

CRISIS THE MIGRANT IN AN EDUCATIONAL PERSPECTIVE



Erasmus+

Co-funded by the
Europe for Citizens Programme



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THE PARTNERSHIP PROJECT OBJECTIVES



The project "**The Migrant Crisis in an Educational Perspective**", with the participation of 4 partnership countries, is focused on the modern crisis of migration and the situation of refugees in Europe, on the educational level. The objective was to check out how partnership countries teach modern history and convey information concerning the situation of refugees in Europe and EU politics to pupils. Introducing these issues during the lessons, it teaches the critical thinking and shapes conscious and responsible citizens.

A priority of our project is the promotion of an active nationality among our pupils in Europe, with the preservation of the national identity. We teach this during History, English (accessing on-line materials, information from different European countries and Red Cross), Literature (increasing of sensibility and contact with culture) and Civics lessons.

The purposes of our project are:

1. International cooperation of four different countries having different experiences with the problem of refugees, from Greece and Italy, striving with the problem of refugees, to Bulgaria and Poland, which are closing their borders.
2. Observing the way Modern History/Civics are taught in the different partnership schools and finding the answer to some question: "How do we teach our pupils what happens around us? How do we explain them modern Europe and its problems? What kind of tools do we have? How can we teach them to use the immensity of the Internet information, in an effective and reasonable way?"
3. Preparation of materials and tools in order to help teachers introduce the theme of modern refugeeism in Europe and preparation of History, English, Literature and Civics syllabuses, with the use of digital techniques and modern teaching methods like the SQ5R method in order to get objective information.

The needs to which the project answers are connected to the uncertain, changing political and economic scenario in Europe: some partnership countries have already tackled the problem of refugeeism (Greece,

Italy), so they have to explain and sensitize their pupils about it, whereas other countries are still far away from the problem (Bulgaria and Poland).

The project is addressed to pupils of all educational levels, from 8 to 18. From all the actions organized within the project, the following persons will take advantages: pupils from partnership schools, teaching staff, local community, teachers in Europe and in the world, seeking materials on the Internet.

The actions, undertaken in the project, were the organization of international project meetings, learning teaching and training activities, the creation of authentic and educational materials that could still be used after the end of the project by pupils and teachers and the promotion of the project, its products and results, together with the Erasmus Plus programme, at local level.

The methodology used in the project, was taken from the field of social science and was based on two methods: the questionnaire and the interview.

Pupils and teachers, that took part in the project, recognized the situation of refugees in Europe, in partnership countries in the empirical way and gained the information on this theme with the use of different methods: the creating of authentic materials used during the lessons; the improving of their knowledge of English; the active participation in the social life of their school and their local community; the promoting of their culture and identity in other European countries; the learning to gain objective information and the attitude to help people.

The long-term advantages at the end of the project are: greater consciousness and understanding of local, lingual and cultural diversities thanks to the experiences done with other cultures and with refugees; better lingual abilities; greater consciousness of the effectiveness of local communities' actions; devolving materials for having had History, Civics, Literature and English lessons in a more attractive and effective way. Schools, taking part in the project, will be open, dynamic and linked to European thoughts and values.

PROGRAMME OF MOBILITIES

BULGARIA

Sofia 10/14 December 2017 *Transnational meeting*

GREECE

Serres 17/22 April 2018 *Students and teachers'activities*

ITALY

Caserta 5/9 September 2018 *Transnational meeting*

POLAND

Zabrze 6/11 November 2018 *Students and teachers'activities*



MEMORIES



MEMORIES

1

Visit to 120 Primary School “G. S. Rakovski” Sofia – BULGARIA - 10/14 December 2017

Ruins in Sofia: St. George Rotunda



The first Transnational meeting was in Bulgaria. During the meeting:

1. We discussed in details the tasks and the activities on the project.
2. We took decision about the dates of the next meetings in order to buy cheaper flight tickets and safe hotels.
3. We also discussed the questionnaire
4. We had a meeting with Greta Gancheva, from the Ministry of Education who told us about the laws and activities that on Government base are hold for the migrant and refugee children.
5. We discussed the SQ5R method and the expertise from the partners with the method.
6. Visiting classes where the students discussed the refugee problem.

