

#1, 2004

Summary

Ulad Vialichka

Non-formal adult education in Belarusian third sector: the peculiarities of development

See this issue, pages 2–6.

Viktor Chernov

The system of civic education in Belarusian “third sector”

One of the main tasks concerning the development of Belarusian “third sector” in author's opinion is to form gradually constantly functioning multifunctional system of civic education oriented at various social groups. The author offers own vision of such system and models its main levels which could create conditions for uniting the efforts of many organisations and increase the effectiveness of resources usage, offer the programs of various levels of complexity and different directions, form and maintain own cadre, assist mass training of active citizens and forming democratic elite.

Partnership for education

Interview with coordinators of partnership network of NGOs

It has been four years since the partnership of Belarusian NGOs working in the field of non-formal civic education started. The journal “Adukatar” is one of the joint projects in this partnership network. That is why we decided to write about this partnership. We interviewed the coordinators of partnership network “Association for Civic Education” – Vlad Velichko (Public Union “Education Center «POST»”) and Tamara Matzkevich (public association “Center «Supolnasc»”).

Ludmila Petina

Gender knowledge and civic education

At present stage of development of civic education in Belarus it is crucial that the system of civic education and its components (educational establishments, educational projects and enlightening programs, research centers) are responsible for adjustment of existing hierarchy systems built on gender characteristics and assisted transformation of gender stereotypes. In order to achieve this the elements of gender knowledge in the programs of civic education have to be present in all spheres including politics, economics, public relations, culture and ethics.

Aliona Velichko

Let me introduce Swedish study circle to you

See this issue, pages 23–25.

Sergej Laboda, Dasha Azarko, Aliona Lugovtsova

Games which are played? From the experience of holding methodological seminar-training for students-psychologists

The authors think that at present there is a problem of defining the forms of non-formal education. Very often educational activities which have different grounds are called the same. Sometimes the situation is vice versa – the activities have different names but have the same ground. For example what some people call “training” the others call “seminar” or smth else. And some people consider their educational programs to be seminars and don't really think about giving these educational activities other names. In this article the authors analyze their own experience of short-term educational program. And on its basis they consider the matters of content which are connected with the peculiarities of using the method of interactive game as well as the effectiveness of chosen form of learning defined by the authors as methodological seminar-training.

Tatiana Buiko

About Czech educational reform: private notes

In October 2003 international organization “Man in prison” with the help of civic association “Center Supolnasc” offered the representatives of various Belarusian educational establishments – from state ones to NGOs and even oppositional ones – the opportunity to get acquainted with the Czech educational reform. The information which was obtained during the visit is presented in the article through personal notes of the author and it is used as a basis for comparative express-analysis according to the scheme: the concept of educational reform in Czech Republic, the fulfilment of the reform in Czech Republic – the concept and practice of educational reform in Belarus.

Ileana Boeru, Cristiana Vlad

Lifelong Learning Week – building up the European dimension

Each autumn, at the beginning of November, Romanians are preparing for the celebration of Lifelong Learning Week (Festivalul Sanselor Tale). This is both the occasion when adult education and vocational training providers meet the needs of the beneficiaries and market their offer. Those who seek for a working place or look for a carrier have the opportunity to improve their knowledge and update information on informal and non-formal learning offers. 2003 Lifelong Learning Week had a clear message: adult education is not only a national policy to foster economy, but also an opportunity to build up a personal and professional carrier.

#2, 2004

Summary

Jagor Maroz. Sprouts of democracy at “the field of wonders”

The author of the article considers that adult education shouldn't be carried out through manipulation of the participants' awareness. Educational events with the pedagogic component should take into account ethic requirements. The author believes that short term educational programs which are held today in the third sector have not the right approach to solving educational objective because of their own limits. The “outcome” which was nevertheless worked out by the trainers to fulfill educational objectives became worse that its reason. The third sector from the point of view of civic awareness began to defame the people who are close to it. The majority of trainers who actively manipulate the participants during the seminar make it unintentionally and are not able to reflect on their behavior. And that is why the author puts the question: are the methods of civic education worth using these means?

Piotr Lapo. Libraries and education of adults

As today there is no adult education as a system, the author considers that today we can speak only about indirect interaction of these two social institutes of the society. He says that for ages the main mission of a library has been to assist education and bring up the citizens of a country on the basis of the collected information materials and organizing different ways of access to it. The library helps its users to find the sources of information which correspond their spiritual, cultural, intellectual, educational needs and recommends an issue which indirectly influences formation of their ideology and aesthetic taste.

