Seniors write articles on Wikipedia
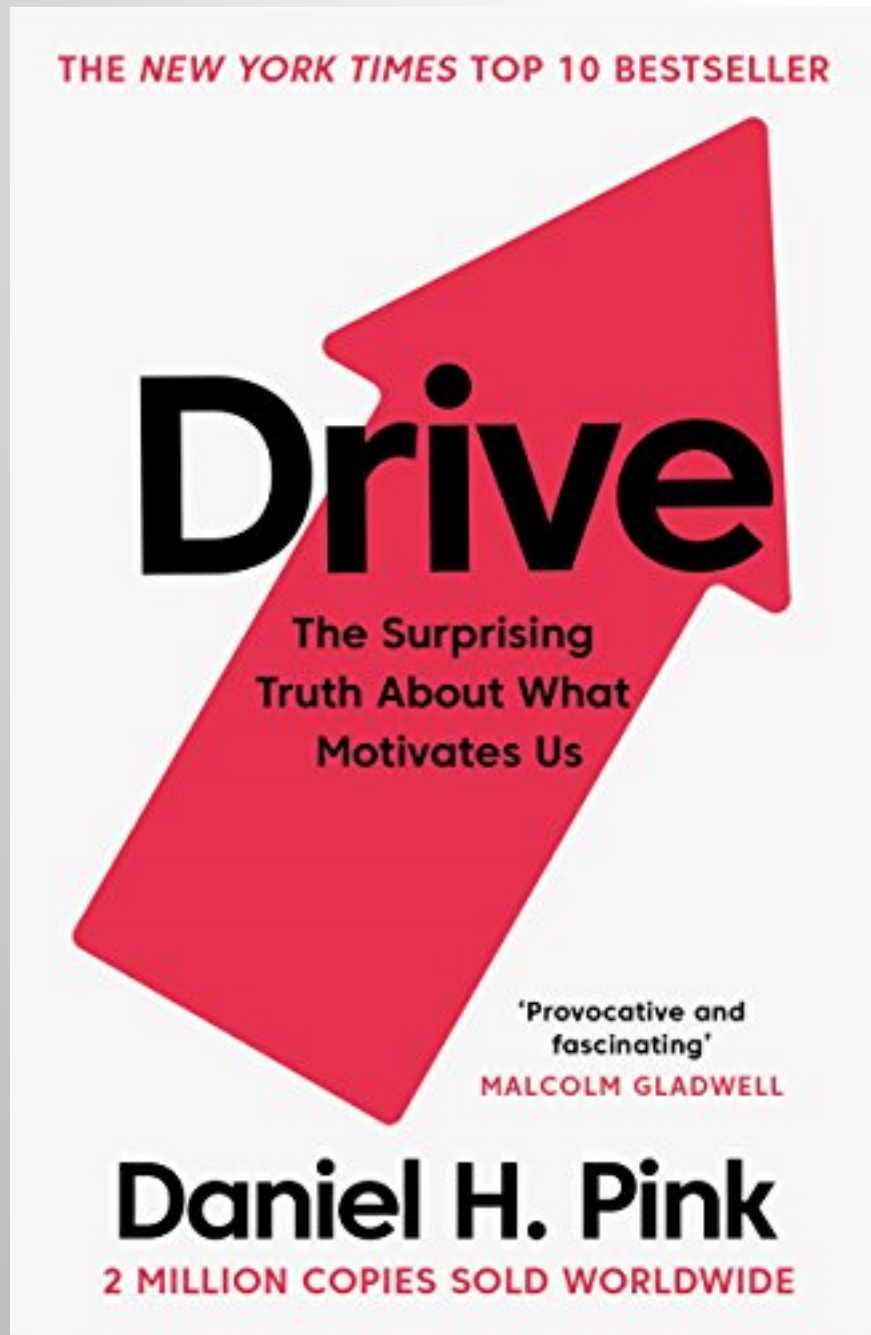## Serbian experience

By Mentatdgt, under a license CC0

By Milica Buha
User:BuhaM
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Drive

The Surprising Truth About What Motivates Us

'Provocative and fascinating'
MALCOLM GLADWELL

Daniel H. Pink

One chapter is dedicated to volunteer work.

