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Study Visit to Rudolf Steiner University College in Oslo

Wizyta studyjna w Rudolf Steiner University College w Oslo

Within the framework of the project “Rudolf Steiner’s Pedagogy in Teacher Education of the 21st Century”, financed by the EEA Financial Mechanism, 2014–2021, and by national funds (under the contract no. 19/K1/D1/W/0014), a team of four employees of the Department of Didactics of the Institute of Pedagogy of the University of Maria Curie-Skłodowska (UMCS) in Lublin – Dr hab. Teresa Parczewska, Dr hab. Beata Bednarczuk, Dr hab. Urszula Oszwa and Dr Krystyna Kusiak – took part in a study visit to Rudolf Steiner University College (RSUC) in Oslo, on May 23–25, 2022. The main goals of the project were: to increase the teaching competences of the staff by getting to know the curriculum, methodological, spatial and organizational specificity in the Steiner model of education, and to establish teaching and research cooperation between the above-mentioned institution and the UMCS. In the latter area, the intention was to identify common areas of interest and identify research problems, the solutions of which could be undertaken by teams established by the employees of both universities.

The program of the three-day visit included, first of all, getting to know the contemporary interpretation of Rudolf Steiner (also known as Waldorf) pedagogy and the implementation of its assumptions at various levels and in various types of education. Numerous RSUC employees were involved in the course of the introductory sessions: director Dagny Ringheim, visit coordinator Anne-Mette Stabel

PHD and adjuncts: Frode Barkved, Renate K. Østergaard, Ingvild Skeie, Vilde Stabel, Josefin Winther, Morten Stene, Linda Jolly, or Sidsel Hovland. In the course of sessions, in addition to a synthetic discussion of theoretical issues, there was a presentation of the assumptions of study programs specific to Waldorf pedagogy in the field of educating preschool educators and teachers as well as social pedagogy and the so-called Master's program. The Polish side responded by presenting the characteristics of the organization and program of studies in the field of preschool and early school education at the UMCS.



In addition to the above-mentioned activities, the participants of the visit had the opportunity to take part in classes carried out by RSUC students in the field of gardening, music, handicrafts and theatre. They also visited Waldorf facilities; Helsepedagogisk Steinerskole Ljabru (school for children with special needs) and Moss Steinerschool and Moss Steiner Kindergarten (school and kindergarten working according to the Rudolf Steiner pedagogy assumptions). The participants were informed of the organization of school and school space, participated in the classes and met with teachers.

The promising results of the study visit are: a visit to the UMCS of the representatives of RSUC, preliminary outline of joint research plans, and the emerging concept of using the experience of Steiner teaching to improve the quality of teacher education in the field of preschool and early school education.



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- 3) environment, energy, climate change and low-carbon economy,
- 4) culture, civil society, good governance and fundamental rights,
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