

Jerneja Jager, PhD

Jerneja Jager graduated from pedagogy at the University of Ljubljana (2007) and inclusive pedagogics (2010) at the University of Primorska. In January 2016, she has successfully defended her doctoral dissertation on educational sciences at the University of Primorska, Slovenia.

She started her professional career as a preschool teacher and a school pedagogue, and was soon invited to join the research team at the Educational Research Institute (ERI). At present, she works as a researcher at the ERI, where she serves also as the head of the Developmental Research Center for Pedagogical Initiatives Step by Step (DRCPI SBS). She is a member of the Scientific Council at the ERI, where she is actively involved in consideration and decision-making on the research and scientific aspects of the research processes and other program matters of the ERI's activities.

She is a project leader and manager of different national and EU funded projects, through which she collaborates with variety of stakeholders, coming from wide education background: from early childhood education as well as from local and national government background. In 2016/2017, she will start working as a university professor (assistant professor). Due to her experiences from the past (early childhood education) and current job (research, higher education), her knowledge on education system in Slovenia covers different levels and themes.

On international level, as a representative of her organisation (DRCPI SBS), she is active in International Step by Step Association (ISSA) and Romani Early Years Network (REYN). In 2009-2011, she served as a researcher in a Study for the European Commission DG for Education and Culture, "Competence Requirements in Early Childhood Education and Care". In 2012-2013, she was selected to be a reviewer for the Early Years Journal.

Her main research interests are quality early childhood education and care, preschool programs for disadvantaged children, equal opportunities in education, diversity, inclusion, professional development, and professionalism.

Personal bibliography: <http://izumbib.izum.si/bibliografije/Y20160501202504-A102394211.html>