Victor Chernov. Regional teaching initiatives as a subject of civic education in Belarus

In this article the author describes quite new phenomenon for Belarusian third sector — regional teachers' initiatives. Recently there has been a tendency towards the growth of social activity of Belarusian teachers. This activity is mostly of educational-enlightening type and is revealed first of all in the sphere of culture, ecology, history and civic science. The author considers that the tendency towards development of teachers initiatives can lead in future to creating on their basis national umbrella structure which unites regional teachers' initiatives in the sphere of civic education. Such structure which involves the most qualified teachers of history and social science can become an important element of national system of civic education.

Marina Malinina

Case-study method in non-formal education

Case-study method is usually associated with business education. And it is not surprising. Namely here the method appeared and has been successfully used for a long time. Though lately one can hear (unfortunately mostly hear) about the usage of case-study method in other spheres (sociology, pedagogics, journalism, ecology, civic science etc.) What is the peculiarity of case-study method and its educational potential? What are the opportunities of its usage in non-formal education? This article is devoted to the answers to these and other questions.

“Business education in Belarus at present is formed not by the demand but by the offer”

In the discussions devoted to various aspects of adult education (content, subjects, directions etc.) one can't avoid the sphere of business education. What is business education in Belarus? What main forms and contents does it include? How is the effectiveness of educational services evaluated in this sphere? Is there the system of upgrading qualification in business education? Dmitry Karpievich (the chief editor of “Adukatar”) asks Andrei Gusakovskiy the managing partner of consulting company “Key solutions” these and other questions.

Viktoriya Dronova, Oleg Sivogorakov, Piotr Lapo, Tatiana Ptashnik, Dmitry Gubarevich

Adult education is the investment in the future

The article may be regarded as an attempt to consider and analyze from different positions — a participant, a trainer and organizer — the seminar “Adult education — the investment in the future” which was prepared by the international team of trainers and held for the representatives of Belarusian state institutions and NGOs who work in the sphere of adult education in November 2003.

Marek Bychkouski. Folk high school — “school of life”

The development of civilization lead to some modifications in the practice of folk high schools (FHS). There are also certain differences in financing FHS in different countries. But the main theoretical background and the majority of the ideas of FHS remain invariable through the whole history. Referring to this, the credo “a person-centered approach” and “mutual influence” of a teacher and a student is the key sense. The author of the article considers that this main idea of FHS pedagogics is still important today.

Tatiana Pashevalova. Nikolai Frederik Severin Grundtvig and his ideal of “general education”

The article introduces Grundtvig in whose works for the first time were presented the ideas of adult education in Denmark. Nikolai Frederik Severin Grundtvig (1783-1872) is a Danish philosopher, poet, pedagogue and enlightener, the inspirer of religious and social movement of 19th century for national and cultural renaissance of Denmark, the author of folk high school concept. His name stands close to the names of Hans Christian Andersen and Ceren K'erkogor who may be are more famous than he is. But in Denmark they are sure that namely Grundtvig left the brightest trace in Danish culture.

Sergei Vetchin. Belarussian-German conference on the problems of adult education

This article presents the main results of international conference “The system of adult education in European context” which was held in Minsk on February 25-26 2004. According to author's opinion the sphere of adult education is the obligatory component of national educational system of any country and presents itself as the institute of upgrading the knowledge and competence of population who have some basic academic and professional education.

In the conditions of deepening the diversification of opinions, aims and approaches towards organizing and financing, law regulations such institutes gain more significance. Alongside with this there is a development of directions of formal education with quite strict norm regulations, company education with rather utilitarian professional character and non-formal education with its aim to satisfy the educational demands of population including the ones which are not connected with the fulfillment of professional activity.

Svetlana Matskevich. Review on the book “Professional secrets of a trainer” (from the experience of non-formal education in the third sector)

See this issue, pages 40-42.

#3, 2004

Summary

A chance to survive

See this issue, pages 13–19.

Sustainable development of Belarus: strategy up till 2020

Nowadays it is clear that to create sustainable development in one country is impossible – the world is the one and only the joint efforts of all countries may lead to some changes. That is why the strategy plans of sustainable development at national level are given so much attention. In our country the joint project of UN Programme of development (UNDP) and the Republic of Belarus 'Development and Internalization of the National Sustainable Development Strategy' has come to the end. About aims, activities and results of this project we know from the project leader Oleg Sivogarakov.

