



Nadace
Zdeňka Bakaly

40

percent of the applicants
learn about us on the Internet

June 2013



On the Way to the Parliament with Our Foundation

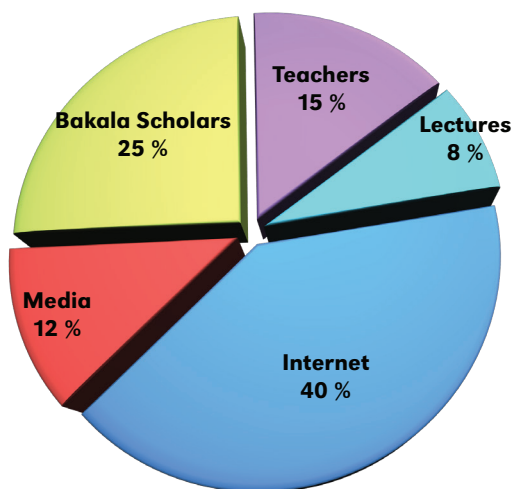
Just as the Vltava River was being held back by anti-flood barriers in Prague on June 3, the Chamber of Deputies of the Parliament of the Czech Republic hosted the final of a student debating contest, entitled **Cestou do parlamentu (On the way to the Parliament)**. The final, with a total of 50 participants, was a tight match between teams from Jiří Orten Grammar School in Kutná Hora and U Balvanu Grammar School in Jablonec nad Nisou, resulting in the victory of the Kutná Hora team.

The contest is organized by Agora for Students and the Zdeněk Bakala Foundation has been a partner for several years. We at the Foundation realize how important speaking skills are for students, and how undeservedly neglected they often are by schools. Many of the 61 Bakala scholars are among the top debaters and participants of debate contests held in the Czech Republic and abroad.



Our Scholar in Model EU

In the relaxed atmosphere of the first weekend after the final exams, Cambridge hosted Model EU, a conference simulating EU summits on current European issues. The 34 students participating in the event came from top universities in the UK and the rest of Europe. Among the four organizers was a recipient of our scholarship, Zuzana Picková. Zuzana explains: "Each of the participants was a representative of one EU member state in one of two simulations, discussing either the bailout package for Greece or the guarantee of youth employment. We were glad to see the enthusiasm that the delegates showed when seeking solutions that might help Europe to overcome some of its thorniest issues." Apart from the challenging talks, the participants of Model had a number of social events in Cambridge, including a tour of the historical colleges and a trip in traditional boats, with some taking an involuntary bath in the river Cam.



Where Do Students Learn about the Program?

This year, we received 215 applications for the Zdeněk Bakala Foundation's SCHOLARSHIP program. Research has shown that the majority of applicants learnt about our Foundation on the Internet (40%) and from current scholars (25%). Another important source of information were teachers. And our lectures at Czech secondary schools also resulted in a few applications. We want to continue our school tours, talking to students and parents about how to prepare for study abroad and offering advice on financial resources. If you would like to invite us to your school, please contact us at info@nadacezb.cz.