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CMEPIUS

Researcher's Guide



2010

Coming to Slovenia

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REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA

MINISTRY OF HIGHER EDUCATION,
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY



Ties without borders

- "With help of international programmes, we open doors to experience" at the Centre of the Republic of Slovenia for Mobility and European Educational Programmes

CMEPIUS acts as EURAXESS Researchers in Motion Bridgehead Organisation, SLOVENIA, and it is the part of the European Commission EURAXESS Network (www.euraxess.eu)

WHO ARE WE? WHAT WE DO?

Centre of the Republic of Slovenia for Mobility and European Educational and Training Programmes (CMEPIUS) is a public non-profit organisation established by Government of the Republic of Slovenia. Its main purpose is to provide a professional technical and administrative support for the implementations of the education and training programmes which are taking place in European communities and for the provision of mobility. Both is performed as a public service.

The Centre of the Republic of Slovenia for Mobility and European Educational and Training Programmes was established in October 2003 and it has taken over the work from the previous EU Programmes Agency. It performs a single main task of: coordinating the European Community mobility programmes (as a lifelong Learning Programme) and supporting a development of education and training. In addition, the Centre pursues the national programmes of mobility (i.e., bilateral and multilateral scholarships of the Republic of Slovenia and scholarships for the Slovenes living abroad) and activities of some other European programmes in the area of education and training, including Erasmus Mundus, Tempus, CEEPUS, National Team of Bologna Experts, the e-Learning/e-Twinning National Support Centre, and the European Language Label initiative. Within the activities of the European Research Area (ERA) the Centre also acts as a Bridgehead Organisation (BHO) of the European initiative EURAXESS »Researchers in Motions« with two tasks: coordinating Slovenian network of EURAXESS local contact points and managing Slovenian EURAXESS portal www.euraxess.si.



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For the purpose of entering the Republic of Slovenia, you as foreigner (alien) must, in addition to a valid travel document, be in possession of

- a visa or
 - a residence permit
- (unless otherwise provided by law or international agreement).



VISA/VIZA

VISA/VIZA



A visa is a permit issued by a competent diplomatic mission or consular post of the Republic of Slovenia abroad to a foreigner on the basis of which the foreigner, if no grounds for refusal exist, may enter the country and stay in it for the period determined by the visa; or which ensures transit through the national territory, if the foreigner fulfils the conditions applying to transit.

A visa may only be issued to you if you are in possession of a valid travel document, whereby the date of expiry of the travel document shall exceed the date of validity of the visa by at least three months and the law stipulates no reasons for the refusal of his/her entry into the country.

You as a foreigner must obtain visas before entering Slovenia but visa shall not grant you the right to employment or work.

Types of visas include:

- Category A Visa - airport transit visa
- Category B Visa - transit visa
- Category C Visa - short-stay visa (maximum stay 90 days within the period of 6 months)
- Category D Visa - long-term visa (exceptionally issued for a longer stay by the Government of the Republic of Slovenia but cannot exceed 6 months within 1 year)

Visa C is issued for one or more than one entries to Slovenia but neither the one-off uninterrupted stay nor the total duration of successive stays in Slovenia may be longer than 90 days within the period of six months (counting from the day of first entry). Validity of visa is 1 year.

If you are entry visa holder you must register your residence with the competent police station within 3 days. Holders residing in a hotel, camp or any other similar facility are exempt.

As visa holder you may reside in schengen area in accordance with the purpose for which the visa was issued to you but must leave the schengen territory before the expiry date of the visa.

If you are not required to hold a visa to enter or stay in Slovenia, you may enter and stay in the country for not longer than 90 days in a period of six months, starting from the day of you first entry, with the same intentions as permitted to foreigners who must be in possession of a visa. However, if you do not stay in a tourist facility, you have to register with the competent police station within 3 day after entering Slovenia.

If you are a holder of a uniform visa issued by another Contracting State of the Schengen Agreement, you may, during the validity period of the visa, enter and reside in the Republic of Slovenia if the following entry conditions are met:

- you have guaranteed means of subsistence,
- you have documentation proving the purpose of your stay,
- you do not represent a threat to the public order, national security or international relations of any of the Contracting States.

Detailed information on types of visas, the application procedure, required documentation and which citizens need or do not need a visa for Slovenia is accessible on the website of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Slovenia.



RESIDENCE PERMIT / DOVOLJENJE ZA BIVANJE

If you wish to stay in the Republic of Slovenia for longer than the period that is possible on the basis of a visa or you wish to enter and stay in the Republic of Slovenia for reasons other than those possible on the basis of a visa, you must have a residence permit.



Types of residence permits / Vrste dovoljenj za bivanje

- a permit for temporary residence / dovoljenje za začasno bivanje
- a permit for permanent residence / dovoljenje za stalno bivanje

A residence permit is especially important, as it constitutes a residence permit and a permit to enter the Republic of Slovenia. The permit may be limited to a certain period and a particular purpose or may be issued for an unlimited period without specifying the purpose. Therefore, the limitations with regard to period and purpose are only possible in the case of granting a temporary residence permit while the permanent residence permit is not tied to any limitations with respect to period or purpose of residence.

Reasons or purposes for residing in Slovenia for which a residence permit may be issued:

- **employment or work, research work**, seasonal employment, cross-border provision of services by seconded workers, daily work migrants;
- **reuniting families;**
- **study, education, specialisation or advanced professional training, practical training, cooperation or participation in international volunteer exchange programmes or other programmes not part of the formal education system;**
- other legitimate reasons justified by law, international acts or international principles and practices (such as receiving a Slovenian pension, real estate ownership, hospital treatment, custody, receiving cash benefits);
- Slovene descendants up to three times removed.

Conditions for acquiring residence permits for first residence:

- a valid travel document (passport) with a period of validity exceeding the period of time planned to reside in the Republic of Slovenia by at least three months;
- appropriate health insurance coverage;
- sufficient means of subsistence (equal to at least the basic amount of minimum income in the Republic of Slovenia per month for the present – July 2010 – the amount is 226.80 EUR);
- proof that you are entitled to reside at the address that you are registering. Such proof shall be a proof of ownership, a lease or sublease agreement or a written consent from the owner or owners of the flat or manager of the accommodation facility, though the owner's consent is not required to be certified.
- one well-founded reason or purpose why you intend to reside in the Republic of Slovenia.
- in addition to providing proof of meeting the required conditions, you must support your application for a residence permit with data (a certificate) from the criminal records of the country of origin that is not older than three months (provided that your country of origin issues such data).

If all the conditions for issuing temporary permits for first residence are met, the Administrative unit in Slovenia issues the first temporary residence permit and sends it to the diplomatic and consular mission of the Republic of Slovenia based abroad, where it is handed to you.

Please be aware that the procedure of acquiring the first residence permit could last up to 60 days.

If you are EU or EEA citizen an application for a residence permit can be made at the local Administrative unit with a valid passport, or identity card. You also have to submit an employment contract.

If you are third country citizen a temporary residence permit has to be obtained before your arrival in the Republic of Slovenia.

An exception to the rule that you must obtain the residence permit before arrival in the Republic of Slovenia applies when you have a long-term resident status in another European Union member state and your family members have a residence permit (so-called long-term resident).

Important:

- A permit for first residence in the Republic of Slovenia may only be issued as a permit for temporary residence.
- A permit for temporary residence is valid for no more than one year.
- Even in the cases described above where the issue of the temporary residence permit was requested by another natural or legal person (e.g. research organisation), the permit will be handed personally to you or your legal representative at the diplomatic or consular post of the Republic of Slovenia abroad.
- With a valid residence permit issued by one of the Schengen Agreement Contracting States and a valid travel document you may enter the Republic of Slovenia and reside here for up to 3 months, if you meet the conditions of entry and if you are not on the national list of persons or foreigners to whom the Republic of Slovenia does not allow entry to its territory.

Extension of the validity of the permit

If you are in possession of a permit for temporary residence in the Republic of Slovenia for reasons of employment or work and you wish to continue to reside in Slovenia for the same reasons after the expiry of such a permit you may file an application for an extension of the validity of the permit.

A permit for temporary residence may be extended under the same conditions under which it was issued and the completed application must include evidence of meeting the requirements in the same manner as for the acquisition of the first residence permit.

You shall file an application for the extension of a permit with a competent body in the Republic of Slovenia prior to the expiry of the validity of the permit (at least 10 days before). As with the first permit for temporary residence, another person acting on your behalf may file for the extension (employer, research organisation or a representative of one of the contracting parties).

Further permits for temporary residence

If you are in possession of a permit for temporary residence in the Republic of Slovenia and you wish to continue to reside in Slovenia for a different purpose you may file an application for issuing a further residence permit for a different purpose (e.g. you are residing in Slovenia on the basis of a permit for temporary residence for study purposes, and you wish to remain residing in Slovenia after the expiry of such a permit for reasons of employment or work). Such an application must again be filed with the Administrative unit prior to the expiry of the validity of the permit. The conditions, procedures and methods of issuing are the same as for the extension of the permit for temporary residence.

A permanent residence permit

A permanent residence permit may be granted to you if you reside in the Republic of Slovenia uninterrupted for a period of five years on the basis of a temporary residence permit and you also fulfil other conditions for being issued a residence permit.

