

CREATING CONNECTIONS FOR SUCCESSFUL COOPERATION

Webinar on parent-teacher cooperation and advocacy model in Serbia

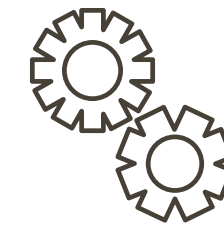
Regional Parents Advocacy Network

February 9, 2021

2:30 - 4.30 p.m. (CET)

Today's Presentation

CREATING CONNECTION
FOR SUCCESSFUL COOPERATION



Part I PARTNERSHIP FOR EDUCATION PROJECT

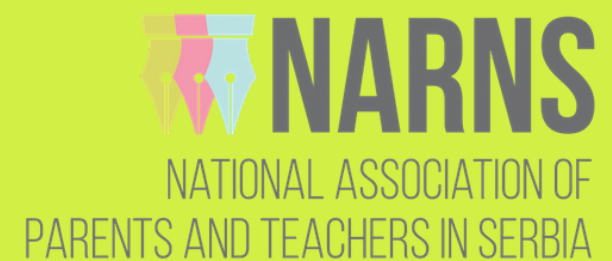
Part II FOUNDING OF THE ASSOCIATION

Part III PROFESSIONALIZATION OF NARNS

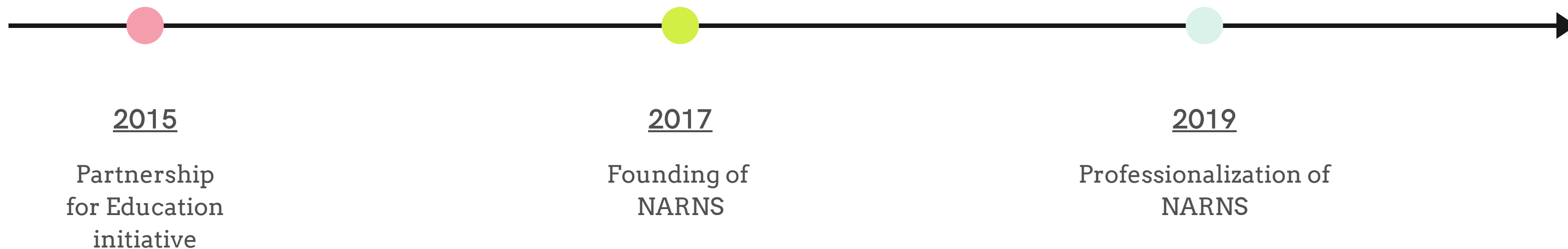
Part IV FINDINGS OF THE GROUPS - Break out rooms

Part V WHAT IS THE FUTURE?

Our Story



→ A timeline of our history



I PART

The very first steps

Partnership for Education Project 2015-2017



Jasmina Selmanovic

PROGRAMME DIRECTOR NARNS



Partnership for Education

Former initiatives with no long-term success:
parents organization vs. teachers organizations

Process of creating a movement:
bottom-up approach (ownership of the process)

OPEN CALL
over 600 applications

INTERVIEWS

CAPACITY
BUILDING
of
parents and teachers

CREATING
of first
parent-teacher clubs



parents
organizations

teachers
organizations

Partnership for Education initiative
by
Open Society Foundation Serbia and UNICEF



