



MINISTRY OF THE INTERIOR
OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC

Report from EUNAD IP pilot courses held on 27 March and 6 June 2017

Communication between bodies of the Integrated Rescue System and people with mental or cognitive impairment

Two pilot courses within the terms of the EUNAD IP project, attended by 82 people, took place on 27 March and 6 June 2017, on the premises of the Department of Psychology of the Faculty of Philosophy at Charles University.

A course was held on 27 March 2017 for psychology students of the Faculty of Psychology at Charles University in Prague and representatives of the academic sphere, and was attended by 23 people. Final modifications were made to the course intended for bodies of the Integrated Rescue System of the Czech Republic (IRS) on the basis of assessment of this course.

A course was held on 6 June 2017, intended chiefly for psychologists and crisis intervention workers of the Czech Police and the Fire Rescue Service of the Czech Republic. This course was also attended by representatives of the Czech Armed Forces and organisations specialising in mental health care. A total of 56 experts attended the event.

The primary goal of the course was to expand the knowledge and skills of psychologists and IRS intervention workers in the field of work with people with mental, intellectual or motor impairment, and also to describe the principles and outputs of the previous EUNAD project (people with vision and hearing impairment). Interconnection of the results of the previous and current implementation projects was desirable due to the occurrence of combinations of disabilities. Another goal was to enable an exchange of findings between experts and also to provide comprehensive materials for further education of professionals (members of IRS bodies). And the last goal of the instruction course was to support formation of networks and contacts between individual groups, who take part in managing crisis events – from preparation for these events, through their acute phases, to the related solutions, and to provide a platform for exchanging practical experience.

Within the terms of the instruction course current findings regarding the issue and practical solutions were presented and space was also given to the specific experiences of people with various disabilities – under normal conditions and also during crisis situations. Training consequently integrated various viewpoints of the issue, various solutions and also utilised different methods of presentation of this information (PP presentations, training videos, printed manuals, demonstrations of sign language).

Lecturers/thematic spheres:

- **Štěpán Vymětal – Introduction of the course, goals, about the EUNAD and EUNAD IP projects**
- **Hedvika Boukalová, Simona Hoskovcová - EUNAD IP project outputs, principal recommendations**
- **Věra Doušová – The psychological aspects of hearing impairment, specific needs and principal recommendations**
- **Simona Hoskovcová - The psychological aspects of vision impairment, specific needs and principal recommendations**

- Michaela Kvasničková – **Experience from work with people with disorders of the autistic spectrum during disasters, from Japan**
- *David Čáp* – **Facilities working with people with disabilities in the Czech Republic and their crisis readiness**
- *Zuzana Dittrichová, Soňa Pančochová* – **The Fire Rescue Service's experience from work with people with disabilities**
- *Zuzana Fajtlová* – **The Emergency Medical Service's experience from work with people with disabilities**
- *Matěj Lipský* – **The traits of people with mental disabilities**
- *Jana Schmidtová* – **The traits of people with mental illness, people with autism**

COURSE SCHEDULE:

- **Introduction of the course, goals, about the EUNAD IP project** (*Štěpán Vymětal*)
- **The main outputs of the EUNAD project: acquaintance with the topic of people with hearing or vision impairment during major emergencies, principal recommendations** (*Věra Doušová, Simona Hoskovcová*)
- **The main outputs of the EUNAD project: acquaintance with the topic of people with mental/cognitive impairment during major emergencies, principal recommendations, acquaintance with the manual** (*Hedvika Boukalová, Simona Hoskovcová*)
- **Facilities working with people with disabilities in the Czech Republic and their crises readiness** (*David Čáp*)
- **Czech Police project: Work with especially vulnerable victims** (*Štěpán Vymětal*)
- **The Czech Fire Rescue Service's experience: preparation, practice, experience, community resilience** (*Zuzana Dittrichová, Soňa Pančochová*)
- **Video+discussion** (people with mental disabilities during disasters) (*Zuzana Dittrichová, Soňa Pančochová*)
- **The traits of people with mental disabilities, communication and interaction with these people during major emergencies** (*Matěj Lipský*)
- **Work with people with mental/cognitive impairment from the viewpoint of the Emergency Medical Service** (*Zuzana Fajtlová*)
- **People with psychiatric illness during major emergencies** (*Jana Schmidtová*)
- **People with autism during major emergencies** (*Jana Schmidtová, Michaela Kvasničková*)
- **Video+discussion** (People with motor impairment during disasters, *Zuzana Dittrichová, Soňa Pančochová*)
- **Feedback and recommendations, assessment of the course, potential implications**

Comment: The course also includes self-study materials from the EUNAD and EUNAD IP projects, which are published at www.mvcr.cz/psychologie

The **final evaluation** of the course indicates that the participants rated it as very beneficial from the aspect of the applicability of findings in practice. The thematic blocks including the personal experience of people with disabilities during major emergencies was very positively rated. Instruction videos and experience from abroad also judged very beneficial.

