

## **ANNUAL REPORT 2012**

### **Nadácia otvorenej spoločnosti - Open Society Foundation**

**We thank**

all our donors, supporters, partner organizations, and volunteers for their assistance in promoting our mission.

## CONTENT

EDUCATION .....	6
Education Program .....	6
Roma Secondary School Scholarships .....	8
Roma Memorial University Scholarship Program.....	9
Secondary School Scholarships Program .....	11
18 <sup>th</sup> Annual English Essay Competition .....	12
One-year Internships of Slovak Teachers at British Independent Schools (HMC Teachers' Scheme) .....	13
PUBLIC HEALTH .....	14
Public Health Program .....	14
GOOD GOVERNANCE .....	16
Law Program .....	16
Democracy and Human Rights - Program of NGO Support .....	19
Equal Opportunities.....	20
INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION SUPPORT.....	22
East East Program – Partnership Beyond Borders.....	22
SOCIETY AND INFORMATION .....	24
Journalism Award 2011 .....	24
Frontline Bratislava .....	24
SPIN-OFF ORGANIZATIONS .....	27
Wide Open School Foundation, Žiar nad Hronom.....	27
Open Medical Club.....	27
Plán B, n.o. ....	27
Slovak-Czech Women's Fund.....	27
Foundation – Center of Contemporary Art .....	28
ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE.....	29
FINANCIAL REPORT .....	31

## ABOUT US

### WHO WE ARE

The Open Society Foundation (NOS-OSF) is a non-governmental organization with a mission to promote values of the open society, create opportunities for the people to increase openness, transparency, and equal opportunities in the society.

NOS-OSF has been operating in Slovakia since 1992. It belongs to international network known as the “Open Society Foundations” operating in more than 70 countries around the world ([www.opensocietyfoundations.org](http://www.opensocietyfoundations.org)). As of June 1012, it is an affiliated organization of the OSFs network.

NOS-OSF implements two types of programs:

its own, so-called *operating* programs, using professional experience and expertise of its own employees in the following areas:

- training and education
- public health
- law and good governance
- equal opportunities
- media professionalization;

grant programs, providing financial support to non-governmental organizations striving to:

- develop open society
- improve quality of education
- empower human rights of disadvantaged groups, paying special attention to specific needs of Roma.

### VISION

“Open society is based on the recognition that we act on the basis of imperfect understanding. Perfection is beyond our reach; we must content ourselves with an imperfect society that holds itself open to improvement.”

G. Soros

### OUR VALUES

- openness
- dialogue
- concord
- tolerance
- activity
- transparency
- acceptance
- mutual respect
- responsibility
- freedom of choice

# **PROGRAM ACTIVITIES AND GRANTS IN 2012**

# EDUCATION

In the field of education, we strive to offer critical perspective on the quality of education and its accessibility. We support cooperation of public and non-profit sector in developing educational policies, we try to strengthen the teachers' and parents' participation in promoting changes in the educational system, and we support the development of critical thinking.

We organize thematic debates, reacting on the current social and political context related to the changes in governmental educational policies; seminars and expert debates focusing on the current European trends in education.

We prepare and publish publications, support research and participate in the development of educational policies.

We educate and motivate young people and teachers through our scholarship programs, study stays, and education. Our grant scheme in the field of education is designed to support initiatives and projects that bring new experience and discussion of up to date challenges in the Slovak educational system.

## Education Program

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Education program focuses on connecting and networking various stakeholders in the field of education. It facilitates discussions, experience sharing and international cooperation. The emphasis is on supporting marginalized groups of children, mainly from excluded Roma communities, and identification of exit strategies from their situation.

The program target group includes experts in education, parents of the students, representatives of the state and public administration, self-governments, schools – teachers and students, NGO experts in education. We believe in synergic effect of combining capacities of the education experts from various environments with the aim to carry out reform in the Slovak educational system.

In 2012, in line with our strategy, the Education program implemented a wide spectrum of activities supporting transformation of educational system towards inclusive module and environment as a part of open, multicultural and just system. Various program activities were carried out in cooperation with the Equal opportunities program and East –East program.

### **Program activities in 2012:**

#### **Benefits of Inclusion in Education**

In 2012, we carried out a research project *Benefits of Inclusion in Education* in cooperation with various experts. The project was supported by the Open Society Foundation Equal Opportunities Program (OSF- BA). The research results were published in a study *Segregation or Inclusion of Roma in Education: A Choice for the Schools?* (published in October 2012). The research examines the educational situation of Roma children, identifies some forms, ways, and scope of segregation in selected areas, analyses its background, causes and describes mechanisms of its existence. The study also outlines possible scenarios of inclusive processes in the schools and offers recommendations for political steps needed for inclusive education at national, local, and school level.

On June 25, 2012, the Foundation held an expert debate on four case studies collected throughout the research. The aim of this activity was to gather expert feedback on the issue of Roma children education and include it in the final report.

After the completion of the research, we organized two presentations of the study findings – on October 16, 2012 in Bratislava (24 participants) and on October 18, 2012 in Prešov (35 participants). The participants represented a wide spectrum of experts - teachers, methodologists, representatives of state administration and members of parliament from the Committee on Education. On both occasions, the presentation was followed by a discussion on research findings and recommendations. The project results were covered by five mainstream media (RTVS, Pravda, SME, Trend, and Slovak Spectator). Above, the results were presented at various meetings and events, including international seminar on inclusive education organized by Nadácia otvorenej spoločnosti – Open Society Foundation on December 4, - 5, 2012.

### **Educational Ways of Roma Pupils from Socially Disadvantaged Environment**

Impact assessment of the school environment on educational ways of Roma pupils in segregated and integrated Slovak schools had been launched in December 2011, with field research and final report completed throughout 2012. The research findings were presented on April 8, 2013 in Prešov. The primary research goals were to identify turning points in the educational pathways of the Roma pupils from socially disadvantaged environment. All research projects that had been carried out by then had focused on the issue from the perspective of educational policy, while this research brings perspective on the impacts of segregation policies on the very Roma pupils. This research sheds light on determining impact of the educational environment at their educational pathways.

### **Inclusive Education: from Theory and Policies to Practice (Opportunities and Challenges)**

On December 4-5, 2012, an international seminar titled Inclusive Education: from Theory to Practice (Opportunities and Challenges) was organized in cooperation with East – East – Partnership Beyond Borders program. Seminar was an opportunity to present and discuss various models of inclusive education and different aspects of educational system transformation, allowed for exchange of experiences in national and international context. The discussion focused on the roles of various institutions and individuals, agents of change, who need to be involved in the transformation of the current system into the inclusive education module, conditions needed for the implementation of the inclusive module and efforts to find mutual understanding of the notions and processes related to the inclusive education. Participants included experts from Armenia, Czech Republic, Croatia, Estonia, Hungary, Serbia, and Slovakia.

### **Discussions**

On March 15, 2012 and November 15, 2012, a series of discussions with the representatives of academic sector was organized in Bratislava. The discussions focused on the need and form of inclusive education in Slovakia and preparation of future teachers for education of Roma pupils.

### **Awarded grants:**

**PDCS,c.a., Bratislava**

EUR 8,840.00

Civil Society – 20 Years of Development and Transformation.

## Roma Secondary School Scholarships

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In 2012, Open Society Foundation implemented a project awarding financial support to the secondary school Roma students in cooperation with the Roma Education Fund. The project was financially supported by the Slovak government Office of the Plenipotentiary for Roma Communities.

The scholarships allowed the secondary school Roma students continue in their studies even after they have completed the compulsory school attendance. These merit-based scholarships also assisted the children from families in material need to finish secondary education, provided that their school attendance was good.

The pilot project allowed the supported students to also use additional services at the schools – mentoring and tutoring.

There were 36 mentors working at 49 secondary schools all over Slovakia, supporting and guiding 142 students. This innovative tool aimed at inclusion of the Roma youth has proved to be effective. Qualified professional help offered to the schools helped them increase the success rate of their students and improve their rating.

Skills and competence development of the mentors was further enhanced by trainers from our partner organization – Faculty of Education at the University of Prešov.

There were 54 tutors working with 92 students in the project giving 1,016 hours, primarily on mathematics, foreign languages, and specialized subjects throughout the second half of the academic year 2011/2012.

By using this combination of tools - scholarships as financial incentives and mentoring and tutoring - we managed to completely eliminate school dropping in the supported group of students. The overall school performance of the students improved by 0.7 points. The school attendance was improved and the number of unexcused missed classes dropped in the group of most problematic students. Mentoring also motivated the students with poorer results to improve their performance, intensifying their efforts to catch up with the others (in case they were missing) and creating healthy, open, and mutually beneficial attitude to the school.

