







EURES ACTIVITIES 2022

The beginning of 2022 was still a time of the virtual world and home office for the EURES network in Slovakia. However, in April, the pandemic measures in our country eased and we returned to "normal". Face-to-face meetings in the offices with people interested in working in the EU/EEA states, with employers, cooperating institutions, cross-border partners, etc., started immediately. EURES staff met in person after two years at a 3-day team building event that we had defined as part of the national ESF project. It was also a celebration as we all recognised how precious it was to see each other in person. We consider this type of training to improve professional and personal relationships as well as mental hygiene from everyday working life. We will continue this training in the future.

The challenge in 2022 for the EURES SK network was to organise the first international online labour exchange WITH EURES TO EUROPE; the event took place on the platform www.europeanjobdays.eu. The accompanying programme consisted of presentations from participating foreign employers, EURES Advisers and success stories of clients who have worked in EU/EEA countries. The moderators of the event were EURES Advisers. We are successfully evaluating the online job fair, but based on feedback from job seekers and employers, we will prefer an on-site or hybrid format in the future.

Those interested in working abroad can find the EURES network at job fairs organised by the two largest private job portals in Slovakia, one of which publishes a number of job offers abroad every month as part of our good cooperation.

During the summer, we sent high school students to Greece for internships, where they worked in hospitality and catering for the Greek island resorts. As part of the Europe-wide challenge "Jobs for young people", in which Slovakia also took part with the story of a student working in Germany, successful stories of students were published via videos. These videos were published on EURES social networks.

The main role in the network is played primarily by EURES staff. The organisation of each activity starts in the NCO premises, where the logistics are planned, tasks are divided and public procurement is ensured. The activity is carried out by EURES Advisers who, with many years of experience, know how to cover every event professionally. Each consultant has the opportunity to work within the national network and in different working groups, e.g. work on social networks, websites, graphics, videos, communication strategies, seasonal work, and collaboration with employers. The editorial group checks the thematic, linguistic and technical correctness of all articles, invitations and information intended for the public, which is also in line with the uniform communication strategy of the EURES network. Interest in the above topics is supported by opportunities for advisers to take part in educational activities at the national level, provided and funded by EURES SK.

We consider the move to on-site premises and the opportunity to conduct activities this year to be a success.

ADVICE IN THE PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT OFFICE

One of the main activities of the EURES network is the provision of advice and information to a wide range of jobseekers in the EU/EEA member countries, not only to jobseekers who are registered with the Office of Labour, Social Affairs and Family but also to students, self-employed or employees. From the point of view of the customer base structure, registered jobseekers between the ages of 25 and 54 with complete secondary education with high school diploma were most strongly represented. Most discussed topics: general information on EURES services, recruitment/placement, living and working conditions in EU/EEA countries, social security, education and training, and specific information on cross-border activities.

Activity in figures: 17,817 contacts with clients, of which 4 404 contacts with foreign/Slovak employers, 2,894 CVs, applications or letters of motivation received by EURES Advisers from jobseekers in EU/EEA countries, 1,194 over EURES employees network.

EURES NETWORK PROMOTION IN THE FORM OF PRESENTATIONS AT SCHOOLS, UNIVERSITIES AND LABOUR OFFICES

The priority of the EURES network is also to promote services for students potentially interested in working abroad. EURES Advisers present job opportunities in Europe and the situation on the labour market to students in the form of information events in schools. The total number of schools attended throughout Slovakia is 104 and a total of 4,779 students. EURES Advisers and EURES Contact Persons provided information through presentations also at the labour offices. The total number of participants in presentations at labour offices was 9,277 and they were addressed to the following target groups: school leavers, jobseekers, colleagues from labour offices, foreign and Slovak employers and cooperation partners/institutions.



LABOUR EXCHANGE AND NETWORK PARTICIPATION AT FAIRS



HUNGARIAN DAY

On May 6, 2022, the Office for Labour, Social Affairs and Family in Komárno, in cooperation with the EURES Slovakia network, organised a cross-border labour exchange for the sixth time with a focus on the Hungarian labour market. Those interested in working in Hungary chose 32 positions in the automotive, chemical and printing industries from 450 job offers. Employers from the industrial park in Komárno and Esztergom offered positions not only for production but also for administration and technical and engineering positions. Parallel to the labour exchange, presentations for high school and university students on the EURES Slovakia network and seasonal jobs in the EU/EEA took place. An EURES Adviser from Hungary presented the living and working conditions in her country. The peculiarity of the Komárno region is the number of commuters who commute daily to work in the neighbouring state, so organizing such an event has its own justification.