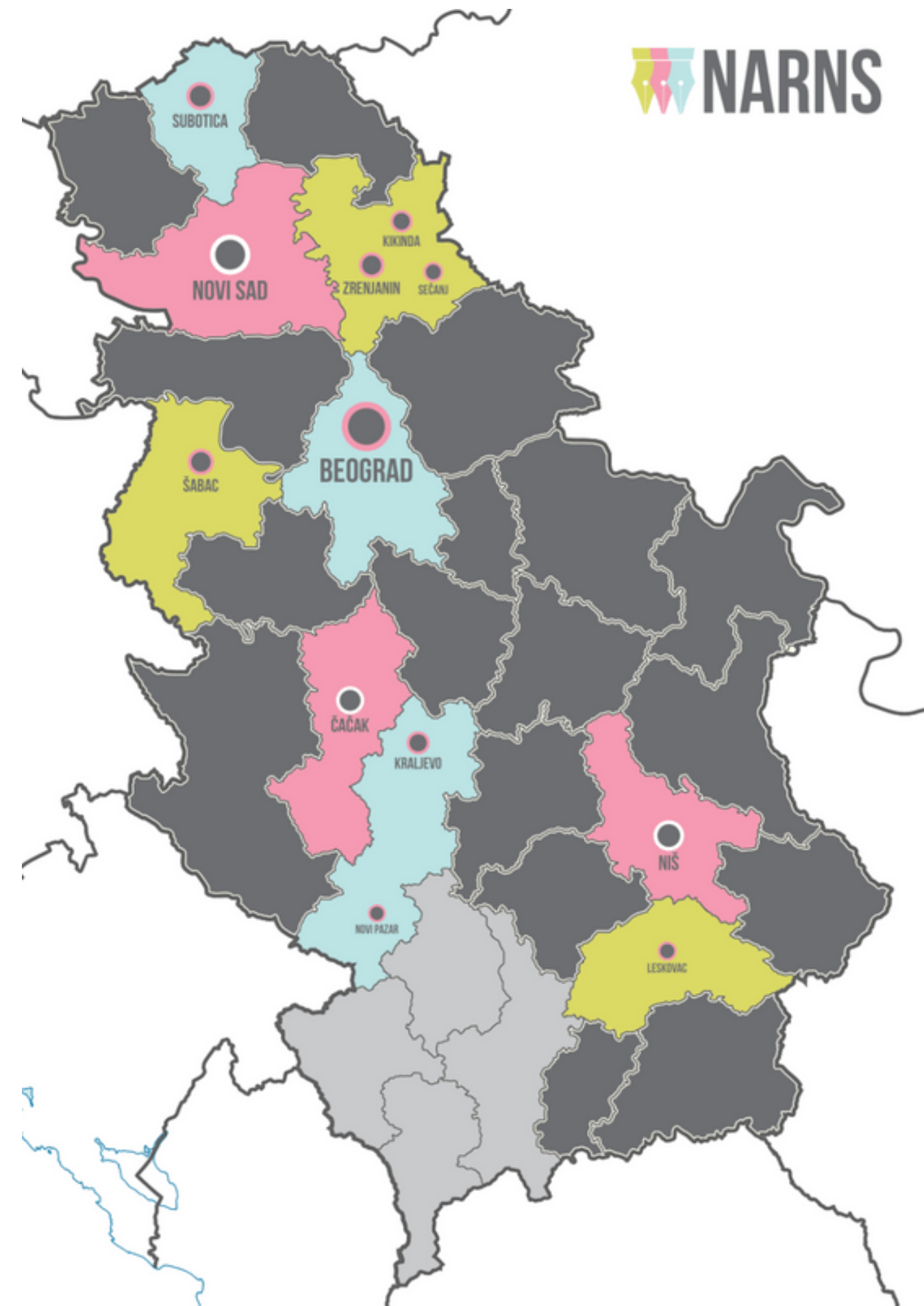
Map of our PT city clubs

12 CITIES

Subotica
Novi Sad
Sečanj
Zrenjanin

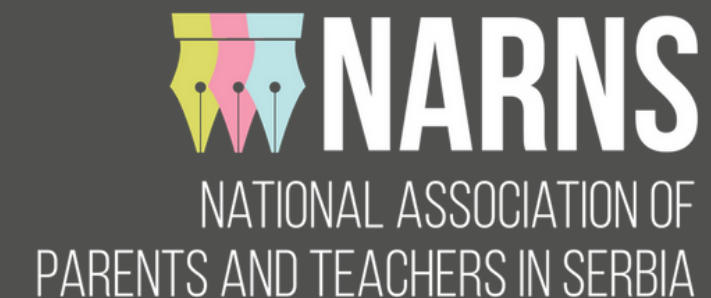
Kikinda
Beograd
Šabac
Čačak

Kraljevo
Leskovac
Niš
Novi Pazar



Partnership for Education Project

WHAT EXACTLY DID WE DO?



