

NEWSLETTER

2018

October



“...Delivering a lecture to the scholarship holders of the Hastor Foundation, rather than just ordinary students, is comparable to talking to Serena Williams, Ronaldo or Messi rather than just any athlete...” – **or in other words, you’ll succeed because you want it bad, everything else is just an excuse you tell to yourself** ”

The monthly meeting of the college student scholarship holders of the Hastor Foundation is always held in the second week of the respective month. It was no different last Saturday, on the 13th of October, 2018. In the Main Assembly Hall of the ASA Prevent Group, more than 200 students had the opportunity to acquire new skills and gain additional knowledge from a renowned entrepreneur, marketing expert and motivational speaker – Kemal H. Balihodžić. He is the Founder and CEO of UpTrend Marketing Solutions, whose offices are located in London and Sarajevo, as well as the author of “Born to Succeed – From Giving to Drawing Applause” (Rođeni za uspjeh – od aplaudera do aplauza) which was reprinted several times.

This month’s speaker started his lecture with a truly inspirational and uplifting speech, with those present actively participating. The Foundation’s scholarship holders had the opportunity to learn about motivation as a truly integral part of achieving one’s goals, but also about how important it is to have one’s priorities sorted out and to put forth maximum effort in order to achieve what we want. Hard work and maximum effort makes everything possible, but with the awareness that no success can be achieved overnight. Only continuous learning and hard work can result in success.

By reflecting on the episodes from his own life, Balihodžić presented his own path, thorny, as he himself describes it, to success. As a person who lost his father early on, he had to put in additional effort, to study and struggle more, in order to achieve the goals he set for himself. In addition, he married young, when he was twenty years old, and so worked several jobs in order to support his family. The time and effort spent on his personal improvement also helped teach him discipline and

perseverance. He points out that by perceiving and labeling certain students as “gifted”, the educational system is making a mistake. He is of the opinion that no individual has such great advantage. Each individual has a certain potential or capacity which simply needs to be developed and brought to the surface and in each individual his or her energy and body are intertwined with one enduring component – hard work.

Nowadays, we often witness how the educational system is killing the creativity of young people and confining them to well-known patterns of thinking. Being members of a younger generation, we need to fight against this in every way possible. Knowledge is a person’s best bet and the most worthwhile investment he or she can make. It is the principle which drives the Hastor Foundation, the largest organization of its kind, regardless of the area we take into account. Through continuous learning, hard work and commitment to one’s ideals, each and every individual can cross the boundary where the ordinary ends and extraordinary begins.



This meeting was very special and tinged with various emotions because those scholarship holders who have completed their college education said their farewells to the Hastor Foundation, while on the other hand freshmen students were at a monthly meeting for the first time. Regardless whether their college education began or ended, both groups of students acquired new knowledge in Sarajevo and made wonderful memories.

Students, who have attended the Foundation’s monthly meetings for the last time, at least as scholarship holders, have shared their impressions about the years they spent as a part of this family. All of them agreed that from the moment they became its scholarship holder, the Foundation provided them with enormous support, both financial and emotional. All of them felt happy that they played a part in this wonderful story and that their role does not end here. And truly, how wouldn’t they? Each young person who becomes a part of this large family

will always carry it in his or her heart.

Kemal Balihodžić’s lecture was marked by enthusiasm and his earnest wish to successfully impart all his experience and knowledge on the students who were presents, students of the Hastor Foundation.

All scholarship holders make up a community which stretches across more than 150 municipalities in BiH. Two thousand hearts beat together, in harmony, proud of the fact that they are there for each other, that all of them are different and yet a part of the whole – of the Hastor Foundation. It is undisputable that after twelve years of continuous work, the Hastor Foundation grew into a place where new unbreakable bonds are forged every day and the scholarship holders show this the most because they stress constantly that the Foundation is a part of them, a part of their identities that they cherish and of which they are proud.

Razim Medinić



## PROJECT TITLED “STRENGTHENING OF EDUCATIONAL PRACTICES IN BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA – INTRODUCING THE DUAL SYSTEM” BROUGHT TO A CLOSE

In the period from 15th of September 2017 to 30th of September of the current year, the Hastor Foundation, together with the Prilika Plus Program and with support of the Embassy of Switzerland, carried out and brought to a close the project called “Strengthening of Educational Practices in Bosnia and Herzegovina – Introducing the Dual System”. This project consisted of two primary components, one focusing on formal education and the other one on informal education. Activities related to formal education focused primarily on improving practical learning in secondary schools, while the aspect of informal education had to do with training adults to perform certain jobs.