Activity in figures: 450 offered job vacancies, 32 job offers, 550 visitors, 78 suitable applicants, 23 employment promises, 15 exhibitors.

EOJD - WITH EURES TO EUROPE

On May 12, 2022, the PSVR Headquarters and the EURES Slovakia network organized the first annual international online labour exchange With EURES to EUROPE! The event took place on the platform www.europeanjobdays.eu. The participation of employers and applicants was free of charge.

Slovak applicants had the opportunity to apply for vacancies in various sectors at more than 60 employers from all over Europe, they received a lot of useful information thanks to the rich accompanying programme and the opportunity to chat with employers online.

Activity in figures: 1,307 jobseekers contacted via eures.sk, 7,433 jobseekers contacted by advisers, 112 registered companies, 17 participating countries, 42 registered EURES advisers, 935 registered jobseekers, 730 CVs uploaded – most jobseekers came from Slovakia 167, Spain 156, non-EU/EEA countries 153, Italy 118, 607 published offers (2785 jobs), 1197 applications, 126 interviews, total page traffic: 66,624, 1,200 online followers.





LABOUR EXCHANGE AND NETWORK PARTICIPATION AT FAIRS

EOJD - AUSTRIA IS CALLING

At the invitation of colleagues from Austria, the EURES network in Slovakia took part in the international online labour exchange together with Croatia, Italy, Slovenia and Austria. The participation of both employers and applicants was carried out on a free platform. The activity had a very interesting accompanying programme, presentations of individual foreign employers and their job offers, information on the necessary forms and documents when leaving for EU/EEA countries, a presentation on how to make your CV attractive, etc. Individual EURES Advisers provided information on the labour market, employment opportunities and work benefits in Austria, Italy, Croatia, Slovenia and Slovakia.

Activity in figures: 1,200 jobseekers contacted, 68 registered companies (39 from Austria, 18 from Italy, 5 from Croatia, 4 from Slovakia and 2 from Slovenia) and 29 consultants from different EU/EEA countries.

CAREER EXPO 2022 KOŠICE AND BRATISLAVA

The return of the Career EXPO job fair to the local scene successfully started on June 8, 2022, in the Social Pavilion in Košice and continued the established trend on October 11 in the premises of the Old Market in Bratislava. More than 60 employers from various sectors from administration, banking, tourism, IT, marketing, trade and production took part in both fairs and offered hundreds of job opportunities.

Both events featured a program of lectures by speakers and influencers on topics on education, vocational training, career choice, personal development and career advice. The world of Internet technology and online marketing was also represented, visitors had the opportunity to test their language and IT skills, as well as a live model interview, an English interview and a self-presentation in a foreign language.

Košice activity in figures: more than 60 employers, 3,500 visitors, around 300 customers at the EURES stand.

Bratislava activity in figures: more than 60 employers, 4,000 visitors, approx. 400 customers at the EURES stand, the largest proportion of fair visitors were unemployed (43%), employees (32%), students (14%) and self-employed (6%).



LABOUR EXCHANGE AND NETWORK PARTICIPATION AT FAIRS



PROFESIA DAYS 2022 KOŠICE

Interesting job offers attracted almost 9,000 visitors to this year's Profesia Days in Košice. According to the organisers, this number far exceeded all expectations. The attractive and spacious premises of the Kasárne Culture Park, which is one of the largest cultural centres in Slovakia, became the temporary home of 80 exhibitors for two days from October 5th to 6th, 2022, among which the EURES Slovakia network was not missing. In addition to job applicants, there were also high school and university students, university teachers and young graduates who, in addition to specific job offers, were also looking for information about the situation in the Slovak and European labour market and opportunities for career development. The highlight of the fair was a special programme for people over 45, aimed at changing careers in old age.

Activity in figures: more than 80 employers, almost 3,000 visitors, around 1,000 customers at the EURES stand.

PRO EDUCO 2022 KOŠICE

The 14th edition of the international education fair PRO EDUCO took place from November 30th to December 1st, 2022 and was aimed at students of the graduating classes of primary and secondary school as well as educational advisers. In addition to educational opportunities, the fair offered various forms of extracurricular activities, personal development, career opportunities and further education for young people. The EURES Slovakia network provided information on the situation on the European labour market and development trends directly at the exhibition stand and in the form of lectures as part of the supporting programme. At the same time, it offered specific job offers to EU/EEA countries.