In that chapter **Wikipedia is presented as the most powerful business model in the 21st century**.

As a motivation for work, Pink puts **volunteerism before material gain**.

The nature of the human race is to primarily search for the **meaning of life and purposefulness**.

The thousands of Wikipedians around the world are **not motivated by material gain, but by inner satisfaction during work and awareness of the benefits of that work for the community**.

A great pleasure can be **socializing, traveling together, various events where successes can be presented**, etc.

What about Seniors?

The biggest stress
in everyone's life:

1. Death or illness of a loved one
2. Divorce
3. **Stress caused by retirement**

Some people feel retirement as "social death".

By IgorVetushko, under a free license at depositphotos.com

Retirement creates a series of new psychological problems. Loneliness and boredom are highly ranked.

The number of daily responsibilities and social contacts decreases

The excess of free time appears

In the modern world, people are healthier, live longer and are professionally active and productive longer. They perceive retirement as a **"new beginning"** .

Quality aging and longevity are influenced by social contacts, hobbies, the lifelong learning process and volunteer work.

It is not enough to just provide social security for seniors.

Social care should be directed towards **creating as humane living conditions as possible in which the individual will feel socially useful**.

Policy brief

UNECE

Mainstreaming ageing - revisited

Contents

Challenging context

The proportion of people aged 65 years and above will increase from 16.8 per cent in 2020 to 24.5 per cent by 2050 in the UNECE region. This demographic shift will have an impact on almost all aspects of society. A comprehensive and forward-looking policy response that anticipates, prepares for, and mitigates the impact of population ageing on the economy, society and different generations is needed.

A future-oriented approach can seize the opportunities that ageing populations bring by enabling individuals to age healthily, learn and continuously develop new skills, extend their working lives, participate in and contribute to societies in diverse and meaningful ways at all stages of their lives. Inaction, on the other hand, may lead to increasing financial burden, shortages of skilled labour, strains on health and care systems, and intergenerational inequity if the risks and costs of population ageing are unfairly distributed. It is therefore important to take decisive action now to better anticipate and prepare societies for the future to ensure sustainable social protection systems, thriving economies, prosperity, and well-being for all generations.

Suggested strategies

This policy brief highlights several levers to advance the integration of ageing into public policies:
- Political and executive leadership for mainstreaming ageing
- A strategic framework for mainstreaming ageing
- Strengthened governance and mechanisms for effective horizontal and vertical inter-institutional coordination
- Agreed procedures for age-sensitive analysis, such as regulatory impact assessments and age-responsive budgeting
- Strengthened capacity for mainstreaming ageing
- Enhanced awareness, data collection and analysis to inform policy
- Participatory policymaking at all levels

Expected results

A more effective integration of ageing into all policies at all levels will enhance preparation for and adaptation to population ageing and achieve a more equitable development within society that will benefit all age groups.

With country examples from:

Armenia, Austria, Bulgaria, Canada, Czech Republic, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Malta, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Spain, and Turkey.

This policy brief addresses **Commitment 1 of the Regional Implementation Strategy for the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing and Sustainable Development Goals 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 8, 10, 11, 16, 17.**

United Nations

Source: UNECE

- Europe is the "old" continent
- Today, every fifth European is over 65 years old.
- Predictions say that in 2050 it will be every fourth.

- Promotion of lifelong learning and training of the elderly

- Paying attention to the specific needs of the elderly in relation to cultural activities

- Promotion of engagement of the elderly in the civil sector and strengthening of the role of volunteerism

Benefits for Wikipedia

- People retiring today are mostly **digitally literate**, so it is not difficult to train them to edit Wikipedia

- People retiring today are **still in full force**, and they have **invaluable knowledge and experience**, and a desire and will to share it with the community

- Retired people have **a lot of free time** that they can dedicate to editing Wikipedia.

