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POST RELEASE THE SECOND NATIONAL (UN)CONFERENCE FOR SCHOOL TEACHERS EDCAMP UKRAINE 2016

On 9 and 10 April 2016 the Second National (Un)conference EdCamp Ukraine – a unique event of professional development for school educators in the trend of edutainment (education&entertainment) – was created and hosted in Kharkiv.

The initiators of the event – NGO “EdCamp Ukraine” (www.edcamp.org.ua) and Educational Producers P@El (www.pael.pro) – have been building a community of responsible teachers in order to change the education system of Ukraine from “the bottom” by motivating and engaging educators in the development and implementation of reforms in education.

At EdCamp Ukraine 2016 in Cultural Center “Beith Dan” more than 500 participants including school teachers from different regions, education administrators at all levels, library and museum workers, representatives of NGOs and business, schoolchildren and their parents, students of pedagogical specialties, volunteers, met together.

The EdCamp was included into the list of events of the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine in 2016. The Deputy Minister of Education and Science Pavlo Khobzei took part in the event to communicate personally with responsible educators and said, “*EdCamp is a positive practice that helps teachers who want changes to build a different system and improve schooling*”.

The (un)conference for school educators is also **included into the plan of events of the Institute of Modernization of the Educational Content**, and NGO “EdCamp Ukraine” signed a memorandum on cooperation with it recently.

In this effort to change the educational environment of Ukraine the EdCamp Ukraine team **has been supported** by The EdCamp Foundation (www.edcamp.org) represented by the Executive Director Hadley Ferguson and the Program Director Kim Sivick, by the Head of the Petro Poroshenko Charity Foundation, First Lady of Ukraine Maryna Poroshenko, the Ministry of Education and Science represented by The Deputy Minister Pavlo Khobzei and Director of the Institute of Modernization of the Educational Content Natalia Viatkina, the Head of the Public Council under the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine Galyna Usatenko and all caring educators of Ukraine.

The EdCamp Ukraine is also proud to have such **partners** as the Department for Media, Education and Culture of the U.S. Embassy in Ukraine, the World Economic Forum initiative Global Shapers Community, the Heinrich Böll Foundation’s Office in Ukraine, NGO “Electronic Democracy”, Microsoft, Intel, “The Big Idea” (on crowdfunding platform Spilnokosht), Coca-Cola Hellenic Ukraine and more than 50 other partner organizations.

First Lady of Ukraine Maryna Poroshenko, a philanthropist and a **public figure** said confidently in her address to the EdCamp Ukraine team that “*due to such events as the Second National (Un)conference for School Teachers EdCamp Ukraine 2016 it becomes possible to form the generation of progressive and professional educators as well as build an up-to-date Ukrainian school in the center of which there will be a child’s interests, needs and desires*”. Olena Bezreka, the Executive Director of the Petro Poroshenko Charity Foundation, participated in the (un)conference.

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EdCamp Ukraine is a unique platform for the professional development of teachers in Ukraine. **The inspirer of the EdCamp movement in Ukraine Oleksandr Elkin and the expert in building the EdCamp community in Ukraine Maryna Pashchenko explained,** “(un)conferences are held in a new Participant-Driven format that allows participants to determine on the course of their work themselves, EdCamp is based on the principles of no cost for attendees, independence and free initiative”. “It is important for freedom of professional development,” **emphasizes the Program Director for the EdCamp Foundation Kim Sivick,** “that the (un)conference is subject to the “law of two feet”, that encourages participants to choose the sessions that meet their needs”.

The second National (Un)conference EdCamp Ukraine 2016 had several **thematic accents:** new technologies in education, non-discrimination approach in education, community integration, English as a government priority.

Key sessions were led by world-known educators: a practicing philosopher, an author of many books, **Oscar Brenifier (Paris, France)**, PhD, explained the interconnection of critical thinking and responsibility; a lecturer and coacher for Nonviolent communication **Eva Rambala (Budapest, Hungary)** shared her experience how to defend oneself through co-operation and deepening relationship; **Esther Wojcicki (Palo Alto, California, USA)**, an American journalist who currently teaches journalism and English, a founder of the program Palo Alto High School Media Arts, an Honorary Visiting Researcher in MediaX at Stanford, told about forming 21st century skills at school, about breakthrough in education due to blended learning and the use of digital technologies.

During the (un)conference **11 coordinators shared their experience of organizing regional mini-EdCamps**, which take place from December 2015 to April 2016, and advised how to host an (un)conference at one’s school. Specially for the event **the top-course on MOOC platform Coursera “Coaching Teachers: Promoting Changes that Stick”** had been translated and adapted to give teachers an opportunity to take this free online course in Ukrainian since June 2016. The educators also improved their teaching skills at **public lessons**, given with the help of the “Aquarium” method: teachers gave lessons in a made-up class of the 8-th grade, the pupils of which were children from Donetsk and Lugansk regions. They were invited by the Fund “From the Country into Ukraine”. The part of the program was devoted to **museum pedagogy** and extracurricular initiatives “**I am a magician**” and **Music Camp Kharkiv**.

