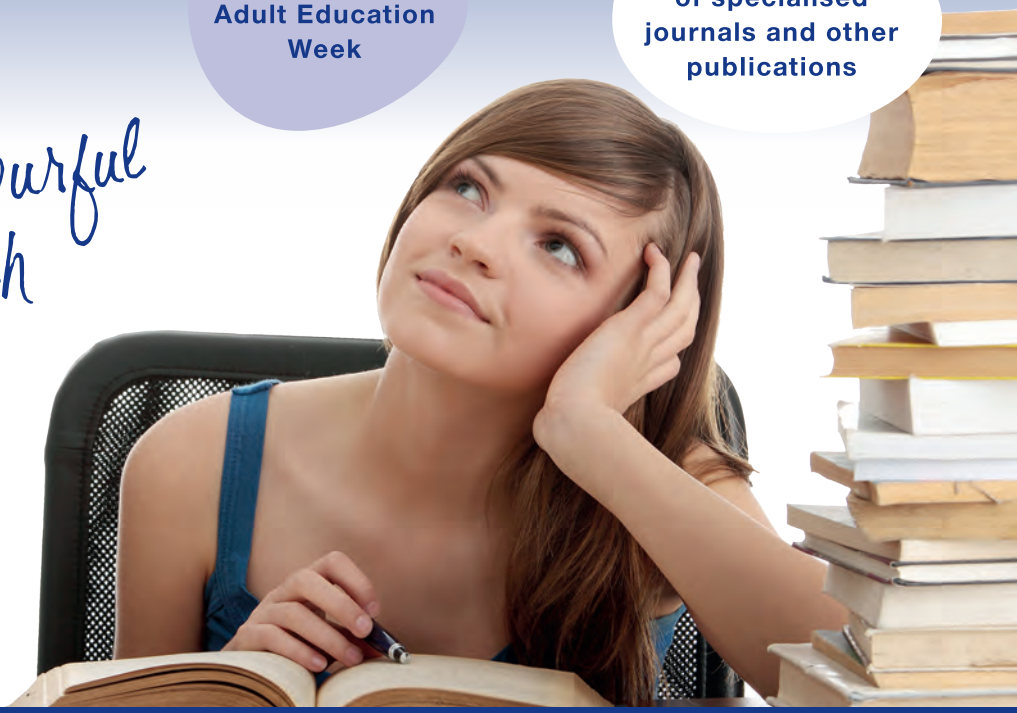
Association of Adult Education Institutions in the Czech Republic

The largest adult education professional association with a tradition since 1990

- Respected partner of state and government
- Member of the European Association for Education of Adults
- Facilitating development of more than 200 members
- Organisation of conferences, seminars and other events
- Organizing the Adult Education Week
- Authors of specialised journals and other publications

A more colourful life through education



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Who are we?

The Association of Adult Education Institutions in the Czech Republic with a **tradition dating back to 1990** is the **largest professional association of its kind, and** aims to:

- promote the interests and needs of adult education institutions,
- concentrate professional capacities for solutions and development in this area,
- cooperate with the State authorities and other entities in preparation and implementation of legislative and other measures of adult education,
- organize events for professionals and the general public,
- represent members and their activities with domestic and international associations.

Who do we work with?

The Association cooperates with several state authorities on its mission, particularly with the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports and Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs.

We participate in the creation of legislative and strategic documents, the National Reform Programme and Implementation Strategy for lifelong learning. We work with implementers of the system projects of the National Qualifications Framework and the National System of occupation. Represented in regional Councils for Human Resources Development or evaluation committees of the European Social Fund, we also cooperate with most of the regions of the CR.

The Association is a member of:

- European Association for the Education of Adults
- Union of Employers' Associations of the Czech Republic
- International network of experts ReferNet

The Association is represented in:

- National Council for Qualifications
- National Advisory Forum
- Expert Group of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports
- Accreditation Board for Retraining Programs

Who are our members?

The membership base of the Association includes **more than 200 educational institutions**. The vast majority are Commercial educational facilities and, to a lesser extent, secondary schools, universities and educational departments of companies and enterprises.

According to the statutes of the Association, any legal entity or natural person engaged in adult education focused on the development of this sector and their own activities can apply to join the Association and become our member.

Why become a member?

The Association offers to its members plenty of benefits:

- **Many years of professional background** of the largest professional association in adult education.
- **Representing and promoting the interests of members** in state and regional bodies.
- **The possibility to exchange experiences**, establish partnerships.
- **Membership in the Association as a form of promotion of a quality educational institution.**

The Association also offers:

- **Information** on current events in the field for free.
- **Professional journal** for development and education of the adults "Andragogika" for free.
- **Professional publications** issued by the Association for free or for a reduced price.
- **Participation in conferences, seminars and round-tables organized** by the Association for free.
- **Participation in other events** organized by the Association for free or for a reduced price.
- **Promotion of the courses on the members** at the Association website for free.
- **Promotion of other events** at the Association website and in the "Andromedia.cz" database for free.
- **Premises rental** for a reduced price in the center of Prague.
- **Discounts on services of other contractors** cooperating with the Association.

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How do we care for the development of our members?

One of the main aims of the Association is to care for the development of our members - adult education institutions and their **managers, methodologists, teachers and other professional and managerial staff.**

The Association organizes several specialized courses designed particularly but not only for our members:

- **Professional Lecturer**

The course focuses on development of the adult educators – lecturers and is primarily intended to generate new and to develop the actual teaching skills. The course is specifically focused on educational event creation, preparation and actual implementation. It deals with series of traditional and modern methods of adult education or employing interactive didactic techniques.

