



ALBANIAN NATIONAL, PROFESSIONAL, BUSINESSWOMEN AND CRAFT 'ASSOCIATION

SHGPAZ together with the pupils of “8 dhjetori” High School in Qelëz, Puka

By Tefta Demeti

May 6th, 2019. The informative seminar on Entrepreneurial Learning European Competence at the high school of Qelëz/Puka coincided with the start of Europe Week Activities. The road to Qelëz had a wonderful landscape. Between mountains and hills, with a clean and healthy air between the greenery. A twisted, narrow, but well-paved road. When we arrived in front of the Qelëz High School, another surprise. A restored, well-organized and maintained school, where special credits should be given to the school director, Mr. Alfred Prendi, who showed us around the setting and told us the 50 years history of this school. As soon as we entered the school lobby, we encountered a

large wall painting where on top of a large tree in a hill the Albanian flag was fluttering. And exactly on December 8th, 1912, after Vlora, the flag was raised in Qelëz / Puka. That was another surprise for us. First, we held a meeting with the director in his office and then in the setting of one of the school classes we held an informative seminar with high school pupils. According to the director, the number of pupils in the school had been decreasing, especially in recent years, because many families have fled to immigration. This phenomenon forced some small schools around the center to close and all children were directed to...



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Informative Bulletin

May 2019

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Europe Week, 6-11 May 2019

“With 40% of the population younger than 30 years old, Albania is one of the youngest countries in Europe. Young people are the future of the country – and that future is in the European Union. They need to be part of the decisions that affect them. For us, it means doing more to...”

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CSOs turn into Social Enterprises

On May 4, a call was officially opened for all civil society organizations that want to become social enterprises.

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The 44th International Fur Fair, Kastoria, Greece

By Flutura Xhabija

Business people and civil society have effectively used the communication by road or by air, with Schengen status and they must use it again because you can observe more: honesty, clarity, co-operation, innovation and productivity, more than burglary, lies, corruption, political inability (right&left) during the years of the difficult and unprecedented transition of our country. Saying it in other terms, to get rid of all these "rubbish", not only with direct disservice or open facts but also with daily work with our members, associates and partners inside and outside of Albania. All of us owns opportunities, and not waiting is already a step ahead, it is beneficiary for the economy, culture, experience, and democracy. On May 2-3, we were invited to this fair in Kastoria, Greece, 50 minutes from our border; we left Pogradec; beyond a quick "tourism", you can notice the goods and defects of its quality; Pogradec, of course, has made a lot of progress with local and private services, but big efforts are needed if it wants to survive and stay in the market: there is an open and strong competition from magic Korça (at least for the moment) and from Ohrid, which is protected by UNESCO. But, on your way to the border when you stop in coffee shops or restaurant, you face openly not regular services and with strange prices (ie. at "Shahollari" restaurant) and manipulated invoices. Further,



Bilisht had a noticeable improvement and the attempt to be "as capital of Albania" was pleasant and optimistic. Once you cross the border, of course, you see cleanliness, calmness, order and work, work, work. Flaws can be found here, namely in the beautiful Kastoria, such as the lack of English language, or a little bit of disregard, but European integration was very visible into the products and also the culture. We got a cab because we did not know where the international fair center of this city was. When we entered the fair we made the registration first and then visited the well-regulated, quiet and clean stands. Indeed, we did not have much to do with the subject, but every woman dreams of soft fur scarves, jackets, coats, and other accessories covered with the soft skin of "poor" squirrels and others. Turning back to economic interest, We started a cross-border relationship, which is often more "profitable" than the central one and of course faster! We left fulfilled by our initial project and we hope it will be long-lasting! Tung!



Work Fair

The third round of the Regional Fair 2019 cycle was held today, on May 1st in Tirana, in cooperation with the Municipality of Tirana and the Chamber of Commerce and Industry. More than 120 businesses attended this fair, offering over 6,000 vacancies. Work Fairs are going to be organized in 9 other cities during May. All young people are invited to address their needs and demands for the labour market with the offer of the participating businesses. Only during the first period of this year, 17905 vacancies were proclaimed all over the country, 8896 unemployed jobseekers were employed, and 517 others were posted were sent in vocational training courses.



