

Problems and Dilemmas of Teaching and Learning Theory and Practice in Formal Education, Aranđelovac, Serbia, May 26—27, 2017

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*Problems and Dilemmas of Teaching and Learning Theory and Practice in Formal Education* was an international conference held on 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> May 2017. The significance of this international conference lies in the fact that major European higher education institutions that specialize in teacher education participated in the conference organization. It was organised by Teacher Education Faculty, the University of Belgrade in collaboration with the Faculty of Pedagogy, the University of Maribor, Slovenia, the Faculty of Educational Sciences, Psychology and Social Sciences of the University "Aurel Vlaicu" in Arad, Romania, State Higher Vocational School in Nowy Sacz, Poland, the Faculty of Pedagogy, the University of Bitola, FYR Macedonia, the Faculty of Teacher Education, the University of Zagreb, Croatia, HEP BEJUNE (Haute École Pédagogique des cantons de Berne, du Jura et de Neuchâtel), Switzerland and the Institute of Educational Research (IPI), the University of Belgrade.

On the first day, the conference was opened with the welcome address speech given by Professor Vera Radović, a chair of the conference organising committee, followed by the short welcome speech delivered by Professor Danimir Mandić, the Dean of Teacher Education Faculty in Belgrade and the speeches made by the representatives of other conference co-organisers.

The first conference day brought the four keynote lectures. Milena Ivanuš Grmek from the Faculty of Pedagogy in Maribor gave the lecture titled "Primary School and High School Teachers' Views on Learning in Three States", Milan Matijević from Teacher Education Faculty in Zagreb delivered the lecture "Didactic Challenges for Teachers and School Pedagogues", Ana Sarvanović from Teacher Education Faculty in Belgrade gave the lecture "Educational Turn – the Emancipatory Potential of Modern Education" and Miroslava Ristić and Sanja Blagdanić from Teacher Education Faculty in Belgrade delivered the lecture titled "New Trends in Education – Out-of-classroom Teaching and Learning in Digital Environment".

Over 200 participants from 8 different countries presented their papers pertinent to the theme of the conference in numerous parallel sessions on both conference days.

The conference papers fall into several thematic groups: 1. Problems and dilemmas of contemporary formal education (from preschool to andragogical didactics) and their implications in teaching and learning; 2. Problems and dilemmas of teaching and learning mathematics in theory and practice; 3. Problems and dilemmas of teaching and learning language and literature in theory and practice; 4. Problems and dilemmas of teaching and learning science and social studies in theory and practice; 5. Problems

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and dilemmas of teaching and learning arts in theory and practice; 6. Problems and dilemmas of teaching and learning physical education in theory and practice; 7. Problems and dilemmas of applying ICT in education. These thematic groups provided an insight into the in-depth approach to the problems and dilemmas of teaching and learning in formal education taken by the organizers who decided to accept papers which cover the wide range of topics related to the conference theme.

Several members of the English Department of the Faculty of Philology in Belgrade contributed to tackling the problems and dilemmas of teaching and learning theory and practice in formal education. They addressed the issues related to the conference theme from different angles. Professor Jelena Vujić, the Head of the English Department, presented the paper titled "Constructionism in Language Pedagogy – Usage-based Approach to Foreign/Second Language Learning", Mirjana Daničić, the Deputy Head of the English Department, presented the paper "Some Dilemmas and Challenges of the Academic Translation Teaching", Nenad Tomović co-authored the paper "Expanding and Outer Circle Cultural Content in English Coursebooks Commonly Used in Serbia" and Sandra Josipović presented the paper "A Translation Workshop as a Means of Solving Problems and Dilemmas in Teaching Translation to University Students".

The organisers rose to the occasion when it came to the social aspect of the conference. This event took place in the opulent "Izvor" hotel in Arandjelovac, a spa resort known for its mineral water springs. The hotel offers an environment conducive to having fruitful discussions and exchanging ideas as it has a view to the beautiful park that is at the same time an outdoor gallery with the sculptures made by renowned artists from Serbia and abroad. The conference dinner, which took place on the evening of 26th May, was an appropriate ending to the first conference day. The dinner was an occasion for conference participants to continue their discussion on the papers they could hear that day and to help themselves to the Serbian national cuisine specialties and the international cuisine delicacies.