Since Prilika Plus Program is primarily oriented towards the economic sectors and increasing the employment rate, one of its aims was to provide trainings for adults at Prevent Group’s production plants. Other aims of this project were, among others, the improvement of the overall quality of TAKT Academy, including its position on the market and ensuring that the best possible trainings are available for its participants, as well as forging a stronger bond between local communities, schools and companies. Prilika Plus Program activities targeted 5 areas in Republika Srpska and 5 cantons in Federation of BiH and also contributed to the opening of education centers for several industrial sectors. Among those centers is also the TAKT Academy established by the Hastor Foundation together with Prilika Plus and with the support of the Embassy of Switzerland, but also the support of leading companies from automotive, textile, fashion and wood industries.

Nevertheless, the essential aim of this project was to secure relevant and quality training for youth and adults alike which would enable them to improve their existing skills and competencies, but also ensure the adjustment of human resources in accordance with the new technologies of leading companies in BiH and beyond. This joint action ensured that ASA Prevent and many other companies have a better platform for conducting their businesses, while simultaneously providing young people with an opportunity for professional training, advancement, and thus simply a greater chance for employment.

The most relevant indicator of this project’s success is the fact that more than 550 individuals gained new and improved existing knowledge, and a great majority of them found employment immediately upon completing the training. Additional indicators include: setting important prerequisites for future improvements, initiating TAKT Academy’s registration process, strengthening the expertise of instructors for adult trainings and company instructors by employing DACUM methodology techniques, establishing good practice of universities and Prevent Group members sharing their experience, greatly strengthening partnership between local communities, schools and companies that offer professional trainings, which led to students from secondary vocational schools located in several different municipalities being able to attend practical classes at the premises of ASA Prevent Group’s member and partner companies, and finally, a developing a unique financial model in cooperation with ASA Bank which allows for a revolutionary, long-term, substantive way of supporting the process of financing adult trainings.

Amina Vatreš

## LANGUAGE CONFUSIONS AND MISUNDERSTANDINGS

In this month’s **FH Classroom** section we resolve several language and grammar doubts and offer helpful tips.

### IZVINITI SE OR IZVINUTI SE

When apologizing about something, some people will use **izviniti** and others **izvinuti**. In fact, these are two distinct verbs and both are present in Bosnian language. Verb **izviniti se** means to ask for somebody’s forgiveness, to say you are sorry, while the verb **izvinuti se** means to bend, to twist your body etc. These two shouldn’t be mixed in either speech or print. If you have made a mistake and/or done something bad to someone without meaning to, then you should use the verb **izviniti se** or **ispričati se**.

### DEČKO OR DJEČKO

These expressions are very common when talking about a young boy, a teenage boy, male youth. According to prescriptive grammar and certain handbooks, the preferred form for Ijekavian dialect is **dečko**, despite its form being Ekavian, but **dječko** was very present in speech and print both. One issue of Sarajevo newspaper “Vecernje novine”

from 4th of March 1996 includes the following sentence on page 19: Naime, dječko koji se malo „žešće“ veselio muzici koju voli bio je upozoren od šest mladića da se „malo smiri“. In “Orthography of the Bosnian Language” **dječko** is the preferred form. This choice is justified by its Ijekavian form and its frequency in the Bosnian language.

### CRVENITI OR CRVENJETI

These two verbs don’t have the same meaning. Verb **crveniti** means: to make something red, paint something in red dye, while the verb **crvenjeti** means: to become red, gain a reddish tinge (in your cheeks, for example, when you’re blushing):

Nemoj to crveniti (meaning: don’t paint it red);

Nemoj se crvenjeti (meaning: don’t blush).

Razim Medinić





## LET ME TELL YOU SOMETHING

At the monthly meeting of college student scholarship holders of the Hastor Foundation, Armina Đugum thanked the Foundation for the help given to her during the past 11 years in terms of the scholarship, and then said the following to me: "Teacher Ramo, I remember the first time you came to Oplećani and spoke to my parents about the scholarship. I also remember the 30th of January, 2015, when you rightfully criticized me, again in the presence of my parents, for not having fulfilled my obligation. I recall our encounter on the 28th of July, 2018, when you have, once again, managed to give me a piece of advice before my own parents have. When I told you that I was anxious about the oral defense of my MA paper, you insisted that you will hold onto my fear for me until the oral defense is over. I smiled and the fear really disappeared, and then my parents arrived as well. There were many other dear and valuable encounters. I've received my medical degree and I was already given a job offer, which is a dream of many young people. Instead of an oath I am promising you this – I will continue to stand with you and the Hastor Foundation, even though I am no longer your scholarship holder."