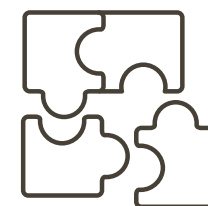
Providing
support along
the way



Themes
covered



Grants



Continuous
capacity building



Vertical
and horizontal
capacity building

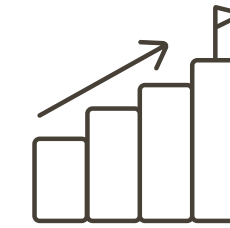
Activities of PT clubs

 **NARNS**
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF
PARENTS AND TEACHERS IN SERBIA



Achievements

2015-2017



10 PT
CLUBS

geographically
dispersed

COLLABORATORS

vs.
opponents

ENHANCED
CAPACITIES

of parents and
teachers

MOBILIZED

more
parents and
teachers
volunteers

MEDIA
COVERAGE

first
steps to
advocacy

NARNS

creation of
umbrella
organization

Challenges and obstacles

2015-2017



SUSTAINABILITY

of city PT clubs

(people gathered in teams didn't know each other prior to this initiative)

DIFFERENT LEVEL OF KNOWLEDGE

among parents and teachers about educational policy

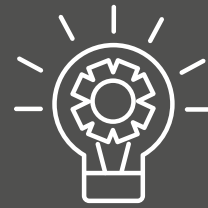
OTHER PEOPLE'S SHOES

Parents and teachers not being able to put themselves in another person's shoes

PARENTS AS IMPORTANT FACTOR

Not acknowledging parents as valuable resources, active participants

Lessons learned



THE RIGHT TIMING

for such an initiative in the society

MUTUAL RESPECT

LISTENING

Learning to listen to each other and understand different perspectives

THIS IS A PROCESS

and it takes time and persistence

MOTIVATION

is the key, parents and teachers need guidance and directions all the way

CAPACITY BUILDING

of both parents and teachers

SUPPORT

Constant mentoring and counselling and encouraging

TOGETHER

Creating frequent opportunities for meeting up, socializing and planning together

Lessons learned

ENGAGEMENT

Parents need to be engaged actively as creators and not mere observers

CHILDREN

should be involved in every joint activities

FINANCES

are not necessary for first joint activities

PLANNING OF ACTIVITIES

Activities should not be too ambitious in the beginning: gatherings, joint events, fairs, humanitarian events, etc.



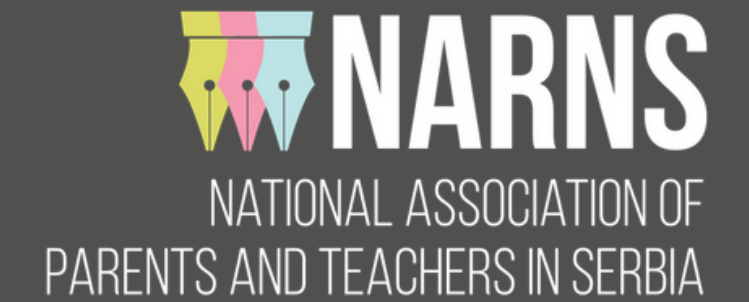


Watch video

WHAT MOTIVATED TEACHERS AND PARENTS TO JOIN IN

Ivana Brankovic, parent and Chairwoman of SC NARNS

Elvira Stefanovic, pedagogue, primary school, Novi Sad



Partnership for Education Project

I PART

Any questions by now?