Natalia Riabova. Eco-logic of education

The concept of education for sustainable development was created for reorientation of all spheres of education including ecological one towards the aims of sustainable development. How to fulfill this reorientation? This question disturbs today both pedagogues – experts and authors of educational programs. In the article there is an example of using the program which corresponds to authors opinion to all criteria of education for sustainable development. This is the program 'Ecologik!' which has been carried out by the NGO 'Ecohome'. The program is aimed first of all at the teachers of school and extracurricular establishments and has gained a high popularity among teachers.

Kasya Gancharova. Terra incognita or citizens employed by state

On the basis of a training 'Aarhus convention: public participation' the author of the article describes the first step of state employees on terra incognita and makes the conclusions out of the results of her practice. First of all she saw state employees as competent, talented and creative professionals but most of them are not professionally fulfilled. This is caused by the lack of corporate culture, mechanisms which could give opportunity to show initiative and creativity. Secondly, the contradiction of the positions of a state employee and a citizen. Or in other words: 'As a citizen I am totally against, but as a state employee I have to follow the orders.' And finally the author considers that there is a vast field for activity: work and training for state employees.

Svetlana Semenas. Deep ecology: short introduction into theory and practice

In the article there is the presentation of the deep ecology concept which is opposed to shallow ecological reformation which according to author's opinion struggles not with the reasons but with the consequences of ecological crisis. From the new scientific understanding of life systems point of view nature should be considered as integrated wholeness but not separate species of living beings who live in a lifeless environment. It is not a hierarchy but the network. A man is not the top of world creation, not the highest value but a mere citizen of the community as he is included in the nature circles and depends on them. Everything in the world is interrelated and a man is just a spider line in the web of life. The methods of training which are worked out by the followers of deep ecology allow participants to feel and realize the unity of all beings and own place in this world.

Natalia Riabova. Permanent culture or you are the designer of your life

Very many people after having acquainted with the concept of sustainable development ask a question: how to put these principles into life? As one of the possible instruments for this the author suggests using the system of permaculture design by Bill Mollison. Permaculture is based on the idea that a human being in his activity can learn from nature and use its laws for his benefit instead of struggling against it.

Galina Verameichyk. Education and regional development: Bavarian accent

In what case education can encourage citizens' understanding of the interdependence among environment, economy and social system? How to provide the students not only with necessary knowledge but also to encourage the awareness and development of a number of new values? How to include in the educational process not only the kids and teenagers but also adults? What forms can help to make the education more true to everyday problems and needs of individuals and members of a community? These and other questions are discussed on the pages of the article through introduction of German system of adult education, taking Bavaria as an example.

Ales' Straltzou. The role of local culture and traditions in sustainable development: Bavarian example

Bringing up of children especially during the first years of their life is closely connected to local culture, traditions and behaviour models. In the majority of cases local culture and traditions offer approaches which correspond to the concept of sustainable development. First of all it concerns the spheres of special development of a person as well as his connection with nature. If to add to it the rational usage of the potential stored during the ages it will lead to economical effect. In this article the author pays your attention to the fact how important can be the support of local culture and traditions within the context of community sustainable development.

#1(4), 2005

Summary

Education and training in the third sector: condition and prospects of development

The article contains materials of the round table, organized by the editors of "Educator". What is the main feature of public organizations' educational activity? Whether nowadays public organizations are subjects of educational activity in Belarus? What directions and forms of training are the most widely distributed in the third sector of Belarus, and how can it be explained? What prospects of education development exist in the third sector? What steps toward these prospects should be taken by organizations? Heads of number of organizations engaged in educational activity searched for answers to these and other questions together.

Viktor Chernov. Some aspects of strategy of civil education development in Belarusian third sector

See this issue, pages 7–12.

Natallia Slizh, Siarhei Saley. The school of study of Lithuanian Grand Duchy: from the experience of professional skill's improvement by young historians

See this issue, pages 37–39.

Irina Strelkova. International Winter School II: interactive methods of training librarians

Nowadays improvement of professional skills of the library staff follows the path of the open process occurring not only in institutions, specially intended for training, and not only under the direction of the professional teachers of these institutions, but also under influence of other persons having a certain experience, knowledge, and skills. Only association of classical library education with innovative forms of professional skill's improvement will assure the best result. The author describes innovative experience in the field of continuous education of the librarians by an example of two International Winter schools – seminars, which were held in 2003 and 2004 with a support of the International European project "Civic Education Project" (CEP, Budapest).

