

In-service trainings for the Civic Education teachers

During the years 1995 - 1999 the Civic Education Centre was supported by the national Endowment for Democracy (USA) for raising the Civics teachers' qualification. During the years we arranged altogether 25 one- and two-days in-service trainings on various content topics and methodical approaches for re-qualifying the Civics teachers for their better meeting of new requirements in the democratic classrooms.

The seminars were planned in accordance with the needs of the teachers and following the Civics syllabus. Among the lecturers and facilitators there were many people from United States and other foreign countries, which allowed our teachers to get in touch with the educational theories and practices of the other countries.

The other important segment of the cooperation project with NED was issuing methodical literature for Civics in Estonian and in Russian as well. Altogether were produced 6 books and brochures for the teachers of Civics, among them very popular handbook of active teaching methods "More Interesting School Lessons".

There were around 500 teachers of History and Civics (many of them several times) who participated the seminars during five-years project.

The cooperation with NED allowed to Estonia to create set of systematic Civics teachers in-service trainings, which granted to that particular subject a strong place in the New National Curriculum adopted in 1996.