II PART

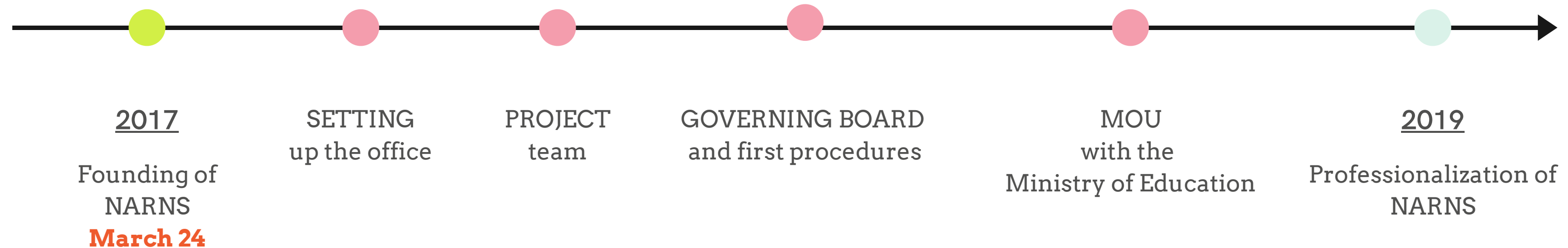
Identity phase

Founding of The Association 2017-2019



Dragana Djuric

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR NARNS



Founding of The Association

FIRST PROJECTS

development of early portfolio

TEAM

of regional advisors - local coordinators

CAPACITY BUILDING

incessant need

EXPANDING THE NETWORK

of City PT clubs to schools and preschool institutions



Achievements



ENHANCED CAPACITIES

of parents and teachers

NARNS NETWORK

Defining the structure

RECOGNITION

PT clubs are recognized in school documents

Activities of the clubs are replicated as extra-curricular activities in schools

COOPERATION

with the Ministry of Education and other relevant educational institutions and actors



OUR MISSION

Through association, we strengthen cooperation and partnership between parents and teachers, raising awareness about their roles and power to change and create more quality and available education, tailor-made education for children, so as to create a responsible society

NARNS

Challenges and obstacles

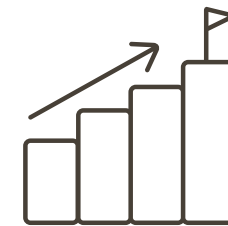
2017-2019



Lack
of institutional
grants



Financing
Identifying donors

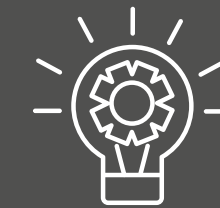


Picking
random themes
to provide
sustainability



Volunteers
vs.
professional/payed
staff

Lessons learned



FINANCIAL STABILITY

The first 3 years
of the work need to
be financially
stable

LOCAL COORDINATORS

untimely

OPENNESS

to new topics is the
strength of the
organization

TEAMWORK

People who
are not team
players gave up
because we were
sticking to our
mission

PARTNERSHIPS

The survival
and success of the
organization also
depends on the
partnerships it
creates

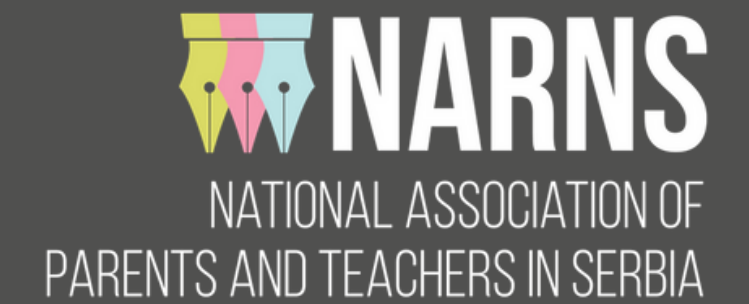


Watch video

WHAT MOTIVATED TEACHERS AND PARENTS TO JOIN IN

Milanka Dulic, parent, Subotica

Zilha Krlic, class teacher, Novi Pazar



Founding of The Association

II PART

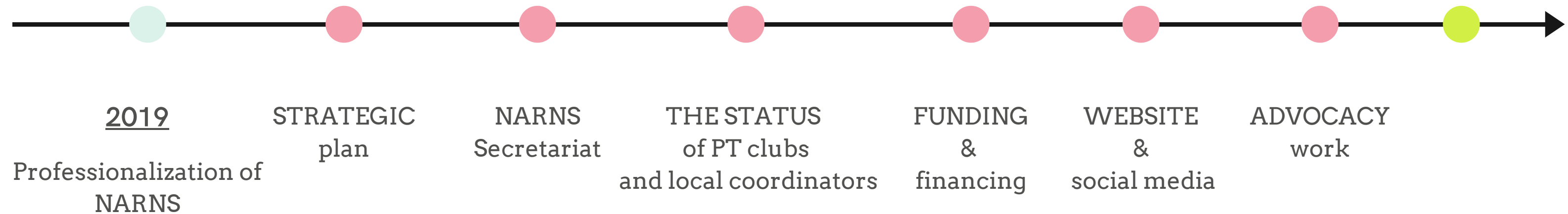
Questions? Clarifications?

