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**About the Presenter:**

Anna Paszkowska-Rogacz, holds a PhD in Humanistic Science, and Master degree in Psychology. She is an expert in the area of career development facilitating, and scientific worker at the Section of Occupational Psychology and Career Counselling of the Institute of Psychology at the University of Lodz, Poland. Her background also includes counseling work for educational institutions and the social welfare. She is the head of the postgraduate studies in 'Career Counselling', and social competence trainer. She is the Author, co-author and editor of about 100 published works including research reports, articles and books e.g. 'Developing Work Relations', 'Career Counselling in Educational Systems of the European Union', 'Career Counsellor's Techniques', 'Methods of Group Career Counselling', 'Career Counselling and Cross-Cultural Challenges', and 'My Child is Choosing a Career'. She is the Content co-ordinator of ten Leonardo da Vinci and Grundvig international projects. She is a member of the Polish Psychological Society, the Polish Association for Career Counselors, and the International Association for Educational and Vocational Guidance.

**Title of Paper:** **Validity of Youth Professional Interest Questionnaire (YPIQ) - Diagnostic Test Process Supporting Professional Aptitude and Interests of Pupils**

**Abstract:**

The poster reports an attempt to develop and validate a research instrument (Youth Professional Interest Questionnaire) capable of measuring the six occupational interests of students - managerial, methodological, social, innovative, scientific and artistic. A conceptual base for the instrument were works of Holland, Gardner, and Strelau. The item pool collected by four career counselors contained 150 statements that were answered using 5-point Likert scale with response that ranged from 1 -to 5. The YPIQ was administered to three samples of 600 Polish primary, secondary and high school students (total 1800), with an age of 14-19. All samples consisted of 50% girls and 50% boys. Principal components factor analysis with promax



rotation, was run on the first sample. Six criteria were considered in determining the number of components to rotate: the number of components with eigenvalues 1.0, the scree test, the percentage of variance accounted by each component, the percentage of total variance accounted for, the number of interpretable components, and the Monte Carlo Analysis. Strong support appeared for the construct validity showing six components that paralleled the six scales in the inventory. A confirmatory factor analysis was run to test the structure of YPIQ. The model contained six latent variables (corresponding to scales) and allowed for correlated factors and uncorrelated residuals. The fit indices were acceptable. Results of analysis which was run on the second sample indicated that the final version of instrument containing 60 statements exhibits satisfactory levels of convergent, discriminant and predictive validity, as well as reasonably high test-retest reliability and consistency. Results were compared to other lengthier instruments like Multidimensional Questionnaire of Preferences (Matczak et al., 2006) and Questionnaire of Temperament (Strelau, Zawadzki, 1998) designed to measure similar dimensions. The standard scores are based on the third, random sample from the national data base. The YPIQ provides a possibility of conducting diagnostic screening of graduates from primary schools, secondary schools and high school students. The results of the questionnaire are helpful in choosing a career, directions of education, and vocational training.