Out of the 177 scholarship recipients, 20 students were in their last year of secondary school. All of them (100%) finished their secondary education successfully. Out of 20 university applicants, 10 were accepted. The rest of the graduates decided to study while working.

Due to the success of the pilot, Open Society Foundation (NOS - OSF) decided to continue in this project with the financial support of the Roma Education Fund – REF and opened a new call for scholarship applications for the Roma secondary school students for academic year 2012/2013.

### **Awarded scholarships in 2012:**

- |                                   |  |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| 1. Miroslav Balog, Sol'           | 10. Sandra Budayová, Rimavská Sobota   |
| 2. Mária Balogová, Vtáčkovce      | 11. Viktor Buša, Rimavská Seč          |
| 3. Lea Baniková, Sol'             | 12. Ivana Bužová, Bystré               |
| 4. Stanislava Bartková, Svidník   | 13. Alexander Cibula, Rimavské Janovce |
| 5. Veronika Bartková, Stropkov    | 14. Miloš Cina, Stropkov               |
| 6. Július Bartoš, Banská Bystrica | 15. Miroslav Cina, Humenné             |
| 7. Nikola Belyová, Prešov         | 16. Michaela Danihelová, Prievidza     |
| 8. Lucia Bogdanová, Turzovka      | 17. Lucia Danyiová, Rimavská Sobota    |
| 9. Eunika Boldiová, Jelšava       | 18. Edita Dávidová, Rimavská Sobota    |



19. Ján Deme, Klenovec
20. Slavomír Didi, Hontianske Tesáre
21. Veronika Ďudová, Sol'
22. Silvia Dunková, Kežmarok
23. Stanislav Dužda, Giraltove
24. Denisa Enekesová, Helcmanovce
25. Zdeno Fabula, Turček
26. Nikola Fečová, Lúčka
27. Iveta Fejková, Humenné
28. Peter Ferenc, Vyšný Orlík
29. Ľubomíra Feriová, Zamutov
30. Tatiana Gáborová, Kecerovce
31. Veronika Gáborová, Helcmanovce
32. Matúš Galo, Hnilec
33. Nikola Gašparová, Zvolen
34. Lenka Goroľová, Hlinné
35. Andrea Gujdová, Michalovce
36. Tomáš Hangurbadžo, Podolinec
37. Nora Hangurbadžová, Spišská Belá
38. Mária Hangurbadžová, Podolíne
39. Lenka Harvanová, Heľpa
40. Beáta Heráková, Holíč
41. Daniela Hlucho-Horvátová, Hanušovce nad Topľou
42. Valéria Hlucho-Horvátová, Hanušovce nad Topľou
43. Monika Holubová, Prešov
44. Barbora Holubová, Domaňovce
45. Ján Horňák, Zálužice
46. Roland Horvát, Buzica
47. Tomáš Horvát, Čaklov
48. Monika Horváthová, Švedlár
49. Anna Horváthová, Helcmanovce
50. Karina Horváthová, Helcmanovce
51. Mária Horvátová, Prešov
52. Marek Huňák, Sol'
53. Jozef Juhas, Giraltove
54. Annamária Kaločaiová, Veľké Teriakovce
55. Dominika Kamenská, Poltár
56. Ľubomír Karalo, Slavošovce
57. Zuzana Karchňáková, Sačurov
58. Erik Kökény, Rimavská Sobota
59. Eva Kokyová, Švedlár
60. Martin Kotlár, Sol'
61. Monika Kováčsová, Veľký Krtíš
62. Václav Kováč, Veľký Krtíš
63. Elena Kováčová, Veľký Krtíš
64. Martina Kováčová, Čelovce
65. Vojtech Lázók, Gemerská Ves
66. Jana Ľoľová, Nižný Orlík
67. Beáta Michalková, Poprad- Veľká
68. Mária Mirgová, Rakúsy
69. Lýdia Mirgová, Spišský Štvrtok
70. Miroslav Mitráš, Sol'
71. Štefan Palenčár, Turček
72. Patrik Palenčár, Turček
73. Michaela Peštová, Hanušovce nad Topľou
74. Tomáš Pišta, Spišská Nová Ves
75. Mária Pompová, Jakubany
76. Lýdia Pompová, Spišská Belá
77. Tamás Porteleky, Tornaľa
78. Klaudia Rácová, Veľký Krtíš
79. Nikolas Radič, Rimavská Seč
80. Mária Révesz, Jelšava
81. Ján Ruszó, Revúca
82. Andrea Ruszóová, Gemerská Hôrka
83. Arnold Sási, Košice
84. Róbert Sendrei, Veľký Blh
85. Róberta Sendreiová, Ratková
86. Miroslav Sivák, Kružľová
87. René Sivák, Vyšný Orlík
88. Peter Sivák, Svidník
89. Ildikó Szajková, Košická Nová Ves
90. Nikola Šenkerová, Dobšiná
91. Lukáš Šoma, Kečkovce
92. Adam Štajer, Banská Bystrica
93. Annamária Takáčsová, Šamorín
94. Barbora Váradiová, Štrkovec
95. Orsolya Váradiová, Štrkovec
96. Ján Várady, Štrkovec
97. Laura Wallen, Košice
98. Annamária Zsírosová, Rimavská Sobota
100. Jozef Žolták, Raslavice

## Roma Memorial University Scholarship Program

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Roma Memorial University Scholarship Program has been administered by the Open Society Foundation in cooperation with the Roma Education Fund in Budapest since 2007. It offers merit-based scholarships to full-time Roma university students to motivate them in achieving the highest

education at accredited Slovak universities, thus creating pre-requisites for adequate job prospects. Application process is online. On August 10, 2012, all first grade students at all study levels were personally interviewed by the Foundation's committee members in Prešov. On November 15, 2012, a ceremonial convention of the Program scholarship winners was held in the Košice Theatre Thália. The purpose of this event was to disseminate more information on the Program activities and meet other scholarship winners. We supported 69 students.

**Expert committee:**

Agnes Horváthová, Romano Kher, Bratislava  
Alica Petrasová, Prešov University, Prešov  
Lucia Faltinová, Donor's Forum, Bratislava

**Awarded scholarships:**

1. Abrahám Milan, University of Public Health and Social Work of St. Elizabeth
2. Abrahámová Júlia, University of Public Health and Social Work of St. Elizabeth
3. Adam Robert, University of Public Health and Social Work of St. Elizabeth
4. Andrej Ladislav, University of Public Health and Social Work of St. Elizabeth
5. Baláž Ján, University of Public Health and Social Work of St. Elizabeth
6. Baláž Marek, University of Public Health and Social Work of St. Elizabeth
7. Banom Peter, Faculty of Medicine, Pavol Jozef Šafárik University in Košice
8. Bartošová Nikola, Faculty of Public Administration, University of A. Dubček in Trenčín
9. Bartošová Iveta, University of Public Health and Social Work of St. Elizabeth
10. Belák Andrej, University of Public Health and Social Work of St. Elizabeth
11. Berky Ján, University of Public Health and Social Work of St. Elizabeth
12. Berky Marek, University of Public Health and Social Work of St. Elizabeth
13. Berky Peter, University of Public Health and Social Work of St. Elizabeth
14. Berkyová Dominika, Faculty of Social Sciences and Public Health, Constantine the Philosopher University in Nitra
15. Čonková Miroslava, Faculty of Natural Sciences, Pavol Jozef Šafárik University in Košice
16. Dančová Lýdia, Catholic University in Ružomberok, Pedagogical Faculty
17. Danišová Alica, Comenius University, Faculty of Education
18. Deme Ján, Faculty of Medicine, Pavol Jozef Šafárik University in Košice
19. Didi Slavomír, Technical University in Zvolen
20. Facuna Jozef, University of Public Health and Social Work of St. Elizabeth
21. Facunová Monika, University of Public Health and Social Work of St. Elizabeth
22. Ferencová Jana, University of Veterinary Medicine and Pharmacy in Košice
23. Gaži Peter, Theological Faculty, Catholic University in Ružomberok
24. Godla Robert, International School of Management (ISM) Prešov
25. Gorol Matúš, Dubnica Technological Institute
26. Gorol Lukáš, Dubnica Technological Institute
27. Goroľová Lenka, Pedagogical Faculty, Prešov University
28. Goroľová Otília, Faculty of Business Administration, Economic University
29. Goroľová Marta, Greco-Catholic Theological Faculty, Prešov University
30. Grajcarová Michaela, University of Public Health and Social Work of St. Elizabeth
31. Gurguľová Renáta, University of Public Health and Social Work of St. Elizabeth
32. Hlucho- Horvátova Valéria, Pedagogical Faculty, Prešov University
33. Horváthová Nikola, University of Public Health and Social Work of St. Elizabeth
34. Jarková Ružena, Greco-Catholic Theological Faculty, Prešov University
35. Jonášová Anna, University of Public Health and Social Work of St. Elizabeth
36. Jonášová Stanislava, University of Public Health and Social Work of St. Elizabeth
37. Jonášová Želmíra, University of Public Health and Social Work of St. Elizabeth
38. Klimová Ivana, University of Public Health and Social Work of St. Elizabeth