Activity in figures: 57 exhibitors, 7,000 visitors, 300 customers at the EURES stand, and more than 30 teachers and educational advisers from schools in the Košice and Prešov regions.

JOB SPOTT 2022

It is the largest job fair in the Trnava region. It not only offers the event visitors information on job vacancies, salaries and benefits, but also an overview of employers, their corporate culture and the new technologies they are using. The seventh year of this event took place in Trnava on January 28, 2022, after the pandemic break and attracted a large number of visitors and exhibitors. Accompanying the fair, specialist lectures and workshops on various topics were held by experienced speakers and representatives of participating companies, e.g. how to handle an interview, how to write a resume and one-on-one coaching for high school students.

Activity in figures: 130 customers at the EURES stand; 30 exhibitors.

LABOUR EXCHANGE AND NETWORK PARTICIPATION AT FAIRS

JOB FORUM 2022

The 12th year of the job opportunities and education fair JOB FORUM 2022 took place in the Expo Centre in Trenčín. The fair also included the 22nd year of the "Stredoškolák" high school presentation exhibition and the 2nd year of the "Vysokoškolák" exhibition, the aim of which was to offer a portfolio of the fields of study of each university.

Activity in figures: 112 visitors at the EURES stand and a total of 1,108 jobseekers.

EUROPE DAY

Participating in the Europe Day celebrations is a unique opportunity to raise awareness of the benefits of EU membership. This year again, visitors could get to know EURES at events organised by the European Commission Representation in Slovakia, the European Parliament Office and Europe Direct in Bratislava, Košice, Žilina and Lučenec. In addition to interesting information on job opportunities or internships abroad, visitors had the opportunity to win attractive prizes in various competitions.

Dates and Locations: 6.5.2022 in Košice, 9.5.2022 in Bratislava and Žilina, 10.5.2022 in Lučenec.

POHODA Festival

For the sixth time, the EURES Slovakia network was one of the partners of the Pohoda 2022 festival. The information stand of the EURES Slovakia network served to raise awareness of the EURES network among event visitors and provided information on employment opportunities, the situation on the labour market and living and working conditions in the EU/EEA countries. During the festival, knowledge competitions and quizzes related to the European Union and labour mobility took place with the support of members of the EURES network.

Every day the main prize, a prize package with EURES promotional materials, was drawn.

Activity in figures: 703 visitors at the EURES network stand, a total of 331 participants took part in the knowledge competitions over the three days of the event, and the total number of festival visitors increased to 30,000.





In 2022, the EURES network organized a total of 11 calls in 2 countries - Germany and Hungary. Employers from the mentioned countries offered work for various positions - workers in biscuit production, assembly workers in the automotive industry, warehouse workers at DHL, workers in battery production, workers at McDonald's, quality workers, forklift truck drivers, maintenance workers, assembly workers - mechanics.

Activity in figures: 810 jobseekers were invited to job advertisements; 194 participants showed up, of which 61 received a job offer. Of the number mentioned, 21 Slovak citizens were employed.

INTERNSHIP STAYS

The EURES Slovakia network recruited a total of 37 vacancies for interns in the positions of cooks, assistant cooks, receptionists, waiters and waitresses and hostesses for Sani/Ikos Group.

Students from Michalovce – from the Vocational School for Trade and Services, the Business Academy, the Hotel Academy and the Private Hotel Academy were interested in internships. Since the employer placed 12 students from Slovakia in his holiday resorts in the current summer season, EURES Advisers had the opportunity to get acquainted with the working conditions in the selected holiday resorts where the Slovak interns work, as well as with the working conditions to examine accommodation conditions and to agree on criteria for future cooperation.



COOPERATION OF THE EURES NETWORK WITH THE EU INSTITUTIONS



EUROPE WITHIN REACH

The activity aimed to create a space for the mutual exchange of opinions and information, especially for secondary school counsellors, and to create a basis for further cooperation between these organizations. Each of the representative organisations had the opportunity to present activities and what they offer or what activities they are currently organising. Based on the questionnaires, it was found that such meetings would be welcomed again by both educational advisers and representative organisations.

Locations of activity: Banská Bystrica, Trenčín, Komárno, Humenné, Poprad and Michalovce. Participating institutions: EUROPE Direct, NIVAN, IOM, SAIA, EUROPASS, Pedagogical-Psychological Counseling Centres, Volunteer Centre in Banská Bystrica, SPACE BB Centre and Career Centre of J. Selye University in Komárno.