The teachers' meeting



Visit to 4th General Lyceum Serres – GREECE - 17/22 April 2018

2

MEMORIES

The holy monastery of Akritoch

Despoina, 4th Lyceum of Serres, Greece

My school, the 4th Lyceum of Serres in Greece, gave the opportunity to some Greek students to participate in the Erasmus program. This program promotes the unification of European countries by exchanging students with schools in abroad. This year I had the chance to host children from Bulgaria, Poland and Italy. By taking part to Erasmus I gained new experiences, I learnt some information about those cultures, traditions and the daily life in abroad and of course I made new friends. Because of the main course of Erasmus which was the refugee issue that Greece has to deal with in the last years, the teachers added to the schedule a special activity for us. So, we visited a school for refugee children and after the hot-spots (restricted areas- camp- for refugee houses) in order to understand the complicated situation of those people. When I entered to the camp I felt a little restless. After an interesting speech about this issue, I discussed with refugees and they told me about the war in their country and the difficulties that they had to overcome to finally arrive in Greece. Also, I was surprised of their optimism for the future and their hope for a better life. To sum up, in six days, I learnt a lot about Bulgaria, Poland, Italy and the refugees and for sure I will have unforgettable moments with my new friends. It was the best time in my school life.



The students from 4th Lyceum of Serres, Greece

As students from the 4th High School of Serres, Greece, we participated on the Erasmus program. The Erasmus program is a program in which involves exchanging among students from all around the world. The purpose of this program is for students to learn the tradition of different countries and also it is clearly based on the refugees problems that its country has.

In this program there were only four countries from Europe (Italy, Greece, Poland and Bulgaria). Twelve students, four from each country came here in Greece mostly as a help for refugees and we hosted them. Meeting new people, for us, will always be an unforgettable experience for us. First of all, we've collected so many interesting information about the culture of every country and obviously we had so much fun. Obviously we had discussed every detail based on the refugees problem that every society faces.

As the main reason of this exchange, one day we visited the camp that has been set in our town for the refugees. While entering the camp every member in our group felt a little anxious because of the strict measures that have been taken. I can surely say that the whole program was something remarkable but one

Bulgarian and Greek students



Students, teachers and families, all together



thing that really amazed me are the people living in this camp. We've talked with many of them and we felt for sure how much tired and scared they still were, because of the state of war that has been set in their country. They did transferred many things about them to us, the way that they now leave and what they want to do in the future. When we were about to leave, we all felt a little sad, because we really wanted to help them in every way possible. All in all, we visited so many places with our Erasmus group and we clearly had one of the greatest time of our lives but one thing that still remains in us is helping everyone, from refugees to usual people.

Joanna, 5 grade, Sofia, Bulgaria

I really enjoyed my trip to Greece. I was there for five days from 16th to 22nd April. We were four girls from Bulgaria. We traveled by bus from Sofia to Serres. I have never been there before. Serres is lovely small town near the Bulgarian border. I stayed in Greek family. The family that hosting me was very kind and nice. The girl who hosted me is called Marianthi and she is sixteen. She has a sister. Her name is Fani and she is thirteen years old.

I learned a lot of new things and I had good time. We visited interesting and beautiful places like Alistrati cave, Asprovalta beach (there we had lunch), Kerkini Lake (there we had boat trip), the holy monastery of Akritoch, Thessaloniki (there we had a trip with a sightseeing bus), and more. One day we went to the Greek school and had lessons there. After that we visited refuges camp.

I spend a lot of time with Marianthi. Every evening we went with my Bulgarian friends and Marathi's classmates. We went for a walks in the city center, we played bowling, we went to a restaurant where we ate traditional Greek food – tzatziki, souvlaki and we went to a café with very beautiful view.

The Erasmus group with the refugee students



Maria, Sofia - Bulgaria

In April I spent 6 amazing days with some of my classmates in Greece. We went there for a project about the migrants. I slept in a Greek family. They were very kind and I liked the time spent with Despina and her family. We explored the beautiful cities of Thessaloniki and Serres, took some great photos and laughed a lot. We visited a monastery in Serres. We went to a museum in Thessaloniki. I saw a lot of beautiful historical items.