Vocational training, oriented towards job market

By Violeta Shqalsi

Government policies in terms of vocational training aim at the qualification of the workforce and increase the opportunities for job market penetration of jobseekers pursuing vocational training courses developed by vocational training centers across the country, in close cooperation with the Labor Office.

Minister of Finance and Economy, Mrs. Anila Denaj visited the Vocational Training Center no. 4 in Tirana, where she was closely acquainted with the training processes at various courses taking place in this center, part of which are the "Start Smart" courses.

The Minister highlighted the fact that this center offers 47 professional courses in fields such as electronics, mechanics, IT, graphic design, etc., which also constitute the needs of the labor market today and expressed the confidence that professional integration in the labor market is most guaranteed. "This is the policy of the Albanian government to enable a qualification, which in four months realizes the appropriateness of theory and practice on a harmonized basis and in agreement with the business, who is able to see their experience before employ them", said the Minister.

As for the Start Smart courses, which started in November 2018 with the support of GIZ, the

Minister said that they aim to organize a better approach of job seekers in their future work profiles and the objective is to train about 20,000 jobseekers.

"There is a cooperation with the Labor Office and the training centers in order to better match the needs with knowledge and the labor market. Our objective is to train 20,000 jobseekers, almost 1/3 of the workforce, looking for work all over Albania, because wherever we have the Labor Office we have and offer the program Start Smart, the Minister said.

Minister Anila Denaj praised the mediation that the Labor Offices have made to adjust the relationship with business in the

However, Minister Denaj emphasized the need to strengthen relations with public state institutions, so employment would be direct to those who come from vocational courses, such as those of the teaching, as long as they emerge from courses produced by revised curricula. Vocational Training Center no. 4 is frequented daily by 850 trainees, who receive vocational training by special groups. During 2018, this center certified 2800 trainees and for January-April 2019 were certified 600 trainees.



regions where they operate and said that this practice should continue to intensify so that the penetration of the labor market reaches 90% by first year, for those who attend vocational training and education.

Who Works the Most Hours Every Year? By Tefta Demeti

The story of how May 1st became Labor Day actually begins in the U.S. in 1886. Workers across the U.S. coordinated a multi-day protest starting on May 1st in multiple cities to agitate for an eight-hour workday. On the second day of protests, violence between police and peaceful protestors broke out in Chicago at an event that became known as the Haymarket affair. By 1889, the International Socialist Conference declared May 1st an international holiday for labor now known as International Workers' Day. That held true in the U.S. too, until 1958 when President Eisenhower, reacting to the anti-communist tensions of the early Cold War, signed a resolution naming May 1st "Loyalty Day" to avoid association with the universalist, workers first-language that the day was

known for Loyalty Day is not widely celebrated or commemorated in the United States, while Labor Day in the U.S. occurs during the first weekend of September. Much like attitudes

the OECD in Mexico, the average worker works the most hours a year, putting in over 2,200 hours of labor. South Korea comes in second with slightly over 2,000 hours of work per year. The United States is just 34 hours above the OECD average, while the average German worker enjoys around 1,356 average annual hours of work, 390 hours below the OECD average.



towards labor have changed over time and place, the current culture around working hours change based on where in the world a

On May 7th 2019, was held a seminar with high school pupils in Fushë-Arrëz. This school was being restored and they were teaching at the elementary school Fushë-Arrëz, where we also held an informative seminar. Even in Fushë-Arrëz, the school director, Mr. Akil Laskaj was very active and committed to the best education of his students. He was directly involved in organizing this informative seminar at 11.00 am, without disturbing the afternoon teaching program. Representatives

worker is employed. According to



safety,

All Food Safety is about its Consumer Protection!

By Esmeralda Ballesha*

Reference: attentive to the food safety ele- veterinary and phyto-sanitary

European Entrepreneurship Competency in Fushë-Arrëz

<https://www.statista.com/chart/12449/who-works-the-most-hours-every-year/>

of the EU office in the Fushë-Arrëz municipality, Mr. Marian Doda and his colleague participated in this seminar. The European Entrepreneurship Competency with its 15 components as well as the EU and national youth support programs were introduced. Further, the experience and model of a woman entrepreneur from Fushë-Arrëz, Mrs. Ardiana Laskaj was presented. She transmitted all the devotion and passion that she has putten in her activity since several years.

