želimo povezati z kar največ slovenskimi študenti, neglede na to kje živijo.

Seveda pa cilji tega projekta bistveno presegajo samo spoznavanje slovenskih študentov iz matice s tistimi iz sveta. Res je, da slovenski študenti zelo slabo poznamo življenje v slovenskih skupnostih po svetu, saj je zgolj naključje, da se kakšen študent znajde med izseljenci, vendar je medsebojno poznavanje le tisti nujni pogoj, ki pomeni temelj nadaljnemu delu. Gre za to, da bi naše medsebojno poznavanje dobilo čisto uporabno obliko. Sprva na področju študijskih in obštudijskih dejavnosti, pozneje, po končanem študiju, pa na področju znanstvenega, kulturnega, gospodarskega in političnega sodelovanja. Ker imamo opraviti z vprašanji, ki so širšega nacionalnega pomena in presegajo poslanstvo Študentske organizacije, pričakujemo od slovenske države, da bo sledila našemu zgledu. Na področju študijske in obštudijske dejavnosti so možnosti skoraj docela neizkoriščene. Pri tem se zopet vračam na misel z začetka sestavka o koristnosti študija v tujini, ki pa je že sam po sebi zahteven podvig. Zato je sleherna informacija,

nasvet ali konkretna pomoč s strani slovenskih kolegov za nas izredno dragocena. Ne smemo pozabiti tudi številnih slovenskih profesorjev širom sveta, od katerih jih je mnogo na pomembnih položajih in blizu virom kvalitetnih informacij. Mislim, da se v Sloveniji še sploh ne zavedamo pomena tega skritega zaklada. Z druge strani pa lahko tudi študenti iz Slovenije preko svoje stanovske organizacije marsikje ponudimo svojim rojakom in kolegom iz sveta. Predvsem lahko ponudimo pomoč pri tistih vrstah študija, kjer sta slovenski univerzi pred vsemi; predvsem slovenski jezik in književnost, etnologija, ljudska in umetna glasba, zgodovina, in še bi se našlo. Pred očmi imejmo tudi, da sodelovanje v študijskih letih ustvarja ugodno okolje za plodno sodelovanje v poznejšem življenju.

Razlogov za sodelovanje je torej več kot dovolj. Ker smo že doslej prepustili preveč časa v nemar, ne kaže zopet izpuščati priložnosti. Na tem mestu vabim vse slovenske študente iz celega sveta, da se odzovejo naši pobudi za boljšega medsebojnega poznavanje in sodelovanje. Na Študentski organizaciji smo odprti za vse predloge in pobude, saj vi sami veste, česa si najbolj želite. Roko sodelovanja ponujamo tudi slovenskim profesorjem in izobražencem, ki delujejo širom sveta. **Naša projektna skupina, ki jo poleg mene sestavljata še dva člana, deluje na Študentski organizaciji Univerze, v Mednarodni pisarni, Kersnikova 4, Ljubljana. Dosegljivi smo na telefon ++ 386 61 13 37 219 ali na fax. ++ 386 61 13 33 348.**

Malo, zelo malo vemo o Slovencih po svetu, vendar se poskušamo zavedati pomena, ki ga imajo za Slovenijo. Naj sklenem tako, da se vrnem na začetek: izseljenci in zamejci potrebuje Slovenijo zato, da ostanete Slovenci, mi pa potrebujemo vas da postanemo svetovljani.

SLOVENE STUDENTS AROUND THE WORLD

After Slovenia became an independent state, Slovene students started to feel a need for opening to the world. If we want to walk along with the most developed countries, we certainly can

not afford hiding and separating from the rest of the world. In the forcoming period of a so called "global village" our state is much too small for the attitude of that kind. On the other hand the Slovenes as numerically not very strong nation can not let the contacts between the nation and its diaspora to die away. Now that we have our own state and we are able to decide our own future, we are able to define more courageously the frame of a new, allslovene co-operation. But the company of that kind will not have the future unless we involve in those plans young people, members of future intelligence above all.

