



ECNAIS

European Council of National Associations of Independent Schools

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conc. : **A package of expert background materials for ECNAIS seminar on Inclusion in education, Prague 23/11/2017 – 25/11/2017**

Dear colleagues,

I would like to greet you on behalf of the preparatory team of the ECNAIS seminar on Inclusion in education, which will be held in Prague from 23/11/2017 to 25/11/2017.

As already shown from short Introduction text to the seminar, ECNAIS would like to make a small contribution to the global debate on inclusion in education, with focus on the role played by independent schools in this field.

We set out the following starting points of the seminar:

- the key principle of all measures, both at the system and school level, is (or should be) the welfare of a child - in terms of taking into account and fulfilling its individual needs and maximizing the development of its potential (with respect to the welfare of her/his classmates as well),
- there are no good or bad system solutions if this key principle is fulfilled,
- let's share our experiences openly and learn from them.

In order to get the most useful and inspiring information from the seminar, we have prepared - together with colleagues from six ECNAIS member associations in the countries Czech Republic, Finland, the Netherlands, Greece, Portugal and Bulgaria - expert background materials mapping the current situation in the area of inclusion in education, current national debates and problems in this area.

These materials will be the basement for presentations and, in particular, for the follow-up discussions held in the working groups included in the seminar program on Thursday 23/11/2017 afternoon and during the whole seminar time as well.

I would like to emphasize that these materials are not the official materials prepared by public authorities in the given country, but the view of concrete experts from the area of independent

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education, of course built on the knowledge of the country's legislation and the specific situation.

In addition to these country reports, I also include a brief material on position of independent education in the Czech Republic and a detailed overview of the schools involved in the school visits planned for Friday 24/11/2017 in the morning.

A package with the practical logistics information will follow next week.

I would like to thank colleagues from the above six countries and ECNAIS Executive Committee and secretariat for the willingness and time devoted to their contribution to the preparatory work of the seminar and I look forward to meeting you all in Prague (very soon).

Best regards,

Coordinator of the preparatory team
of the ECNAIS Seminar in Prague,

Pavla Katzová
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