



Project title: **CYBER-VIOLENCE - HOW TO COUNTERACT IT**

Main theme:

Cyber-violence

Project submitter: Poland

Project leader(s): The Group of Technical Schools in Elbląg, the Municipal Headquarters of Police in Elbląg

Project supporter(s): Municipality of Elbląg - Department of Education, Sports and Tourism

Project scope:

The Project is dedicated to students, students' parents, teachers and principals of junior secondary schools within the Elbląg municipal commune.

The anticipated number of beneficiaries encompassed by the project – 2000 students, parents and teachers of junior secondary schools within the Elbląg municipal commune.

Project outcomes:

Running the wide range of activities intended to increase awareness among the principals and the teachers of junior secondary schools as well as the students and their parents regarding the legal and penal consequences related to cyber-violence. On top of that, undertaking by the principals and the teachers the educational and preventive measures that would disseminate the principles of using modern communication technologies in a safe way to the students and their parents and would determine the threats resulting from using the said modern communication technologies.

The main outcome stemming out from the activities within the project will be enhanced legal awareness among the students and their parents about cyber-violence from the point of view of a victim and a perpetrator.



Timescales and key milestone dates:

The activities to be completed within the Project have been scheduled to commence on 1st January 2016 and to terminate on 31st December 2016 and they will be implemented in the second semester of the school year 2015/2016 to be continued in the first semester of the school year 2016/2017.

Funding issues:

Financial means indispensable to implement the Project amount to 9,000 Euro and encompass the following:

- elaboration of information bulletin, procedures, information leaflets, visual materials, amount – 2,500 Euro
- educational spot and its presentation, amount – 1,250 Euro
- awards for the participants in the competition for dramatic forms related to cyber-violence, amount – 3,750 Euro
- renting the main stage of the theatre for the final gala, amount – 1,500 Euro

Additionally, the down-payment in the Project will cover the work performed by the teachers and the officers of the Municipal Headquarters of Police in Elbląg as well as the financial means obtained from the programme “Safe Elbląg” – 15,000 Euro

Notes

Analysis of the information uploaded to the Internet and disseminated by young people, including the students of junior secondary schools, devoid of penal and legal awareness of the consequences stemming out from the information published, easy access to modern communication devices and the Internet as well as the feedback obtained from principals and teachers remain the basis for elaborating the project dealing with widely understood cyber-violence.

The Project devised, having the Municipal Headquarters of Police in Elbląg, The Group of Technical Schools in Elbląg, the Municipal Authorities in Elbląg and local junior secondary schools as partners, will be subject to evaluation process after its termination which is going to reveal the degree to which the assumed objectives have been achieved. The evaluation method has been planned already and will involve the surveys to be carried out within the target groups of the project, i.e. students, parents and teachers. The evaluation of the project as far as its educational features are concerned will constitute one of the assessment elements, which is going to be completed by School Inspectorate in Olsztyn.



Any activities encompassed by the project, i.e. educational scenes, lectures, discussions, competition in dramatic forms and its deciding are intended to be completed in line with assumptions and schedules. Assumed main and detailed project objectives are going to be reached as well.

Anybody can become a victim of cyber-violence. Instead of building up relations, the Net is more and more often becoming a trap. Rapid development of modern media, the Internet especially, has generated new threats. Dangerous, pathological behaviour like aggression and violence has gained new tools and, hence, adopted new forms. The phenomenon was diagnosed only several years ago and is nowadays referred to as “cyber-violence”. It involves electronic aggression demonstrated by stalking, harassment, mockery and bullying. Anonymity and impunity of the perpetrators strongly contributes to the proliferation of the phenomenon. Hence, it may affect anybody. However, children and the youth remain among those who are mostly exposed to the threat therefore it is necessary to establish efficient counteractive measures having the form of various programmes and preventive and educational actions.

