



**Tempus**



**Support and Inclusion of students with disabilities at Higher Education Institutions in Montenegro**

**Report:  
Workshop for pupils and students, 10<sup>th</sup> April 2013  
UDG Podgorica**

Prepared by  
Natasa Mauko, DSIS, [natasa@dsis-drustvo.si](mailto:natasa@dsis-drustvo.si)

Velibor Boskovic, AYDM, [veliborb@gmail.com](mailto:veliborb@gmail.com)

Date 23rd May 2014

This project has been funded with support from the European Commission. This publication reflects the views only of the author; and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein.  
Tempus Project 516758-TEMPUS-1-2011-1-GR-TEMPUS-JPGR



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**Trainers and facilitators:**

**Natasa Mauko, Miha Kosi-DSIS  
Velibor Boskovic and Miroslava Mima Ivanovic-AYDM  
Vidna Matovic-IERK (Sign language interpreter)  
Participants: Prospective and current students with disabilities**



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First the trainers introduced themselves – what they do, how they managed through their school and study years and made a short overview of the workshop. To make introduction of participants relaxing and fun we conducted two ice-breakers. The aim of the first was for participants to remember all the names, in the second they learned something about each other.



We divided workshop into two parts. The first part was motivational and was led by the Slovenian association of disabled students. Second part was led by Association of youth with disabilities of Montenegro and they represented student advisory office and support offered to students by this office and by the faculties.

The aim of the first part was to make participants understand their strengths and that they are the first one responsible for their well-being and successful studying. They realized this through life stories of three well known public personalities who all have special needs:

- Tom Cruise – they could hear how he battled with dyslexia most of his life and how he overcame his problems
- Marlee Martlin – they learned that even deaf people could be very successful, even as actors. This American actress received many awards for her work, including Oscar, in spite of being deaf
- Helen Keller – the story of deaf-blind American writer is always an inspiration with her strong will to live active

They realized you can be successful despite your disability and barriers in society.





They also had to think about their successes and positive events in their lives. After that they had to choose one of these events and think about:

How they started, what kind of skills were needed, did anyone help them, what kind of obstacles did they face along the way and how they overcame them, which were in their opinion the three factors that guaranteed success, what kind of feelings did they face during the process, did they learn anything new about their strengths and weaknesses and what would they do differently if they would have the chance to do the same thing again today.

They realized they had many successful moments in their lives and few of them also shared thoughts about their success, feelings, strengths, support etc.

After the break participants could hear about the student advisory office and various kinds of support offered to students during their studies. Future students also had some questions which were answered during this presentation. They also got to meet people working at advisory office which will make their transition from secondary school to higher education easier and friendlier.