Inna Gubarevich. Preliminary work with the participants of educational events

From the author's standpoint, absence of work with the demands of participants before or during a seminar, the discrepancy of participants and trainer's expectations from the offered concept (program) of the seminar is one of the basic reasons for a growing dissatisfaction with results of educational events, both by participants, and trainers. The article examines the following aspects: how, when, and with the help of which means it is possible to coordinate educational demands of the potential participants with the program of a seminar, offered by the trainer. The author gives examples from practice which demonstrate the way preliminary work can be organized to eliminate mentioned difficulties.

Tatiana Krasnova. How can a trainer raise his own competence by "improvised means"?

See this issue, pages 26–29.

Irina Semko. "Debate" technology in context of civil education

Free and open discussion of urgent problems is necessary for development of a civil society. Competent and constructive discussion of urgent problems, understanding essence of public dispute, standard of conducting discussion, proving one's own position and hearing opinion of the opponent should become obligatory qualities of each educated man. The educational technology "Debate" develops these competences. The article described history of occurrence and development of debate, and also the various formats of this technology and examples of their application.

Olga Sviderskaya, Vitaly Nikanovich. A long-term educational course "School of the young leader"

The authors share the experience of realization of the long-term program "School of the leader" by public organization "Christian community of adult and young". The program is directed to the members of this organization with the purpose to stir up internal resources of the participants, develop skills of group interaction, become aware of democratic leadership values, and train an effective management in public organization. The article describes the technology and grade levels in the course "School of the young leader", system of monitoring and estimation of the course efficiency. Responses of some participants are resulted.

#2(5), 2005

Summary

You have no position — you have nothing.

See this issue, pages 20–22.

Yanina Zinchenko. Council of Europe and Youth work

There are a lot of different structures that work with young people in the European level. Belarus does not have definite status in Council of Europe but it is one of 48 countries that signed European Cultural Convention. It means that belarusian young people also can participate in programs and events of Council of Europe. The author describes the structure, main principles and approaches in youth work in Europe, special programs for post-soviet and east european countries and also gives her personal opinion on youth work made by Council of Europe.

Aliona Lugovtsova, Marina Baranovskaya.

Youth center as a form of work: domestic and foreign experience

Though young people have a wide range of media tools to satisfy their needs in communication nowadays it is a problem — to organize their free time. Youth center is the form of youth work which helps to solve this problem. Youth center gives young people great opportunity to communicate with their mates spending some time together, helps develop their interests and faculties. Article gives a comparative analysis of domestic and foreign approaches to the work of youth centers. Structures, forms and content of work are illustrated on examples of Belarusian, German and Swedish centers. Authors introduce a model of youth center which integrates the best parts of foreign and domestic experience.

Sergej Laboda. Open Space Technology or Miracles of coffee break in open space

Those who participated in trainings or seminars know that very often the most important and significant results and effects of the whole training take place during coffee breaks — appearing of the most lively and substantial discussions, new ideas, possible projects, contacts exchange, etc. This phenomenon is represented in the base of Open Space Technology. Open Space Technology is a good mean to organize conferences, symposiums, seminars and other educational events. The author gives answers to the following questions: How does this technology work with big groups? What are the main principles, rules and “laws” of Open Space? What are the main advantages of Open Space? How is it possible to organize events using this technology?

Irina Khekhuh. Education through real life

In this article the author summarizes results of theoretical research which she carried out during four-month study in USA in the frame of the “Modern researches” program. This study aimed to investigate the main principles, methods and ways of involving young people into solving problems of local community through developing volunteer initiatives. In the article the author describes theoretical base and practical work experience in realization “education through service” approach with students from Gomel State Medical College. She offers several programs as an example and gives some tips how to start volunteer work in educational institution.

Ruslan Djamalov. Summer is a small life

However long you work in a summer camp it seems like everything you do is not enough and it is by different reasons. The author shares his wide experience in summer camps as youth worker introducing variety of exercises, games and songs. Article will help youth leaders to fill the gaps in schedule and diversify free time.

Irina Zvereva. Elaboration and introduction of life skills educational programs: international and domestic approaches

Global changes in economy, politics and social life which took place in 90s around the world provoked lots of different problems in teenagers and youth surroundings — difficulties in proper adaptation to social changes and lack of fit, independent decision making. This situation evoked wide international interest in elaboration and introduction educational programs on developing life skills of youth in schools and other educational institutions. The author analyses different programs that were worked out in the United States, Europe and the Ukraine and describes in details the last integrative course “The culture of life self-determination” that was created by “Christian Children Foundation” and supported by UNICEF in the Ukraine.

