

# Gender equality activities in schools

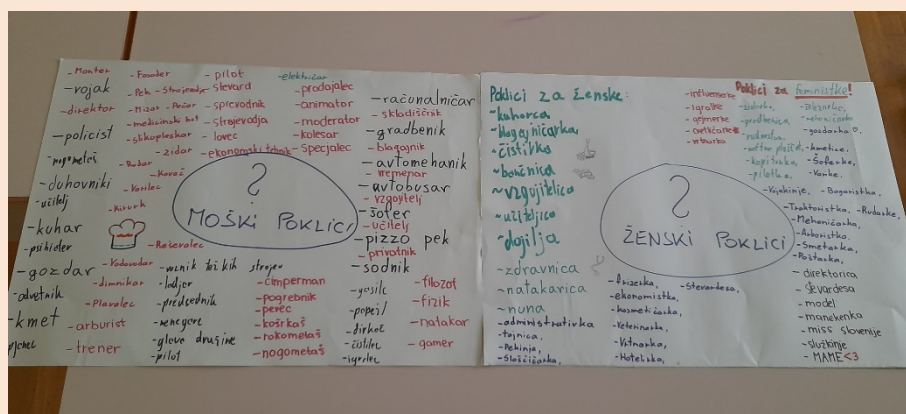
## Slovenia

### DESCRIPTION

Gender equality is enshrined in the Constitution of the Republic of Slovenia and reflected in national school legislation. However, the reality in schools often differs significantly, as various forms of hidden or even direct sexism frequently occur among students and between teachers and students. In this context, the role of teachers is essential in providing high-quality, gender-neutral education that promotes students' wellbeing and respect for professional standards.

Teaching about stereotypes requires first their identification and recognition. To achieve this, a "gender name" activity was introduced in class. The purpose of this 45-minute lesson was to reveal ways in which language reflects gender bias. An important part of the activity was also self-evaluation by the students and their questioning the meaning of internalised and socially learned views.

Following this activity, students prepared two posters: one titled *Female professions* and the other *Male professions*. They assigned occupations to each poster based on what they considered typical for each gender. A debate followed, exploring the reasoning behind assumptions of professions being more "feminine" or "masculine". As a result, most students realised they were unable to justify these assumptions, therefore changing their views on gender roles.



### REFLECTIONS

The students realised that they held internalised, gender-based ideas, explanations, and stereotypes related to various aspects of life. Through this activity, they became aware of hidden gender biases and began questioning assumptions they had once considered normal, recognising them as social constructions.