The Municipal Headquarters of Police in Elbląg jointly with the Group of Technical Schools in Elbląg intend to prepare the preventive programme for the students of junior secondary schools entitled “Cyber-violence – how it counteract it?”, which is to be implemented during the school years 2015/2016 and 2016/2017.

The main objectives of the programme shall encompass:

- 1) providing credible information about the essence, forms and scale of cyber-violence as the phenomenon,
- 2) visualisation of the threats related to taking advantage of electronic tools,
- 3) demonstrating the moral aspects of cyber-violence as the form of harming another person,
- 4) informing about the legal consequences stemming out from cyber-violence,
- 5) shaping proper personal and social attitudes of active counteractions to any demonstrations of electronic aggression and violence,
- 6) shaping the abilities to use electronic media in a safe manner,
- 7) limiting the tendencies to proliferate electronic aggression within the youth in Elbląg,
- 8) determination of effective forms to counteract electronic aggression and violence and to help their victims,
- 9) determination of efficient procedures for schools when cyber-violence has been detected among their students,
- 10) elaboration of procedures defining the measures to be taken when cyber-violence has



occurred.

We intend to take the following actions within the aforementioned programme:

- 1) preparation of the scenarios for educational scenes demonstrating verified forms of cyber-violence,
- 2) preparation of a multimedia presentation related to the programme
- 3) lectures on cyber-violence – to be made by a representative of the Municipal Headquarters of Police in Elbląg,
- 4) preparation and sending out the regulation of the municipal competition in dramatic scenes entitled “Cyber-violence – how to counteract it”,
- 5) elaboration of the syllabus and the schedule for the meetings to be held in junior secondary schools and rehearsing the groups of students from the Group of Technical Schools in Elbląg,
- 6) performing the scenes related to various forms of cyber-violence – the scenes are to be prepared by the students from the Group of Technical Schools in Elbląg,
- 7) holding the discussions on the issues within the meetings with the students of the junior secondary schools , during which the said scenes are to be performed, information obtained from the lectures and the multimedia presentation is going to be disseminated – meetings to be moderated by a representative of the Municipal Headquarters of Police in Elbląg,
- 8) The Project shall be summarised by the finale and deciding on the drama competition entitled „Cyber-violence – how to counteract it?” - the said competition assumed the preparation and performance of educational scenes related to electronic violence among the youth. Teachers and students of junior secondary schools, supported by a representative of the local theatre, will prepare a play which is to be evaluated by professional jury. The scenes will be performed on the stage in the theatre in December 2016. Individual and team winners will be selected.

Educational materials will be prepared within the project as bulletin , brochures, leaflets and surveys devoted to cyber-violence as well as the files containing the procedures for tutors, educators, school psychologists, teachers and school principals.

The programme to be implemented in the junior secondary schools as first will contribute to taking regular preventive measures which will make students, parents and teachers aware of safe ways of using electronic communication forms and will determine the threats posed by taking advantage of various communication technologies. The preventive and educational programme will constitute the basis to the principals of junior secondary schools and their teachers for the implementation of action plans to counteract cyber-violence.



The subjects tackled upon by the project , their up-to-date character and the range will make the undertaking cover the entire city. However, it may be used by other local government as the so called “ good practice”. In order to enhance the status of the programme , we are going to ask the President of Elblag to become its honorary patron.

The project to be implemented and the activities to be executed within the Municipal Commune of Elblag have not been enforced so far in a similar manner. Its unique and innovative features result from the involvement of many parties, i.e. the youth, teachers, parents, Police officers, the authorities of the province and the city, educational authorities, theatre and the media.

In order to share experience and good practices , the Group of Technical Schools in Elblag has been cooperating with a German partner, namely the Institution to Promote Vocational Education in Frankfurt on Oder. The partners in the project, the Municipal Headquarters of Police and the Group of Technical Schools in Elblag, have been cooperating with a partner from Bulgaria. The collaboration with foreign partners has brought tangible results through the acquisition of new vocational, cultural and linguistic experiences and gaining new skills in education and didactics.