

# Introducing systemic work with highly able students (HAS) at secondary schools in Eastern Slovenia

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II. gimnazija Maribor (Projekt RaST)



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# RaST (Razvojno središče talentov/ Talents' Development Center)

project won at MESS tender „Spodbujanje prožnih oblik učenja in podpora kakovostni karierni orientaciji za nadarjene“ 2017 - 2020, budget 927.500 € (20% RS, 80% ESF), goals:

- develop a center for talented youth (CTY) for Eastern Slovenia and a model/support environment for working with HAS in the future
- work with at least 740 students and 37 secondary schools
- ...



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# HAS in Slovenia



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## National strategy?

- investment in research and counseling (concept papers, regulations - par. 14)
- no investment (until now) in work with HAS
- systemic activities for HAS (camps, competitions etc.) covered by NGOs (ZOTKS, DMFA), faculty (UL FE-FRI), industry (Krka, Triglav)

## Highest % of HAS “in the world” (up to 25%)

- 700 out of 830 students at II. gimnazija Maribor are certified HAS
- individual workplan for each HAS (defined in SI concept for HAS)!

## Cost and awarding of (Zois) scholarships for HAS

- annually 25 mio € for scholarships vs. 500.000 for project activities for HAS
- money directly to students' accounts (no control of spending “money for HA”)

# Work with HAS (project RaST)

## Introducing “proven HA”

- to filter HAS by work until 16-18 years of age instead of tests at 10 yoa (ca. 250 out of “certified” 700 at II. gimnazija Maribor)
- co-created by (secondary) schools/teachers

## Activities for HAS at secondary schools in Eastern Slovenia (RaST public call)

- most in natural sciences (NS) and art (A)
- A has best funding, NS worst (SS&H and I inbetween)
- general schools (gimnazije) do and “dare” more



# Brain drain happens. Return should?

Stop brain drain? Ehm... Can SI universities (and cities) compete against Oxford, Max Planck, Vienna?

Accelerate return? Not sure, but maybe:

- Introduce local capacity to students by enabling:
  - internships in industry
  - research assignments in R&D
  - support network for feasible students' project ideas
- Transform part of existing scholarship to "HAS alumni program" and finance employment or start-ups after return (like we do for many other groups just not for our "best added value")



# Thank you!

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