The project "*Slovene Students around the World*" at the International Office of Student Organization of the University of Ljubljana (ŠOU) was started as the result of such mentality. The Project has been operating for two and a half years and it became a part of the regular activities of the international Office. When the project was brought up its aim was to establish contacts with Slovene students on the other side of the state borders, around Europe and worldwide, if the interest for co-operation existed. We were well aware of the fact that we were starting almost all over again, while after the stormy period at the beginning of the nineties even the modest contacts from before were cut down. Our anticipation that that was the last time to reach out the hand to our colleges abroad, turned out to be correct, while their reply was far over acceptance. We have established contacts with Slovene students' Clubs in Klagenfurt, Graz, Vienna, Zagreb, Split, Rijeka and Triest. We helped the Slovene Students' Club in Zagreb to get on its feet after a couple of years of break and start with its work within the frame of Slovenski dom. On the other hand the Slovene Students' Club in Triest was a completely new association of Slovene students at the University of Triest from both sides of the border. All those Clans got very well aquatinted with the Student Organization of the University of Ljubljana during the past year, which was their host at several occasions, among which the first meeting of Slovene Students' Clubs from abroad, which took place in Ljubljana in april 1995, was of the highest importance. We strive to make such a meeting a traditional one. This year it will take place in spring in Triest.

Although we have done quite a step forward regarding Slovene Students' Clubs co-operation, we have to confess that we are still beginners as far as the co-operation with Slovene students further in Europe and worldwide. The most solid contacts we have established up till now were with the Slovenes in Australia. Actually we ran across them by chance, but we were amazed by their activities and preparedness for co-operation. At the moment we have contacts only with Sydney but we would like to get in touch also with students, living in other cities. According to the new Australian trends of emphasizing intercultural learning they show a great interest for Slovene language, culture, history, ethnology and Slovene in general. Therefore we plan to offer them a visit to Slovenia, where they could get familiar with the country of their ancestors and their colleges who live here. Before the end of the present year we plan to establish contacts with the Slovene student population in the states of both American continents. First of all in Argentina, United States of America and Canada, where the Slovene societies are numerically stronger. I would like to emphasize our intention to establish co-operation with Slovene students as wide as possible regardless of the country they live in.

Undoubtedly the aims of this project substantially reach beyond the bare acquainting of Slovene students from Slovenia with those from abroad. It is true that Slovene students know quite badly what is life like in Slovene societies around the world, and it is usually a coincidence to find one among Slovenes who live abroad. But knowing each other is the basis for a successful work. We would like our mutual acquaintance to get a practical and useful form starting with study and free time activities, later on after studies with scientific, cultural, economic and political co-operation. Since we deal here with questions of wider national importance and reach beyond the mission of the Student organization, we expect the Slovene State to follow our example. On the field of studies the opportunities are barely taken. At this point I would like to go back and refer to the thought at the beginning of this article regarding the usefulness of the studies abroad, which is itself quit a demanding step

taken by an individual. Therefore every information, suggestion or concrete assistance from the side of our colleges living abroad is very precious for us. We shouldn't forget the numerous Slovene professors around the world, having important and respectful positions in society close to the sources of high quality information. I think that in Slovenia we are not totally aware of the importance of this hidden treasure. On the other hand Slovene students have also much to offer through our Organization to our compatriots and colleges worldwide. First of all we can offer assistance at all those kind of studies, where the two Slovene Universities have the leading role: Slovene language and literature, ethnology, folk and artificial music, history and more. We should bare in mind that the co-operation during the study period creates a good environment for fruitful co-operation in the years later on.

The reasons for co-operation are more than enough. And since we have already lost enough time we shouldn't allow more chances to slip out of our hands. At this point I would like to invite the Slovene students from all around the world to accept our initiative for better mutual acquaintance and co-operation. Here at The Student Organization we are open for the suggestions and initiatives of all kinds, while you know best what you need and want. We are addressing also to the Slovene professors and educated persons. Our project group consists of another two members beside myself and we work at the international Office, kersnikova 4, Ljubljana. You can reach us by phone on ++ 386 61 13 37 219 or by fax on ++ 386 61 13 33 348.

Little, very little we know about the Slovenes living abroad, but we try to find out the importance they have for Slovenia. Let me conclude with going back to the very beginning: the Slovenes living abroad You need Slovenia for staying Slovenes, and we need You to become cosmopolitans.