Your family

If you are residing in the Republic of Slovenia on the basis of a permanent residence permit, and if you, for the past year, have resided in the Republic of Slovenia on the basis of a temporary residence permit and are in possession of a temporary residence permit valid for no less than one year, you are granted the right to the reunion, preservation and regaining of family integrity with immediate family members (your spouse, your unmarried children (minors); unmarried children (minors) of your spouse; parents of minors; adult unmarried children or parents of yours or your spouse for you or your spouse is liable to provide support in accordance with the law of the country of your origin). An application for a permit can be filed with a diplomatic and consular mission of the Republic of Slovenia based abroad or with the competent body in the Republic of Slovenia.

If your family wants to reside in the Republic of Slovenia for family reunion reasons only, it has to prove the existence of a family relationship.

WORK PERMIT – EMPLOYMENT PERMIT / DOVOLJENJE ZA DELO

If you wish to stay in the Republic of Slovenia for the purposes of employment or work you may be issued a residence permit if you are in possession of a work permit.

A work permit and a residence permit for work purposes are two different permits issued by two different bodies: Employment Service of Slovenia / Zavod za zaposlovanje Republike Slovenije and the Administrative unit / Upravna enota.

Before obtaining a residence permit for research work, you must have a signed hosting agreement with a research organisation from the Republic of Slovenia.

You or the research organisation from the Republic of Slovenia with which you have a signed hosting agreement can ask for the issue of a temporary residence permit due to the provision of research work. You can submit the application at the diplomatic or consular post of the Republic of Slovenia abroad. The research organisation can submit the application at the diplomatic or consular post of the Republic of Slovenia, or at the Administrative unit.

If you are employed on the basis of a work permit, you have all the rights and obligations in compliance with national legislation, in particular with the Employment Relationships Act, e.g. regarding your wages, working hours, breaks, rest periods, occupational safety, and other rights.

The employer must ensure you the reimbursement of expenses for meals during work, for travel expenses to and from work, and of expenses the worker incurs during performing certain work and tasks on business travel.

You can ask for a personal work permit that is valid for three years if you are

- a close family member of a Slovene citizen, and you have a valid temporary residence permit due to family reunion reasons,
- a close family member of a foreigner with a personal work permit of indefinite duration and you have a valid temporary residence permit, due to family reunion reasons, and if you have previously lived in the Republic of Slovenia for at least two years on the basis of a temporary residence permit,
- a Slovene emigrant or his/her direct descendant of up to the third generation and you do not have Slovene citizenship,
- a self-employed foreigner and you have been employed in the Republic of Slovenia for two continuous years and you are registered in the Business Register,
- a foreigner with at least vocational education and for the last two years before submitting the application you have been continuously employed by the same employer or his legal predecessor,
- a migrant worker and for the last two years, before submitting the application you have been continuously employed by the same employer or his legal predecessor,
- **a foreigner and you have completed the last year of schooling in the Republic of Slovenia and have obtained at least tertiary education, and within one year of completing this education you have secured employment or become self-employed,**
- **a foreigner and you have completed a research work programme in Slovenia and have within one year secured employment or become self-employed,**

- **a close family member of a foreigner described in the previous paragraph,**
- **a close family member of a foreigner with a status of a researcher,**
- a person with a subsidiary protection.

Important:

- Foreigners from the EU member states, the EEA and the Swiss Confederation are in employment or, when seeking employment, equal to local workers. They do not need a work permit, but the employer who employs them has to fill in a special form notifying the Employment Service of the employment of an EU worker.
- Work permits are also not needed for the family members of the foreigners from member states of the European Union, the European Economic Area and Swiss Confederation; or for third-country nationals if they have a residence permit because of family reunion with nationals from the EU, EEA or Swiss Confederation.
- Citizens of third countries can gain employment in Slovenia only on the basis of a work permit, which is issued at the employer's request. Upon receiving a work permit by the employer, the document should be taken to the Slovenian diplomatic-consular representative in their home country in order to obtain a temporary residence permit for purpose of work before leaving.

The Association of Free Trade Unions of Slovenia (ZSSS) basic info package
<http://www.zsss.si> .

SOCIAL SECURITY / SOCIALNA VARNOST



The system of social security in Slovenia is based upon contribution payment from both, employers and employees. In Slovenia, contributions for health insurance, pension and disability insurance, maternity leave, unemployment insurance, and accident at work and occupational disease insurance are paid.

Research fellowships can be exempt from compulsory social security payments, with the exception of health insurance, which even fellows must have. Again, it depends on the type of fellowship.

SOCIAL INSURANCE / SOCIALNO ZAVAROVANJE

The employer is obliged to register you for compulsory pension, disability and health insurance, and unemployment insurance, and it is also required to submit a photocopy of the application within 15 days from the onset of labour.

HEALTH INSURANCE /ZDRAVSTVENO ZAVAROVANJE

Health insurance provides adequate health and social security in times of you illness or injury as it covers the cost of risk in cases when you get sick, injured or have any other medical needs. Its basic characteristic is that the rights of each individual or of the dependant family members are related to the application for the insurance and the payment of the appropriate contribution (for compulsory health insurance) or premium (for voluntary health insurance).

Before your arrival to Slovenia, the European health insurance card or other corresponding documents enabling you to access medical services should be provided in your home country. With employment in Slovenia, your inclusion into the compulsory health insurance system will be based upon contributions paid out of your salary.

Foreigners who are not included in the Republic of Slovenia's health insurance system have the right to urgent or necessary medical services, and payment for this is provided in accordance with European Law, international agreements or from the state budget.

There are two kinds of health insurance:

- compulsory and
- voluntary.

Compulsory health insurance doesn't cover all the expenses that occur during treatment. Full coverage of costs is provided only for children, pupils and students who attend school regularly and for certain diseases and conditions. In other services it assures only a certain percentage of the price. You can

arrange your health insurance at the Department of health insurance of the Republic of Slovenia.

Voluntary health insurance covers the difference between the full price and the part that is covered by the compulsory health insurance. You have to cover the insurance premium for supplementary health insurance by yourself and you can arrange your insurance at health insurance company.

Voluntary health insurance pursuant to Health Care and Health Insurance Act / Zakon o zdravstvenem varstvu in zdravstvenem zavarovanju is operated by three health insurance companies:

- Adriatic Slovenica (<http://www.adriatic-slovenica.si>)
- Triglav, Zdravstvena zavarovalnica (<http://www.zdravstvena.net>)
- Vzajemna (<http://www.vzajemna.si>)

As the insured person you identify yourself at healthcare institutions with a health card, on which all health insurance data is stored. Usually, you need to make an appointment to see a doctor. As a rule, you visit the health centre closest to your residence.

Additional information on compulsory health insurance are available at The Health Insurance Institute of Slovenia web-page: <http://www.zzs.si/>.

PENSION AND DISABILITY INSURANCE / POKOJNINSKO IN INVALIDSKO ZAVAROVANJE

The pension and disability insurance system in the Republic of Slovenia covers:

- compulsory pension and disability insurance based on the intergenerational solidarity
- compulsory and voluntary supplementary pension and disability insurance
- pension and disability insurance on the basis of personal pension savings accounts.

The right to old-age pension is based upon the insurance, and depends on the completed insurance period as well as reaching a certain age. If you have been working (and been insured) in more than one EU country, you are entitled to receive pension from each country in which your insurance period was longer than one year. Pensions will correspond to the insurance period completed in each country, allowing periods from different countries to be summarized.

Portable pensions: you can take your pension and health care rights with you when you move to another EU country, Norway, Iceland, Liechtenstein or Switzerland.

The right to disability pension is based upon the insurance and stated disability. The right to disability pension is also granted to an insured person with no occupational rehabilitation assured.

The Pension and Disability Insurance Act provides for two types of supplementary insurance, namely:

- compulsory supplementary pension insurance / obvezno dodatno pokojninsko in invalidsko zavarovanje and
- voluntary supplementary pension insurance / prostovoljno dodatno pokojninsko in invalidsko zavarovanje.

Additional information

- Pension and Invalidity Insurance Institute of Slovenia / Zavod za invalidsko in pokojninsko zavarovanje : <http://www.zpiz.si>
- Eulisses – EULinks and Information on Social Security: <http://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?langId=en&catId=860>
- EURAXESS Researchers in Motion portal: www.euraxess.eu

Maternity leave / Porodniški dopust

Maternity leave lasts 105 days and must be used in a single block of time in the form of complete absence from work. Mother receives maternity compensation calculated on the average salary paid in the last twelve month period.

Fathers have a right to **paternity leave** up to 90 days. One of the parents has a right to child care leave in order to look after or care for a child for a period of 260 days immediately upon expiry of maternity leave.

Mother or father entitled to parental compensation who ceased employment during the period of duration of parental leave, are covered by compulsory pension and disability insurance, compulsory health insurance and insurance against unemployment and for parental protection. The contribution of the insured person is paid by the recipient and the employer's contribution by the Republic of Slovenia.

Additional information at the <http://www.mddsz.gov.si/en/>

TAXES / DAVKI



Personal income tax is a tax from the income of natural persons.

A taxpayer is any natural person with permanent residence in the Republic of Slovenia (resident) receiving in its territory, in individual calendar years, income for which the law expressly stipulates that it is subject to the payment of income tax.

A taxpayer is also any natural person who is not a resident of the Republic of Slovenia but has resided in the territory of the Republic of Slovenia for at least 6 months and was receiving in its territory income that is subject to income taxation under the law.

The tax system consists of three main categories of taxes:

- direct taxes on income
- direct taxes on property and
- indirect taxes.

