

Work of Career Specialists in Career Centre in Tallinn and the Description of *Lahendus.net* web environment for counselling (Estonia)

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I filled the office as a **career information specialist** at **Career Centre** in March this year. Career Centre situates in Tallinn and there work 5 school-psychologists/career counsellors and one career information specialist (i.e. me) at the moment. In the near future 2 more school-psychologists and one career information specialist will start their work at the Career Centre.

Career Centre offers services as career counselling, psychological counselling, mediation of information about studying opportunities, teaching skills for work searching, developing studying skills and offering career services for 9th class students and high school graduates involving group counselling, lectures, testing and individual counselling.

The **main responsibilities of a career information specialist at Career Centre** are mediating career information to young people in the form of individual and group counselling, delivering lectures about career information to 9th class students and high school graduates, and, if necessary, also taking part from the work of thematic workgroups or arranging and participating in enterprises of mediating career information. The target group of these services is schoolchildren at age 7 to 26. From now on, Career Centre offers its' services also to the students of vocational schools. At the moment I am also occupied with compilation of career library and databases.

I have been a counsellor as a volunteer at ***Lahendus.net*** ("*Lahendus*" means "solution" in Estonian). It's an **internet environment where the youth (up to 26 years old) is being counselled**. Some parents also turn to *Lahendus.net* with the problems concerning their children. Counsellors at *Lahendus.net* are psychology students starting from at least year two of their curriculum, who have passed counselling-related psychology courses for minimum 10 credit points. *Lahendus.net* has created a supporting network for all the counsellors – they have so-called older sisters and brothers and a supervisor to consult if they need some advice. *Lahendus.net* also offers information about the contacts and general information on the social field, interesting reading materials etc. When clients start communicating with the counsellor, it is up to the clients to decide whether their correspondence remains confidential or is becomes public. Public letters are visible for everybody, possibly providing general ideas about counselling at *Lahendus.net*. Counsellors divide letters into categories according to the themes (e.g. school, relationships, family, career, violence, addiction, drugs).