The vision of the **future Ukrainian education** was discussed during the podium discussion on the questions of overcoming discrimination and session of strategic planning of Ukrainian school, developed by the team of NGO “EdCamp Ukraine”.

The program of EdCamp Ukraine 2016 also **included** interactive zones, a thematic photo campaign and a discussion about UN Sustainable Development Goals in the spheres of education and gender equality, a communicative activity in the format “Human Library”, an educational quest with presents from Zarina, Live Notebooks and Wikipedia, the presentation of the unique German-Ukrainian project “The Youth and Debate”, a charity event “Teachers to Children” coordinated by the JDC Foundation. Also a unique program to support the development of the EdCamp movement in Ukraine – “**EdCamp in a box**” and an **exclusive magazine issue about EdCamp Ukraine 2016** from the publishing group “Osнова” were announced at the event.

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As a result of two-day productive communication many people got acquainted, a lot of joint projects were born: this is exactly so called “long tail” effect – continued discussions, activities, production of ideas after the event. The participants of the (un)conference have committed to write an **essay** to tell the community of responsible teachers about any changes in their professional lives after participating in EdCamp Ukraine 2016 till 31 May 2016.

IMPRESSIVE OFFICIAL STATISTICS OF EDCAMP UKRAINE 2016:

The 6th place in the world ranking of the most innovative educational organizations in 2015 belongs to the format EdCamp according to surveys of The World’s Top 10 Most Innovative Companies of 2015 in Education,

The 9th country in the world and the 3rd one in Europe, where EdCamp has been organized and hosted, is Ukraine,

Over 1,000 educational (un)conferences gathered over **70,000 educators**,

All regions of Ukraine were represented at EdCamp Ukraine 2016,

82 national and international experts from 12 countries – Armenia, Belarus, France, Georgia, Germany, Great Britain, Hungary, Italy, the Netherlands, Switzerland, the USA, and Ukraine – shared their experience,

532 participants took part in the event,

5,334 years is the total teaching experience of teachers, who participated in EdCamp Ukraine 2016,

from 2.5 months to 65 years is the age of the participants,

58 partner organizations supported and sponsored the Second National (Un)conference EdCamp Ukraine,

145 unique sessions on 4 topical trends were presented to the participants; every attendee was encouraged to become a speaker,

17 locations in 8 parallels – it was not easy to choose what session to attend,

10 formats: problem discussions, workshops, trainings, strategic planning sessions, public lessons, interactive areas of partner organizations, outreach sessions, an educational quest and charity events,

4,164 photos of inspiring, interesting and fruitful work of the (un)conference participants,

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30,000 Lego elements provided by the company «PROLEGO: innovative teaching technologies» and it took the children **7 hours** to assemble the logo of the (un)conference the size of human's height,

250 pieces of the giant puzzle were assembled by the members of Global Shapers Community Kharkiv Hub together with the pupils taking part in the event,

598 books, 128 soft toys, 159 sets for creativity and development, 130 items of stationary were gathered by the educators during the charity event to donate them to the family-type orphanage in "Vidradne", to children with special needs cared after by The Fund "Hesed", Bogodukhiv orphanage, the kindergarten of Ohiivka TEC in Kharkiv region and children's library of All-Ukrainian union NGO "Ukrainian Frontiers"; Publishing Houses "Ranok", "Osнова", "ASSA", the company "Live Notebooks" also donated their gifts,

8 stationery kits for Grade 1 were bought by donators from "Spilnokosht" platform and together with other stationary will be given to children in need within the action "Gather a schoolbag for a child" in August 2016,

1 giant teddy-bear, 1 radio-controlled helicopter and other presents will be donated to over **1,000 future small owners** thanks to JDC Foundation and their coordination of the charity action.

INFORMATION ABOUT EDCAMP UKRAINE 2016:

official video EdCamp Ukraine 2016 – <http://youtu.be/wZANstJnWoE>,

press-conference EdCamp Ukraine 2016 – http://youtu.be/JkA_azAL6KE (video), <http://civilforum.com.ua/fotogalereya/photolist/?album=14644> (photos),

Ukrinform. Teachers are going to Kharkiv to get professional development – www.ukrinform.ua/rubric-society/1996561-vciteli-poidut-do-harkova-za-profzrostannam.html,

videos of expert sessions on YouTube provided by Producers of education P@EI – www.youtube.com/c/EducationalproducersPaEI,

photos: the 1st day – <http://goo.gl/photos/ZVcZZiJ1zTbDwU2w6>; the 2nd day – <http://goo.gl/photos/yfrgRuTXAHxaoiNo7>,

scribing of Igor Zabolotnyi – <http://bit.ly/1qD1aTk>,

cartoon of teacher Nataliia Kryvko about expectations for EdCamp Ukraine 2016 – <https://youtu.be/u4isdfd39Qg>,