Charges on labour/Dajatve na plače

Personal income tax applies to your individual income. There are six categories of income and one of them is income from employment (salary).

You are obliged to pay this tax if you receive a salary or other income on the basis of a labour contract, etc. All persons liable for tax have their own tax number.

Besides personal income tax, you must pay compulsory social contributions. Both your employer and you must pay contributions, with the contributions withheld by the employer.

There are four types of contributions paid to two social security schemes and to the state budget, as follows:

- for pension and disability insurance, paid to the Pension Fund;
- for medical care and sickness leave, paid to the Health Fund;
- for unemployment insurance, paid to the state budget; and
- for maternity leave, paid to the state budget.

The annual active income tax liability of you as a resident is computed in such a manner that the taxable bases of different sources of income earned in a calendar year are computed separately and then aggregated. The annual taxable base is computed after compulsory social security contributions and certain allowances are deducted. Net active income is taxed according to a progressive tax rate.

There are three tax brackets in the annual tax schedule for active income. The progressive tax rates are: 16%, 27% and 41%.

Advance tax payments paid during the tax period are deductible from the final tax liability, and any difference is collected upon receipt of an assessment from the tax authorities. When the total sum of advance payments exceeds the tax payable, a refund is provided.

Value added tax/Davek na dodano vrednost (DDV)

There are two VAT rates in Slovenia: the standard rate of 20% and a reduced rate of 8,5%. The reduced rate applies to the food stuff for human and animal consumption (including food services in restaurants) and for some other categories.

Additional information on taxation (including form/application for entry of the individual into the tax register and detailed explanation on tax number):

Ministry of Finance
Tax Administration of the Republic of Slovenia
Šmartinska cesta 55, PO Box 631
SI-1001 Ljubljana
Tel.: +386 1 478 27 00
Fax: +386 1 478 27 43
E-mail: [gp.durs-gdu\(at\)gov.si](mailto:gp.durs-gdu(at)gov.si)
Website: <http://www.durs.gov.si/en/>

RECOGNITION OF EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATION/ PRIZNAVANJE IZOBRAŽEVANJA IN STROKOVNIH KVALIFIKACIJ



If you as foreign researcher gained an education abroad and would like to have it recognised in Slovenia for the employment purposes you must submit an application for recognition for the purposes of employment to the Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Technology (in charge of the procedure, criteria and determining authorities for the recognition and assessment of foreign, as well as for the assessment of national education on tertiary level, and the use of foreign vocational professional or academic title).

The documents needed by the ministry in order to implement the procedure for recognition your education with a view to access to employment are:

1. an application for recognition of education with a view to access to employment, completed in compliance with the instructions – Z form (available on <http://www.mvzt.gov.si/en/>);
2. an original or a copy (duplicate) of the certificate or diploma to be recognised or some other document replacing the original according to the law of the issuing country;
3. a photocopy of the certificate or diploma referred to in Point 2;
4. a certified Slovene translation of the certificate or diploma referred to in Point 2;
5. annual report cards, transcripts, a diploma supplement or some other evidence on the contents and duration of education;
6. a short chronological description of the entire education prepared by the applicant;
7. administrative fee in the amount of 17.73 EUR.

More information: <http://www.mvzt.gov.si/en/>

The Act on Recognition and Assessment of Education in the Republic of Slovenia provides for the following procedures:

- recognition with a view to access to education in the Republic of Slovenia;
- recognition with a view to access to employment in the Republic of Slovenia;
- decision on the use of foreign titles;
- assessment of foreign certificates and diplomas;
- assessment of Slovene certificates and diplomas;
- assessment of certificates and diplomas awarded prior to 25 June 1991 in the republics of former Socialist Federative Republic of Yugoslavia.

More information on recognition of education

Education Recognition Unit

Kotnikova 38

1000 LJUBLJANA

Tel.: 00 386 1 478 47 45

Fax.: 00 386 1 478 47 19

E-mail: naric.mvzt@gov.si

Website ENIC/NARIC: <http://www.enic-naric.net>

Mutual recognition of qualifications

More information on recognition of professional qualifications available in USER GUIDE (Directive 2005/36/EC) Everything you need to know about the recognition of professional qualifications on The Ministry of the Republic of Slovenia for Labour, Family and Social Affairs / Ministrstvo Republike Slovenije za delo, družino in socialne zadeve website:

http://www.mddsz.gov.si/fileadmin/mddsz.gov.si/pageuploads/dokumenti__pdf/28-4-users_guide.pdf

More information on recognition of professional qualifications

Ministry of Labour, Family and Social Affairs

Kotnikova 5

1000 Ljubljana

Tel.: +386 1 369 7604

Fax: +386 1 369 7669

E-mail: [ppk.mddsz\(at\)gov.si](mailto:ppk.mddsz(at)gov.si)

Website: http://www.mddsz.gov.si/en/areas_of_work/labour_market_and_employment/

EDUCATION / IZOBRAŽEVANJE

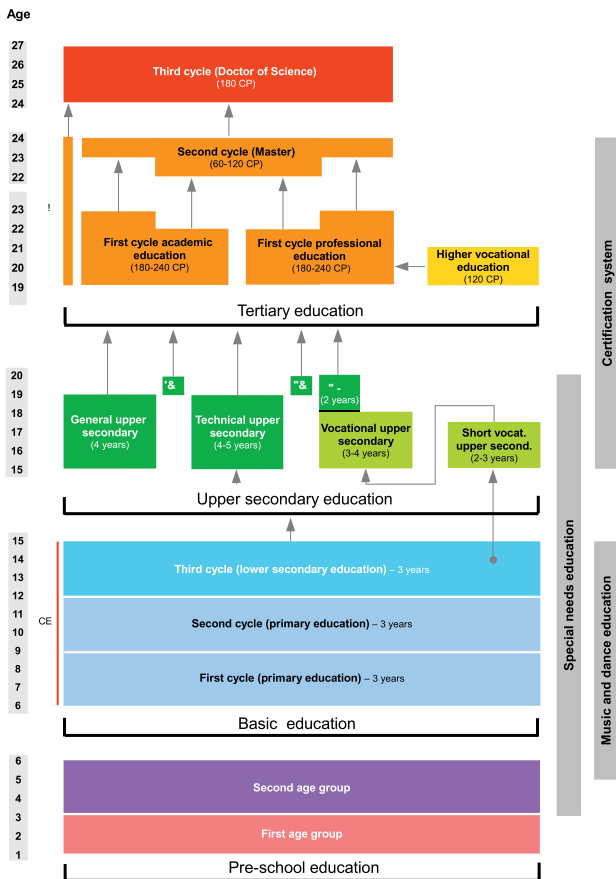


The Slovenian education system consists of:

- pre-school education,
- basic education (single structure of primary and lower secondary education),
- (upper) secondary education:
 - o vocational and technical education,
 - o secondary general education,
- higher vocational education,
- higher education.



Structure of the education system in Slovenia



&- Compulsory education *& Matura course (general upper secondary second chance education)

*& Vocational courses (technical upper secondary retraining)

*- Vocational-technical education (2 years of technical upper secondary education built on previously completed programme)

J Regulated professions (5-6 years long higher education programmes leading directly to a Master degree)

&/ Credit points **Certification system** Recognition of non-formal learning scheme

Source: EURYDICE Slovenia <http://www.eurydice.si/>

Version: 1.6 (2 July 2009)

The Slovenian Constitution guarantees free education to Slovenian nationals. Basic education is mandatory and funded from budgetary resources. The State is required to enable its citizens to obtain appropriate education. State universities and professional colleges are autonomous. Members of ethnic minorities have the right to receive and further instruction in their mother tongue. Roma are likewise granted special educational rights.

Pre-school education

Pre-school education, offered by pre-school institutions, is not compulsory. It includes children between the ages of 1 and 6. The curriculum is divided in two cycles (from 1 to 3 and from 3 to 6). The new curriculum promotes different types of programme such as: day, half-day and short programmes. There is also the possibility of childminders, pre-school education at home or occasional care of children in their homes. The Curriculum for Pre-school Institutions defines six areas of activities: movement, language, art, nature, society and mathematics. The goals set in individual fields of activities provide the framework for the selection of contents and activities by teachers.

Basic education

Basic education was extended from eight years to nine. This was done gradually. The implementation of the nine-year basic education began in the 1999/2000 school year. Children that reach the age of 6 in a particular calendar year enter the first class in that year.

Nine-year basic education is divided into 3 three-year cycles. Elementary schools provide the compulsory and extended curriculum. The compulsory curriculum must be provided by school and studied by all pupils. It consists of compulsory subjects, electives, home-room periods and activity days (culture, science, sports, technology). The optional elementary school curriculum must

be provided by school but pupils are free to decide whether they will participate in it or not. It includes educational assistance for children with special needs, remedial classes, additional classes, after-school care and other forms of care for pupils, interest activities and out-of-school classes.

Successful completion of basic education enables pupils to proceed to education in their choice of secondary school. Pupils who fulfil the legal compulsory education requirement and successfully complete at least seven classes in the nine-year elementary school can continue their education in a short-term vocational education programme. Success at that level opens doors to other more demanding secondary school programmes.

(Upper) secondary education

Secondary education follows the compulsory general basic education. Secondary schools include vocational and technical schools preparing students predominantly for labour and general secondary schools (gimnazije) preparing students predominantly for further studies. Programmes in secondary education vary in content, duration and goals.