Visit to 4th General Lyceum Serres – GREECE - 17/22 April 2018

2

MEMORIES

The Italian students with the Greek friends

We had some magical nights with amazing food and views to remember... We also played bowling. But the most impressive for me was the visit in the migrant camp. I saw how these people live. Before that we went to the school where we played together with migrant students. It was fun. I had a great time during my stay in Greece! I had a lot of fun, made some great memories and most of all I found new friends. I am looking forward for my next adventure !

Francesca and Teresa from Caserta, Italy

This spring we had the opportunity to go to Greece with our school. With the Erasmus project we were hosted for five days by the students of Greece who took part in the project. We arrived in Thessaloniki by plane, and we took a bus to get to Serres, where the boys were waiting for us. It has been five fantastic days full of adventures. Among the various adventures, the first day, we took a bike ride on the shore of the lake "Kerkini", admiring a beautiful view, and then we took a boat trip. The second day we were at the high school in Serres, where the children who hosted us studied. The first lesson was about the migrant crisis, in the afternoon a party was held in the school auditorium, where they showed us the traditional Greek dances. But we also had an educational experience, because in the afternoon we visited the refugee camp of Serres. The third day we left with the bus to "Alistrati" where we visited the cave and the gorge of Agitis river on foot, and after we visited the archaeological place in "Amfipoli" - and we took a guided tour in the museum and area. The fourth day with a bus that took us to Thessaloniki we visited an archaeological museum and the "White Tower", then we returned to Serres, and in the evening we were together with all the boys to greet us. The last day, we are left for Italy. This experience has helped us to improve our English, and the comparison with the other guys has also helped to relate to other people who have a different culture. Greek food was very different from Italian food, and as tourists we were open to all their traditions. Even though the food was different from the traditional Italian one, the taste and smell of it were fantastic. This was a magnificent, unforgettable opportunity that made all of us grow.

Dora, Gloria, Luca from Caserta, Italy

This year, thanks to my school and the Erasmus project, we had the opportunity to fly once again to discover a



Kerkini lake



Alistrati cave



At the refugee camp in Serres



new culture. We were 5 Italian students. We landed in Greece, precisely in Serres. Arrived there after a two-hour flight, we met the guys who would host us. They were called Theodora, Eleni, Zeta, Chrysa, Sokratis and for all our experience they were like brothers, they always helped us and make us feel at home. Together we spent a lot of time even if they did the morning activities while doing the planned activities, they stayed at school, but the afternoons were always dedicated to us, getting to know each other better, comparing our cultures and habits, they taught us a few words in Greek and we taught them some words in Italian.

The activities, while we did in the morning with the other guys were always full, very interesting and stimulating, we visited fantastic places, full of history and different colors to those we are used to in Italy.

We took a bike ride on the shore of the lake "Kerkini" and then crossed it by boat, we visited "Alistrati" where on foot crossed the cave and the gorge of the river "Agitis", we also visited the archaeological area of "Amfipoli" where a guide was waiting for us to see the museum and the area surrounding it, with a bus we also arrived in Thessaloniki where we visited an archaeological museum and the "White Tower", also in one day we had the opportunity to attend a normal school day for the children who hosted us, accompanying them to their high school, where we participated in a lesson on immigrants and refugees, and where there was a big party in the amphitheater where they showed us their traditional dances.

But the experience that has remained in our hearts is when we visited the musical school where there are all the children of refugee or refugee families who have sought shelter in Greece. It was great to play, dance, draw with children, they were very small and many did not understand English, but they tried to communicate with us through gestures and eyes. After the activities we distributed gifts to each of them, and it was nice to see how some simple toys and sweets made them so happy. After giving him the presents to thank us, they taught us a traditional dance, and it was nice to hear that in that place at that moment all the differences were canceled out. We also went to visit a camp of immigrants and refugees, they showed us their homes and their way of life, talking about them and telling us stories about their lives. We are happy to have had this opportunity, where we have managed, not only to relate to other people, but also to know a culture so different from ours, with traditions, food and customs so different, but we are also happy because we had the opportunity to see the situation of immigrants and refugees with our own eyes.

