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Our mission is to provide **training and consultation leading to the development of personal and institutional capacities in European affairs and regional and local development.**

AINova celebrates **its 20th anniversary**. On this occasion, we organize special professional and social events. The first was held in December 2016, further are under preparation and we will implement them in the course of 2017.

AINova was officially founded on October 1, 1996, when the statutes of our civic association were registered at the Ministry of Interior. In 1997 the institution opened yearly international educational programs in English: ***European Studies, Built Heritage Conservation and Development, Environmental Policy and Applied Economics***, later also ***Journalism*** and ***Public Policy***. Most of these themes are

A key figure in the process was the first director of AINova, **prof. Alena Brunovská**. With the support of top experts and representatives of several foundations, she managed to raise funds to start up a new international organization with a mission to promote liberal and independent post-university education in areas that reflected the needs of Slovakia and other countries of Central and Eastern Europe while establishing democratic systems.

We are grateful for supporting the activities of AINova in the recent period to the following institutions:

Programs of the European Union / Government Office / Austrian Cultural Institute / Ministry of Culture / Slovak Arts Council / Ministry of Finance / Bratislava Self-Governing Region / Town of Sv. Jur / First Construction Savings Bank / BENCONT Group, Inc. / Baunit / Central European Foundation / Balassi Institute / Pontis Foundation

In 2017 AINova celebrates its 20th anniversary. On this occasion a series of various events will be held

Colloquium on the occasion of the 20th anniversary of AINova: European values - crisis of economy or culture and education?



On December 8, 2016 AINova hosted colloquium *European values - the crisis of economy or culture and education?* It was the first of a series of events to mark the 20th anniversary of AINova (1996) and the opening of the first international study programs (1997). The opening presentations were delivered by Prof. Julius Horvath from the Central European University in Budapest, Prof. Darina Malova from the Faculty of Arts in Bratislava and Prof. László Bruszt from the European University Institute in Florence who joined us online. In the discussion led by AINova advisor, Mr. Kálmán Petocz, PhD, spoke founders, lecturers, staff and alumni of AINova. The conclusions of the colloquium can be read [here](#).

We co-organized a conference on historic parks and gardens



On September 28, 2016 in Hotel Zochova chata, nestled in the beautiful park at the foot of the Little Carpathians, [conference](#) *Historical greenery, parks and gardens in the Bratislava county* was held. It was already the seventh conference organized in cooperation with the Bratislava region and dedicated to the cultural heritage of the region. Important historic parks and gardens in the region, the research on possibilities of revitalization were presented in ten contributions. Conference proceedings are under preparation.

For the seventh time we rewarded the exemplary restored buildings in the region



AINova, together with the Bratislava region and PSS, organised competition of the well renovated objects of traditional architecture in the Bratislava region. We thus acknowledge the owners for saving buildings typical for this region, which are not always historically protected and also provide inspiration for future builders. This year the expert committee included prof. Ján Bahna, vice president of the Association of Slovak Architects and also Mgr. Peter Jurkovič, Director of the Regional Monuments Board. The gallery of objects awarded in 2016 is [here](#).

Slovak Presidency in the EU Council



The training series [Getting Ready for Presidency](#) for state administration was completed in spring 2016, with the ninth seminar on the important role of national delegates during the presidency of any EU country. Most of seminars were led by Mr Peter Goldschmidt, Director of the European Institute of Public Administration and a longtime member of our Board of Trustees. We believe that our workshops along with language courses *Professional English for SK PRES* contributed to the success of negotiations and meetings in the EU Council bodies in the second half of 2016.

Ambassador School of the European Parliament



In cooperation with the Helsinki Committee for Human Rights in Slovakia we are launching an educational program called EP [Ambassador School](#). The main objective of the program is to provide young people in secondary schools with knowledge of European parliamentary democracy and practical dimension of EU citizenship. The schools can get a plaque EP Ambassador School for their activities.

Are you interested in working in the EU institutions?



AINova is the only educational institution in Slovakia listed on the official site of [EPSO](#) (European Personnel Selection Office). People interested in working in the EU institutions come to us for consultations, to help them prepare for the selection process organized by EPSO. Consultations concern formal, but also quite specific tests that candidates need to pass in three phases of the competitions. We provide samples of tests and personal experience of successful candidates.

We participate in the revitalization of cities in the Danube Region



We are preparing an international project to support the renewal and revitalization of small and medium-sized cities in the Danube region. The aim is to train professionals at municipal offices, in cooperation with external experts and private owners to deal with restoration of derelict apartment blocks, multifunctional buildings or whole streets and neighborhoods. We successfully introduced the project application in December 2016 in Vienna at a conference Danube Region Strategy START. The implementation is planned in the years 2017-2020.