General secondary education

General secondary school preparing students for further studies is called gimnazija. Gimnazija programmes are divided into two groups: general and professionally oriented (technical gimnazija). It lasts four years. It ends with an external examination called the matura examination. Those gimnazija students who for various reasons do not wish to continue their education have a possibility to enter the labour market by attending a vocational course and gaining a qualification in the selected occupation.

The aim of vocational courses is to provide a bridge between general and vocational education and to make it possible for graduates from general, classical, and technical gimnazije to obtain initial vocational qualifications at the level of corresponding secondary vocational and technical schools. Educational aims are the same as for vocational and technical education. The course leads to a vocational qualification needed on the labour market or for further studies at higher vocational and professional colleges.

Secondary vocational and technical education

The planning, programming and provision of vocational education are a joint responsibility of social partners (employers and trade unions) and the state. Common aims and goals of secondary vocational and technical education were defined in a common curricular document. This document stresses attainment targets in interdisciplinary fields and interest activities.

Short-term vocational programmes should last a year and a half for students and apprentices that have completed their basic education, and two and a half years for those without completed basic education. They finish with a final examination. The certificate of the final examination enables students to enter the labour market or to enter the first year at any other (upper) secondary vocational school.

Pupils who have successfully completed elementary school can enrol in 3-year secondary vocational programmes. Vocational education programmes are offered in the dual, that is the apprenticeship, system and/or in the school-based system.

The core curriculum is common to all programmes and includes a minimal scope of theoretical and practical knowledge and skills specified by occupational standards and required for a certain vocational qualification, regardless of the type of educational provision.

Practical training in the framework of the dual system is offered by employers. Programmes also specify the part of practical training that can be provided by schools and/or inter-company centres as practical instruction.

The certificate of the final examination enables students to enter the labour market or to continue education in two-year vocational-technical programmes, leading to a qualification at the level of a secondary technical school. Vocational-technical programmes are developed as upgrade of vocational education. The aims of vocational-technical programmes are the same as those of technical education programmes and lead to educational qualifications at the level of secondary technical school, also called a technical qualification, in a specific field.

On the other hand, graduates who find a job immediately after completing a three-year vocational programme can re-enter education after at least three years of employment to obtain a qualification at the level of a secondary technical school by passing examinations. By passing an examination for master craftsman, foreman or shop manager, they demonstrate a higher level of competence in their occupation. If they additionally pass examinations in the general subjects of the poklicna matura examination, they can continue their studies in higher vocational education.

Technical education is designed primarily as preparation for vocational and professional colleges, although it also leads to jobs with a broad profile. Secondary technical programmes last four years, which end with the poklicna matura examination.

Higher vocational education

First vocational colleges were established in 1996/97. Programmes are markedly practice-oriented and tightly connected with the world of work. Post-secondary vocational education lasts for two years ending with a diploma examination. A post-secondary vocational diploma enables students to start work in specific occupations. Since the 1998/99 academic year, vocational college graduates have been able to enrol in the second year of professionally oriented higher education programmes if the higher education institution providing this type of study allows such arrangements.

Higher education

Higher education includes academic university studies and professionally oriented studies.

In 2004, amendments to the Higher Education Act were adopted. The Act provides for a three-level study structure. The first level relates to the undergraduate studies and the second and third levels to postgraduate studies. The duration of study programmes is limited in years (three to four years) and credit points (180 to 240 credit points). Study programmes must be in line with the EU study programmes. The second level maintains the master's studies. It encompasses from 60 to 120 credit points and takes one or two years to complete. The third level is the doctoral studies and lasts three years. Higher education is the responsibility of the Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Technology.

More information at The Ministry of Education and Sport website <http://www.mss.gov.si/en>

Ministry of Education and Sport

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SCIENCE AND RESEARCH IN SLOVENIA / ZNANOST IN RAZISKAVE V SLOVENIJI



Slovenian science through history

The first internationally relevant research achievements of the Slovenian people are nearly five hundred years old and Slovenian researchers started joining distinguished scientific associations as early as in the 17th century. The development of science, medicine and technology was particularly stimulated by the **discovery of mercury in Idrija** in 1490. In 1693, the first scientific organisation was founded in Ljubljana, the Academia Operosorumm Labacensium.

In 1879, **Jožef Stefan** (1835-1893) discovered the law of light radiation, which is now called Stefan's Law. He also perfected the quantitative measuring of electricity and thus laid the foundations for precise measurements in electrotechnic. The Jožef Stefan Institute, the largest Slovenian research institution in the area of natural, mathematical, technical, medical and bio-technical sciences, carries his name.

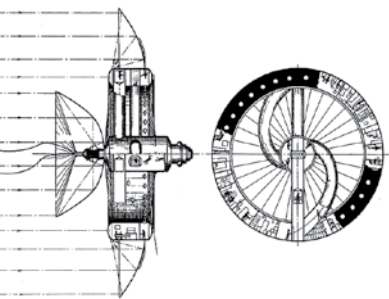


The mathematician and ballistics expert **Jurij Vega** (1754-1802) was also the author of the logarithm tables, which were used worldwide until electronic calculators prevailed. The 17th century was marked by the works of the polymath Janez Vajkard Valvasor (1641-1693), who in 1689 published an encyclopaedia of Slovenia in 14 volumes entitled Slava vojvodine Kranjske (The Fame of the Duchy of Carniola). On the basis of his research work into the intermittent Cerknica lake, Valvasor in 1687 became a member of the Royal Society in London.



The first map of the territory of Slovenia, including marked ethnic borders, was created in 1853 by the Slovenian geographer, jurist and politician **Peter Kozler** (1824-1879).

In 1909, **Edvard Rusjan** (1886-1911) became the first Slovene to achieve motor-powered flight, in an aeroplane, which was constructed by him.



In 1929, **Herman Potočnik-Noordung**, a Slovenian rocket engineer and officer in the Austrian armed forces, published a book entitled "Das Problem der Befahrung des Weltraums" (The Problem of Space Travel) that is considered one of the key pioneering works on space technology. His original and far-sighted ideas include plans for space travel and research of the future.

The chemist **Friderik Pregl** is so far the only Slovene to have received a Nobel Prize in 1923 for laying the foundations of organic microanalysis.



Slovenian Science Institutions

The Slovenian Academy of Sciences and Arts / Slovenska akademija znanosti in umetnosti*

The Slovenian Academy of Sciences and Arts (SASA) with its present structure was founded in 1938; nonetheless it has a reputable tradition. In 1693, the Academia Operosorum was founded in Ljubljana, a predecessor of the Academy; the ranks of this society comprised the most eminent Carniolan churchmen and lay intellectuals, noblemen and bourgeoisie. Its activities ended around 1725; more than half a century later, in 1779, it was revived, but it was active only a short time. From the end of the 18th century onwards, Slovenes had no academy, although the idea of it never disappeared. In the second half of the 19th century, serious efforts were made to establish the Academy, but it materialised only in 1938 with the nomination of the first eighteen ordinary members. The SASA has a maximum of 60 full and 30 associate members. The limitation refers to members under 75 years of age. SASA also has a maximum of 90 corresponding members from abroad. At present there are 71 full and 28 associate members, as well as 81 corresponding members from scientific organisations abroad.

More information: <http://www.sazu.si/en/>

The Slovenian Research Agency / Agencija Republike Slovenije za razvoj*

The Slovenian Research Agency carries out professional, development and executive tasks relating to the National Research and Development Programme at every level, as well as other work to promote research and development activities. The Agency carries out its legally determined duties in the public interest, providing permanent, professional and independent decision-making

on the selection of programmes and projects financed from the state budget and other financial sources. The Agency is an indirect user of the state budget in terms of the legal provisions that govern public finances and public agencies.

More information: <http://www.arrs.gov.si>

Major slovenian research institutions / Pomembnejše raziskovalne institucije v Sloveniji

Institution	Website
Jožef Stefan Institute	www.ijs.si
Research centre of the Slovenian academy of science and arts	www.zrc-sazu.si
National institute of Chemistry	www.ki.si
ZAG – Slovenian National Building and Civil Engineering Institute	www.zag.si
Agricultural Institute of Slovenia	www.kis.si
National Institute of Biology	www.nib.si
Geological Survey of Slovenia	www.geo-zs.si
Slovenian Forestry Institute	www.gozdis.si
Institute of Metals and Technology	www.imt.si
Educational Research Institute	www.pei.si
Institute of Ethnic Studies	www.inv.si
Urban Planning Institute	www.urbinstitut.si
Institute of Contemporary History	www.inz.si
Institute for Economic Research	www.ier.si
Institute for Hydraulic Research	www.hidroinstitut.si
Textile Institute Maribor	www.tim-tekstil.si

**Source of information: Facts about Slovenia, Government Communication Office, October 2009*

Slovenian Universities as Research Centres / Slovenske univerze kot raziskovalna središča



UNIVERSITY OF LJUBLJANA / UNIVERZA V LJUBLJANI



The **University of Ljubljana - UL (Univerza v Ljubljani)** is a public autonomous educational, scientific research and artistic institution of higher education, with special status and a very rich tradition. The principal university in Slovenia, it was established in 1919 upon the tradition of semi-university institutions from the 17th century, and remained the only Slovenian university until 1975. The university has its seat in Ljubljana, the capital of Slovenia, with approximately 300,000 inhabitants. It is a comprehensive university, with 26 member institutions: 23 faculties and three academies. Only one faculty (for maritime and transport studies), is located outside Ljubljana, in Portorož, approximately 100 km away on the Adriatic coast. The University of Ljubljana

ranks among the top 500 universities according to the ARWU Shanghai ranking and the British newspaper The Times (it is among the top 3% of universities in the world). According to the Spanish Webometrics, the UL is in 155th place out of 8,000 World universities, among European universities, UL is in 41st place, and among Central and Eastern European universities it is in 2nd place.