The experience of Erasmus has allowed us to learn new things, to know new places but the most important thing is that it has allowed us to grow giving us many new emotions.

Olivia from Poland

In the evenings... we visited the city, we tried delicious ice cream and ate dinners at the restaurants. I liked souflaki very much, my other favourite Greek dish was Greek salad. One day I went for a birthday party to my host, Artemis' best friend. Then we met with the rest of our Polish/ Greek group – there were lots of people. That evening we went to the centre of Serres and spent some time on chatting and hanging out. It was hard to say goodbye to our host families and friends. Our last night together was unique.

My favourite memory from the visit, was Saturday evening. It was so easy to communicate because no one was afraid to speak English, Greek or Polish. :) I think I will never forget that night!

This project was great because we could travel abroad and stay with Greek families. We got to know their culture and traditions, starting with fantastic Greek food. We saw a Greek dance too! We visited the museums and two beautiful cities, Thessaloniki and Serres. I could speak English all the time and I even learnt some Greek words and expressions. I am very happy I could spend my time in so international group of friends, telling them about my country, language and culture.

Patrycja from Poland

My Greek host was very nice, I felt there like at home. They cooked very well, I was never hungry. :) They spoke English so we did not have any problems while talking. They always asked me if I need anything and were really helpful when it came to choose clothes according to the weather forecast.

My favourite memory was a Saturday night, our last night in Serres. That day we visited Thessaloniki first. Then, in the evening, we went to a nice cafe, where we could see the panoramic view of the city (interesting ruins of a castle were just right next to us). Later, we met a group of students from the school and we talked to them for a long time, teaching ourselves new words in Polish and Greek. Then we went to a best ice cream shop in town. :)

This project was cool because I went abroad for the first time in my life and I met many interesting people. I have learned few words in Greek. I visited great places including a cave, a gorge, Serres, Thessaloniki. I had also an exceptional chance to meet refugees and visit their camp. It was a unique experience to me.

Michal from Poland

In the evenings we were going out to spend some time in the city. We were going to restaurants, ice



The Polish students



At the refugee camp in Serres



cream shops and entertainment centres. Greeks were giving us their traditional dishes. We could also see traditional Greek dances! We talked for hours. The panoramic view of Serres was astonishing. I could observe „free animals” living there (in Poland we don't call them free, but homeless). I will never forget my Greek nights.

My favourite memory was to admire the panoramic view of the city and the evenings that we spent in Serres city centre. I met lots of interesting, great and funny people. My last day in Serres was unforgettable.

When we went to music school to meet the refugees children, I didn't expect so warm welcome. The students were ready and open to meet new people. It was easy to notice that they love to dance and they liked sports. It was nice to cooperate with them and have lesson, prepared by our teachers.

This project was great because I could visit and get to know Greece inside out. I saw beautiful places, museums, lakes and the sea! I tasted delicious food. I spoke English all the time and I wasn't afraid of speaking. I learnt many new things which I would never taste living in the hotel. This trip was great and gave me a chance to rest and have fun. This project is not great – it is awesome!

Tymon from Poland

While sightseeing the area of Serres. I could learn a lot about the history of Greece, its relicts, literature and culture. I saw a gorge which I have never seen before, beautiful Alistrati cave and a spectacular sea in Thessaloniki. We had a bike trip around the lake and we took a boat to see it closer. We met refugees and we were able to see their camp. At Greek school many children were excited to meet Polish people!

In the evenings... The time I spent with my project friends was amazing. I met so many people and we laughed together. We always came back home late. :)

I saw a refugee camp which was very sad. There were small houses and they looked like a war camp for me. I heard about those people, they came from Sudan and Iraq. It seemed to me impossible that those people were able to swim across the sea just to escape from the war. I believe they must be very strong mentally.