III PART

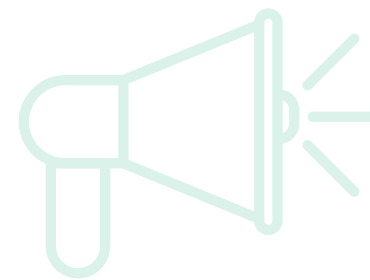
Influencing phase

Professionalization of NARNS from 2019

Dragana Djuric
Jasmina Selmanovic



Advocacy work



OBLIGATORY PROTOCOLS

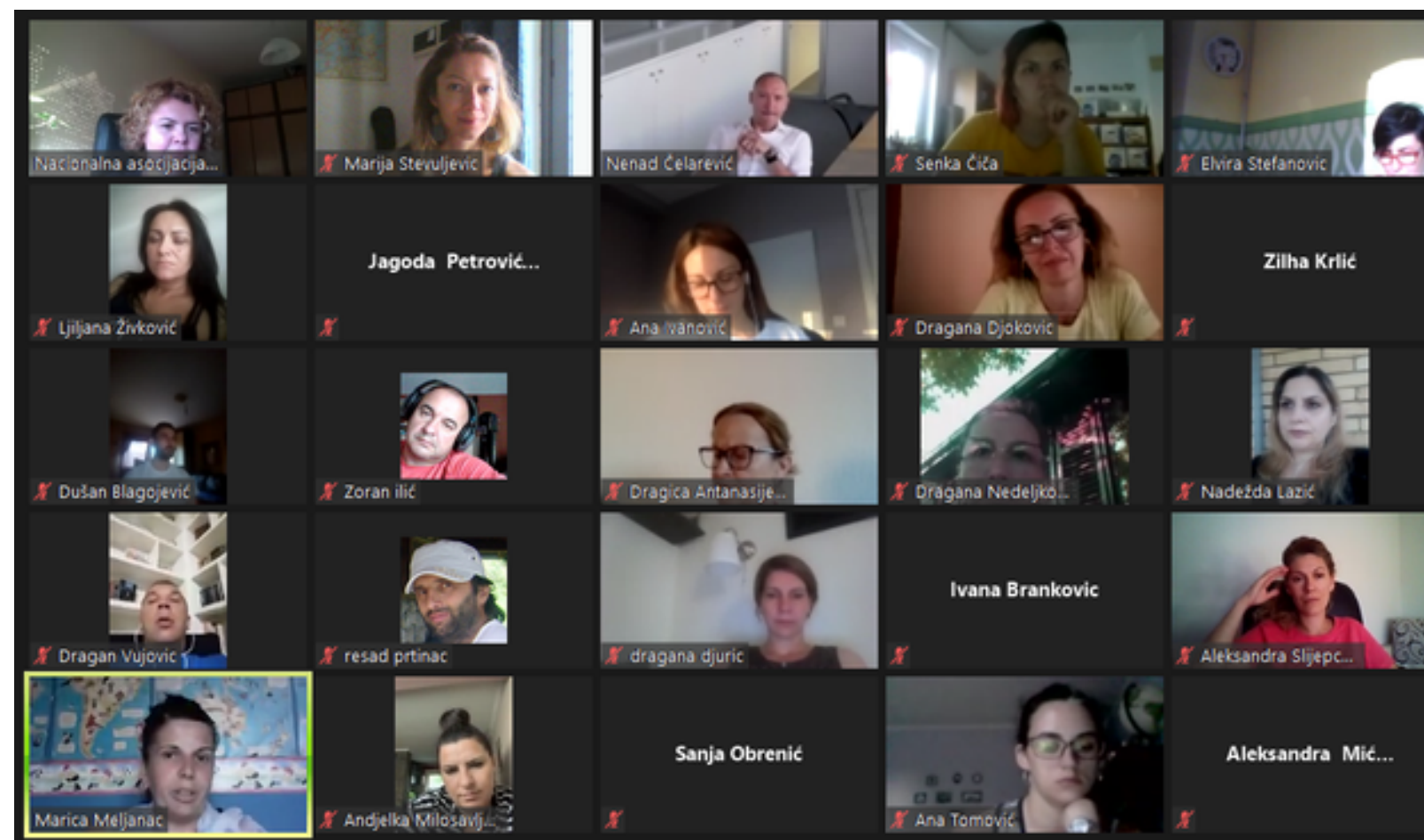
for transition periods in education
(preschool to primary school levels)

