

European Research Institute in Social Work (ERIS)

Research / dissertation project	
Name: Lukas Pavelek e-mail lukas.pavelek@gmail.com Years of study: 2007 – 2010	University University of Trnava PhD project <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Master's project <input type="checkbox"/>
Subject / title of the project Volunteering as a factor of motivation for older people	
Scientific importance A qualitative study scanning the situation of older volunteers.	
Practical relevance Thoughts and ideas for enhancing the work of organizations working with elderly volunteers.	
Main thesis Volunteering in a higher age can serve as a factor of improving individual's quality of life.	
Research methodology Mostly qualitative approach - grounded theory.	
Key words Volunteering, older people, social capital, civic engagement, motivation	
Most relevant literature DAVIS SMITH, J., GAY, P., 2005: Active Ageing in Active Communities: Volunteering and the Transition to Retirement, Institute for Volunteering Research (UK) WARBURTON, J., TERRY, D.J., 2000: Volunteer Decision Making By Older People: A Test of a Revised Theory of Planned Behavior, Basic and Applied Social Psychology 22, 245-257. PUTNAM R. D., 2000: Bowling Alone. The collapse and revival of American community, Simon and Schuster, New York, ISBN-10 0-7432-0304-6	
Key finding (if already existing) Volunteering can significantly improve individual's life in a higher age. Older volunteers felt the individual and social benefits of their actions.	