Activity in figures: 172 participants, along with 10 EURES organisations and a number of careers advisers from secondary schools from the locations where the activity took place.

EURES cooperation with NIVAM and Europe Direct

In cooperation with NIVAM and Europe Direct, EURES Advisers organised information sessions focusing on job opportunities in Europe and projects for young people. The EURES network presented its services, and provided information on job vacancies, the labour market, and living and working in European countries. NIVAM informed about the possibility of informal education, exchange within the framework of ERASMUS+, voluntary work, and solidarity projects. Europe Direct presented how a young people should prepare themselves to enter the labour market and job opportunities in European institutions.

Locations: Poprad (two times), Levoča, Košice (two times), Rožňava (two times), Dolný Kubín, Michalovce, Vranov nad Topľou, Liptovský Mikuláš, Trenčín, Prešov, and Nitra.

Scheduled dates: in the months of May - December 2022.

The target group are young jobseekers under the age of 30, especially high school graduates.

Activity in figures: 271 participants (jobseekers) & 9 participants (Office of Labour, Social Affairs and Family employees).

The following institutions took part in the meetings: NIVAM, EUROPE Direct, EURES Czech Republic and the Slovak Youth Council.



Regular meetings of the main actors of the cross-border labour market bring strengthening of contacts, deepening of cooperation and mutual inspiration within the framework of the exchange of best practices. The meetings in the field of developing cross-border labour mobility are beneficial for the EURES network.

Border meeting between Slovakia and Hungary

The activity took place on April 8, 2022, in Komárno, with the aim of mutual information and strengthening of cooperation in the border region.

Topics and presentations: The situation in the border region from the point of view of Slovakia; the Situation in the border region from the point of view of Hungary; and EURES Slovakia and EURES Hungary Total number of participants – 20.

"EURES cross-border cooperation with employers" Workshop

Mutual exchange of experiences and development of cooperation with employers in the Polish-Slovak border area.

The activity took place on September 13, 2022, in Poprad with 20 participants.

Topics and presentations: the current situation on the border labour market Slovakia-Poprad-Kežmarok and Poland KRAKOW-NOVY SACZ, activities and actions for employers with an overview of the methodology for working with vacancies in the conditions of SK-ÚPSVR including EURES SK network under the conditions of PL-WUP NOWY SACZ including the EURES PL network and under PL-OHP-NOWY SACZ conditions including EURES PL and the experience of employers in employing residents of Poland in Slovakia.

"Mapping the needs of employers in the border region Slovakia, Czech Republic and Poland" Seminar

Presenting the situation on the Slovak, Czech and Polish labour markets with a focus on border regions and the automotive industry; employers' projects were presented, namely the services of the EURES network and services that help emigrants from Ukraine to find employment on the local labour market and to cover occupations that are missing from local employers.

The activity took place on December 13, 2022, in Námestovo with 18 participants.

WEBSITE EURES.SK AND SOCIAL NETWORKS

The eures.sk portal and social media are the main communication tools of the EURES Slovakia network, which are used and updated daily.

Activity in figures:

- 10,580 job offers published in 26 European countries;
- 226,000 eures.sk users;
- 850,000 pages of the eures.sk portal viewed by visitors;
- 4.5 million web addresses of the EURES Slovakia portal, which are displayed by search engines to the user in the search results;
- On average 2% of customers reach the EURES portal via social media.

Social networks have become an integral part of life, so the EURES Slovakia network is also aware of their importance and tries to work actively on using them. The aim is to offer up-to-date information from the life/activities of the EURES network and make it available to customers in real-time. EURES Slovakia publishes posts on its accounts on the social networks Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, YouTube and Instagram.

In 2022 EURES Slovakia focused its contributions on:

- European Year of Youth #EuropeanYearOfYouth
- Competitions
- Sharing posts and videos of our EURES colleagues from EU/EEA countries
- Creation of an advent calendar
- Promotion of EURES activities, e.g.: job vacancies and seasonal job vacancies, Road Transport campaign, EU Talent Pool Pilot, secondary school visits, Europe Day, and on-site and online job fairs.

The most successful post on FB concerned a student doing an internship at the EURES office in Komárno: reached 2,925 viewers, and had 134 likes.





ACTIVITIES for EURES ADVISERS and COORDINATORS



EURES meetings

Two on-site and two online working sessions took place in 2022.