INCLUSIVE EDUCATION

Development of policies and practices
at the local level

SCHOOL INTEGRATION SUPPORT

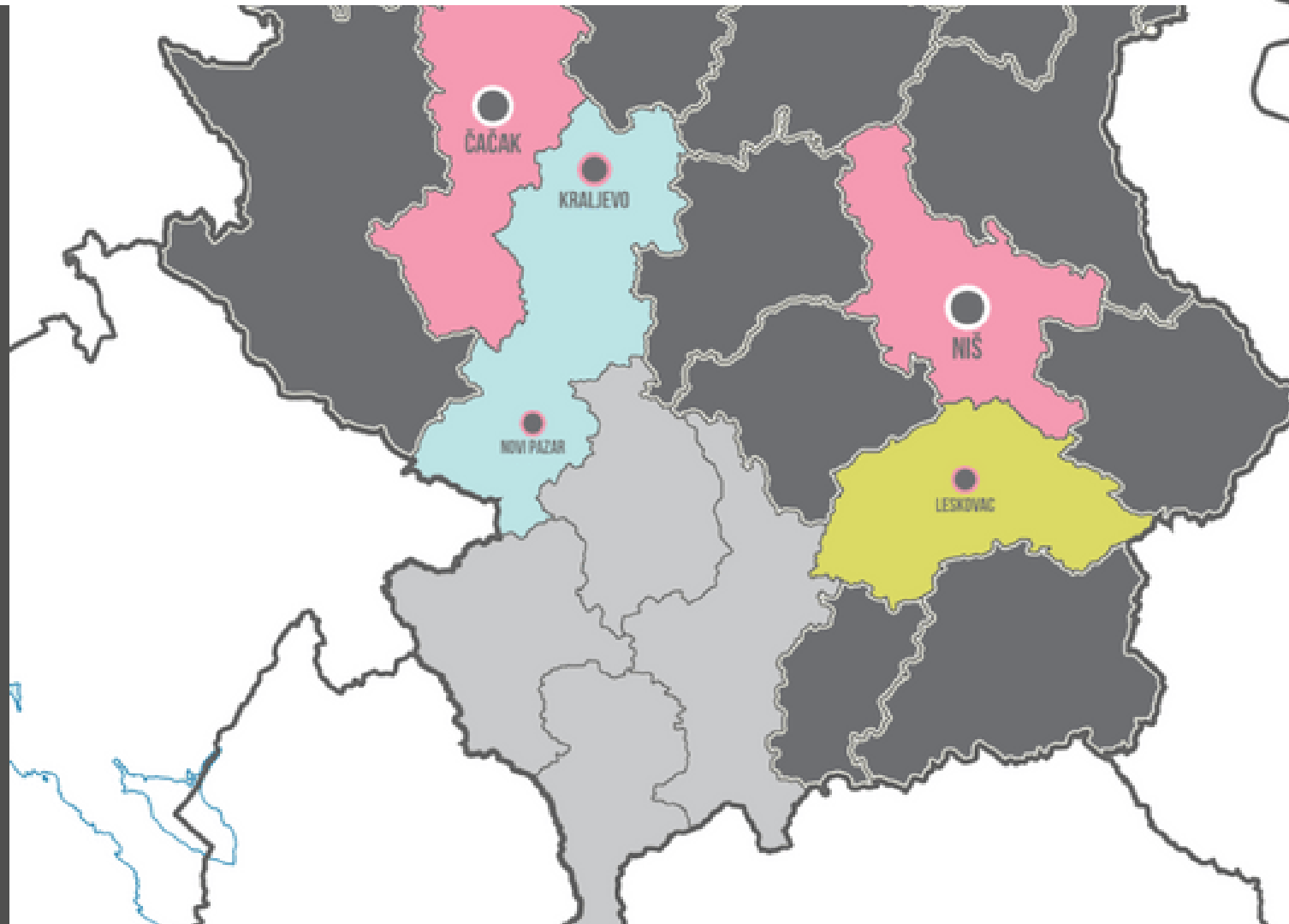
to Roma children returnees under the
readmission agreements