Food safety is an essential public health issue for all countries. In Albania it has always been a concern and one of the major challenges for all governments. Despite years of institutional work and international assistance, yet has not been found the right way to tackle this issue.

Consumers have not only a cultural correlation with food, but they are also very sensitive about the quality and safety of the products they consume. It seems that in recent years their interest has increased to consume higher nutritional value products and has a particular tendency to be more

ments when choosing products.

But do consumers have the right knowledge to do so? Do the Albanian food companies operate in accordance with national standards? And most importantly, are the national institutions providing a control that guarantees consumers?

Albania as a candidate country for the European Union will soon start legal approximation with the EU acquis (Chapter 12) and to move forward towards integration with Europe should demonstrate a higher level of food safety in accordance with EU regulations and standards.

In this regard, a new cooperation between Albania and the Euro-

standards".

The Food Safety Authority of Ireland in partnership with the Irish Department of Agriculture, Food and Marine and the Finnish Food Safety Authority will assist the Albanian government to implement policies and take concrete actions based on our national targets as well as on the European Union's Safe Food Policy.

An element that distinguishes this project from the others is the fact that it **will involve consumers as an integral part** in trying to increase the food chain security. This project will work in parallel with various interest groups (Customers, Businesses and Media) to bring a more inclusive involvement and awareness about food safety.



pean Union in the field of food safety started on January 2019 with the topic "Support for food

At a time when the tension and fear of a safe food security system is questionable by the population, an European Union assistance is provided through the "Food Safety Project", for which a number of public institutions are expected to

engage in achieving the common goal of 'consumer protection'. Ultimately this is what food security is for!

***By Esmeralda Ballesha**
National Specialist Technical
Advisor
Support to Food Safety,
Veterinary and Phitosanitary
Standards

When I'm "free", I feel honored and "spoiled" to be among the leaders of this institution, the simple professors available for all kind of collaboration and discussions, finding the most practical



ways of teaching and the opportunity of practicing and applying knowledge which are very much needed from students. The market economy, even though is hard and not at all "ignorant", gives so much knowledge that

V International Scientific Conference of Business University College

by Flutura Xhabija

There are a lot of universities in Albania, but unfortunately they turned to practical business knowledge too late; students get overwhelming knowledge, get diplomas, but as soon as they pass the universities' doors they face a huge gap in employment opportunities, to be proven and affirmed in the labor market, to earn themselves "the daily bread". The simple reason behind this is: a total socio-economic disorientation.



many "philosophers" do not have the minimum idea; genius unmanaged theories, sleeping for centuries, if not implemented. The population, students, young people, women want only jobs – appreciation - a normal life and real support from all socio-

economic players... that so far was extremely absent and delayed. However, optimism overcomes pessimism when looking at the product and valuable contribution of this university. Here, all students after graduation (even during studies) get employment opportunities very quickly and can see "the benefits" of the classes taught by these well educated, devoted and prepared professors. Ylber Bezo, president and at the same time founder of this institution, a proficient economist, a professor with a several decades long experience, made the presentation of this conference. The conference had an actual thematic "European Integration of the Western Balkans, conditions and challenges for membership". The opening and following of the conference was so intense that the three hours ran so fast. We listened to the lessons that could not be found in the literature, that is not presented in today's auditoriums in front of students, businesses and ordinary people, as: "The Day of Fiscal Freedom". Do you know how many days do we have to work on taxes??? No, we don't: so, those retired need 130 days for taxes, students 140

days, simple workers 150 days, for



officials 80 days etc. So, the national average is 93 days; the other days of the year you have to work for yourself and to have nothing at the end of the year, perhaps even at the end of life. Likewise, the great lecture "Public Diplomacy" and its role in the European integration was the ethical essence of the state and citizens. The professor concluded his speech mentioning Kizinger's phrase: "Power must submit to

morality, while the use of force to the dictate of public opinion". The discussion of the chairman of Tirana Chamber of Commerce Mr. Jaka was concluded with a logical economic choice: **"Either to compete, or to serve"**.

We must support our products, because they are bio and competitive in Europe!