Location and time:

on-site: September 20-22, 2022 Nový Smokovec (29 participants) and December 7-9, 2022

Vyhne (25 participants)

online: March 17, 2022 (30 participants) and May 19, 2022 (29 participants)

Subject: Interactive working meetings of the EURES network at the national level

Objective: Supporting the development of the EURES network

Purpose: effective solution of work tasks, mutual exchange of experience and information about individual activities and projects, joint sharing of good practice examples in the field of labour mobility and the European labour market.

TRAINING OF EURES ADVISERS AT THE EUROPEAN LEVEL

The European Commission organises various educational activities for partners and members of the EURES network. Participants can choose from a wide range of topics aimed at supporting personal and professional development. At the same time, the training courses create space for the socialization of members of individual networks and the development of international cooperation and projects. The training took place again in 2022, only in a virtual space, the language used was English. Participants in some training courses received certificates after successful completion. The number of completed training courses per year: 54.

TRAINING FOR STAFF OF THE EURES SLOVAKIA NETWORK – national level

The content of the "Development of group dynamics" educational activity, which took place on April 14 –16, 2022, was the deepening and acquisition of new skills, knowledge and continuous training of the network members. The format of the training was a combination of trainer presentations, workshops, case studies and discussions. Part of the training also took place outside the accommodation facility, working in groups, e.g. for the SWOT analysis – a strategic planning tool for assessing the strengths and weaknesses, opportunities and threats that lie in our national project, and in the subsequent evaluation of this analysis. The individual activities were prepared by the lecturers in a way that each candidate actively contributed, whereas team spirit and mutual trust were encouraged when solving tasks. The educational activity lasted 3 days, the number of hours per participant was 16, the total number of participants was 31 and there were two external lecturers.

IMPORTANT EURES ONLINE/ON-SITE WORK MEETINGS

"ELA Seasonal Work Cross-Border Pilot Project" Workshop

Date and Location: 2 workshops (Venice – October, Sofia – November)

Objective: To establish contacts between the administrations of countries receiving seasonal workers and countries of origin of seasonal workers and to exchange best practices in providing information to these workers.

Format: 10 countries (Italy, Germany, Netherlands, Romania, Bulgaria, Slovakia, Spain, France, Portugal, Poland).

6 representatives of institutions: Department of Labour, Social Affairs and Family, Social Insurance Office, Association of Industrial Unions and Transport, Labour Inspectorate, EURES + ELA.

Output: Establishment of a community of practice with continuous exchange beyond the pilot phase and preparation of a report with recommendations for the "Rights for All Seasons" information campaign in 2023.

Webinar - The EURES response to the Ukraine refugees' crisis

On 14 April 2022 a webinar on the refugee crisis following the war in Ukraine took place, where EURES Slovakia participated in presentations. Each presenter presented the situation in their country, how they were affected by the refugee crisis, and what means they used to solve it. The webinar had 491 views. The speakers came from Romania, Slovakia, Poland, Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia.

Webinar with EURES Spain

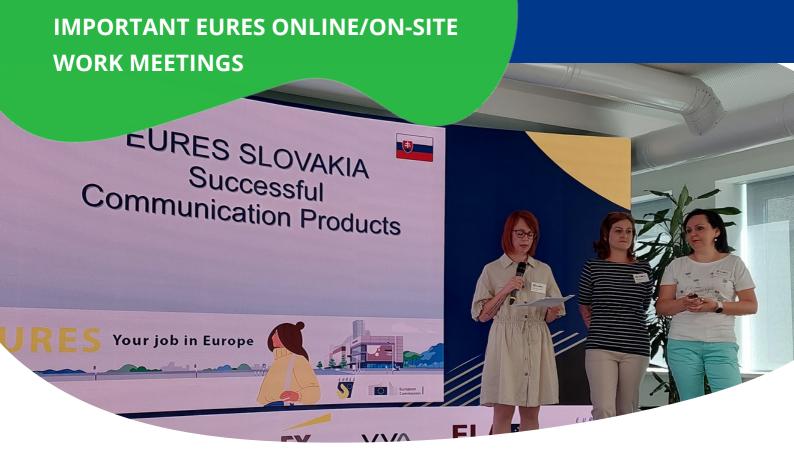
A Spanish-Slovak webinar took place on June 2, 2022, the aim of which was to inform the EURES Advisers of both countries about living and working conditions in their countries, deficits and surpluses.

Living and working in Slovakia – intended for Spanish consultants, the total number of participants was 46.