The UL is the oldest and both the largest higher education and research institution in Slovenia and the best university in Slovenia. In the 2009/2010 academic year, we implemented undergraduate programmes divided into higher professional programmes (31) and university programmes (124) which are all in line with Bologna process principles and competitive in the European labour market. Such a large number of study programmes undoubtedly attracts a large number of students. On the European scale, by number of students, UL ranks as one of the larger higher education institutions, and by number of employees, as medium-sized. In the 2009/2010 academic year, 39,507 students were enrolled in undergraduate programmes. In 2009, the University had 7,635 graduates, which is around two thirds of all of higher professional and university undergraduate and post-graduate programmes.

UL employs 5,920 employees: out of these, 3,196 are teaching and assistants, who for the most part are registered as researchers; 415 are full-time researchers, 516 are junior researchers, and others are professional, technical and administrative staff. UL has the largest research potential in the country. Furthermore, it contributes to more than half of the scientific results in the Slovenian treasury of knowledge. It also encourages the mobility of researchers and welcomes foreign researchers. As a member of the Slovenian Rectors Conference UL, signed The Code of Conduct for the Recruitment of Researchers.

The University of Ljubljana fosters basic, applied and developmental research, and strives to achieve excellence and the highest quality, as well as to fulfil



the highest ethical criteria in all areas of the sciences and arts. On the basis of its own research and of domestic and international research achievements, it educates top scientists, artists and experts, who are empowered to manage sustainable development, while taking into account the tradition of European enlightenment and humanism and respecting human rights. We conduct research in all scientific areas as classified by the Slovenian Research Agency (ARRS). The UL is present in biotechnical sciences, natural sciences, humanities, social sciences, engineering and medicine sciences, as well as in most of sub-fields. Research activity at the UL takes place in 284 research groups, with over 3400 certified researchers. Our researchers have worked on 160 research programmes, 160 fundamental projects, 108 applied projects and 25 post-doctorate projects, on 125 CRP targeted research programs, and on more than 800 other projects.

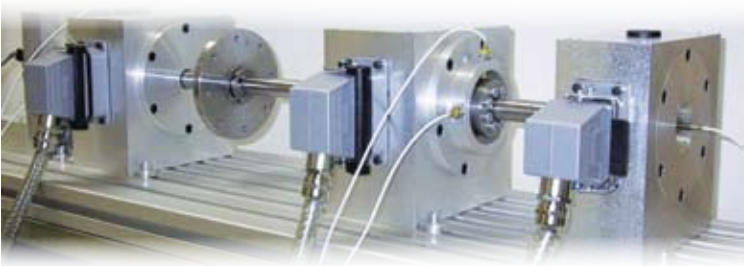
UL is very active in international research and education programs. It has cooperated and still cooperates on 117 FP6 projects (in several of them as coordinator). In 2009, it also cooperated in 77 FP7 projects and in many other research, development and educational projects financed by the European Union (TEMPUS, ERASMUS; Leonardo da Vinci, DAPHNE, SafeInternet, eLearning, eTEN, Lifelong Learning Programme and many others). UL is also very active in projects financed by Structural Funds in Slovenia (ERDF, ESF, EQUAL, INTERREG, Transnational Cooperation Programme). UL holds 2 Centres of Excellence and is a partner in 6 others, financed by Structural Funds.

UNIVERSITY OF MARIBOR / UNIVERZA V MARIBORU



Maribor, a seat of the second largest Slovene university, has proved a fertile ground for a rise of thriving academic community. This has been true since 1859 when high education first emerged on the horizon. It all started when the late bishop Anton Martin Slomšek founded the new Seminary and religious school. Ever since, the academic personnel has been striving for a greater learning and transfer of knowledge. Eventually, they have developed different study and research disciplines and succeeded in making the University of Maribor a centre of excellence for high education and research. University of Maribor offers a strong educational and research infrastructure, where students and researchers at different points of their career may choose for work between 17 faculties.

The great care for research and researchers is considered of up-most importance for University of Maribor. For that reason our Human Resources Strategy for Researchers adopted the "European Charter for Researchers and the Code of Conduct for the Recruitment of Researchers". Another top priority on the list of Europe's political leaders and the University of Maribor's leaders alike, is the creation of the Fifth Freedom which represents the free movement of knowledge.



The University of Maribor participates in European Framework Programmes since 1998, and the number of international research projects is on the rise every year. The University is intensively preparing for the 7th Framework Programme. It is also taking part in other EU programmes that are supporting research and technology transfer (Eureka, Jean Monnet etc.). The University of Maribor also established Techno Center at University of Maribor ltd., Technology transfer office in 2005, which has the main goal to forge a strong and productive link between the University and industry to contribute towards achieving the higher levels of competitiveness in Slovenia and abroad. The University of Maribor also participates in network of Innovation Relay Centres since 1997. And the University promotes EURAXESS to help with researchers' mobility and development of their international career. The University also participates in Researchers' Nights (2006, 2007, 2008, 2009...), which is a pan-European event to assist with (esp. to the younger generations) pursuing a research career.

The University of Maribor is playing an active part in the knowledge market by facilitating the transfer of knowledge through exchanges of individuals, as well as the transfer of their scientific and professional achievements. The number of researchers who are mobile is increasing and so is the number of scientific articles published. The scientific and research activities are expanded beyond European member states: e.g., the research project cooperation with researchers in Africa, India and Asia is up, too. Furthermore, our professors are as external experts actively involved in ERA Projects.

Every year, since 2008, University of Maribor publishes on its web site an international public call for Early Stage Researchers. The posts available for early stage researches are published alongside the names of the mentors selected by the Public Agency for Research Activity of the Republic of Slovenia.



THE UNIVERSITY OF PRIMORSKA / UNIVERZA NA PRIMORSKEM / UNIVERSITA DEL LITORALE



The University of Primorska (UP) was established in 2003, and is the third national university in Slovenia. The mission of UP is to generate and transmit new knowledge, disseminating it through technological innovation, and yielding training results in a wider Central European area leading to the formation of creative experts and thinkers as a result of educational processes based on research, innovations and practical training.

The University's research activity is conducted primarily by two research institutes: the Science and Research Centre Koper and the Primorska

Institute of Natural Sciences and Technology Koper, as well as by faculties: the Faculty of Humanities Koper, Faculty of Management Koper, Faculty for Mathematics, Natural Sciences and Information Technologies Koper, Faculty of Education Koper, Faculty of Tourism Studies Portorož, and the College of Health Care Izola.

In the past 5 years, 50 international and more than 100 national research projects have been successfully concluded at UP. The research activity at UP is

increasing every year, which is seen in the number of projects, as well as in the increasing value of FTE points, which reached 66.42 points in 2008. The basic research activity of UP is conducted within 13 Research Programmes:

- Management, education, informatisation and employment
- Biodiversity
- Slovenia and the Mediterranean
- Areas of cultural contact in integration processes
- Kinesiology for the quality of life
- Algebra with combinatorics and graph theory, probability and experimental economics
- Development and evaluation of new approaches to cancer treatment
- Animal health, environment and food safety
- Research, teaching and learning in modern society
- Computationally intensive methods in theoretical computer science, discrete mathematics, combinatorial optimization, and numerical analysis and algebra with applications in natural and social sciences
- Metrology and biometric systems
- Management of sustainable manufacturing technologies
- Languages and cultures of Asia and Africa

UP is a young, internationally oriented university, reaching high standards of quality in education and research.



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Web: www.upr.si

UNIVERSITY OF NOVA GORICA / UNIVERZA V NOVI GORICI

Introduction

The activities of the University of Nova Gorica are designated to educating the young talented people and in the pursuit of scientific truth. The University comprises of seven schools and nine research centres. Our professors are top researchers and teachers who put their knowledge to use by developing the modern undergraduate and graduate study programmes.

The University of Nova Gorica collaborates with similar institutions around the world. The University takes special care to promote multidisciplinary approach to research and the programmes which are designed to help building partnerships between the industry and Academia, with a hope of creating a better society, both at local and global levels.

I hope this presentation will encourage you to join us and take steps to realize your life ambitions.

Prof. Dr. Danilo Zavrtanik
President

University of Nova Gorica

The University of Nova Gorica is an institution of higher education that provides undergraduate and graduate study programmes and conducts a scientific research. It started its operations in the 1995/96 academic year as the School of Environmental Sciences, which was then the first international graduate school in Slovenia, founded by the Municipality of Nova Gorica and the Jožef



Stefan Institute of Ljubljana. Due to an introduction of new study programmes and the expansion of scientific research activities, the School was reorganized in 1998 and renamed Nova Gorica Polytechnic. In 2006 the institution changed its status and became the University of Nova Gorica. It was founded by the Municipality of Nova Gorica, the Municipality of Ajdovščina, the Jožef Stefan Institute and the Scientific Research Centre of the Academy of Sciences and Arts.