Uladzimir Rouda. Study circles as new approach to civic education in Belarus

In this article the author raises the question about the role of civic education in democratization of the society and also analyses the peculiarities of civic education in Belarus. In his opinion one of the most suitable form of civic education for developing democracy is study circle. He describes the experience of pilot study circles holding by organizations of civic education in Belarus and tells about the creation of Study Circles Resource program aimed at support of existing study circles and spreading ideas of study circles in NGO sphere and among not-engaged population in Belarus.

#3(6), 2005

Summary

Intercultural education: understanding not only with the mind but also with hands and heart.

Interview with Eveline Steinger

Is there any difference between intercultural and multicultural education? What is the role of intercultural education during the last ten years? What is the most important thing in international and intercultural projects? What are the criteria of effectiveness of the programs in the sphere of intercultural education? These questions are answered by a guest from Switzerland Eveline Steinger who has been working for many years in different spheres of intercultural education and has got a big experience in holding educational programs in different countries including Russia and Belarus.

International cooperation — the source of new ideas, upgrading qualification, widening outlook...

Interviewing the leaders of Belarusian NGOs

The leaders of Belarusian NGOs with big experience in international partnership and cooperation discuss its different aspects.

Sergej Laboda, Daria Azarko. Intercultural education and international partnership in the activity of NGOs

See this issue, pages 30-36.

Natalia Riabova. Integration of handicapped people as the form of intercultural education

The author describes the experience of Belarusian youth NGO "Different-Equal" in organizing and holding educational programs aimed at integration of handicapped people. The principle "50 x 50" has become the main one in all projects of the organization. Half of organisation members as well the participants of their events are handicapped people. This principle is carried out through all implemented projects. Such approach is more effective in comparison to other ones where stereotypes are broken in homogeneous groups.

Viacheslav Cherniavsky. Introducing innovations and the role of organizations in the third sector

After participation in organizational-activity game which was held in Kiev, the author saw new opportunities for his NGO — using the system-thinking-activity approach and organizational-activity games. In his opinion this is a good way to project and implement necessary social innovations and then monitor them being introduced in the real life.

Tamara Matskevich. Intercultural education and Belarusian specific character

The author tries to answer the question: "What can be the aim of intercultural education in Belarus?" The author is attracting the attention to the fact that before starting intercultural education it is necessary to single out its social demands and needs in intercultural education, analyze the existing experience and complete it in a careful thoughtful way without destroying.

Andrej Levko. Informational technologies protect childhood

The author thinks that the informational and educational potential of the Internet is not investigated to the end especially its possibilities for developing social competence among socially not protected citizens — children with psycho-physical deviations, orphans etc. This article presents the experience of NGO "Focus group" in introducing Internet technologies in the work of boarding schools.

Janna Skakun. Seminar "Harmony in the diversity"

Game as a cultural phenomena as well as technique though being thoroughly investigated still remains within the sphere of interest. The author shares her experience of holding a big role play "Bureau" at the seminar "Harmony in the diversity" devoted to the worldwide day of refugees. The participants were teenagers aged 14-17 from Afganistan, Georgia and Belarus. The seminar was aimed at developing the understanding the importance of interaction between various cultures and nationalities, problems of refugees.

Tatiana Poshevalova. Paulo Freyre and Folk education in Brazil

The article tells us about a great Brazilian educator of 20th century Paulo Freyre who played an important role in building non-formal education in Latin-American continent. **Educacion popular** in Spanish means more than **popular education** in English or **education populaire** in French. This term includes the element of emancipation and self-determination of oppressed and exploitable people, admitting that people excluded from material wealth, education and taking decisions can together introspect their situation and realize that it is not sanctioned from above and that they should get together to change the structure of the society.

Aliona Lugovtsova. World culture forum "Barselona-2004": PS

The author shares her impressions from participating in the Third World Youth Festival which was held 8-14 August, 2004 in Barselona. The main idea of the forum is the dialogue at world level, conversation, not confrontation. The main three topics of the forum were: cultural diversity, sustainable development and peace making.

Galina Veremeichik. A week of non-formal education...

A week of non-formal education and enlightenment as a form of presenting the interests and popularization of non-formal education is becoming more popular event in contemporary Europe. Apart from some differences festivals and weeks of education have a lot in common. That is why in this article the author is trying to present the main ideas and aims of holding a Week or a Festival of non-formal education as a special event and also to speak about its peculiarities in Belarus.