Living and working in Spain – intended for Slovak consultants, the total number of participants was 28.







EURESinAction conference

On the days June 9-10, 2022, an international conference was held in Rome, aimed at mutual cooperation and exchange of experiences of all members of the EURES network, a new communication strategy and branding were presented. Representatives of the EURES Slovakia network presented a communication product – 3 selected videos focused on the activities we carried out after the pandemic in early 2022.

The number of conference participants: 101 EURES Advisers from across Europe, 10 training experts, and 15 ELA and EC representatives. The conference was also available online.

Online meetings with EURES colleagues and employers from EU/EEA countries

Continuation of regular working meetings with colleagues and employers from the member countries, the aim of which is cooperation on ongoing projects, exchange of information, etc. A total of 16 meetings were held with the following countries: Germany, Austria, Belgium, Finland, Czech Republic, Denmark, Austria, Netherlands, Cyprus and Spain.





Cooperation with EURES Germany

In the first half of 2022, the cooperation with the German ZAV, with EURES Germany and with colleagues from the German placement services was primarily affected by the organizational changes in the Bundesagentur für Arbeit (Federal Employment Agency), which also had an impact on the functionality of its organizational parts. Therefore, due to the introduction of changes, we consider the year 2022 as a time when the focus was on individually addressing applicants in Germany, rather than the implementation of projects.

The implemented changes brought the territorial unification of the agenda in Germany, and the regrouping of EURES advisers, ZAV representatives and other contact persons in PES. For 2022 we have divided our cooperation into several categories in the following way:

- 1. **Summer/winter seasonal workers** the Bundes Agentur für Arbeit–ZAV has set up its own email address advertised as a gateway to seasonal jobs. Applications/CVs have been forwarded to the general address as per policy. We have reported more specific vacancies for the summer than in previous years. Job opportunities were offered in Usedom, in southern Germany, and in the north of the country.
- 2. **Hotel and gastronomy (service)** through the eures.sk website, our citizens had the opportunity to respond to specific offers in this area throughout the year. We have also raised awareness of the opportunity to apply individually through our website and social media for a position in the industry based on our established criteria.

3. Technical jobs

We continued the KISS project in 2022. The project offered employment to qualified applicants from the fields of mechanical engineering, technology, IT, trades and road construction in the Bremen area. Evidently, due to the geographical distance, the project was not well received in our country. In the end, 7 applications from Slovakia were forwarded to Germany. At the end of February 2022, we were informed by the project coordinator about her transfer to another position as part of organizational changes.

4. Vocational Educational and Training

Professional studies in Germany in the fields of qualified worker in restaurant facilities, system gastronomy, hotel industry or hospitality; butcher, chef, shop assistant – despite the end of recruitment in December 2021, information about the project was published on our website in the first quarter of 2022, as it was still possible to apply, provided the interested party could prove knowledge of the German language. Unfortunately, nobody showed any interest in this dual course this year – we assume that the low level of interest was influenced by two serious determinants – (1) low salary of EUR 450 net during the internship; (2) the educational possibilities in the subjects are currently not among the most attractive for students, even at the national level.

5. TMS projects

However, our citizens were individually involved in financial support project after the criteria had been evaluated by the respective BA Germany employee.

CAREER DAY OF UPJŠ IN KOŠICE



EURES Slovakia, which has been a member of the Career Club of the Pavol Jozef Šafárik University in Košice (UPJŠ) since the 2018/2019 academic year, took part in the sixth edition of the UPJŠ Career Day organized by the University Advisory Centre on April 6, 2022. Due to the ongoing pandemic, this year also took place in a special virtual edition, but thanks to the live broadcast on UPJŠ Facebook, the EURES Advisers from Košice had the opportunity to address the students directly and introduce them to the network and its intended services among students and graduates/young people. EURES was presented live as a live stream moderated from the studio and consisted of interviews with 20 registered employers, prerecorded videos and discussions. Since the network also provides consulting services, in addition to introducing the network itself in the first part of the interview, the students were also introduced to the modern Europass tool, which allows them to create a structured CV in different versions or individual cover letters for free, ascertain their skills, make personal notes and store their certificates and diplomas in the library for use at any time in the future. It is necessary to realize that a well-written CV is the gateway to the job market. It is the start of a successful career. As young people are one of the target groups of EURES, Career Days on campuses are a unique opportunity to provide them with important information before entering the labour market and at the same time build a good reputation of the network with potential job seekers.



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