39. Korčkovský David, Catholic University in Ružomberok, Pedagogical Faculty
40. Kováč Tomáš, Faculty of Law, Matej Bel University in Banská Bystrica
41. Maková Danka, University of Public Health and Social Work of St. Elizabeth
42. Mirgová Lýdia, Catholic University in Ružomberok, Pedagogical Faculty
43. Mirgová Angela, Catholic University in Ružomberok, Pedagogical Faculty
44. Mišalková Antónia, Faculty of Medicine, Pavol Jozef Šafárik University in Košice
45. Mitráš Vladimír, University of Public Health and Social Work of St. Elizabeth
46. Mitrášová Simona, University of Public Health and Social Work of St. Elizabeth
47. Moravčíková Andrea, Faculty of Arts, Prešov University
48. Nováková Simona, Faculty of Arts, Prešov University
49. Piskorová Jana, University of Public Health and Social Work of St. Elizabeth
50. Pištová Mária, Faculty of Public Administration, University of A. Dubček in Trenčín
51. Pištová Zuzana, Pedagogical Faculty, Prešov University
52. Pokoš Šimon, School of Economics and Management in Public Administration in Bratislava
53. Pompa Dominik, Catholic University in Ružomberok, Pedagogical Faculty
54. Pompová Silvia, Catholic University in Ružomberok, Pedagogical Faculty
55. Rác Peter, Faculty of Social Sciences and Public Health, Constantine the Philosopher University, Nitra
56. Rihariová Barbora, Bratislava Liberal Arts College
57. Ruszová Andrea, Faculty of Chemical Technology, Bratislava
58. Sendrej Vladimír, University of Public Health and Social Work of St. Elizabeth
59. Sivák Tomáš, Faculty of Public Administration, Pavol Jozef Šafárik University in Košice
60. Siváková Monika, University of Public Health and Social Work of St. Elizabeth
61. Siváková Nikola, Faculty of Management, Prešov University
62. Slepčíková Paulína, Faculty of Natural Sciences, Pavol Jozef Šafárik University in Košice
63. Šafranková Michaela, Faculty of Arts, Prešov University
64. Tokárová Miriama, University of Public Health and Social Work of St. Elizabeth
65. Tokárová Adriana, University of Public Health and Social Work of St. Elizabeth
66. Tóthová Andrea, University of Public Health and Social Work of St. Elizabeth
67. Vorosová Paula, Faculty of Social Sciences and Public Health, Constantine the Philosopher University, Nitra
68. Vozár Juraj, Faculty of Political Sciences and International Relations, Matej Bel University in Banská Bystrica
69. Vozárová Andrea, Pedagogical Faculty, Matej Bel University in Banská Bystrica

## Secondary School Scholarships Program

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This educational program was launched in 1993. Its goal is to allow students attend American or British secondary schools, understand other cultures, and experience life abroad by living in families, attending educational programs, becoming members of clubs and participating in community activities. Out of the total 111 applicants, the committee selected 12 students based on the results of their language tests and interviews.

### **Awarded scholarships:**

#### **American Secondary School for International Students and Teachers (ASSIST), USA**

1. Andrej Capko, Bilingual Secondary Grammar School of Milan Hodža, Sučany  
White Mountain School, Bethlehem, NH
2. Denisa Chanáthová, Secondary Grammar School of Pierre de Coubertine, Piešťany  
Wyoming Seminary, Kingston, PA

3. Kristína Mojžišová, Evangelical Secondary Grammar School, Bratislava  
Lancaster Country Day School, Lancaster, PA
4. David Nemček, Bilingual Secondary Grammar School of Milan Hodža, Sučany  
Shady Side Academy, Pittsburgh, PA
5. Matúš Petrovský, Evangelical Secondary Grammar School, Bratislava  
Peddie School, Hightstown, NJ
6. Magdaléna Šujanská, Bilingual Secondary Grammar School of C. S. Lewis, Bratislava  
Porter-Gaud School, Charleston, SC

#### **Headmasters' and Headmistresses' Conference (HMC) Projects for Central and Eastern Europe, Veľká Británia**

1. Martina Beďatšová, Bilingual Secondary Grammar School of Milan Hodža, Sučany  
King William's College, Isle of Man
2. Kristína Durčáková, Bilingual Secondary Grammar School of Milan Hodža, Sučany  
Sutton Valence School, Kent
3. Petra Petrášová, Secondary Grammar School of František Švantner, Nová Baňa  
The Royal Alexandra and Albert School, Surrey
4. Gregor Petrikovič, Secondary Grammar School of Andrej Kmeť, Banská Štiavnica  
New Hall School, Essex
5. Lucia Pirožeková, Evangelical Secondary Grammar School of J. A. Komenský, Košice  
New Hall School, Essex
6. Martin Veselý, Secondary Grammar School of Milan Rúfus, Žiar nad Hronom  
Dollar Academy, Clackmannanshire, Scotland

### 18<sup>th</sup> Annual English Essay Competition

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This annual operating program has been implemented since 1995. It is the oldest competition of its kind organized by a non-governmental organization. This year, 128 secondary grammar schools participated in the competition, out of that 14 from the Czech Republic. We received 933 essays. Out of the total number, the committee selected 70 finalists and out of that, 12 winners.

#### Winners in the junior category:

- 1<sup>st</sup> place – Martin Vrabec, Secondary Grammar School of M. R. Štefánik, Košice
- 2<sup>nd</sup> place – Samuel Hricko, Piarist Secondary Grammar School of J. Branecký, Trenčín
- 3<sup>rd</sup> place – Martina Kubíková, Secondary Grammar School, Olomouc - Hejčín
- 4<sup>th</sup> place – Matej Onder, Secondary Grammar School of Pierr de Coubertine, Piešťany

#### Winners in the senior category:

- 1<sup>st</sup> place – Richard Šarišský, Secondary Grammar School of general L. Svoboda, Humenné
- 2<sup>nd</sup> place – Daniele Princic, Secondary Grammar School of L. Sára, Bratislava
- 3<sup>rd</sup> place – Michal Drinka, Secondary Grammar School of St.Cyril and Methodius, Nitra
- 4<sup>th</sup> place – Veronika Bočkayová, Secondary Grammar School of St Edita Steinová, Košice

#### Winners in the Anglophone category:

- 1<sup>st</sup> place – Jakub Fiala, Secondary Grammar School of Juraj Hronec, Bratislava;
- 2<sup>nd</sup> place – Samuel Sejk, Private Secondary Grammar School, Solivarská, Prešov
- 3<sup>rd</sup> place – Jana Sipková, Secondary Grammar School of Juraj Hronec, Bratislava
- 4<sup>th</sup> place – Lucia Jakubíková, Private Secondary Grammar School *Katkin park*, Košice

Essay topics:

1. Minority student in my classroom.
2. Have the financial crisis over the past three years had any effect on your own expectations for the future?
3. Does the printed book still have a future or will electronic media render it obsolete?

### One-year Internships of Slovak Teachers at British Independent Schools (HMC Teachers' Scheme)

.....

Since 1997, the Open Society Foundation has enabled young Slovak teachers to spend one year at private secondary schools in the Great Britain (where they teach their subject and simultaneously, they tutor their students). The goal of the scheme is to help them acquire new information and improve their knowledge of their subject's terminology and teaching experience. Out of 9 applicants, Katarína Šajbanová from Banská Bystrica was selected.

Partners:

Headmasters' and Headmistresses' Conference – HMC, Great Britain

Private secondary schools in Great Britain

## PUBLIC HEALTH

The public health program understands access to health as universal human right belonging to every single human being and health promotion, prevention of illnesses, decreasing the prevalence of diseases and morbidity as beneficial and responsible goals. We promote such policies and procedures that are based on respect for the human rights, inclusion, justice, and evidence. We focus on advocating for poor and marginalized groups that are especially sensitive to the effectiveness of the health policies.

With the aim to secure equal access to health for all Slovak inhabitants, putting special emphasis on marginalized groups and individuals mostly threatened by discrimination, we support capacity development of civil society leaders and organizations. We also promote due compliance with the state's commitments to the human rights agenda in the field of health. To achieve this, we use three main strategies: we award grants, support capacity building, and promote rule of law in the health arena through advocacy.

### Public Health Program

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The program aims at improving access to health care and at other factors that impact health, striving to secure equal access to health for all Slovak citizens, with special focus on marginalized groups and people mostly in threat of discrimination. In 2012, we primarily focused on advocacy activities.