Today the University of Nova Gorica provides education at seven schools: the School of Environmental Sciences, the School of Engineering and Management, the School of Applied Sciences, the School of Humanities, the School of Viticulture and Oenology, the School of Arts, and the Graduate School, which offers the following doctoral study programmes: Environmental Sciences, Physics, Karstology, Comparative Studies of Ideas and Cultures, Molecular Genetics and Biotechnology, and Economics and Techniques for the Conservation of the Architectural and Environmental Heritage. Research is conducted by five

laboratories (the Laboratory for Environmental Research, the Laboratory for Astroparticle Physics, the Laboratory of Organic Matter Physics, the Laboratory for Multiphase Processes and the Materials Research Laboratory); three centres (the Centre for Atmospheric Research, the Centre for Systems and Information Technologies and the Wine Research Centre); and the Institute for Cultural Studies. The modern library holds textbooks and professional literature that are available to researchers, students and the general public. The University of Nova Gorica Book Publishing is responsible for issuing textbooks, lecture notes, collections of scientific papers and other works.

A vital link between local economy and higher education has been forged by the establishment of the Primorska Technology Park, which integrates technologically innovative companies that facilitate the transfer of knowledge and development initiatives to the entrepreneurial environment.

Mindful also of the importance of stable and foreseeable financial resources for the implementation of higher education, the University of Nova Gorica has furthermore established the Edvard Rusjan Foundation, whose mission is to ensure high-quality and sustainable development of the University's activities.

Through a wide array of complementary and mutually enriching activities, the University of Nova Gorica strives to achieve and provide the highest quality education and scientific research, as well as ensure their comprehensive integration into local, national and international spheres.

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<http://www.ung.si/en/>

THE EURO-MEDITERRANEAN UNIVERSITY / EVRO-SREDOZEMSKA UNIVERZA



The Euro-Mediterranean University (EMUNI University) is an international university based in Slovenia. It represents one of the six priority areas of the Union

for the Mediterranean, which were confirmed within the common declaration, adopted in Paris, on 13 July 2008 (De-pollution of the Mediterranean, Maritime and Land Highways, Civil Protection, Alternative Energies: Mediterranean Solar Plan, Higher Education and Research, Euro-Mediterranean University, The Mediterranean Business Development Initiative). EMUNI is a university with EUC (Erasmus University Charter) established as a international network of universities (141 members from 37 countries in 2010). It significantly contributes to harmonization of higher education and research area and contributes to sustainable development of the wider socio-economic and cultural environment in EUROMED countries, as well as increases the recognition of Slovenia in the region, i.e. Mediterranean Union.





The objectives and goals of EMUNI University are above all:

- to improve the quality of higher education by implementing a study and research programme;
- to become an international university which embraces a concept of cultural diversity;
- to establish a university environment which stimulates the academic cooperation and collaboration between different nations and cultures;
- to enable the university operation by ensuring that necessary administrative, operative and material infrastructure is in place.

Educational activities: The aim is to enhance cooperation between higher education institutions, contribute to the intercultural dialogue, stimulate the mobility of professors and students and build a challenging and innovative teaching and learning environment. The university aims to establish an excellent network of specialised study programmes among the Euro-Mediterranean universities. The study programmes will be internationally comparable from the aspects of their duration, credit points, content and acquired scientific and professional titles. They will cover the themes and fields which are important for the Euro-Mediterranean area. The study programmes or parts of them will be conducted in Slovenia and at various universities, cofounders of the EMUNI University.

- EMUNI Study programmes: Doctoral and Master Study Programmes,
- EMUNI Professional School: Euro-Mediterranean Studies, Euro-Mediterranean Summer Semester,
- EMUNI Doctoral Research Seminars.

Research activities: The main purpose of research activities is to strengthen and extend the EMUNI Network to obtain additional sources of financing and to promote activities connected with the six priorities of the Union for the Mediterranean. It is also important to disseminate the achievements in the field of research and create the platforms where experts and students can come together and share their experience and knowledge, such as:

- Research projects: whereby several member universities work together on different research and development projects;
- Conferences: EMUNI Conference on Higher Education and Research – EMUNI HE&R, The Euro-Mediterranean Student Research Conference – EMUNI ReS, Management International Conference (MIC) including specific sessions covering topics on Euro-Mediterranean priorities;
- Research publications: International Journal of Euro-Mediterranean Studies – IJEMS, conference proceeding and other publications.

EMUNI's activities in the field of Higher Education and Research should help promote the inter-cultural dialogue in the Euro-Mediterranean region and support the Barcelona Process, which is, generally speaking, a part of the Union for the Mediterranean.

EMUNI Web-site: www.emuni.si



How to get to Slovenia?/ Kako priti v Slovenijo?



By air/Z letalom

Slovenia has one international airport »Letališče Jožeta Pučnika«/Ljubljana International Airport (also Letališče Brnik), which is situated 25 km northwest from the capital Ljubljana. Slovenia's national carrier Adria Airways offers regular schedule flights to most major European cities. Ljubljana is linked to Frankfurt, Munich, Vienna, Zurich, Brussels, Paris, Barcelona, London, Dublin, Moscow, Athens, Belgrade, Skopje, Sarajevo, Banja Luka/Tirana, Istanbul, Podgorica, Priština, Kiev, Manchester, Amsterdam, Copenhagen, and others.

Slovenian national airline Adria Airways <http://www.adria.si/>

By car/Z avtomobilom

You can best get to know a country by car. You can reach Slovenia via one of the border crossings with Italy, Austria, Hungary or Croatia, or you can rent a car in one of car rental agencies. Slovenia's highways are good and clearly signposted. Alongside the roads you will find rest stops, inns with overnight accommodation, and motels.

From 1 July 2008 purchase of a vignette is obligatory for use for a toll road with a vehicle whose permissible maximum weight does not exceed 3,500 kg, regardless of the maximum weight of a trailer.

For more information on traffic information, road system and vignetta regime visit: DARS, Motorway Company in the Republic of Slovenia <http://www.dars.si>.

Road connections:

- from **Graz** (Austria): **E57** or **E59**
- from **Klagenfurt** (Austria): **E652** or **E61**
- from **Villach** (Austria): **E651**
- from **Trieste** (Italy): **E61** or **E70**
- from **Zagreb** (Croatia): **E70**
- from **Budapest** (Hungary): **E57** or **E71**

By bus/Z avtobusom

It is also possible to reach Slovenia from neighbouring countries by bus. International bus transport is well organized and relatively inexpensive. Timetables and other information can be found on the web site: <http://www.ap-ljubljana.si/eng/>.

By train/Z vlakom

Many important destinations in Slovenia are served by modern and comfortable trains. Connections abroad are also excellent: you can get to Slovenia on direct lines from Italy, Austria, Hungary, Croatia, Croatia and Macedonia. Train travel is reliable and inexpensive.

Extensive information on train services provided by Slovenian Railways/ Slovenske železnice and other travel information available at <http://www.slo-zeleznice.si/en/passengers>.

SLOVENIA BASIC FACTS/ SLOVENIJA OSNOVNI PODATKI



Basic Facts

Republic of Slovenia

State: Democratic parliamentary republic since 25 June 1991

Member of the European Union since 1 May 2004

Capital: Ljubljana, 260,000 inhabitants

National flag: Horizontal stripes in white, blue and red with

Coat of arms: Three six-pointed yellow stars are symbols of the Counts of Celje with Triglav as a symbol of Slovenehood and underlying two wavy lines symbolizing Slovenian rivers and the sea

Anthem: The seventh stanza of Zdravljica, a poem by France Prešeren, set to music by Stanko Premrl

State holidays: June 25 - Statehood Day, December 26 - Independence and Unity Day

Official Language: Slovenian, in some nationally mixed border areas also Italian and Hungarian

Currency: EUR 1= 100 cents

Phone dial code: +386

Geography

Size: 20,273 km²

Length of borders: 1,370 km: with Austria 318 km, with Italy 280 km, with Hungary 102 km, with Croatia 670 km

Length of coastline: 46.6 km

Neighbouring states: Austria, Italy, Hungary, Croatia

Largest towns: Ljubljana (261,700), Maribor (108,600), Kranj (39,400), Celje (38,400)

Highest mountain: Triglav 2,864 m

Longest river: Sava 221 km

Landscape: The territory of Slovenia is geographically divided into four basic

types of landscape - Alpine in the north, Mediterranean in the south-west, Dinaric in the south and Pannonian in the east.

Climate: There are three different types of climate in Slovenia: continental in the central part, Alpine in the north-west and sub-Mediterranean along the coast and its hinterland.

Population

Inhabitants: 2,039,399 (30 June 2008)

Population density: 99.6 inhabitants per square kilometre

Nationalities (2002 census): Slovenian 83%; Italian 0,1%; Hungarian 0,3%; Croat 1,8%; Serbian 2,0%; Muslim (including Bosniacs) 1,6%; others 2,2%; unknown: 8,9%

Births: On average 1,38 children per woman (2007)

Life expectancy: 74.98 for men and 82.26 for women (born in 2007)

Urbanization: Approximately one third of the population live in towns with more than 10,000 inhabitants, the rest live in nearly six thousand smaller towns and villages.

Religions (2002 census): the most of population (58 %) are Catholics. Together there are 43 religious communities registered in Slovenia. Among the oldest is the Evangelical Church, most widely spread in the northeastern part of Slovenia.

Political System

President of the Republic: The President of the Republic and Mayors are elected in direct elections on the basis of an absolute majority. The candidate who receives a majority of valid votes cast is elected President. If no candidate receives an outright majority in the first round of voting, there is a second round for the two candidates who received the most votes in the first round.