FACTS

29.7%

3.2%

The number of active businesses led / owned by women for 2017 in Albania was 29.7%, with an increase of 2.9 percentage points compared to 2016, but with a decrease of 1.6 percentage points compared to 2015, where they accounted for 31.3%. (INSTAT)



Co-funds EU-EBRD

EU Ambassador Lugi Soreca today at the launching of Tourism Development Programme, co-funded by the EU and the EBRD. The

four regions of Berat, Korça, Fier and Shkodra will benefit from the new programme that helps Albania to increase economic growth and improve competitiveness through high quality and sustainable tourism.

Mr.Soreca speech:

"Proud that the EU is investing 40 million euro, in excellent cooperation with EBRD, to drive rene-

Credit for 2018 resulted in a moderate increase of only 2% compared to the previous year and accounts for 35.2% of GDP, with a decrease of 2.2 percentage points compared to 2016. (Bank of Albania)



ration and economic development in Albania. Today's challenge is to help build a tourism sector that strengthens the social fabric and economic development, by giving value to the natural beauties and cultural assets of this beautiful country. A tourism

industry that does not destroy, but builds for the future."



Women and Health Thalassemia

Assembled materials by **Arlinda Demeti**

CSOs turn into Social Enterprises

Social enterprises are considered as a financial mechanism that not only employs people from groups in need but also reintegrates them into society. The government will finance 150 million ALL/year to support these enterprises. The condition for obtaining funding is to hire at least 30% of the staff from the marginalized groups. All Social Enterprises will prioritize the employment of people from disadvantaged groups and the interaction with the Labour Offices in every city. These enterprises will have to reinvest at least 20% of the second year's income and 30% from the third year to expand their activity, thus creating new jobs. Social Enterprises that will be funded during 2019 are an opportunity to reintegrate vulnerable group such as: women, persons with disabilities, persons who come out of the economic aid scheme or people in need who are excluded from labour market. UN Women has supported the preparation of this legal package, as part of the UN joint program "No one to remain behind" funded by the Swiss Government.

May 8 is known as the International Day of Thalassemia. About 7% of the population worldwide is bearer of a haemoglobinopathy, and every year an average of 300,000 to 500,000 children are born with haemo-

globinopathy. Up to now, studies have transformed thalassemia from a fatal disease of childhood into a chronic illness but still not well managed to ensure quality of life.

What is Thalassemia?

Thalassemia is an inherited blood disease caused by a defect in haemoglobin production, an important component of red blood cells. When there is no sufficient haemoglobin, red blood cells do not work properly, live for shorter periods of time and there are fewer red blood cells in the bloodstream. Red blood cells transport oxygen to all body cells, which is used by the cells to function normally. In people with thalassemia, red blood cells are not produced in normal amounts and quality. When there is not enough amount of red blood cells, there is not enough oxygen for all other body cells. People with thalassemia may have light or severe anaemia that can damage the organs. Different defects during haemoglobin production cause different types of thalassemia. Thalassemia may be in minor, intermedia or major. Being a bearer of thalassemia may result in no symptoms for the person himself but he can pass the trait to the offspring by increasing their risk of having thalassemia. A person who has minor thalassemia may have no symptoms or may have only slight anaemia, while a person with thalassemia major may have severe symptoms and may need regular blood transfusions.

How can Thalassemia be prevented?

Since thalassemia is transmitted by parents to children, it is very difficult to prevent it. However, if you or your partner know that family members are with thalassemia, or if you live in places where thalassemia is common, you can talk to a genetic counsellor to broadcast what risk you have to transmit thalassemia to your children.

Thalassemia symptoms?

Since the body has fewer red blood cells when you have thala-



ssemia, the most common sign is anaemia. The more severe the thalassemia, the less haemoglobin the body has, and the heavier the anaemia can be. When you have anaemia, you may feel tired or weak. Other symptoms:

- Dizziness
- Breathing difficulty
- Tachycardia
- Headache
- Muscle cramps
- Concentration problems, etc.

One of the other problems associated with thalassemia is the enlargement of the bone marrow, making them thinner and easily breakable. This is because the bone marrow tries to produce more and more red cells to fight anaemia, thus working more than normal. People with thalassemia are with poor immunity, meaning they are more vulnerable to infections and sometimes need additional protection (such as flu vaccines and other vaccines).

