



2ND PROJECT ARTICLE

LTТА IN PRAGUE, MAY 2024

RDE Haskovo

From May 27th to May 31st, 2024, the Bulgarian partners Know and Can and RDE Haskovo joined their partners from across Europe, who



gathered in the beautiful Prague for the Learning, Teaching, and Training Activity (LTТА) of the "On My Feet" project.

Bulgarian Educators Reflect: Lessons from the On My Feet Training Experience

As part of our involvement in the On My Feet project, the training phase proved to be a transformative journey for the Bulgarian educators

involved. It not only enriched our professional skills but also prompted a profound rethinking of how we approach learning, especially for students from vulnerable backgrounds.

One of the most powerful lessons we took away from the training was the effectiveness of experiential learning. Activities such as role-playing, interactive group tasks, and creative simulations proved far more impactful than traditional instruction. These hands-on experiences led to higher levels of student motivation and deeper conceptual understanding. As teachers, we learned to step back from the role of lecturer and instead guide students in reflecting, exploring, and constructing their own learning paths. This shift fostered a more student-centered environment where curiosity and initiative flourished. During the training, we worked with scenarios and tools designed to meet the diverse needs of children facing various forms of disadvantage—economic, social, health-related, or linguistic. These exercises emphasized that inclusivity cannot be achieved through a



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one-size-fits-all approach. We practiced adjusting tasks, diversifying our communication methods, and encouraging multiple modes of expression. These adaptations made learning not only more accessible but also more empowering for all students, reaffirming the importance of empathy in our daily practice.

Another valuable insight from the training was the importance of fostering emotional awareness in the classroom. Activities like empathy circles and emotional expression games helped us see how emotional literacy is fundamental to building trust, managing conflict, and supporting student well-being. We began to integrate emotional intelligence into our teaching—not as an “extra,” but as an essential part of personal and academic development.

The collaborative nature of many project-based tasks reinforced how early and intentionally we must cultivate teamwork and leadership. In structured group activities, we saw students naturally gravitate toward roles that required responsibility, problem-solving, and communication. These moments served as a reminder that the classroom is not only a space for knowledge acquisition, but also a laboratory for practicing real-world competencies.



Finally, the training highlighted the transformative power of combining imagination with analysis. When students were asked to present social issues through art or design innovative solutions to real challenges, their engagement and output soared. These creative-critical exercises bridged the gap between theory and action, helping students connect classroom learning to the broader world. For us as educators, these approaches brought new energy and meaning to our teaching.

The On My Feet training offered more than just new techniques—it provided a vision of education that is inclusive, experiential, and emotionally intelligent. It reaffirmed our belief that all children, regardless of their circumstances, deserve learning opportunities that



recognize and build on their unique strengths. And it challenged us, as teachers in Bulgaria, to be more responsive, compassionate, and innovative in shaping the futures of our students.

Through this Project training, we witnessed firsthand the transformational power of experiential learning, student-centered approaches, and a holistic vision of education. It reinforced our belief that when students are given the tools, the voice, and the support they need, they are capable not only of learning but of thriving.

At RDE – Haskovo, we remain committed to continuing this journey—bringing the insights and successes of On My Feet into our daily practice and encouraging a more compassionate and skillful generation to stand firmly on their own feet.