Several days ago, Muharem Karać invited me to attend the oral defense of his MA paper at the Faculty of Political Sciences in Sarajevo. Senada Čerimić informed me that she had received the Dean's Award: "Being the best student of my generation at the Faculty of Polytechnic in Zenica, I was awarded the Dean's Award for my GPA of 9.2 for the previous academic year, and thus I completed my undergraduate education in the best way possible. The Awards ceremony begins at 11 am in Zenica, on the 27th of October, 2018."

Soon afterwards, I received a letter from Josipa Bagarić from Tomislavgrad, or more precisely from Bukovica 86, which I present to you in its entirety, because regardless of how I were to retell it, it wouldn't hold the candle to the original:

*Dear teacher,*

*Couple of moments ago I sent an e-mail to the Administration team in which I bid my farewell to the Hastor Foundation as its scholarship holder. I've completed my graduate studies and after 11 years I am*

*no longer a scholarship holder of the Hastor Foundation. I've written in the e-mail already that, although I will no longer receive the financial support, the Foundation will always be part of me. I've experienced some of my most beautiful moments there, the Foundation had a significant influence on my personal growth, and I owe my education to my parents and the Foundation. This is why it would be impossible for us to part ways. I will always speak proudly about being a part of this great family.*

*I would especially like to thank you. Thank you for helping the quiet and shy little girl to learn how to stand out from the masses. You offered her a hand and helped lead her into her new role of being a scholarship holder of the Hastor Foundation. Thank you for believing that it was worth investing in me. The older I became, the more I understood the value of the hand you offered. Your pieces of advice also helped me countless times. I looked forward to every encounter of ours because I knew that it would teach me another important life lesson. Teacher Ramo, I thank you for every kind word, for your constructive criticism and pieces of advice that I tried to follow. I learned many things, developed work habits, met wonderful people and gained true friends. For all of that, THANK YOU. It was an honor to stand shoulder to shoulder with people like you. Out of everything the foundation taught me, I would say that selflessly helping others is the most important lesson. I will forever cherish the values you instilled in me.*

*It is hard to find the proper words to express my gratitude, so I hope that you will be proud of me some day. Until then, the door to my home and my heart will always be open for you.*

*Thank you, teacher!*

*Sincerely,  
Josipa Bagarić*

After an expression of gratitude as sincere as this one, there is nothing more left to say.

Ramo Hastor





Our Foundation can boast about the large number of scholarship holders who, besides achieving significant successes in the fields of education and science, attach great significance to volunteering with the Hastor Foundation, and improve its work through their knowledge and skills.

One of those scholarship holders is our Amina Mašić, the scholarship holder of the month of October.



Amina Mašić

Amina Mašić has been a hardworking scholarship holder of the Hastor Foundation for eight years. She went to the Primary school "Kladanj", and then to the Mixed Secondary School "Musa Ćazim Ćatić", vocation Forestry technician. She is currently a student at the Faculty of Forestry in Sarajevo. Amina has achieved excellent results so far, both in school and extracurricular activities. Those include significant results in municipal, cantonal, national, and international literary contests. Her talent is also reflected through essay writing and some of her writings were published in renowned literary magazines and collections of works. She is an active member and volunteer of various non-governmental organizations which focus on the issues of the youth, the marginalized groups, etc. Based on her work so far, in 2017 the Student Council Network in Bosnia and Herzegovina put Amina on the list of the 20 most active secondary school pupils in BH. During the previous academic year, Amina volunteered for the Student Association of the Faculty of Forestry and for the Student Parliament of the University of Sarajevo.