Prime Minister: The Government functions as a cabinet led by a Prime Minister. It consists of the Prime Minister and ministers. Ministers head ministries and determine political guidelines for their operation. The number of ministers is not determined in advance, and every government coalition decides on the number according to its needs and political goals.

Government: The Government of the Republic of Slovenia is a body with executive power and the highest body of the state administration. It determines, guides, and coordinates the implementation of state policies in accordance with the Constitution and with laws and other general acts passed by the National Assembly.

National Assembly: The National Assembly is composed of ninety deputies, with one representative of each of the Hungarian and Italian minorities. The deputies are elected for a four-year term; they represent all the people of Slovenia and are "not bound by any instructions" (Article 82 of the Constitution).

National Council: The National Council is the representative body for social, economic, professional, and local interests. It consists of forty members: twenty-two represent local authorities; four represent employers and another four represent employees; two represent farmers; crafts and trades, universities and higher education institutions, researchers, health care, social security, culture and sports, and independent professions each have one representative. Members of the National Council are elected for five years.

Slovenia's membership of international organisations and regional initiatives

United Nations (UN), 1992
Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE), 1992
Central European Initiative (CEI), 1992
World Health Organisation (WHO), 1992
International Labour Organisation (ILO), 1992
United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), 1992
Council of Europe (CE), 1993
International Monetary Fund (IMF), 1993
International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD), 1993
Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), 1993
World Trade Organisation (WTO), 1995
Central European Free Trade Association (CEFTA), 1996
Quadrilateral Initiative, 1996
Southeast European Cooperative Initiative (SECI), 1997
Human Security Network, 1998
Stability Pact for South Eastern Europe, 1999
Adriatic-Ionian Initiative (AII), 2000
Regional Partnership, 2001
North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO), 2004
European Union (EU), 2004

More on-line information

State portal of the Republic of Slovenia www.gov.si

Gateway to information on Slovenia www.slovenia.si

Government of the Republic of Slovenia www.vlada.si

Information provided by:
Government Communication Office
Gregorčičeva 25
SI - 1000 Ljubljana
Phone: (01) 478 26 00
Fax: (01) 251 23 12
e-mail: [gp.ukom\(at\)gov.si](mailto:gp.ukom(at)gov.si)
Source: <http://www.ukom.gov.si/en/news/>

Facts about Slovenia, October 2009, Publisher: Government Communication Office <http://www.ukom.gov.si/fileadmin/ukom.gov.si/pageuploads/dokumenti/Publikacije/FACTS2009novWEB.pdf>



The Flag / Zastava



National Anthem / Državna himna

The National Anthem is the seventh stanza of the poem Zdravljica written in 1844 by the Slovenian poet, France Prešeren.

*Žive naj vsi narodi
ki hrepene dočakat' dan,
da koder sonce hodi,
prepir iz sveta bo pregnan,
da rojak
prost bo vsak,
ne vrag, le sosed bo mejak!*

*God's blessing on all nations,
Who long and work for that bright day
When o'er earth's habitations
No war, no strife shall hold its sway;
Who long to see
That all men free,
No more shall foes, but neighbours be.*

LIVING IN SLOVENIA / ŽIVETI V SLOVENIJI

In the following chapter you will find practical information that will help you arrange your life in the Republic of Slovenia.



Accommodation / Namestitev

Usually the research organisation that invites you to Slovenia arranges some form of accommodation. Should this not be the case you will have to find one yourself or ask your colleagues for help.

Renting a dwelling is the most common form of accommodation. Rental of low-cost housings is only available to Slovenian citizens.

In finding accommodation you can be assisted by private agencies dealing in purchase, sale or lease of real estate, or you can look up advertisements in printed media and the Internet.

If you decide to rent a flat, an agreement with its owner - which needs to be authenticated by a notary - is usually concluded.

Real estate prices and flat rents depend on the site, location, furnishing and age of a flat. Prices are the highest in urban areas such as Ljubljana and its surroundings, Koper and all costal line, Maribor and Celje.

Rent does not normally include running costs (electricity, gas, water, heating, telephone and rubbish collection). Normally few months rent is paid as a deposit.

Average advertised apartments rents in Ljubljana in EUR are (September 2009): one room apartment 478 EUR, two room-apartment 659 EUR, three room- apartment 953 EUR (Source: <http://www.slonep.net>).

For renting apartment search website portals:

- <http://www.slonep.net/slonep/english/>
- <http://www.realestate-slovenia.info/>
- http://www.abc-nepremicnine.si/?lang=en_US
- www.euraxess.si

Public transport / Javni prevoz

There are tickets of different validity periods (monthly ticket, weekly ticket, daily ticket, etc.) and for different users (pupils/student ticket, worker ticket, pensioner ticket) available for railway and bus services. There are also combined tickets for trains and urban passenger transport services.

Major towns have local urban bus transport networks. Bus fare is paid in a variety of ways: with cash, tickets or tokens. In Ljubljana, the URBANA card enables you to transfer between buses for free within 90 minutes from the payment of the first fare.

Stores / Trgovine

Working hours mostly non-stop without lunch time closing.

- Weekdays: 8:00 to 19:00 (shopping malls until 21:00)
- Saturdays: 8:00 to 13:00 (shopping malls until 21:00)
- Sundays: 8:00 to 12:00 (shopping malls until 15:00)

Payment is in euros; most stores accept credit cards: AMERICAN EXPRESS, DINERS, MASTER CARD - EUROCARD, and VISA.

Internet

In Slovenia, you can access the Internet via various access options offered by various Internet service providers. In addition to access to the Internet, some providers also offer IP telephony.

RIS the list of Internet providers in Slovenia: <http://www.ris.org/>

Driving license / Vozniški izpit

A driving licence is the right to drive motor vehicles of a relevant category on roads. It is granted to individuals who have successfully passed the driving test. Motor vehicle driving licence is valid until the age of 80; thenceforth, it may be extended on the basis of a medical examination for a maximum of 3 years.

A new driving licence in Slovenia will be issued upon your request if your driving licence was issued in one of the following countries:

- EU Member State
- Norway
- Liechtenstein
- Iceland

Prior to the issuing of a driving licence, a competent administrative unit is obliged to acquire necessary information on driving licence from the authorities of your country of origin. Administrative unit notifies the authorities who issued your original driving licence of the issuing of a new driving licence.

Applications for the replacement of your old driving licence with a Slovenian driving licence must be, upon the meeting of conditions laid down by the law, accompanied by:

1. health certificate
2. valid foreign driving licence
3. certificate on completed practical part of the driving test passed before a competent examining board in the Republic of Slovenia ;
4. document confirming the payment of liabilities (administrative fee and other costs in relation to driving licence replacement).
5. a 35 x 45mm photograph showing your true likeness and which is not retouched;

For additional information and forms to be used:

<http://e-uprava.gov.si/e-uprava/en/individuals.euprava>

<http://www.infotujci.si/>

Basic traffic information/Osnovne prometne informacije

The maximum speed of vehicles is limited to:

- 50 km/h - on roads in settlements;
- 90 km/h - on all roads, where not otherwise indicated;
- 100 km/h - on roads reserved for motor vehicles;
- 130 km/h - on motorways;
- 5 km/h - in steady traffic zones and pedestrian zones.

Emergency call 112

In the event of a traffic accident call the police on 113

Seat belt

It is compulsory to use the seat belt also at the back seat, provided that the car has seat belts at the back.

Lights On

It is compulsory to have dimmed headlights turned on while driving also during the day.

Reversing

While reversing all four indicators must be switched on.

Additional information: Ministry of the Interior, Police portal: http://www.policija.si/portal_en/

For up-to-date information check Traffic Information Centre for Public Roads at <http://www.promet.si/portal/en/> (portal provided by Direkcija Republike Slovenije za ceste), call info telephone number 1970 or e-mail to info@promet.si.

Useful telephone numbers / Uporabne telefonske številke

Emergency call (Fire Brigade, Ambulance)	112
Police	113
International entry telephone number for Slovenia	386
International exit number	00 (or +)
Ljubljana area code	(0)1
Maribor area code	(0)2
Koper area code	(0)5
Information on telephone subscribers in Slovenia	1188
Information on telephone subscribers in other countries	1180
Information on telephone subscribers in Slovenia	1188
Slovenian Auto Association (AMZS)	1987

Public holidays/Državni prazniki

1 and 2 January	New Year/novo leto
8 February	Prešeren Day, Slovenian Cultural Holiday/Prešernov dan, slovenski kulturni praznik
	Easter Monday/velikonočni ponedeljek
27 April	Day of Uprising Against Occupation/Dan upora proti okupatorju
1 and 2 May	Labour Day/praznik dela
1 and 2 May	National Day/dan državnosti
15 August	The Assumption/Marijino vnebovzetje also veliki šmaren
17 August	Unification of Prekmurje Slovenians with the Mother Nation/ dan združitve prekmurskih Slovencev z matičnim narodom po prvi svetovni vojni – not work-free day
15 September	September Restitution of the Primorska Region to its Mother Nation/dan vrnitve Primorske k matični domovini
31 October	October Reformation Day/dan reformacije
1 November	All Saints' Day/dan spomina na mrtve
23 November	Rudolf Maister Day/dan Rudolfa Maistra – not work-free day
25 December	Christmas/božič
26 December	Independence and Unity Day/dan samostojnosti in enotnosti

Slovenian language courses / Tečaji slovenskega jezika

Many private schools are offering quality language courses in all major cities in Slovenia. Even if Slovene is considered a difficult language to learn, you will find it interesting and beautiful once you start learning it.