- **Preparation of the authorized persons for the National system of qualifications**

This course is intended for those interested in the status of a person authorized pursuant to the Act 179/2006 Coll. on verification and recognition of further education results which prepares them for particular practical application of the law in an authorized person performance, and for evaluation of adults and psychological aspects of evaluating and testing for adults.

To support our activities, the Association established several work groups that act in an advisory capacity to the various sectors of adult education issues.

There are currently following work groups:

- **Work group for quality in further education**

It formulates quality criteria and communicates them to the adult educators and their customers - the State, employers and citizens. It participates in the rating of educational institutions and teacher qualification standards for adult education.

This work group is engaged in the preparation of the quality award for adult education lecturers or institutions and in other activities intended to support and promote the quality of further education.

- **Work group for further education of teaching staff**

This group deals with further education pillars: the needs, system and tools of development of teachers, including academic staff. It participates in preparation of strategic documents, comments and discusses them with involved institutions.

The Association organizes dozens of specialized events focused on topics of adult education every year:

- **Conferences**

Conferences focus on such topics as educational institutions during the economic recession, effective training for the labor market or the role of quality in further education.

- **Seminars and workshops**

Copyright and ethics in adult education, effective use of voice, memory training for teachers or development of teaching process might represent some of the topics that appear among the others of the dozens of seminars and workshops every year.

- **Roundtables and discussion meetings**

The aim of these activities is to discuss and draft a joint solution to the current adult education topics, e. g. the area of rating of the educational institutions, teachers' qualification standards and strategic adult education documents. The topics always react to the current situation in the field.

The Association uses a lot of tools to support the development of the members:

- **Database of further education Andromedia.cz**

It is a unique web application that focuses on trends, analyses, ideas, procedures, methods, methodological tools, case studies, tests and other sources of methods and information to help increasing the quality of further education in practice.

Andromedia.CZ
Databanka dalšího vzdělávání

Among others, it also includes an **online andragogical dictionary** by Dr. Zdeněk Palán and an **adult education news** section updated on a regular basis.

- **Professional journal Andragogika**

A quarterly journal for development and education of the adults issued to provide scientific contributions of the theory and practice of development and education of adults, presents modern educational forms and methods, in-company educational systems, monitor development and trends in the field, informs on new publications and other points of interest.

- **Specialized publications**

On regular basis, the Association publishes professional conference anthologies as well as other publications dealing with the issue of the adult education.

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How do we care for development of the adult education sector?

Part of the mission of the Association is also to care for the development of the adult education sector. The Association focuses mainly on development of the **system environment of the sector, legislation in particular**; it also intervenes to ensure adequate **financing, quality of education or motivation of the adults** to participate in adult education activities.

- **Adult Education Week (Týden vzdělávání dospělých®)**

Since 1995, The Association has held an annual worldwide non-commercial event to promote an adult education in the CR the aim, which is to motivate the potential participants of lifelong education for an active approach to their personal and professional growth. At both national and regional level, there are hundreds of professional and popular lectures and seminars, the course “teasers”, knowledge and skills testing opportunities and many other activities.

Regardless of their age, education or professional experience, several thousand people participate in activities during Adult Education Week. Every year, Adult Education Week is held under the auspices of the Minister of Labour and Social Affairs and Minister of Education.

- **National Graduate Theses Prize in the fields of human resources management and development**

A unique project of the Association in cooperation with the People Management Forum (formerly ČSRLZ) and Edumenu.cz portal creates scopes for close cooperation of employers, students and universities. The main mission of the project is to give students the opportunity to deal through their bachelor and master theses with specific situations and needs of the organizations involved in the project.

What projects are we involved in?

One of the activities the association is offering is a possibility of exchanging experiences and establishing partnerships. Doing so, the Association actively looks for possibilities and opportunities for our members. One of the ways is to use the **European Social Fund** with its various operational programs, especially the OP Education for Competitiveness and OP Human Resources and Employment.

Within these operational programs, the Association has recently been running following projects:

- **Age Management Strategy in the Czech Republic**

The implementers: AIVD ČR, Masaryk University in Brno, Palacký University in Olomouc, Labor Office in ČR and the Finnish Institute of Occupational Health (Helsinki).
The main objective is to transfer innovative tools to tackle the target group of 50+ in the labor market, the application of the principles of Age Management in the Czech Republic and its wide publicity.

- **Key players linkage in the field of further education in Vysočina region**

The implementers: ABS WYDA, the Chamber of Commerce in Jihlava, the Institute for further education in Jihlava and AIVD ČR.
The main objective is to create a regional network of educational institutions, communicate with key partners, create rules for participation in the network and care for development of teachers and managers of the network.

- **Analysis and evaluation of further education in Liberec region**

The implementers: TIMA Liberec, Technical University in Liberec and AIVD ČR.
The main objective is to analyze further education in the region and the supply and demand for further education and support educational institutions and lecturers or provide a consulting service for educational institutions.

- **Tandem training**

The project has been implemented in two regions in CR: Liberec and Jihočeský, in cooperation with the National Training Fund, AIVD ČR and the educational institutions of the regions involved.
The main objective is to improve the quality of further education provided by educational institutions through shadowing, thus shadowing of teachers and managers of courses in educational process and management of the institution, on the basis of cooperation with selected educational institutions from abroad.

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Association of Adult Education Institutions in the Czech Republic

Where can we be found?

Association Headquarters

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Association in regions

The list of the regional coordinators can be found at www.aivd.cz/kkz

WWW.AIVD.CZ/EN
WWW.ANDROMEDIA.CZ
WWW.TYDNYVZDELAVANI.CZ

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