„Wiki Senior" project
in the Belgrade City Library

Wikimedia Serbia

Belgrade City Library

Trainers and trainees
- begining -

trainees
„IT 65+"

implementation
since 2010

Belgrade City Library

trainers
„Wiki Librarian"

implementation since 2015

Wikimedia Serbia
Belgrade University Library

„Wiki Senior"

since 2019

Wikimedia Serbia
Belgrade City Library

Promotion

Advertising material was distributed through 50 branches in the City Library network

It attracted seniors with solid computer skills

In the first year 20 seniors wrote 36 articles

ПОДЕЛИТЕ СВОЈЕ ВЕЛИКО ЗНАЊЕ И ИСКУСТВО СА ЦЕЛИМ СВЕТОМ!

Библиотека града Београда и Викимедија Србије организују

БЕСПЛАТНЕ РАДИОНИЦЕ ЗА ОБУКУ У ПИСАЊУ ЧЛАНАКА НА ВИКИПЕДИЈИ НА СРПСКОМ ЈЕЗИКУ

Радионице су намењене нашим члановима - **пензионерима** Добродошли су и сви остали заинтересовани чланови

Program

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By Miomir Magdevski, under a license CC BY-SA 4.0
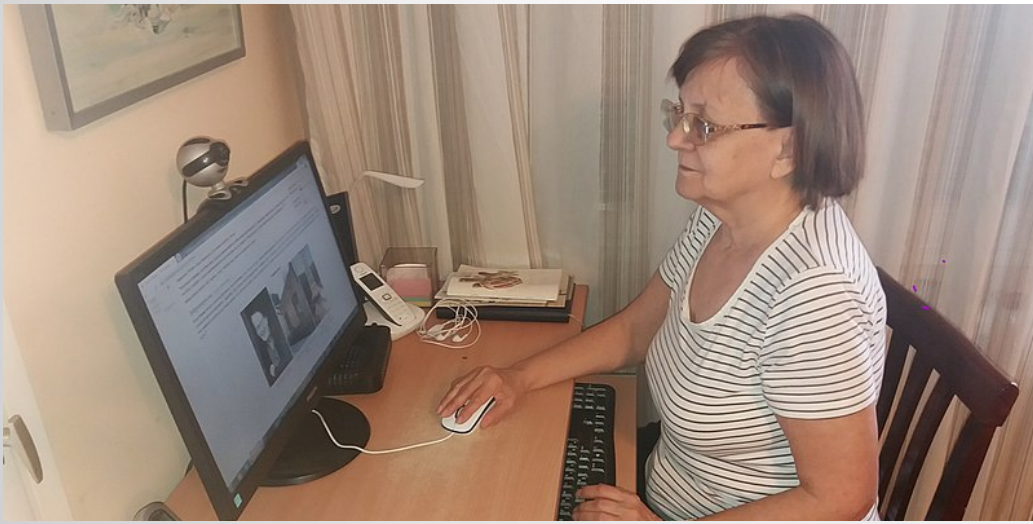

By Milica Buha, under a license CC BY-SA 4.0

- Workshops held **once a week**
- Several **editathons**
- Several **visits** to some cultural programs
- At the end of the year **certificates** for all seniors

Proposed topics are mainly related to culture:
- Literature for children and adults
- Writers and literary awards
- Intangible cultural heritage
- …

Participants can choose their own, depending on their interests, education or current activities. They wrote about:
- Edible and poisonous mushrooms
- Breeding and care of dogs
- Ecology and environment
- Dentistry
- Ballet dancers
- Serbian scientists
- …

„Wiki Senior" during the covid-19 pandemic

During the pandemic the project was continued **online**.

This activity was very important, especially during the lockdown - it **fill the suddenly created additional free time** in a high-quality and creative way, and **divert thoughts** from this newly and unwanted situation.

One „Wiki senior" won the flattering recognition - **Wikipedian of the year**

Results of the „Wiki Senior" project over the past four years

So far, about 30 participants have joined the "Wiki Senior" project.

Together with the librarians, who also write articles, they wrote about 800 articles.

More than 2,000 public domain files have been uploaded to Commons.

Thank you for your attention!