#### **Stabilization of the Health Promotion Program for Disadvantaged Communities**

We consider the Health Promotion Program for Disadvantaged Communities one of the key measures supporting access to right to health, primarily in Roma communities suffering from exclusion. In cooperation with wide range of partners – World Health Organization, Association for Culture and Communication, Union Health Insurance Company, Glaxo Smith and Kline a.s. and the representatives of Ministry of Health, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, governmental Plenipotentiary for Roma Communities and Public Health Authority, we tried to increase the efficiency and stability of the program in the future. The group identified reoccurring problems during the program implementation, while every single expert was striving to identify ways how to promote solutions within his or her competencies.

#### **Supporting NGO Capacity Building in the Field of Human Rights Related to Right to Health.**

With the aim to support capacities of NGOs advocating for Roma rights, we supported Quo Vadis NGO capacity building through mentoring. In a course of a year, the organization was subject to (self)assessment and did strategic planning in management, human rights and funding.

#### **Health Mediation – Best Practice Example**

In July, we organized an international seminar on approaches and efficient tools of health promotion in the Roma communities in cooperation with East-East program. Participants from Romania, Bulgaria, Macedonia and Slovakia discussed various approaches to health promotion in disadvantaged communities, shared their experience. They identified benefits of targeted tools and pre-conditions for their efficient use. The participants jointly agreed that the existence of supporting program targeting special problems of excluded communities is a prerequisite of their improved attitude/access towards health. The participants, including those from Slovakia, have also used the acquired knowledge at the national level. In case of Slovakia, relevant ministerial representatives and participants of the seminar used the information and knowledge gathered in drafting the measures for Health promotion program for the upcoming period.

**Working Group: Multiply Disadvantaged Women, Committee for Gender Equality**

We initiated a working group consisting of experts representing public administration and NGO sector that should focus the attention to the issue of forced sterilization of Roma women. The practice still indicates that the protection from unauthorized interventions into the reproductive health of women is not equally effective for all women disregarding their social status, education, nationality, language etc. The discussion also acknowledged that the respect and protection of reproductive rights should apply to all women, while the Roma women are especially vulnerable to exclusion from unlimited access and execution of these rights due to their social status, education, language barrier, and paternalistic approach of the health professionals, including the prejudices they may encounter in the health care institutions. The representatives committed themselves to search for efficient strategies and funds for improving current situation in their respective sectors, with a commitment to organize follow up sessions.

**Project Increasing Legal Awareness of Harm Reduction Organizations and the Drug Users**

In 2012, we implemented a follow up activity to the Project of Increasing Legal Awareness of Harm Reduction Organizations and the Drug Users (2011). We facilitated continuity in training of harm reduction professionals, adjusting the content of the trainings to their requirements raised in the previous project. We were motivated by the interest of field workers to enhance their understanding of legal texts, court rulings and their effort to assist the clients of the services in filing an appeal or objection. In cooperation with the experts from non-governmental organization Plan B we prepared an overview of types of remedies and their templates. We organized 4 trainings (September 2012 – October 2012).

Training participants included representatives from the following harm reduction organizations:

- CA Odysseus, Bratislava
- CA Prima, Bratislava
- CA Pomocná ruka, Košice
- Needle and Syringe Exchange Program, Banská Bystrica
- CA Storm, Nitra, Sereď

**Awarded grant:**

Queer Leaders Forum, Bratislava

EUR 31,040.00

Q-center – first and only Slovak LGBT community center

# GOOD GOVERNANCE

The goal of this program is to contribute to the optimal functioning of institutions, establish favorable conditions for creating policies respecting human rights of marginalized groups, overcome discrimination, and develop opportunities for citizen's 'participation in the management of public affairs

## Law Program

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### Empowering Judiciary

Our activities in the field of judiciary focus primarily on openness and independence of the Slovak judiciary, ethics, transparency, and quality in the judicial system. We are convinced that those prerequisites are vital for achieving fairer judiciary that is irreplaceable for the functioning of any society and is crucial for increasing trustworthiness of the system in the eyes of public.

Early parliamentary elections in 2012 brought about change in the government and subsequently, new Minister of Justice. The judiciary remained divided into two, with many judges still expressing their dissatisfaction with the state of judiciary, primarily at the ethical and moral level. Disciplinary proceedings of judges were a hot topic not only among the professionals, but also in the whole society through the media. OSF law program attempted to reflect on the situation and through its activities, including grant support, strived to primarily support open dialogue among judges themselves and then the judges and the public. The aim of this dialogue was to identify solutions supporting openness and independence of the Slovak judiciary, its ethics, transparency, and quality.

### **The Slovak Judiciary: Its Current State and Challenges (analysis of the current state of the Slovak Judiciary)**

At the end of 2011, OSF had the report on Current State and Challenges of the Slovak Judiciary finished. The report authors are independent foreign experts, Lukasz Bojarski and Werner Stemker Köster. In 2012, the authors officially presented the report and its findings at the Ministry of Justice of the Slovak Republic, to the representatives of various embassies to Slovakia and the judges themselves. The presentation, combined with a discussion, was held on January 8, 2012. The debate focused on the potential implementation of the Report's recommendations for the improvement of the Slovak judiciary and its functioning.

For copy of a report see:

[http://www.osf.sk/info/publikacie/aktualny\\_stav\\_slovenskeho\\_sudnictva\\_a\\_jeho\\_vyzvy/](http://www.osf.sk/info/publikacie/aktualny_stav_slovenskeho_sudnictva_a_jeho_vyzvy/).

### **Access to Justice: Barriers and Vantage Points: Selected Aspects of Disciplinary Judiciary**

OSF in partnership with civic association Via Iuris participated in preparing a conference from a series *Barriers and Vantage Points: Selected Aspects of Disciplinary Judiciary*. The conference was held on October 11, 2012 focusing on the legal aspects of disciplinary judiciary in Slovakia, the position of disciplinary panels in the Slovak judicial system, quality of their decisions; the need of special legal framework for some institutes of the disciplinary judiciary and other hot topics.

- JUDr. Daniela Zemanová, judge at the Supreme Administrative Court in the Czech Republic and chairwoman of a panel for criminal law
- JUDr. David Kosař, judge assistant at the Supreme Administrative Court in the Czech Republic, student of NYU School of Law
- JUDr. Allan Böhm, attorney, member of disciplinary panel
- JUDr. Milan Hrbek, attorney, ex-member of disciplinary panel



The analysis of *Selected Aspects of the Slovak Disciplinary Judiciary for 2002-2011* was presented at the conference. The publication, prepared by VIA IURIS with the financial support of NOS-OSF is available at: [http://www.viaiuris.sk/stranka\\_data/subory/pilc/pilk2011-vyslo-2011-pdf.pdf](http://www.viaiuris.sk/stranka_data/subory/pilc/pilk2011-vyslo-2011-pdf.pdf)

### **Public Debate: Judges on Judges**

On April 14, 2012, Foundation's Law Program in partnership with the Initiative for Open Judiciary organized a debate of judges with the public. The participants discussed the message of judge Juraj Majchrák, development of the Slovak judiciary from the Velvet revolution, independence of judiciary from the governments, ethical profile of the judges in the society.

Panelists:

- Katarína Javorčíková, judge, president of the Initiative for Open Judiciary,
- Ludvík Bradáč, judge, honorary president of the Association of Slovak Judges,
- Werner S. Koster, investigating judge, District Court in Rotterdam and co-author of the analysis *The Slovak Judiciary: Current State and Challenges*,
- Jan Vyklický, judge, honorary president of the Czech Union of Judges

Invited guests participating in the debate:

- Tomáš Borec, Minister of Justice of the Slovak Republic
- Dana Bystrianska, judge, president of the Association of Slovak Judges
- Ida Hanzelová, judge, member of Judicial Council of the Slovak Republic
- Gunter Woratsch, honorary president of the International Association of Judges
- Lucia Žitňanská, ex-minister of justice of the Slovak Republic
- Mária Kolíková, ex deputy minister at the Ministry of Justice of the Slovak Republic
- Tomáš Lichovník, judge, president of Union of Judges of the Czech Republic

### **Hate Crime / Extremism**

The Program implements activities aimed at eliminating intolerance and hatred in society. We participate in drafting public policies and their implementation and facilitate expert and public debate. Through our grants and partnership in the area we support such activities as legal and civil aid, public events etc.

When it comes to extremism, Slovakia is part of a bigger, European picture. Those days, extremism is on very steep increase, "the biggest from the Second World War", according to the words of Cecilia Malmström, EU Commissioner for Home Affairs. We have observed strong intensification of hate speech, mainly in the cyber space, while the reaction of the governments and NGOs being insufficient. Slovakia still lacks protection and support of victims of hate crime. This statement is supported by the research results, carried out by OSF in 2011, followed by expert discussion in 2012. NOS-OSF put the topic of hatred on the table, opening a public debate on how to potentially eliminate it.