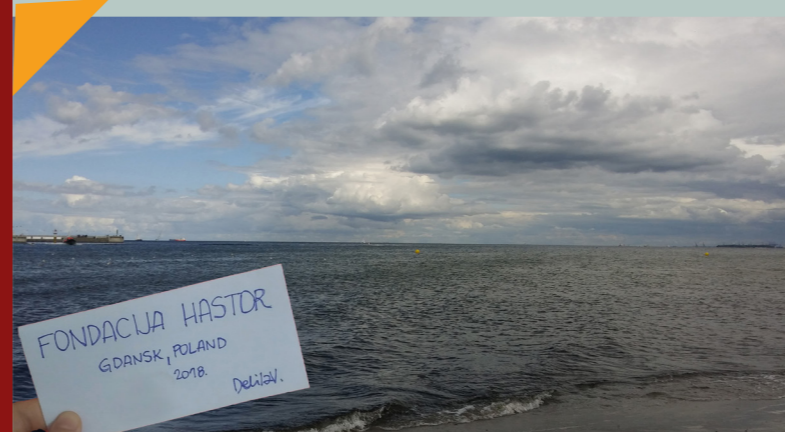
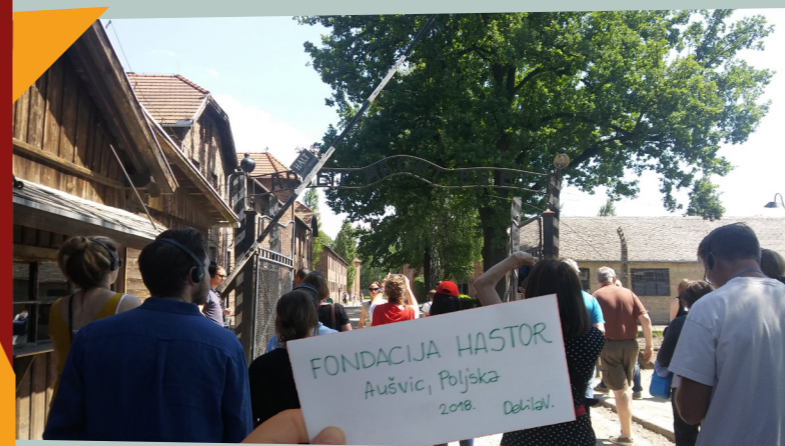
Her effort was just as remarkable when it comes to the Hastor Foundation. She has always completed her obligations and was there whenever needed. All of these achievements and her dedication paved the way to Amina being chosen as the scholarship holder of the month.

She said that she is proud to be part of the team which provides young people with the opportunity to gain knowledge:

"The support of the Hastor Foundation, the financial and the moral one alike, gave me the strength to persevere in achieving my aims. In addition, through the volunteering in the field I've gained the knowledge and skills which have helped me in my formal education, but in life as well. The Hastor Foundation is my loadstar."

Belma Zukić

: Delila Veispahić





The database showed that the scholarship holders and volunteers of the Hastor Foundation reached the number of 15.239 volunteer hours during the previous month. As usual, most of these hours were spent in our scholarship holders' volunteering meetings – students, primary and secondary school pupils in 271 volunteering meetings in 60 municipalities across Bosnia and Herzegovina. Our students who volunteer with the Administration team and Editorial Board of the Hastor Foundation contributed greatly to this number, as well as students who work on developing the Hastor Foundation app and are in charge of web page maintenance. The compulsory theme that our scholarship holders discussed in volunteering meetings during the previous month was “Respecting elders and the basic code of conduct”.

Besides the compulsory theme, the scholarship holders discussed other interesting topics as well, and our students also spent some volunteering hours helping our younger scholarship holders in understanding the school material better.



Some of the most interesting themes:

“Be the change you want to see in the world”

The magic words: please, sorry, and thank you.

Id, ego, and superego

Fun mathematics

Mens sana in corpore sano – A healthy mind in a healthy body

Let's do it!

Healthy lifestyles on the childhood path

Cyber crime

TED Talk - „Are you a giver or a taker“

The future of young people in Bosnia and Herzegovina

Different learning skills

Human evolution

The municipalities in which the volunteering workshops were held during the previous month:



Dear all,

*in the following couple of days, a form which confirms that I've completed my MA studies should arrive at Your address. I don't have the means to pursue post-graduate studies at the moment, but I hope that will also become possible in due time.*

*After 11 long years, I'm no longer a scholarship holder of the Hastor Foundation and this fills me with sadness and pride at the same time, because of the trust you put in me for such a long time. I want to use this opportunity to thank you for all the support, well-intentioned piece of criticism and all of which I did my utmost to follow. Although I won't be receiving any more of your financial support, the Foundation will always remain a part of me. I enjoyed the embrace of this large family for almost half of my whole life and learned so many things, became more diligent, met wonderful people and made good friends. It is for all of that that I wish to say one big THANK YOU!*

*The most important thing which the Foundation taught me is to selflessly help others. I hope that one day I'll be able to do the same thing, to influence others in such way.*

*Together with my family you made my education possible and because of that I put all the knowledge and skills I gained at your disposal. At the moment, this is the greatest thing that I can offer as a way of showing my gratitude.*

*Until I can offer more, I will proudly say that I was a part of the Hastor Foundation.*

*In addition to this letter, I've included my MA thesis. I wanted to share it with you because it marked the closing of one important chapter in my life.*

*Thank you for everything once more!!*

*Kind regards,  
Josipa Bagarić*

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