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Interview of teacher Sergii Zapisov about EdCamp Ukraine 2016, Stryi TV – <https://youtu.be/bF76GD2y6j8>,

Ranok with 1+1. Interview of Minister of Education and Science of Ukraine Liliia Grynevych about EdCamp Ukraine as a uniting educational initiative – <http://www.1plus1.ua/video/385407992>

Channel 5. Time of Community about EdCamp Ukraine 2016 – <https://youtu.be/Z4kx51-XWel>,

WoMo. Technoknowledge from Yori Kamphuis: How to steal DNA – <http://womo.com.ua/tehoznaniya-kak-ukrast-dnk>,

WoMo. Oscar Brenifier: “We are teaching our children to lie from an early age” – <http://womo.com.ua/oskar-brenife-myi-uchim-svoih-detey-vrat-s-malyih-let>,

Ukrinform. EdCamp Ukraine: teachers are taught to move away from the authoritarian model of teaching – <http://www.ukrinform.ua/rubric-society/1997467-edcamp-ukraine-vciteliv-ukraini-ucat-vidhoditi-vid-avtoritarnoi-modeli-osviti.html>,

100% news. EdCamp Ukraine: in Kharkiv the Second National (Un)conference for Educators took place – <http://youtu.be/0qN4vyyKGpQ>,

“Slobozhans’ki aktsenty” about EdCamp Ukraine 2016 on Kharkiv regional radio (2 issues) – <http://bit.ly/1NkHePz>, <http://bit.ly/1VNX74v>,

Information Center “Maidan Monitoring”. EdCampUkraine 2016: We are building the community of responsible teachers – <http://maidan.org.ua/2016/04/%E2%80%8Edcampukraine-2016-%E2%80%ACbudujemo-spilnotu-vidpovidalnoho-vchytelstva/>,

TV-company “Orbita”. How we joined the public lessons on EdCamp Ukraine 2016 – <https://youtu.be/MhsujVYlxNM>, and much more information you can find on the our official website and on social networks.

Official website of the movement EdCamp in Ukraine:
www.edcamp.org.ua

Web-page EdCamp Ukraine 2016:
<http://bit.ly/edcampukraine2016>

Official social networks:

Facebook: www.facebook.com/EdCampUkraine

Twitter: www.twitter.com/EdCampUkraine

Instagram: www.instagram.com/EdCampUkraine

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/c/EducationalproducersPaEi>

Hashtag for the participants and correspondents: **#EdCampUkraine**

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EdCamp Ukraine 2016 Partner Pool:

- Educational Producers and Technology Gourmets P@EI
- The EdCamp Foundation
- Global Shapers Community, World Economic Forum initiative
- Successful Women's Club, Kharkiv
- School Management System "School Champion"
- Department for Media, Education and Culture of the U.S. Embassy in Ukraine
- NGO "Electronic Democracy"
- Heinrich Böll Foundation Office in Ukraine
- Microsoft in Ukraine
- Intel Education in Ukraine
- "The Big Idea" ("Spilnokosht" crowdfunding platform)
- Coca-Cola Hellenic Ukraine
- Petro Poroshenko Charity Foundation
- Cultural Centre "Beith Dan"
- JDC Foundation
- "Mystets'kyi Arsenal" Charity Foundation
- Ukrainian Philantropists' Foundation
- Ukrainian Charity Foundation "Open Hearts"
- Gender Information Analytical Centre "KRONA"
- Gender Culture Centre and the Museum of Feminine and Gender History
- "From a Country to Ukraine" Foundation
- "Professional Development of Kharkiv" Foundation
- Pan-Ukrainian Community "Ukrainian Frontiers"
- Facilitators' Club,UA
- BrainBasket Foundation
- The Art of Drawn Videos "Artscribe"
- Bridal Group
- Idsymb.com
- Global English Center
- Techno Studio "Vynakhidnyk"
- FIRST LEGO League
- PROLEGO: innovative technologies in education
- Live Notebooks
- "Hurt" Resource Centre
- "Osnova" Publishing Group
- "Ranok" Publishing House
- "Bagels & Letters" PR Agency
- WOMO: mum in business
- Cultural Educational Project 'Happy Ukraine'
- Wikimedia Ukraine
- Hi-Tech.UA
- Revival Reform Package
- Ukraine Global Scholars
- Music Camp International
- Impact Hub Odessa
- Innovative Education Centre "Pro.Svit"
- Interactive Online Education EdEra
- Hotal "Mir"
- Taxi-service "Mir"
- Premier Palace Kharkiv
- Freshline Sandwich Bar
- Mafia: Italian and Japanese Cuisine
- SWEETER – coffee to go
- "Duke Trubetskoi" Winery
- IT-Sector Kharkiv
- Parytet-Agro
- Tile Store "Kerama Expert"

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