### **Public Opinion on Far Right (public opinion survey)**

In 2012, OSF together with Center for the Research of Ethnicity and Culture (CVEK), published and presented a research report *Public Opinion on Far Right*. The research unveils the potential for further spread of far right in Slovakia and its support by the Slovak public. The research had been carried out in 2011.

Authors: Elena Gallová-Kriglerová, Jana Kadlečiková, Centrum pre výskum etnicity (CVEK)

Editors: Viktória Mlynárčiková, Zuzana Neupauer, NOS-OSF

Report can be downloaded at:

[http://www.osf.sk/kniznica\\_a\\_open\\_gallery/publikacie/2011/verejna\\_mienka\\_v\\_oblasti\\_pravicoveh\\_o\\_extremizmu/](http://www.osf.sk/kniznica_a_open_gallery/publikacie/2011/verejna_mienka_v_oblasti_pravicoveh_o_extremizmu/)

### **Project Velvet**

On the occasion of establishment of the Slovak state, OSF prepared a public event on March 13-14, 2013, celebrating the principles of democracy, freedom of speech and human rights. This project

shows respect to all the people, disregarding their sex, age, education, ethnicity, religion, or sexual orientation. The event consisted of screening of movies bringing attention to the threat of terrorism and national socialism, along with the opening of a visual arts exhibition and a competition of slum poetry. It is a follow up project to *Dost' bolo ticha (Enough of Silence)* activity.

### **Creative Morning on Genocides**

On December 4, 2012, OSF organized a public debate with Piotr Cywiński, director of the Oswiecim (Auschwitz) museum and Gilbert Sezirahig, director of a Memorial Center on the Murambi Genocide in Rwanda as a part of the *Creative morning* series. The discussion was focused on holocaust, genocide, and human potential to mass killing.

For more information see:

<http://www.kreativnerano.sk/kr/28/16/kreativne-rano-vol-25-o-genocidach/>

Partners: KC Dunaj and Polish Institute in Bratislava

### **Facing Facts**

NOS-OSF invested its expertise in a project of Belgium organization CEJI – A Jewish Contribution to Inclusive Europe Facing Fact. The project goal was to create data collection methodology on hate crimes and it was supported by EU. The project result is a manual of hate crimes monitoring.

For more information on the project: <http://www.ceji.org/facingfacts>

Partner: CEJI – A Jewish Contribution to Inclusive Europe

### **NGO Hate Crime Platform**

Since 2008, OSF coordinates a NGO and expert platform on intolerance. The purpose of the platform is to initiate and develop cooperation and communication among the main stakeholders in this area.

### **International Project: Strengthening Improving Media Objectivity and Coverage of Issues Involving Social Tolerance (2010 – 2012)**

OSF in partnership with East – East: Partnership Beyond Borders Program implemented a multi-year international project *Improving Media Objectivity and Coverage of Issues Involving Social Tolerance*. The project aimed at experience exchange and enhancement of knowledge and information of the Slovak, Czech, Hungarian and Bulgarian journalists, and students of journalism on extremism and hate crime. Throughout the course of the project, three meetings were organized in the Czech Republic, Slovakia, and Hungary. Their participants had a unique opportunity to discuss relevant country issues with experts in the field. In addition, they had the opportunity to train their skills in providing information on sensitive human rights cases.

### **Policy Development, Advocacy and Development of Civil Society in Gorgia**

#### **Study stay of EWMI G PAC grant winners in Slovakia.**

Between June 17-24, 2012, the Foundation hosted representatives of seven NGOs from Georgia with the aim to promote their knowledge in the following areas: environment migration, volunteering, networking, economic issues, and youth. They also had the opportunity to meet relevant experts from public administration and NGO sector. The study tour was organized with the financial support of USAID.

### **Awarded grants:**

CEiTV, Košice Roundtable on Discrimination	EUR 2,000.00
Civic Association Judges for Open Judiciary, Bratislava Open Justice	EUR 20,064.00
UNDER THE SURFACE with subtitle The Information, Svatý Jur	EUR 15,000.00

Gorilla Marathon	
VIA IURIS – Center for Civil Rights, Pezinok Judicial Ethics	EUR 9,913.00
Center for Philanthropy, NGO, Bratislava Process of Simplification of a Regular Individual Donorship	EUR 8,030.00
KohoVolit.eu, Považská Bystrica KohoVolit.eu – Parliamentary Elections 2012	EUR 1,390.00
Center for Public Administration Development, Bratislava Manual for Improving Transparency of Political Parties	EUR 3,300.00
Association of Towns and Municipalities, Vinodol Transparent Municipalities	EUR 8,250.00

## Democracy and Human Rights - Program of NGO Support

In 2012, NOS – OSF prepared a program application for administering Fund for NGO. The Foundation won the call for proposals, becoming the administrator of Program of NGO Support – Democracy and Human Rights. First grants from this program are going to be awarded during 2013. The NGO Program “Democracy and Human Rights” is part of the implementation of the EEA Financial Mechanism 2009-2014 by which the donor states, Iceland, Liechtenstein, and Norway, contribute to the elimination of economic and social inequality in the EEA. In Slovakia, the Program Democracy and Human Rights will support NGO projects with the total amount of EUR 2,888,282.

The overall priority of the Program is the development of NGO capacities and improvement of their position in the society.

The program pays close attention to the development of cooperation between civil society, public, and private sector through supporting partnerships at the project level in all program areas.

Special program priority is development of bilateral cooperation between Slovak NGOs and the public and private entities in the donor countries.

At least 10% of the total eligible expenditures will be dedicated to support children and youth at risk. The program will also focus on the specific needs of minorities.

OSF will ensure the highest possible level of transparency and responsibility during the implementation of the Program and future NGO projects. The Foundation will also ensure compliance with the principles of good governance, sustainable development, gender equality, and equal opportunities.

### **Program will support NGO projects in the following 4 areas:**

1. Democracy, good governance and transparency
2. Human rights including minority rights
3. Gender equality and gender-based violence
4. Anti- discrimination, combating of racism and xenophobia

## Equal Opportunities

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Open Society Foundation supports projects and activities aimed at overcoming problems resulting from unequal position of disadvantaged groups, fight against hatred and intolerance, with special emphases on Roma.

### **Res publica**

In 2012, Open Society Foundation opened a grant program *Res publica*, with a goal to encourage NGO involvement in solving the problems of disadvantaged groups and promoting non-discrimination and tolerance. The call put special emphasis on the projects aimed at monitoring and evaluation of National Action Plan *Decade of Roma Inclusion* (2005-2015) and implementation of the Strategy of the Slovak Republic for Roma Integration until 2020. The aim of this program is to support activities designed to eliminate disparities and intolerance in the society, support involvement into policy development as well as monitoring of implementation of measures in all main priority areas of *Decade of Roma inclusion* – education, housing, employment, health and cross-cutting topics as fight against discrimination and support of gender equality.

Maximum grant amount:	EUR 13,000
In-kind contribution or co-funding:	10% of total costs
Minimum project duration:	1 year
Number of awarded grants:	4

### **Cooperation in Developing Strategy of Roma Integration in the Slovak Republic**

The existing *Strategy of Roma Inclusion in the Slovak Republic* is a result of cooperation of the Governmental Office of Plenipotentiary for Roma Communities, World Bank, UNDP, Open Society Foundation, Association of Towns and Municipalities in Slovakia and non-governmental organizations. The cooperation with Ministry of Labor, Social Affairs and Family of the Slovak Republic played an important role in the whole preparation process. The Foundation's representatives participated in expert committees working on housing, employment, and financial inclusion. In order to discuss the strategy development, the Foundation organized 3 roundtables in Banská Bystrica, Prešov and Košice in cooperation with its partners.

A series of consultations was also organized with the representatives of state administration, respective ministries, representatives of Roma NGOs and organizations working at the national level and academic leaders in the area in Bratislava. OSF representatives participated in presentations organized at the International Steering Committee and seminar on structural funds during Croatian Presidency of the Decade. When developing *Action Plan of Financial Inclusion of Marginalized Roma Communities*, the Foundation cooperated with the Office of Plenipotentiary for Roma Communities. When it comes to developing new initiatives supporting capacity building, OSF worked in partnership with OSI Budapest.

### **Financial Inclusion of Roma**

On May 24, 2012, the Foundation organized an international seminar *Financial Inclusion of Roma*. The seminar was held in Bratislava.