This project was great because I got to know Greek culture inside out. I met many interesting people from Greece, Italy and Bulgaria. They liked me too, I think. :) I saw beautiful places, tasted super food and could see many nice Greek traditions. I visited also the second biggest city in Greece, Thessaloniki. In my opinion this project helped the students to know themselves better, and to know English language and Greek culture better as well.

Visit to Istituto Mattei Caserta – ITALY - 05/09 September 2018

3

MEMORIES

At the welcoming immigration centre S.P.R.A.R. in Caserta

The second transnational meeting of our project was held in Caserta from the 5th September to 9th September 2018. The meeting was mainly focused on the evaluation of the project and making decisions about preparing the final meeting of the project in Poland. The agenda was on:

- preparing the authentic materials after meeting with the representative of Italian organization working with migrants;
- preparing the final version of lesson syllabuses;
- preparing articles for the website of the project;
- preparing presentations for the teachers' conference in Poland;
- preparing information about the final visit of the project in Poland.

The project meetings were daily planned.

A very important meeting was held on Saturday morning at the S.P.R.A.R. centre which is a centre for migrants in the town of Caserta. We and our partners, together with some students and teachers from our school had the opportunity to actually meet the representatives of this volunteer association working with migrants. It was very touching to hear the stories told by some young migrants about their personal history. Our partners also had the opportunity to visit some places in our town and region, such as the Royal palace in Caserta, the Amalfi Coast and Naples.

Polish students reflections

My best memory was...

- every moment spent with my friends from other countries!
- the visit in the *House of Air*;
- meeting new project friends;
- the night in Gliwice city;
- having fun in *Escape Room*!
- when my guest friend has won at bowling and was very happy about it;
- when my project friends were smiling and being not stressed about staying far away from their countries :)



Walking in Amalfi



Poland team



The most surprising thing was...

- when my friend told me that in Italy no one shared pizza in the restaurant ;)
- when I have learnt that there were many similar words in Polish and Bulgarian language!
- when my friend from Greece was surprised it was forbidden in Poland to smoke at school;
- 3 months of summer holiday in Italy!?! Ohhh :)
- that my friends from Bulgaria were looking older than they were in real;
- that my project friend did not like *pierogi*;
- that *zapiekanka* was Polish fast food! And that there were not many shopping centres in Serres and Caserta :)

This project is a great adventure because...

- I could meet so many great people from other countries!
- we were forced to speak English after school and it was very challenging :)
- I was speaking English at home and it was super!
- I have learnt more about Italian, Bulgarian and Greek traditions;
- I have never had guest at home which could not speak Polish :)
- I miss my friends and thank God for *Whatsapp* :)
- I CAN SPEAK ENGLISH MUCH BETTER THAN BEFORE;
- my school life after *Erasmus* seems to be... boring;
- it was a fantastic adventure for me and my family!

Julia, Katarzyna, Agata, Emilia, Oliwia, Zuzanna, Emilia, Kinga, Michał, Wojciech, Tymon and Mikołaj.

Students and teachers together



Visit to Szkoła Podstawowa nr 5 im Króla Jana III Sobieskiego Zabrze– POLAND - 06/11 November 2018

4

MEMORIES

Students and parents

Marina from Sofia

My name is Marina and I'm in fifth class.

I participated in the Erasmus Plus, an European Program and I visited the city of Zabrze, Poland from 06.11 to 11.11. On a sunny day, I and three more children together with our teachers from the 120 G.S. Rakovsky", we flew to Poland.

That same evening we arrived in the town of Zabrze. Our Polish hosts were expecting us. I stayed in the wonderful family of Zuzanna Pavlovska. She lives with her parents, her little brother and the cat Philli in a small, pleasant home. Five days we woke together, had breakfast and went to Zuzanna's school. The building looked like Harry Potter's School of Magic. It was very interesting for me that the school day for Polish children began with a lesson on religion.

Children from four nationalities participated in this program. We spoke in English. The subjects of our conversations were the emigrants. I learned interesting things about people looking for protection and a new home for their families. Together with our teachers, we visited the most interesting places near Zabrze - an old coal mine and a 20th century castle. We have visited Krakow – a very beautiful town with rich history and many sights.

