

# School Parliament Network in the Tišnov Region

## A Case Study

### Parliament Networking

School parliaments can work as individual bodies. At the same time, it can be useful for them to share their experience, motivate one another and find common goals.

Therefore, networking of the school parliaments can be useful.

There are different models of networking. On the global level, the parliaments can aspire for joining European Youth Parliament (<https://eyp.org/>)

On the local level they can use networking within cities, regions or states.

Here is a case study of Labyrinth school parliament which is a part of Tišnov region school parliaments' network.

### Figures & Number

**2020** – the network was founded with the support of Local Action Plan for Education Development initiative in Tišnov region

**7** schools and their school parliaments participate in the network at the moment

**1** the members are meeting once per year at the host school to share their experience, exchange ideas and plan common action

**40** people, students and adults (coordinators), take part in the annual sessions

### The Aim

The aim of the *Local Action Plan for Education Development (LAP; Operational Programme Research, Development and Education* by the Czech Ministry of Education) is to promote joint planning and sharing of activities in the territory. It encourages cooperation among education authorities, schools and other stakeholders in education including non-formal education organizations. This cooperation focuses on joint information, education and planning of partnership activities for subsequent joint solutions to local-specific problems and needs, and evaluation of the cooperation benefits.

The LAP addressed the school parliaments in Tišnov region with an offer to organize the common meeting that could support the parliaments in further networking, sharing their experience and planning common activities. So far the school parliaments have met for three times, every year in different hosting school. The sessions are organized as half-day sessions.

Starting with **parliament presentations** – presenting their parliaments and activities.

Every session has a time slot for individual **meeting of parliament members (students) and parliament coordinators (educators)**. These two groups are working on different agenda according to their suggestions (coming out from the survey made at the end of the previous session).

**Key speaker session** – every meeting has a keynote speaker with a theme that is interesting for all participants.

**School tour** – the parliament meeting is an opportunity to experience the environment of the hosting school. It is very popular with students and teachers as well.

### **The Outcomes**

- The parliaments are planning regular annual meetings.
- Every year a different school takes the hosting role.
- The schools are planning a common tour to an innovative school with a school parliament outside the Tišnov region.
- The parliaments are planning a day exchange of students and educators for shadowing.
- The parliaments are planning a common activities focused on charity work.
- The parliaments are involved in common projects focused on sustainable development.

### **What should be taken into account when planning school parliament networking?**

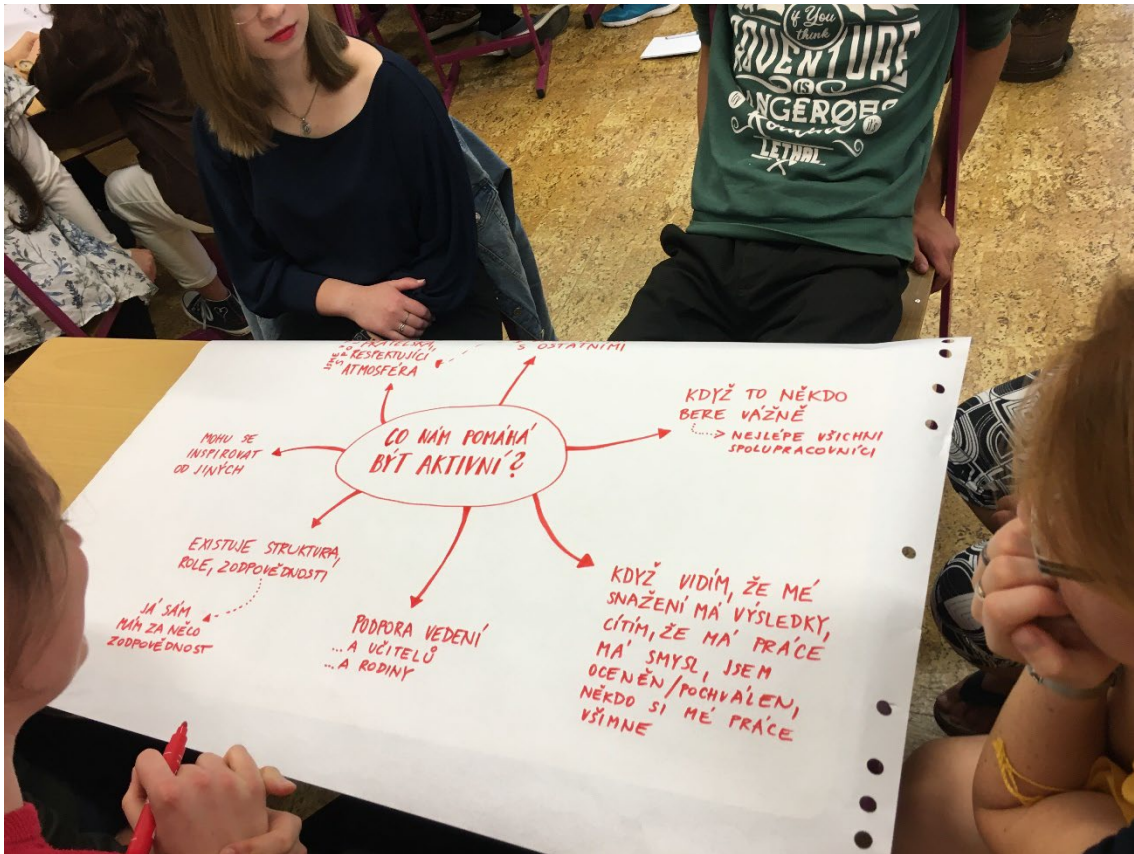
- There must be a person nominated for contacting and coordinating the school parliaments, for gathering feedback and planning further sessions.
- A half-day session asks for an extra space at school where the session can take place.
- Some refreshment can be provided either by a hosting school or with a support of an external donor or it could be covered by an organisational fee.
- To make the session attractive and effective a keynote speaker should be chosen carefully.



Parliament members' session, December 2022, Tišov.



School parliament coordiantors' session, December 2022, Tišnov.



Workshops for school parliaments, October 2020, Tišnov.

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