Partners: World Bank, Kiútprogram Hungary, Ministry of Labor, Social Affairs and Family

### **Awarded grants:**

People in Need, civic association (People in Need Slovak Republic), Bratislava Together for Better Housing	EUR 7,000.00
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Milan Šimečka Foundation, Bratislava	EUR 7,000.00
Pushing for Efficient Implementation of Strategic Governmental Documents on Roma Inclusion	
Návrat, civic association, Bratislava	EUR 9,000.00
Selected Group of Roma Children for Supported Inclusion Programs: Roma Children in Non-Roma Foster Family (recommendations of accredited entity for professionals and lay-persons)	
Ulita, Bratislava	EUR 7,000.00
Good Practice of Informal Education as a Tool of Change	

## INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION SUPPORT

Aspect of international cooperation is present in all programs of the Open Society Foundation. The Foundation uses the East East Program – Partnership Beyond Borders to share international experience and promote civil society principles.

### East East Program – Partnership Beyond Borders

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In 2012, the operating activities in the field of international cooperation built on the cooperation with Education and Public Health Programs. We organized two international seminars, offering space for cross-sector discussion with international participation. We sent 21 experts to 12 projects implemented abroad. The experts were involved in solving up-to date problems in health care, local self-governments, fundraising, education, and others.

#### **Health Mediation – Examples of Good Practice for Improving Health and Protection of Rights of Roma: Systemic Approach and Sustainability**

June 21. – 22, 2012, Bratislava

Round table where experts from state institutions responsible for policy implementation in health sector and support of inclusion of Roma communities, representatives of NGOs involved in improving conditions for exercising right to health of Roma citizens had the opportunity to discuss relevant topics and exchange experience.

#### **Inclusive Education: From Theory and Policies to Practice (Opportunities and Challenges)**

December 4. – 5, 2012, Bratislava

The seminar offered space for presentation of knowledge and experience, visions on the process of change of a segregated educational system into inclusive module in national and international context. It also focused on multi-level discussion on various aspects of interventions geared towards inclusive educational system.

#### **Awarded grants:**

Carpathian Development Institute, Košice  
Development of Rural Tourism in Eastern Serbia Using EU Experience EUR 6,428.00

Civic Network of Central and Eastern Europe, Banská Bystrica  
Improving Local Governance from Bottom Up EUR 18,668.06

#### **Participation of Experts in International Meetings Abroad**

Comparative Analysis of Regional Development Policies

March 8. – 10, 2012, Romania

Richard Hakszer

Transformation of the Agricultural Sector: Sustainable Economic Development

March 12. – 16, 2012, Moldavia

Erik Heidema, Michal Strnal, Jana Revaková,

Eastern Europe Needs Midwives Today More Than Ever!

May 22. – 25, 2012, Czech Republic

Iveta Kucková, Eva Urbanová, Jana Ivanecká, Dušan Podolský, Anastázia Furmanová

Independent Expertise and Advocacy for Visa Liberalization

July 1. – 3, 2012, Poland

Samuel Arbe

Capacity Building for Civil Society Organizations from Georgia's Regions

September 7. – 18, 2012, Georgia

Dušan Ondrušek

Human Rights Education through the History of the Communist Regimes

September 27. – 28, 2012, Romania

Marína Zavacká

Improving Local Governance from Bottom Up

October 28. – November 2, 2012, Moldavia

Chuck Hirt, Sanja Nikolov, Veronika Strelcová

Innovative Fundraising Strategies and Practices for NGOs in Central and Eastern Europe

October 29. – 31, 2012, Hungary

Lucia Štasselová

Networking Resource Centers in Europe: European Civil Society House

November 5. – 6, 11.2012, Belgium

Darina Lacová

The European Union, Central and Eastern Europe, and Ukraine: Prognosis and Perspectives

November 15. – 17, 2012, Ukraine

Ivo Samson

Overcoming Discrimination in Education: Legal Protections and Strategic Litigation

December 10. – 15, 2012, Czech Republic

Štefan Ivanco

Achieving Positive Change in Developing Alternative Care for Children

December 11. – 13, 2012, Czech Republic

Emilia Bezaková, Dana Pukancová

## SOCIETY AND INFORMATION

The Open Society Foundation uses the Journalism Award to improve the quality of Slovak journalism and create space for expert discussion on sensitive topics and the ways in which disadvantaged groups are portrayed in the media. Thus, the Foundation facilitates opinion exchange, confrontation, and discussion.

### Journalism Award 2011

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OSF has been organizing Journalism Award competition in cooperation with its partners since 2004. The competition is opened for journalists from all types of the media. Currently, the Journalism Award represents well-established, respected, and representative forum of a high quality Slovak journalism.

409 authors submitted 685 contributions into the 8<sup>th</sup> year of the competition. Independent international juries assessed contributions in 16 categories and selected nominees and winners for the print and electronic media. The winner in each category got a financial award of EUR 830. The Competition Board awarded 3 special prizes: *Open Society Award*, announced in memorial of Karel Ježík and the *Award of the Association of the Publishers of the Periodical Press in Slovakia* and British Council Award for supporting inter cultural dialogue. For the first time, the Czecho-Slovak Journalistic Award was decided on-line by the public. The winners got a financial award of EUR 1,660. Winner of the British Council Award got an award of EUR 830. The names of the nominees and the winners were announced at a ceremony in Bratislava Flagship Restaurant on April 19, 2012.

No Comment exhibition represents an integral part of the Journalism Award Competition since its 2<sup>nd</sup> year. This exhibition displays submitted journalistic photography and sketches. The public could first see the works in the OPEN Gallery in Bratislava, later it moved to the Prague Langhans Gallery.

Golden partner: Slovenská sporiteľňa

Partners: Google, British Council, Mayer/McCann Ericsson, MEMO 98, Association of Publishers of Periodic Print Media in Slovakia, Open Society Fund Praha, PRime time

For more information see: [www.novinarskacena.sk](http://www.novinarskacena.sk).

### Frontline Bratislava

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#### DISCUSSIONS

**Frontline Bratislava** is a space for informal debates and meetings of diverse groups of people with the common interest in discussing hot issues in our society. We invite domestic and international guests who inspire and motivate the participants through their experience and commitment. Frontline discussions are organized in OPEN Gallery at Baštová St. 5 in Bratislava. Frontline Bratislava is a follow up activity of the Frontline Club London. This initiative was established in 2003 by Vaughan Smith in the memory of his colleagues – photo journalists who had died at the frontline, while doing their jobs. All discussions are available at: <http://vimeo.com/groups/frontline>

List of discussions:

January 09, 2012 | Merger of STV and SRO – Year After /Zlúčenie STV a SRO - rok po.

March 21, 2012 | On War Photography with Marc Di Lauro/O vojnovej fotografii s Marcom Di Laustom

November 07, 2012 | Syria Through Eyes of War Photographer/Sýria očami vojnového fotografa



November 28, 2012 | Will Newspapers Survive Without Paper?/Prežijú noviny bez papiera?

**Face 2 Face** discussion with US and Slovak guests are organized by Open Society Foundation in cooperation with US Embassy on monthly basis. They are also held in OPEN Gallery at Baštová St. 5 in Bratislava. Video footage of the discussions is published at: [vimeo.com/groups/face2face](http://vimeo.com/groups/face2face)

List of discussions:

January 26, 2012 | Are We Givers? Philanthropy in Slovakia

February 28, 2012 | Corruption in Business: Unavoidable or Unacceptable

March 15, 2012 | Primaries, Caucuses, Straw Polls, Conventions: Deciphering the U.S. Elections

May 03, 2012 | The Future of NATO - Chicago and Beyond

May 29, 2012 | Tinkers and Thinkers: Education for the 21st Century

September 25, 2012 | The Future of Afghanistan after 2014

October 11, 2012 | Countdown to November 6: U.S. Elections 2012

November 29, 2012 | Wanted: Ethical Lawyers. How to Cultivate Ethics and Values in the Legal Profession?

December 04, 2012 | Citizen Empowerment Through New Technology

## CAMPAIGNS

### **Roma, This is Also Their True Story.**

According to many sociological surveys, prejudices and negative stereotypes against Roma are present in all strata of the Slovak society. Thus, we challenged young creative professionals with an assignment on this topic, being interested how they were going to cope with those prejudices, even their own ones. We partnered with Young Lions, a competition for young advertising professionals.

The winning project of Marek Barančík and Martin Palšovič from Triad Advertising Agency became the base of our campaign: *Roma: This is Also Their True Story.* Since there were various good projects submitted to the competition, we decided to present a selection of them and their authors at the webpage.

Thanks to the welcoming approach of the media partners, the banner campaign was launched both in the national mainstream and tabloid online media.

