

One World in Schools

Education using documentary films and other audiovisual resources

The objective of the programme is to educate pupils and secondary school students about topical issues in today's world by using screenings of documentary films and other audiovisual resources, follow-up discussions, accompanying publications and interactive methods.

Documentary films and other audiovisual materials have the potential to encourage secondary and primary school pupils to reflect on the values of an open, tolerant and democratic society. These resources also help them to look for connections and form their own opinions.

The programme's individual activities extend their social, cultural and historical awareness.

At present, programme materials are being used by more than **2,800 Czech schools**.

Programme activities

The programme for schools offers **sets of educational materials**, which are intended for lessons on topical themes in today's world. The basis for each set comprises documentary films or other audiovisual resources (e.g. social spots), which are supplemented with a handbook for teachers (synopses of films, questions & answers, information on the issues that the films deal with, activities and worksheets, advice and recommendations for using documentary films in class).

A **group of experts** made up of teachers contributes to the implementation and development of the programme. Among other things, this group ensures the practical applicability of the materials offered for lessons. It also provides assistance to other schools who have only just begun working with our materials. In previous years, selected schools were provided with long-term support during the creation of school education programmes.

We organise **seminars** for teachers which provide training on the ways in which it is possible to work with audiovisual resources in lessons and how they can be used during the implementation of educational reform. Seminars are accredited by the Czech Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports.

Since 2005, we have always organised the **Stories of Injustice** project in November. This aims to educate pupils of Czech schools about the communist era in Czechoslovakia by using film screenings followed by debates with historians and people who lived through the times in question. 759 schools were involved in the fifth annual Stories of Injustice project in 2009.

We organise **special screenings for schools** in the course of the One World international festival of documentary films. Part of each screening comprises a discussion with a guest. School screenings take place in Prague and all towns and cities where the festival is held. 48,000 viewers attended these events in 2010.

At the end of the school year, teachers have an opportunity to take their pupils to a screening held as part of **A Week of Documentary Film for Schools**. In 2010, these screenings were held in Prague, Brno and Liberec.

One World Film Clubs for secondary schools are another of our activities. At almost 60 schools, these operate as an extracurricular activity for students themselves, who organise screenings of documentary films for their fellow pupils, teachers, parents and friends or for their peers who come from disadvantaged groups. Besides selecting films, students also arrange a discussion with a guest and possibly other accompanying events (tastings of traditional meals, exhibitions, etc.). It is also not unusual for students to direct festivals for the entire school which last several days. One World Film Clubs also operate abroad, in Slovakia, Poland, Estonia and Romania. An important part of the clubs' activities involves regular meetings between Czech and foreign organisers.

Every year since 2007, we have been organising the **One World International School of Documentary Film**, which is intended for film club organisers. Workshops focused on making short documentary films are a pivotal activity of the International School. During these events, pupils acquire a number of filmmaking skills – they learn how to obtain material for documentaries as well as the principles of documentary production, analysing and processing film material, and working

with sound, music and subtitles. Besides workshops, pupils attend test screenings and discussions with filmmakers.

The **Who Else?** project is also an activity focused on secondary and primary school pupils. It motivates young people to pursue active civic engagement and become involved in public affairs in the form of pupils' team projects. The pilot phase of this project took place in 2009. It involved 57 teams, each of whom focused on a problem that they would like to change in their surroundings or on a global level. This resulted in events in the form of benefit concerts, public collections, informational websites, film screenings and festivals, etc.

Student Elections 2010 was one of the Who Else? project's many activities. This event generated extraordinary interest from the media and the general public. It gave pupils an opportunity to try out a "rough version" parliamentary elections and to become acquainted with the parliamentary system in the Czech Republic.

We regularly prepare **competitions and team projects** for primary and secondary school pupils. A literary competition is organised for secondary school pupils and there is an art competition that is primarily intended for younger pupils from primary schools.

Synopses for all films and presentations of all the materials offered have been placed on the programme's website. The materials are available for downloading in PDF format.

An **electronic bulletin** with up-to-date information (e.g. dates of seminars, offers of new materials) is sent out every month to all teachers involved in the programme.

Part of our projects comprises **sociological surveys** focused on target groups of pupils and teachers. We also materials from the One World in Schools programme at **faculties of education** as part of the training provided for future teachers.

The programme also generates a lot of interest abroad. We collaborate with foreign organisers whom we pass on our expertise to. Besides Slovakia, Poland, Estonia and Romania, the programme also began implementing its activities in Lebanon in 2009 and in Sweden and Bulgaria a year later.

In the course of its work, the One World in Schools programme has already won several prestigious Czech and international **awards**. In 2009, we won a [*World Aware Education Award*](#) for supporting and expanding development education, which is awarded by the Council of Europe. In the same year, the programme was included in the publication [*Human Rights Education in the School Systems of Europe, Central Asia and North America: A Compendium of Good Practice*](#), which was issued by HREA (Human Rights Education Associates) under the auspices of the OSCE/ODIHR, the Council of Europe, OHCHER and UNESCO. In 2008, the programme also won a *Jaromil Jireš Award*, which is presented every year by the Association of Directors and Screenwriters (Asociace režisérů a scénáristů – ARAS) for supporting the establishment and expansion of creative activities. The same award in the category for individuals was also presented in the same year to the programme's director Karel Strachota. Together with the One World international film festival, we received a *UNESCO Award* for our contribution to human rights education.