Thalassemia's treatment?

Thalassemia is a disorder that can be managed by blood transfusions and therapy. The type of treatment depends on the type of thalassemia. One way to treat anaemia is to supply the body with red blood cells through the blood transfusion.

Blood transfusion is essential for the life of a person with thalassemia because:

- Gives tissues and organs sufficient oxygen.
- Helps the bone marrow not to overstrain while producing red cells so the bones can grow normally.
- Prevents or hinders the enlargement of the spleen and the strain of other organs.

People with major thalassemia need regular blood transfusions; those with medium thalassemia may need blood transfusions when they have an infection or an illness; while people with thalassemia minor usually do not need blood transfusions. In addition to

the frequent transfusions that they need, these individuals also receive ferrochelant medicines (that link the excess iron and pull it out of the body). Today, curing thalassemia is becoming more and more possible through the application of sophisticated medical techniques.



Donate blood, save lives, get rich in soul!



...include young people in the process of EU integration. To

Europe Week, 6-11 May 2019



prepare Europe Week 2019, we have engaged with schools, universities and youth organisations

to create spaces of dialogue. Spaces where young citizens' priorities, feelings about the European Union, hopes and concerns can be discussed. In 2019, a new European Youth Strategy was launched for young people to articulate their priorities and participate in EU policy-making. Europe Week 2019 marks the launch of this structured dialogue with the EU in Albania. Every day, I meet young Albanians who are active, committed and full of initiative. Europe Week 2019 is for them. We should give credit to young people who volunteer to support those in need, preserve natural sites or, quite simply, are dedicated to helping their community. Democracy thrives through volunteerism and altruism. With Europe Week 2019, we are putting young people at the heart of Albania's EU integration. Let's unleash the Power of Youth"! - Ambassador Luigi Soreca

In the agenda of EU Delegation in Albania there were included also 3 informative seminars of SHGPAZ as:

-May 6th 2019 at "8 Dhjetori" high school Qelëz/Puka.

- May 7th 2019 at the high school of Fushë-Arrëz.

-May 9th 2019 at "Luigj Gurakuqi" University, Shkodra.

...this school now called the Joint Secondary School. During the seminar, the topic of European Entrepreneurship Competence was addressed, emphasizing the

importance of generating crea-

tive, innovative and realistic ideas from young people. Subsequently, support programs for young people from both the EU and national were presented. In this school a good work was done by the teachers themselves, helping students to prepare and write a business plan, as well as directly engaging one of the school teachers in the preparation of syrups and marmalades from wild and curative herbs of the area. There were many discussions and

debates with young people who were quite active, but leaving in a deep peripheral area that provided little opportunity for development and many were consi-

SHGPAZ together with the pupils of "8 dhjetori" High School in Qelëz, Puka

dering the possibility of leaving the area. We left this school with great impressions and wish these pupils successes in their lives and in education.

Professional consulting, Trademarks and Patents of Inventions, copyright

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regarding

➤ Trademarks and Service Marks;

-Consultancy in establishing electronic logos for your business

-Consultancy in creating a new trademark

-Investigations in the field of international trademarks

-How to apply for Madrid Trademarks

-Drafting of License contracts with foreign trademarks that you actually use

➤ Patents of Inventions

-Consultancy in creating the concept of a patent

-How to protect what we have created or invented

-How to apply for a European patent

-How to apply for a PCT patent

-How to bring in Albania foreign patents

➤ Utility models

-What is the difference between patents and Utility models

-How to be protected by registering a design

➤ Geographical Indications

How to attach to a product a geographical designation

➤ Industrial Designs

-What is an industrial design

-How many dimensions can have an industrial design

-How can we protect a design

➤ Copyright

-How can we protect an artistic product

-How can we use an artistic product by respecting the copyrights

➤ Protect your Industrial

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-Arbitration located at the Chamber of Commerce and Industry Tirana

-at the First Instance Court of Tirana

-at the Tirana Court of Appeals

Note: The opinions presented in the bulletin are those of the experts themselves and do not represent the opinion of EU

-at the Supreme Court Tirana

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You are invited to contact us as well as we wish to contact you at your business premises with our knowledge, expertise and competitive tariffs in the market.

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