To see the campaign visit: [facebook.com/nososf/app\\_212590372204478](https://facebook.com/nososf/app_212590372204478)

### **Awarded grants:**

Central European Policy Institute, Bratislava	EUR 2,975.00
Visit of the Kosovo Minister of Foreign Affairs, E. Hoxhaj in the Slovak Republic	
DELET – civic association, Bratislava	EUR 2,000.00
DELET – Slovak – Jewish Newspapers	
LOTOS – Association of Local TV Producers in Slovakia, Martin	EUR 6,970.00
WORKSHOP 2012 –Overview of the Creation of Local TV Producers in Slovakia: XIV. Year	
Foundation – Center of Contemporary Arts, Bratislava	EUR 5,375.00
Program of Exhibitions in OPEN Gallery / N-CSU 2012	
POLIS Foundation, Žilina	EUR 6,000.00
Discussions on Public Issues	

Non Profit ORganization Human Family, Bratislava Human Family / Israel	EUR 4,000.00
100 Opinions, Bratislava 100 Opinions: Power, Truth and Politics	EUR 3,000.00
Euforion – Cultural and Leisure Time Forum (CA), Bratislava Elections 2012 - Documentary (working title <i>We Need You Today</i> )	EUR 2,500.00
MEMO 98, Bratislava Infovolby.sk – Parliamentary Elections 2012	EUR 10,000.00
Midl, c.a., Bratislava Creative Morning	EUR 2,000.00
Civic Association EEE, Bratislava <i>KINEČKO</i> reality Magazine	EUR 500,00

## SPIN-OFF ORGANIZATIONS

Over time, organizations that were originally part of the Open Society Foundation program structure split to create independent institutions to build on their knowledge and carry out their own activities or grant programs. These organizations include the following: Foundation - Center of Contemporary Art, Wide Open School Foundation, Open Medical Club, Slovak-Czech Women's Fund and Plan B, NGO.

### Wide Open School Foundation, Žiar nad Hronom

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The Wide Open School Foundation was formed from the educational program Step by Step, launched in Slovakia by NOS-OSF in 1993. Its mission is to stimulate institutional and family education of pre-school children and to support children from socially disadvantaged or under-stimulating families. **For more information see:** <http://www.skoladokoran.sk>

Number of grants awarded: 3 – for institutional support  
Total amount of grant support: EUR 87,901.90.

### Open Medical Club

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The civil association Open Medical Club organizes educational programs for medical doctors: (Salzburg Medical Seminars), satellite symposia, and its own seminars and training activities for medical doctors and a wide range of health care professionals. Its aim is to effectively apply relevant and valid information and data acquired at the Salzburg Medical Seminars and other international institutions, putting the Evidence-Based Medicine principle into practice. The organization also provides information to the public. **For more information see:** <http://www.omc.sk>

### Plán B, n.o.

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Plan B is NGO operating on harm reduction principle, i.e. prevention and minimization of individual and social risks related to potentially risky models of behavior. A mission of Plan B is to provide assistance and support with health, legal or social issues implied by use and abuse of illegal addictive substances to users themselves as well as social environment and entire society. **For more information see:** <http://www.drogyinak.sk>

### Slovak-Czech Women's Fund

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In 2004, NOS-OSF Bratislava and OSF Prague established a new donor organization -- the Slovak-Czech Women's Fund. At the same time, both foundations made a commitment to support this organization during its first three years of existence. The Fund's role is to promote the principles of equal opportunities for women and men by supporting initiatives aimed at protection, advocacy, and application of women's rights, and philanthropy aimed at women and gender equality. **For more information see:** <http://www.womensfund.sk>

## Foundation – Center of Contemporary Art

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Foundation - Center of Contemporary Art was established in 1993 under the name Soros Center for Contemporary Art (SCCA). From its establishment until 1999, it was one of the most important sources of support of alternative culture and projects of contemporary art, broadly covering the arts with the exception of literature. The Foundation is a platform for supporting creative artistic and training programs, and cooperation with various institutions in the area of contemporary art and culture with the aim to promote this type of creativity. **For more information see:** <http://www.ncsu.sk>

## ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

### Executive management

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Jana Malovičová	office manager	malovicova@osf.sk
Ľubica Stanek	deputy director for policy development, strategy and media	lub@osf.sk
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### Financial department

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Richard Váradi	financial assistant	rvaradi@osf.sk

### Program managers and coordinators, assistants

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## Education

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## Contact

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### **PREŠOV**

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# FINANCIAL REPORT

## FINANČNÁ SPRÁVA

The Board of Trustees approved the Foundation's budget for 2012 at EUR 885,419.00 on December 15, 2011. Approved administrative costs by the Board of Trustees equaled EUR 251,300 EUR. Those administrative costs do not include the depreciation of long term assets, unanticipated expenditures, or potential exchange rate losses. The breakdown of budgeted administration costs was as follows: compensations (Section 28 (2), par.e/), EUR 64,000 wages (Section 28 (2), par.f/), out of that EUR 12,000.00 remuneration for Foundation's administrator (Section 28 (2), par.d/).

### Overview of Revenues by Source in EUR and Donations Exceeding EUR331.94

1.	EUR 2,802,565.03	Open Society Institute, Zürich, Switzerland Private Non-Investment Fund in Switzerland and the USA
2.	EUR 189,215.25	Roma Education Fund, Zürich, Switzerland
3.	EUR 39,700.00	Various contributions from individuals for activities organized by OSF
4.	EUR 14,100.00	OSF, Prague
5.	EUR 15,000.00	Slovenská sporiteľňa, Bratislava
6.	EUR 11,900.00	US Embassy, Bratislava
7.	EUR 11,039.50	USAID, Bratislava
8.	EUR 8,995.00	Income from asset rental
9.	EUR 3,311.00	World Bank
10.	EUR 30,194.03	Returns from not-accounted grants
11.	EUR 676.47	Trust for Civic Society in CEE, Warszawa
12.	EUR 830.00	British Council, Bratislava
13.	EUR 2,100.00	Association of Publishers of Periodic Press in Slovakia, Bratislava
14.	EUR 1,736.31	Funds from 2% direct tax allocation scheme
15.	EUR 3,000.00	Piano Media, as., Bratislava
16.	EUR 500.00	Mark Travel, Bratislava
17.	EUR 302.92	Received interest from the Foundation's accounts
	<b>EUR 3,135,165.51</b>	<b>total income</b>

Balance of Assets, Flow of Assets and Liabilities

**Assets in EUR - Acquisition Prices: as of January 1, 2012 as of December 31, 2012**

1. Software	59,292.41	59,292.41
2. Small and short term intangible assets	5,738.45	5,738.45
3. Real-estate, buildings	211,560.68	211,560.68
4. Technical equipment	259,430.98	259,430.98
5. Motor vehicles	39,918.41	39,918.41
6. Small and short term tangible assets	70,682.55	70,682.55
7. Land	14,795.23	14,795.23
8. Cash	137,111.05	1,993,457.76
9. Financial investments	563,590.73	383,975.31
10. Receivables	1,114,040.86	369,652.02
11. Future cost estimate	9,489.89	5,487.21
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,485,651.24</b>	<b>3,413,991.01</b>

**Tangible Fixed Assets in EUR after Depreciation:**

1. Software	59,292.41
2. Small and short term intangible assets	5,738.45
3. Building depreciation	117,986.87
4. Technical equipment	256,623.49
5. Motor vehicle depreciation	39,918.41
6. Furniture	2,622.15
7. Small and short term tangible assets	70,682.55

**TOTAL DEPRECIATION: 552,864.33**

**Liabilities in EUR:**

1. Liabilities to suppliers	49,682.02	11,407.90
2. Other liabilities	9,595.83	4,130.59
3. Payable grants	731,816.38	370,745.68
4. Liabilities to employees	22,309.32	17,127.43
5. Liabilities to insurance companies	6,413.60	4,087.55
6. Liabilities tw. Slovak state budget	300.86	0
7. Other liabilities	281,230.45	627,536.54
8. Reserves	20,459.49	28,343.73
9. Basic equity	96,276.54	96,276.54
10. Foundation's equity	6,638.78	6,638.78
11. Undistributed profit	716,216.61	717,234.61
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,940,939.88</b>	<b>1,883,529.35</b>



## Total Foundation Expenditures in 2012 Divided by Activity in EUR

Program Costs 2012	Program Costs in EUR
Education	57,991.80
International cooperation	60,623.10
Public health	22,655.50
Media programs	192,515.81
Civil society	16,674.35
Roma	292,186.10
Law	121,991.00
Youth	127,216.36
Other	60,266.65
<b>Total</b>	<b>952,120.67</b>

### NOS-OSF Administrative Costs

**Total costs: EUR 1,273,814.72**

#### Divided to

- program costs                      **EUR 952,120.67**  
- administrative costs                **EUR 321,694.05**

#### Administrative costs subtotals:

– property protection                **EUR 775,27**  
– promotion                              **EUR 0**  
– travel costs                            **EUR 6,288.95**  
– wages                                    **EUR 64,579.48**

### Remuneration for foundation administrator and others set forth in the Foundation Charter.

#### NOS-OSF bodies established by the Foundation Charter:

##### Administrator

The administrator's remuneration in 2012 was EUR 1,000 per month, total EUR 12,000 per month.

