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Summary of the doctoral thesis

The problem of accessibility of information in public institutions and social economy entities in the field of culture and art for people with hearing loss and disabilities in Poland. Recommendations and standards.

The issue of accessibility of culture and art for deaf people and people with hearing loss was the main topic of the implementation doctorate under the supervision of prof. UŁ Ph.D. Aneta Pawłowska entitled: *The problem of information availability in public institutions and social economy entities in the area of culture and art for people with hearing impairments in Poland. Recommendations and standards.* The research work was carried out in the period October 2019 - June 2024 as part of the Doctoral School of Humanities of the University of Łódź and the Social Support Association "Ja-Ty-My" of the 3rd edition of the grant program of the Minister of Science and Higher Education "Implementation Doctorate" (agreement No. DWD/3/14b/2019 of October 30, 2019).

The main research problem was an attempt to answer the question of what the universal formula of the message for deaf and hard of hearing recipients should look like in cultural institutions such as museums, cultural centers, galleries and social economy entities. The ultimate goal of this doctoral dissertation was to attempt to indicate the necessary features of a message that would fulfill not only informational or educational functions, but which, through its structure and method of broadcasting, could become a tool supporting the cultural and social inclusion of such a recipient and, therefore, in accordance with the principles of social economy, support the (re)integration of people at risk of social exclusion for the purposes of this work, understood as deaf and hard of hearing people.

The doctoral dissertation consists of ten chapters, among them the five main chapters of which are a description of the issues of accessibility in the area of culture and art for deaf and hard of hearing people and a description of the implemented implementations as the final effect of the implementation activities.

The first chapter of the work presents a list of activities and publications constituting the basis of the doctoral dissertation, as well as additional activities and publications apart from the implementation activities, in the form of a full summary of the doctoral student's research and implementation activities carried out in 2019-2024.

The second chapter is an introduction to the subject of the doctoral thesis and a review of scientific and statistical literature relating directly to the issue of accessibility of culture and art for deaf and hard of hearing people in Poland. The problems indicated in this dissertation

were formulated both on the basis of practical observation of the availability of selected cultural institutions and selected social economy entities: stationary and on the Internet, interviews with deaf and hard of hearing people, personal experiences of the author of the text (from the practice of scientific and educational-cultural work), as well as also analysis of literature and reports in the area of the situation of deaf and hard of hearing people in Poland and educational materials regarding accessibility.

The third chapter describes the implementation aspect - the final effect of the doctoral thesis. The final effect of the doctorate is the development of a training scenario, methods of transmitting information in sign language, accompanying presentations and scripts prepared for the needs of training in the Polish Sign Language PJM (online using the ZOOM platform) for deaf and hard of hearing people on the subject of social economy as part of the work in the Social Support Association "Ja-Ty-My" in Łódź. Further attempts were also made to develop a broader methodology to increase the availability of information in the area of culture and art for deaf and hard of hearing people. This second issue is especially important not only from the point of view of the effective implementation of the statutory goals of specific educational or social institutions, but above all, the entire cultural and visual education and areas of social support. The elements of the above-mentioned methodology are: a model of practice of a deaf museum educator (based on his own work as an educator and observation of the work of other educators), the implementation of a model exhibition widely available to the deaf community in Poland and Europe (*Glusza* exhibition at the Silesian Museum in Katowice, duration 23/06/2022 - 04/06/2023), models for the production of educational and information films in Polish sign language in the form of a knowledge base about the history of art and culture (author's social innovation projects implemented in 2021–2022: *Signed issues of the Renaissance* and *From early Christianity to Gothic - a textbook on the history of art in Polish Sign Language (PJM)*), rules of cooperation with sign language interpreters specializing in culture and art. It should be added that deaf and hard of hearing people were involved in the process of shaping the content of the proposed implementation activities, both actively participating in cultural life and working in several cultural institutions in Poland as art educators.

The fourth chapter describes the research conducted on the availability and effectiveness of ways of presenting cultural and art phenomena, as well as the educational activities of cultural institutions in terms of the availability of information in the area of culture and art, not only in Poland, but also comparatively - in the author's selection - in ten European countries and the USA.

The fifth chapter outlines the topic of social economy and social economy entities, taking into account social economy entities in the Łódź Voivodeship supported by the Social Support Association "Ja-Ty-My" and taking into account the doctoral student's practical observations gained from work as a key advisor and coordinator of the "Łódź Social Economy Support Center" project.

Chapters 6-10 contain a collected bibliography, conclusions with a summary, and annexes

in the form of tests, sample scripts, a complete collection of scientific publications included in the doctoral dissertation and publications created during the implementation of the author's social innovation projects: *Signed issues of the Renaissance* and *From early Christianity to Gothic - a textbook on the history of art in Polish Sign Language (PJM)*.

An important element of the implementation activities is multimedia material (on a pendrive attached to a copy of the doctoral thesis) in the form of 159 educational films created as part of original social innovation projects: *Signed Renaissance Issues* and *From Early Christianity to Gothic - an art history textbook in Polish Sign Language (PJM)* and a methodological guide in film and electronic versions under the title: *Translation of art and its history into a visual and spatial language - production of educational films in Polish sign language*. An accompanying element is a collection of 26 sign signs of the most popular concepts from early Christian art to Gothic.

The multimedia material highlights the importance of the problem of understanding the specificity of communication in sign language, which is so important for the Deaf community.

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