Achievements

FROM 2019 



- Defined draft **protocols for transition period** in education, influencing national legislation
- Participating in several **important national processes** led by the Ministry
- Enhanced **research capacities** of our members
- Expanded the **network** of City PT clubs
- Active collaborators in creating national policies in the field of **inclusive education**
- Created a team for continuous **advocacy**
- **COVID-19 response**

Challenges and obstacles

FROM THE DECOR TO INFLUENTIAL MEMBERS

Constant confirmation of our
competencies in working groups

COVID-19

FUNDRAISING

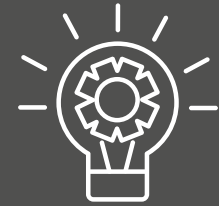
for our extended project team:
local coordinators

SUPPORTING

PT clubs to act independently but
remain part of the network

Lessons learned

FROM 2019



- **Power to mobilize** a large number of parents and teachers
- **Constant investment** in people brings results (our schools in other projects)
- Investing in cooperation **overcomes crisis situations** (COVID-19)
- Close ties to the Ministry of education but **independent** position
- Continuous communication + continuous motivation + incentives

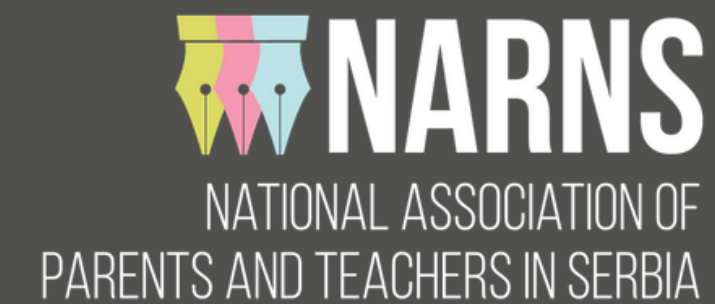
Watch video

WHAT MOTIVATED TEACHERS AND PARENTS TO JOIN IN

Senka Cica, defectologist in the
primary and secondary school, Zrenjanin

Suzana Skenderovic, parent, Subotica

Sanja Mirkovic, preschool teacher, Čačak



Professionalization of NARNS

III PART

Any questions? Comments?

IV PART

Exercise

Findings
of the groups

BREAK OUT ROOMS





Presentation of group work

IV PART

Findings of the groups

V PART

A work in progress

What Is the Future of NARNS?

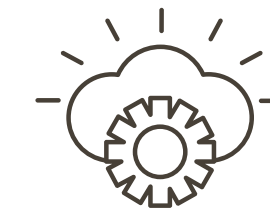
Planning and wrapping up



2021

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Future plans



CHILDREN

are the goal of our activities but they need to become more visible – monitoring and evaluation

PARENT-

TEACHER

COOPERATION

We continue to nurture parent-teacher cooperation because parents cannot enter schools without teachers