We were very happy when we went to the zoo in Zabrze. In the evenings we were coming back to the homes of our hosts where we played and had fun. With Zuzana we became very close and I look forward to meeting her again! We came back to Bulgaria very happy!

I thank my teachers, my hosts and everyone who made this trip possible!

Filip from Sofia

The Polish people are using only country typical names. The language is Slavic and I understood the meaning of some words. I was very warmly welcomed in the family.

The schools and the churches are very respected. The country is 1000 years old and the people are very emotional. They keep and practice the national customs. Cześć means Hello and dzień dobry means Good morning. The school was very old and beautiful. The people were proud that we were visiting their country and school and tried to learn our culture. The Polish people do believe that the breakfast is the most important meal during the day and ate a lot in the morning. The children were very kind and they tried to learn some



A day in Katowice





Bulgarian. The flowers are national symbol. The people are interacting a lot about the genetic diseases, the differences between the people express the opinion that is not good to speak bad about people. They are willing to respect the disadvantaged people. The people are working very successful in team. The people are eating a lot of sweets. The best trademark for sweets is Michaszki. The children was very quiet during the lessons in the school and they kept clean in the rooms. The Freedom Street in Zabrze is one of the longest in Europe. The teachers was giving tasks to the students and they are making a free discussion while eating, drinking and speaking free to all the tasks. The teachers gave a lot of free space to their students and the teachers was never getting loud to the students or suppressed them in any kind. The students was going to school with a lot of enthusiasm. The teachers respected the students and their opinion.

I was invited from my Host Family to a football play and all the people were emotionally supporting their team.

The depth of the coal mine is 355 m. The mine was built in 1876. This is the only mine in Europe, which is save for visitors. The horses was used as a transport from 1890 to 1956. From 1956 the women was not allowed to work in the mine, but from 2007 they can work there.

Everybody talked about the help for the emigrants but nobody knows how to help practically. Everybody talked about the integration process of the emigrants but the parents of the students must not talk bad about the migrants. The children must visit the migrant camps. We have migrants as a cause of the war and there is war only because of the great powers to have political and economic influence in the Middle East. If the Islamic state gets the power in Syria there will be more terrorism and the great powers will lose their influence in this part of the world. The children should visit the migrant children, to play with them, to help them learning the language of the host country and to respect them as a human beings. This is the proper way we can manage and achieve a peaceful future together.

Visit to Szkoła Podstawowa nr 5 im Króla Jana III Sobieskiego Zabrze– POLAND - 06/11 November 2018

4

MEMORIES

The Greek students

Sokratis from Serres

I am very happy to travel in Poland. This is my first time to traveling in abroad and was fantastic. Many beautiful places and the old buildings stand out. In my opinion Krakow is my favourite place with many tourist and big buildings specifically horses in streets made me very interesting. Also the Psczyny castles was wonderfull with forest and very green close to the lakes looks like fairy.

Very good peoples there and very hostly. I will travel in Poland again i hope:)

Thank too all guys to take part to Erasmus+ keep it touch.

Kiriakos from Serres

What is said about this program is not enough to describe it. Initially, you fully know the culture, the way of life and the whole tradition. Through the program I learned the culture of Poland, we tasted delicious food. I learned about Poland and about the city I was in. The hospitality was the best, from the first moment, they wanted to make me feel like home and I did it. I felt like I never left my country. My personal view is that each student has to experience this experience because you have the opportunity to get to know new cultures, to feel and to get acquainted with something new. It's really a life experience.

Despoina from Serres

The 4th high school of Serres in Greece, gave the opportunity to some Greek students to participate in the Erasmus program. This program refers to the refugee issue and the student's (from other Europeans countries) sensitization about it. This year 4 students from my country (accompanied by 4 Greek teachers), 4 from Italy and 4 from Bulgaria had the chance to visit Zabrze in Poland. Because of the main course of Erasmus, the polish teachers had organized some experiential games for us to realize this situation. After that, we went for tour to Auschwitz and Birkenau death camps. The words are not enough to express what we felt by seeing those horrible places. Afterwards, we travelled to Pszczyna and Krakow where we enjoyed the breathtaking views of castles and squares. Also, we went to coal mines and many local monuments. We ended this trip with some activities with the host families. In my opinion, the best was the hospitality of the polish families, they were so kind, cheerful, affable, generous and good welcoming. Furthermore, the polish





teachers cared about our comfort and our entertainment. To sum up, in six days, I gained new experiences, I learnt much information about polish culture, traditions, daily life, food, architecture, history and I made new friends and of course I have unforgettable moments with them.