##### Board of Trustees

NOS-OSF's Board of Trustees and its chairwoman did not receive any financial or non-financial remuneration for their work as board members.

##### NOS-OSF's Inspector

The NOS-OSF's inspector did not receive any financial or non-financial remuneration for his work in this position.

##### Council of Elders

Members of the NOS-OSF's Council of Elders (an advisory body to the Board of Trustees) did not receive any financial or non-financial remuneration for their work in these positions.

**In accordance with Act no. 34/2002 on Foundations, no other NOS-OSF bodies were established by the Foundation Charter in 2012.**

## Overview of Foundation Fund Activities and Monies in the Foundation Funds

Pursuant to Act no. 34/2002 on Foundations, NOS-OSF did not establish or own any foundation fund in 2012.

## Changes to Foundation Charter in 2012

Pursuant to Act no. 34/2002 on Foundations, there were no amendments to the Foundation Charter in 2012 in relation to the members of the Board of Trustees.

## Structure of Foundation Bodies in 2012

The Foundation Charter stipulates the following structure of foundation bodies:

### NOS-OSF Administrator

The foundation's administrator and executive director in 2012 was **Alena Pániková**.

### NOS-OSF Board of Trustees

NOS-OSF's Board of Trustees has the following six members:

<b>Name:</b>	<b>Position:</b>
<b>Richard ĎURANA</b>	member
<b>Daniel KLIMOVSKÝ</b>	member
<b>Ingrid BROCKOVÁ</b>	member
<b>Zuzana KUŠOVÁ</b>	chairwoman
<b>Milan VAJDA</b>	member
<b>Janet LIVINGSTONE</b>	member

The Board of Trustees delegates decision-making on grants in specific areas to expert committees. The expert committees are bound to duly comply with the same rules as the Board of Trustees.

### Council of Elders in 2012:

Rudolf Chmel  
Martin Bútora  
László Szigeti  
Pavel Demeš  
Štafan Markuš  
Lev Bukovský  
Iveta Radičová  
Mária Zelenáková  
Katarína Vajdová  
Eugen Jurzyca  
Grigorij Mesežnikov

The Council of Elders is an advisory body to the Board of Trustees. Its mission is to strengthen the Foundation's capacity to open new topics, reacting to the current challenges in the society. Likewise, its role is to look for the solutions for a short term and a long –term strategy. The Council of Elders consists of the Slovak experts and personalities, primarily the ex-board members. The Council of Elders convenes twice a year and does not make any financial decisions.

## Transparent Use of Financial Funds

The fact that Slovakia joined EU brought about new administrative processes as required by EU legislation. One of the requirements is the emphasis on harmonization of accounting regulations ensuring the comparability of final accounts regardless of the location of the subject's registered office.

To achieve this, the EU passed legislation introducing International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS). These standards are published by the independent International Accounting Standards Board. In addition to the general audit, NOS-OSF also prepares annual financial reports according to the aforementioned standards, making its operations more transparent and trustworthy for international donors.

### **NOS-OSF Ethical Code**

The ethical code represents a set of rules that express the basic values of NOS-OSF's organizational culture and vision. The ethical code is binding for all members of the Board of Trustees, the Board of Elders, expert committees and foundation employees. The ethical code is an integral part of the foundation's organizational procedures and is a public document. Breaching the ethical code can lead to expulsion of a member from the Board of Trustees, Board of Elders, or expert committees or to the termination of employment.

The Open Society Foundation is an independent, nonpartisan institution that upholds the notion that an open society is the basis of democracy. NOS-OSF carries out its activities for the public's benefit and pursuant to applicable legal regulations.

### **Open Society**

On a philosophical level, the open society concept is based on the idea that human understanding is imperfect and that nobody holds the ultimate truth. On a practical level, open society is characterized by the rule of law, respect for human rights, minorities and minority opinions, the division of power and a market economy.

Each and every NOS-OSF employee must be loyal to open society principles and cautious in attitude and deed so as to avoid jeopardizing the foundation's good reputation. Another NOS-OSF work requirement is making an effort to promote the foundation's goals, work respectfully, and adhere to the team spirit of the foundation. Work on the Board of Trustees, Board of Elders and expert committees is grounded in the high profile of members, and association with an institution or profession or certain elements in society with which the foundation wishes to cooperate in implementing its programs.

### **Independence**

Though the foundation welcomes government cooperation, since this can facilitate the foundation's programs and this support increases the impact of the foundation's work, the Board of Trustees must oversee these relations to ensure they do not interfere with the foundation's independence. The foundation needs to preserve its freedom to support programs that may precipitate government criticism, such as support for media independence and diversity, programs fighting corruption and efforts in the field of human rights, etc. The principle of independence must also be applied in partnerships and co-financing.

### **Impartiality**

Though promoting open society principles can be considered apolitical in the broadest sense of the word, it is important for the foundation to be impartial and to create an impression of objectivity. This requirement prevents us from employing persons publicly associated or identified with a political party or direct members of a political leadership.

### **Conflict of Interest**

Supporting open society principles requires that support opportunities be equally available to all individuals in the country, and not limited or partially limited to a closed group. The basic principle for the NOS-OSF employee is to declare each real and/or potential conflict of interest. A “real conflict of interest” is understood as a material interest in programs supported by the foundation or family relations/ties to the organization that is the subject of the decision-making process. The same applies to purchasing of goods or services. A “potential conflict of interests” includes all situations and circumstances when the impression may arise that NOS-OSF employees mutually encourage each other’s interests, even though there is no real conflict of interest.

The decision-making bodies need to be composed or predominantly composed of individuals with no personal and/or material interests in the programs supported by the foundation. In exceptional cases, when decision-making bodies want to support a project where one of its members has a material interest, they must ask a superior body for final approval. In practice this means that the expert committee needs to ask the Board of Trustees, which then consults the Open Society Institute for the final decision. If the decision-making body takes a decision, it should attach a justification and recommendation to the project. In the event that OSI decides to financially support the given program, the awarded amount can be deducted from the foundation’s allocation. Such a decision comes under the jurisdiction of OSI.

Members of the decision-making bodies commit themselves to act in line with the Ethical Code, which they confirm by signing the document. The rules for expert committees/Board of Trustees can be adjusted as needed by individual programs. However, they must contain at least the following provisions:

- a) all information about the project is confidential and cannot be published before its implementation;
- b) expert committee (EC) or Board of Trustees (BT) members need to preserve and protect the foundation’s good reputation;
- c) there must be no conflicts of interest; a conflict of interest is understood as follows:
  - If the EC/BT cannot remain impartial and objective in evaluating and assessing a submitted project because he/she must decide between personal interest and the interest of the foundation (real conflict of interests);
  - If an EC/BT member or his/her relative, close friend or business partner has a financial interest in awarding the grant or signing the contract or in decision-making in the public procurement of the foundation (real conflict of interests);
  - If an EC/BT member or his/her relative, close friend or a business partner is in financial partnership with the grant applicant or is its potential contractor or otherwise comes into conflicting situations as to his/her loyalty with the foundation that can influence the foundation’s decision-making. This is also applicable cases where no personal financial profit for the EC/BT member from the financial grant is at stake (real conflict of interests);
  - If an EC/BT member is associated in public with the submitted project/institution and an impression may arise that he/she is supporting his/her personal interests (potential conflict of interests), it is up to the conscious of individual EC/BT members to admit their partiality, involvement and real or potential conflict of interests. If in spite of previously taken measures (selection of committee members) a conflict of interests situation arises, the following measures shall be taken:
    - in cases of direct involvement/partiality, i.e. a real conflict of interests, the member is excluded from discussion about the project and from the project in general, together with a recommendation that must be approved by a higher level body,

- in the event of indirect involvement/partiality, i.e. a potential conflict of interest (e.g. project supervisor), the committee member explains his/her position to the committee, which then decides on his/her participation in the discussion.
- d) if the EC/BT member breaches any of the above points, he/she can be excluded from the EC/BT based on a proposal by the program manager/coordinator or other EC/BT member.

### **Transparency and Equality of Opportunity**

The open society principle is also promoted in the grant-making process such that granting methods and rules are as objective and transparent as possible, in compliance with applicable standards, and ensure that potential grant applicants have equal conditions for their grant applications. Granting principles are Part II of the Negotiation and File Procedures, "Awarding Grants-Grant Management." Employees make due effort to observe these principles.

This ethical code is updated at bi-annual intervals and is approved by the Board of Trustees.