One of the options is the Centre for Slovene as a Second/Foreign Language / Center za slovenščino kot drugi/tuji jezik . The Centre operates under the auspices of the Department of Slovene Studies at the Faculty of Arts of the University of Ljubljana. The programme offers a varied selection of language courses, differing in length, intensity and goals.

You can also learn Slovene on-line before your arrival in Slovenia. The course is divided into three levels and you can learn Slovene with the help of written texts as well as audio and video recordings.

Additional information:

- <http://www.centerslo.net>
- <http://www.e-slovenscina.si/>

EUROPEAN NETWORKS at your service/Evropske mreže vam na uslugo

European Union has established 21 services operating in the Member States. EURAXESS – Researchers in Motion is one of them set up for supporting the mobile researchers around the world.

The following services might help to solve your problem while on mobility:

The base of all EU services available at <http://ec.europa.eu/contact-points/>.





EURAXESS - Researchers in Motion / EURAXESS - Raziskovalci v gibanju

»EURAXESS – Researchers in Motion« is the gateway to attractive research careers in Europe and to a pool of world-class research talents. By supporting the mobility of researchers, EURAXESS assists in establishing Europe as an area of excellence in scientific research. The European Research Area provides potentially unprecedented opportunities, not only for researchers looking to advance their career in another European country, but also for scientific organisations in search of international talents.

EURAXESS Jobs



EURAXESS Jobs is a stress-free recruitment tool where no charges apply. As a researcher, you will find a wealth of constantly updated information on job vacancies, funding opportunities and fellowships throughout Europe. Posting your CV will allow recruiters to find you. As company or research institute you can post vacancies free of charge and search for CVs of international top-notch researchers. You can also directly access the national Jobs portals of the 35 partner countries which contain information on research jobs and funding opportunities, as well as on personalised services in each country.



EURAXESS Links

EURAXESS Links provides interactive web services to European researchers working abroad in order to keep them linked among themselves and with Europe. Web forum, researchers' database, e-mail alerts, e-newsletter are available while networking events for members are organised regularly. EURAXESS Links provides information about career opportunities in Europe, trans-national research collaborations and European research policies. It runs in the US, Japan and China. Membership is free.



EURAXESS Services

EURAXESS Services is a network of more than two hundred centres located in 35 European countries. As a researcher, these centres assist you and your family to plan and organise your stay in a foreign country. This free personalised service will help you tackle issues such as accommodation, visa and work permits, language lessons, schools for your children, social security and medical care. A team of well-informed staff is at your service. Find a EURAXESS Services centre near you and read some of the success stories.



EURAXESS
RIGHTS

EURAXESS Rights

EURAXESS Rights provides all information regarding the European Charter for Researchers and the Code of Conduct for the Recruitment of Researchers. The Charter sets out the rights and duties of researchers, as well as research and funding institutions. The Code aims at ensuring equal treatment of all researchers in Europe and increases transparency in their recruitment. A large number of leading research institutions have already undersigned the Code and Charter: find who they are in the Signatories section.

Up-to-date information on www.euraxess.si



What is EURES?



EURES helps workers to cross borders. EURES - European Employment Services - is a cooperation network designed to facilitate the free movement of workers within the European Economic Area. Switzerland is also involved. Partners in the network include public employment services, trade union and employers' organisations. The network is coordinated by

the European Commission.

The main objectives of EURES are:

- to inform, guide and provide advice to potentially mobile workers on job opportunities and living and working conditions in the European Economic Area;
- to assist employers wishing to recruit workers from other countries and
- to provide advice and guidance to workers and employers in cross-border regions.

What can EURES do for you?

The purpose of EURES is to provide information, advice and recruitment/ placement (job-matching) services for the benefit of workers and employers, and any citizen wishing to benefit from the principle of the free movement of persons.

EURES is much more than a Job Mobility Portal. EURES has a human network of more than 700 advisers that are in daily contact with jobseekers and employers across Europe.

In European cross-border regions, EURES has an important role to play in providing information about, and helping to solve, all types of problems related to cross-border commuting that workers and employers may experience.

SOLVIT – Effective problem solving in Europe/Učinkovito reševanje problemov v Evropi



SOLVIT is an on-line problem solving network in which EU Member States work together to solve without legal proceedings problems caused by the misapplication of Internal Market law by public authorities. There is a SOLVIT centre in every European Union Member State (as well as in Norway, Iceland and Liechtenstein). SOLVIT Centres can help with handling complaints from both citizens and businesses. They are part of the national administration and are committed to providing real solutions to problems within ten weeks. Using SOLVIT is free of charge.

SOLVIT has been working since July 2002. The European Commission coordinates the network, which is operated by the Member States, the European Commission provides the database facilities and, when needed, helps to speed up the resolution of problems. The Commission also passes formal complaints it receives on to SOLVIT if there is a good chance that the problem can be solved without legal action.

SOLVIT deals with cross-border problems between a business or a citizen on the one hand and a national public authority on the other, where there is possible misapplication of EU law. The policy areas SOLVIT has mostly dealt with so far are: Recognition of Professional qualifications and diplomas, Access to education, Residence permits, Voting rights, Social security, Employment rights, Driving licences, Motor vehicle registration, Border controls, Market access for products, Market access for services, Establishment as self-employed, Public procurement, Taxation, Free movement of capital or payments.

More information: <http://ec.europa.eu/solvit/>

Contact/Kontakt

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E-mail: solvit@gov.si



Enterprise Europe Network Business Support on your Doorstep / Poslovni nasvet pred vašimi vrati



Business Support on Your Doorstep

The Enterprise Europe Network (EEN) helps small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and also research institutes, universities, technology centres and business development agencies to make the most of the European marketplace. It provides free, practical advice and a wide range of business and innovation support services in the relevant language.

The experts at the local EEN centres offer services such as business and technology partner searches and visits to individual companies to assess their needs. They also provide information on EU funding opportunities such as the Seventh Framework Programme, help business understand how EU legislation applies to their business, and encourage business to share best practices and research results in fields such as innovation and expansion to new markets.

The EEN is operated by consortia of qualified organisations such as chambers of commerce and industry, technology transfer centres and regional development agencies. Whenever the business is in need of advice, it can contact the local EEN centre. The local EEN partner also gives business access to the expertise of all network members, in Member States and partner countries.



More information <http://www.enterprise-europe-network.ec.europa.eu/>

Enterprise Europe Network branch via national website: <http://www.een.si>

EEN Slovenia:

University of Primorska, Science and Research Centre of Koper, <http://www.zrs.upr.si>

Jožef Stefan Institute, <http://www.ijs.si>

Chamber of Craft of Slovenia, <http://www.ozs.si>

Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Slovenia, <http://www.gzs.si>

Centre for Interdisciplinary and Multidisciplinary Research and Studies of the University of Maribor, <http://www.cimrs.si>

Maribor Development Agency, <http://www.mra.si>

EURYDICE Slovenia is part of the EURYDICE - The Information Network on Education in Europe



The Eurydice Network provides information on and analyses of European education systems and policies. It produces regular studies on various aspects of European education systems and provides detailed descriptions of the systems in each participating country. It consists of 35 national units based in all 31 countries participating in the EU's Lifelong Learning programme (27 EU Member States, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Turkey) and is coordinated and managed by the EU Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency in Brussels, which drafts its publications and databases.

Contact:

Ministry of Education and Sport

Eurydice Slovenia

Masarykova 16

SI-1000 Ljubljana

Tel: + 386 1 400 57 66

Fax: + 386 1 400 53 32

E-mail: tatjana.plevnik@gov.si

E-mail: tanja.tastanoska@gov.si

More information: <http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/education/eurydice/>

Sources and additional information /Viri in dodatne informacije

- INTEGRATION INTO SLOVENE SOCIETY, INFORMATION FOR FOREIGNERS issued by the Ministry of the Interior of the Republic of Slovenia, September 2009. http://www.mzz.gov.si/fileadmin/pageuploads/Konzularne_informacije/Brosura_EN.pdf
- Also a web portal (users friendly) set up by The Ministry of the Interior of the Republic of Slovenia (available in Slovenian, English, French, Spanish, Russian, Bosnian and Albanian): <http://www.infotujci.si/>
- How to enter the Republic of Slovenia issued by Employment Service of Slovenia, www.info-tujci.si
- The State Portal of the Republic of Slovenia (short and useful descriptions, forms available) <http://e-uprava.gov.si/e-uprava/en/portal.euprava>
- Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Technology: <http://www.mvzt.gov.si/en/>
- Ministry of Education and Sport: <http://www.mddsz.gov.si/en>
- The Ministry of Labour, Family and Social Affairs: <http://www.mddsz.gov.si/en>
- Facts about Slovenia, Government Communication Office, October 2009: www.ukom.gov.si/eng
- Slovenia.si – Your gateway to information on Slovenia: <http://www.slovenia.si/>

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www.euraxess.eu
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userfiles/publikacije/Popek_en.pdf](http://www.cmepius.si/en/files/cmepius/userfiles/publikacije/Popek_en.pdf)
- Guide for Foreign Researchers in Slovenia, by: CMEPIUS, Centre of the
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Raziskovalci%20EN.pdf](http://www.cmepius.si/en/files/cmepius/userfiles/publikacije/Raziskovalci%20EN.pdf)



Notes / Beležke

Notes / Beležke



CMEPIUS

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