EXPANSION

of the portfolio

IMPROVING

THE

EXPERTISE

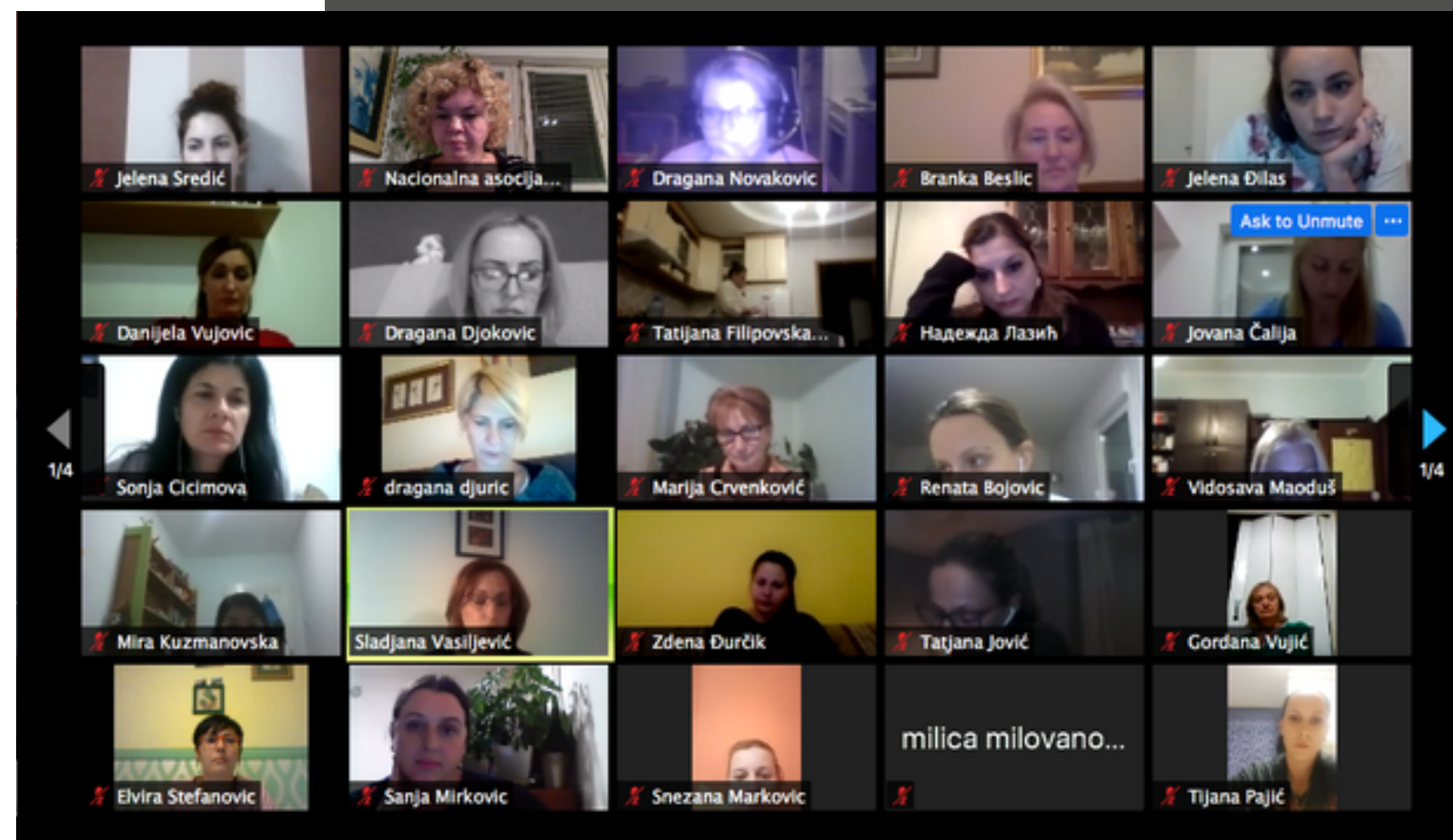
of members and forming thematic groups within NARNS

FUNDRAISING

Improving fundraising capacities

REGIONAL

COOPERATION



What Is the Future?

V PART

Questions? Clarifications?

Results



80

educational institutions
involved in the work of the
Association



12

city clubs of parents and
teaching staff across Serbia



4,500

engaged
parents and teachers

#NARNSeducation

Social Media

FOLLOW US

#NARNSobrazovanje



FACEBOOK

Partnerski za obrazovanje
@obrazovanjeSrbija



TWITTER

Obrazovanje.org
@ObrazovanjeOrg



LINKEDIN

National Association of
Parents and Teachers of
the Republic of Serbia -
NARNS



YOUTUBE

NARNS obrazovanje



The key focus and mission of the Association is to develop partnership, culture of respect and cooperation between parents and teaching staff

PARENTS AND TEACHERS CAN (AND SHOULD) WORK TOGETHER

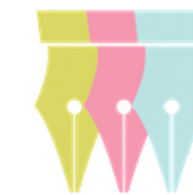
THANK YOU!



www.obrazovanje.org



narnsoffice@gmail.com



NARNS

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF
PARENTS AND TEACHERS IN SERBIA