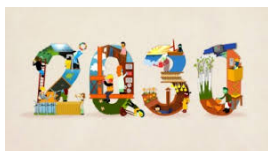
We offer teachers outputs of international project eSchool4s



The project *eSchool4s* aims at secondary school teachers and their students and their education for sustainable development. There have been developed 6 online learning modules: (i) the **Danube - river uniting Europe**, (ii) **What is sustainable development**, (iii) **Water**, (iv) **Climate changes**, (v) **Sustainable consumption**, (vi) **Social inclusion**. The project was completed and evaluated at the third annual conference in Stuttgart (DE). In March 2017

a Slovak version of the course will be available at www.ainova-moodle.sk.

Agenda 2030 - Sustainable Development Goals - online for teachers



NGDO Platform and its member organizations (including AINova) implement [the EU Presidency Project](#). The aim is to strengthen the sector actors in development cooperation and thus help the effective implementation of sustainable development goals (as defined in the UN document, Agenda 2030). AINova contribution is in seminars for teachers about online course (e-learning) called *eSchool4S Sustainability in the Danube Region*.

We contribute to the professionalisation of housing management in Slovakia



Because of the increased interest in the training program [Housing Stock management](#) we deliver up to 4 rounds of the program a year. In the third week of January we opened the 10th round. To date, about 230 participants were trained. The curriculum of the training program began to form as early as 2006 through a Slovakia-German research project that was conducted with the support of PSS savings bank. The program was created in close cooperation with its future customers - the Association of Slovak Housing Sector (ZBHS) and the Slovak Association of Housing Cooperatives (CFSP). The high quality of the program is guaranteed also by participation of experts from Ministry of Construction and Regional Development, Ministry of Finance, University of Technology, and the Institute of Housing.

We train in traditional building crafts. The second year theme was restoration of historic facades



This project aims to support traditional building crafts in the region and restoration of selected objects in protected area of Svaty Jur. In October 2016 [training for craftsmen](#) took place. It consisted of lectures and practical training on the restoration of the facade selected in Sv. Jur. The participants are made familiar with traditional techniques and materials used in the reconstruction of historical buildings, they work with traditional plasters and paints based on lime. It was already the second year of the so-called School of Crafts. In 2015 the training focused on restoration of historic wooden

gates with products from linseed oil.

Project design and management is possible also through RE-PAS



In 2016 we continued with accredited training program [project design and management](#). The training is focused on the use of EU structural and investment funds in the 2014-2020 programming period, but also the use of EU, Switzerland, Norway and Slovak funds. The program can be financed also through the program RE-PAS, which continues in 2017. More information about the training program is [here](#).



INFOCENTRUM in Svätý Jur

Information and Cultural Center / Gallery



AINova operates a [cultural and information center](#) for the town of Svätý Jur. It is housed in a historic building of the former Sokolovna / Turna (turnen) in order to promote cultural and natural heritage of the city and the region. Since 2016, activities in this area are also coordinated by the newly created Regional Tourism Organization (OOCR). Recently we adapted the premises for gallery purposes, in connection with the multi-genre festival *Art and Wine - World Jur*, which has been organized since 2014. The renovated premises serve for exhibition of works produced during the festival and also for works of artists from the region.

21th international contest of young architects – open air museum in vineyards in Sv. Jur



In March 2016 students of architecture presented to an international jury of leading architects their designs and solutions for an [open air vineyard museum](#). The museum project began several years ago by Svätöjurský vineyard association, in cooperation with AINova and the town of Svaty Jur. The competition is annually organised by

company Xella. This year the exhibition of all architectural designs was hosted by AlNova / Infocentre.

We have released the second historical journal on the history of Svaty Jur



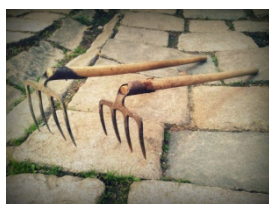
During Saint George Festival in April we produced an exhibition of rare historical documents and photos of the volunteer fire brigade in Sv. Jur, which were not available to the public for many years. Local townspeople and visitors had the opportunity to learn about chapters from the history of the town and founding members of fire brigade from 1881. The second historical journal of AlNova was published which maps the 135-year history of the fire brigade as an "association of tolerance".

We presented a new stamp dedicated to NPR Šúr



Just before the end of the year, together with the Pofis company and the town of Svaty Jur, we organized a presentation of new postal stamps dedicated to the Šúr National Nature Reserve. The uniqueness of this protected area was described by environmental experts. The event was accompanied by an exhibition of photographs from NPR Šúr.

We are a partner for a series of expert meetings, *The Future of Our Vineyards*



As a partner institution, we provide space for training events that contribute to the protection and restoration of the local cultural landscape. One of them will be held in January 2017 on *organic viticulture*. It is organized by Michal Bazalik (within the activities of the Socrates Institute) in collaboration with Svätöjurský winegrowing association. The lecturers are experts and academics from Slovakia and the Czech Republic.

4th annual multi-genre festival *Arts and Wine - World Jur*
