

## EDUCATION AND INTEGRATION OF STUDENTS WITH DIFFERENT MOTHER TONGUES

### Suggested arrangements

From July 2013 to June 2014, the META non-profit organization was initiating the creation of source materials used for educational policy concerning foreign children and students whose knowledge of the Czech language is insufficient. Those materials were part of the "Education and integration of students with different mother tongues" specialized platform. The final document:

- identifies problematic areas in the process of education and support of newly arrived children and students who grow up in a different environment as far as culture and language are concerned;
- defines arrangements that should both make the integration process of the target group more efficient and conceptual, and make the Czech educational system more inclusive,
- aims to overcome obstacles in education of students with different mother tongues (DMT) by offering proposals and recommendations.

The suggestions are intended for key participants who determine the form education of this group of students. The aim is to create an environment where cultural and language difference is not an obstacle to education. Although we do not try to create a whole new system of education of students with DMT, we would like to optimise existing measures and add support that is lacking at this moment.

In compliance with experience gained both abroad and in the Czech Republic, it is obvious that migrants form a group where the risks of achieving bad results or leaving the educational system early are higher. The existing measures in the Czech educational system do not cover the whole educational process and integration of students with DMT. In many areas the material and methodical support of teachers is insufficient as well as the system of language education and support of students with DMT. The poor coordination causes that the existing measures are inconsistent and not only students with DMT, but also teachers do not find the support both sides need to pass through problematic stages of the integration process.

The "Education and integration of students with different mother tongues – Suggested arrangements" document is a set of measures divided into eight areas that deal with different aspects of education of students with DMT:

- Coordination and concept
- Language preparation and support of preschool-aged children
- Language preparation and support in elementary schools
- Language preparation and support in secondary schools
- Education of teachers
- Counselling for students with DMT and for schools they attend
- Support of social counselling aimed at students with DMT
- Support of mother tongues

Each area begins with an analysis which describes the current situation, the previous practice and weak spots that make the integration process of students with DMT more difficult. However you will not find a thorough analysis of each of the areas but rather a brief description that determines the basic problematic moments. The information was found in publicly accessible sources, legislation and findings from specialized groups and negotiations of the platform.

You can find the complete document on the META website:  
[www.meta-ops.cz](http://www.meta-ops.cz).