



ŠTÁTNA VEDECKÁ KNIŽNICA V BANSKEJ BYSTRICI

**STATE SCIENTIFIC LIBRARY • BIBLIOTHÈQUE SCIENTIFIQUE • WISSENSCHAFTLICHE
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PRESS RELEASE

The State Scientific Library in Banská Bystrica (ŠVK BB), in cooperation with partners from the V4 countries (Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland), has prepared a unique international professional seminar entitled **Inclusion – Accessibility – Services: Exchange of experiences of libraries in V4 countries**.

The international partners of the project are:

National Library of the Czech Republic,
Ferenc Rákóczi II. Library, Miskolc,
National Széchényi Library Budapest,
The Research Library in Hradec Králové,
Emanuel Smolka Voivodeship Public Library in Opole,
Masaryk's Public Library in Vsetín,
Municipal Library of Louny,
Tadeusz Różewicz Municipal Public Library in Wrocław,
Jiří Mahen Library Brno,
The City Library of Gdynia,
František Bartoš Regional Library in Zlín

The event is financially supported by the Visegrad Fund and the Slovak Library Association. It will focus on promoting and exchanging experiences among V4 countries in the area of activities for various marginalized groups of users and visitors to libraries and cultural institutions.

The seminar will focus on key topics such as *inclusion, accessibility, seniors, visitors with disabilities, special inclusive programs and education, project management, migrants*, and other informative topics. In addition to librarians, memory trainers, sociologists, therapeutic educators, psychologists, project managers, and other experts will also share their experiences and knowledge.

The event will take place on **October 7-9, 2025**, at the State Scientific Library in Banská Bystrica. It will include lectures and presentations, interactive workshops, discussion clubs, and accompanying activities: a tour of the historic County House and city landmarks. Nearly a hundred experts from the V4 countries will participate.

The aim of the professional seminar

As modern institutions of the 21st century, libraries can contribute significantly to removing barriers in society. The implementation of such project activities in the library environment, as well as in other memory and collection institutions, is currently essential. Specialists from Poland, Hungary, the Czech Republic, and Slovakia will bring and present their own experiences, solutions, ideas, and innovative proposals in terms of approach, preparation, and implementation of educational and experiential programs for various marginalized groups of citizens at the professional seminar.

The organizers' goal is to promote the accessibility of culture to disadvantaged people, develop their cultural needs, and contribute to social participation and inclusion. Educational and experiential activities through which the organizers convey to the target group a perception of the external and internal world through literary, artistic, photographic, and other creative activities, their self-realization, creative use of free time, and public presentation of the feelings of disadvantaged people can contribute to their overall social participation and fulfillment in life.

The organizers of the three-day seminar are convinced that the topics discussed will fulfill the project's objectives and, above all, generate interest among library professionals and other invited specialists from the Visegrad Four countries. At the same time, the event will contribute to establishing close mutual cooperation in the Central European region, exchanging experiences, acquiring new practical knowledge, and promoting Visegrad identity.

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