Marianthi from Serres

First and foremost, I want to thank all the families and especially the family that host me. Not only for the hospitality but because they succeed exactly the goal of this program . No matter the country,the distance, the language, the age and generally all the differences, we are all human and we need the same things and have the same rights. We need love, peace, food, friends, people that understand us and all this basic things that we have in our day routine.In addition to, I acquire a lot of experiences which I will remember for the rest of my life, both for the program and for the country. We enjoyed all the destinations that we visited and we saw that apart from differences, the things that conect us are more. Finally, I want to express my satisfaction of this program and I hope that we reitereit it.

Visit to Szkoła Podstawowa nr 5 im Króla Jana III Sobieskiego Zabrze– POLAND - 06/11 November 2018

4

MEMORIES

Arianna and her Polish host

Arianna and Emanuela from Caserta

First day: Well...I can only say that the Frankfurt Airport is very beautiful. We had to spend 6 hours there because we lost a flight due to a delay of a plane. We ate there and after we arrived in the Katowice Airport we took a bus to Zabrze where the families were waiting for us in front of the school.

Second day: We were really tired since we slept only 5 hours but at the same time excited to be in a new country. At 9:50 we had a meeting with all the foreign students from the project where we talked about our interests and we even made a little video together that it's being made! In the evening we went to a local mine in Guido that it's now closed but in the past it was a local mine where apprentices or workers went to work everyday.

Third day: In the morning we made our way to the Auschwitz Concentration camp. It wasn't our favorite day but it was an experience and as a big poster from the museum said "Those who don't remember the past are condemned to repeat it." In the evening we went to play Bowling with the Polish girls who hosted us and it was very funny! We even ate the local pizza together.

Fourth day: Early in the morning we had a ceremony where all the foreign teachers and students were present. One teacher per each country had to say something about their school and what did they think about the project in general as of course to thank the Polish guys for hosting us. In the afternoon we visited the Pszczyna Castle and it was very big, beautiful and elegant.

Fifth day: The last day! We went to Krakow and we visited a local museum and after we had some free time to explore the main square and its beautiful buildings. In the evening we went to a shopping center with the Polish girls to do some shopping with them and we enjoyed that a lot!

Giada and Melania from Caserta

From 6 to 11 November we had the opportunity to participate in an Erasmus project in Poland, Zabrze. We were hosted by Polish girls with whom we spoke in English, the families were very kind and hospitable with us



Melania and her Polish host



In the lift, going down the coal mine



and thanks to this trip we visited fantastic places and we met new cultures and new people.

On Wednesday morning we had a workshop about migrants and differences with a Polish teacher and the other guys and we have done many activities on this subject. After the lunch we went to the coal mine in Guido and then we went back to school where we met our Polish girls and then we went to the jump city in Zabrze.

The second day we went to Auschwitz, and we saw the concentration camp where a lots of Jews were deported. Then also with our guide we went to Birkenau. In the evening we went to the bowling with our Polish girls.

On Friday we had a conference about a project in Zabrze and after the lunch we went to visit the castle and the park in Pszczyna. In the evening we went with our Polish girl at the Escape room.

The last day we went to Krakow, a wonderful city, where we visited a museum. In the afternoon we bought some souvenirs and then we had lunch in a restaurant and then we went to the mall.

It was a very beautiful experience and we are happy for this opportunity.

- 3** - The partnership project objectives
- 5** - Programme of mobilities
- 6** - Memories
- 7** - Visit to Sofia, Bulgaria
- 8** - Visit to Serres, Greece
- 14** - Visit to Caserta, Italy
- 15** - Visit to Zabrze, Poland

