



Memory Book



VOLUNTEERING IS OUR JOB



Strategic Partnership Project

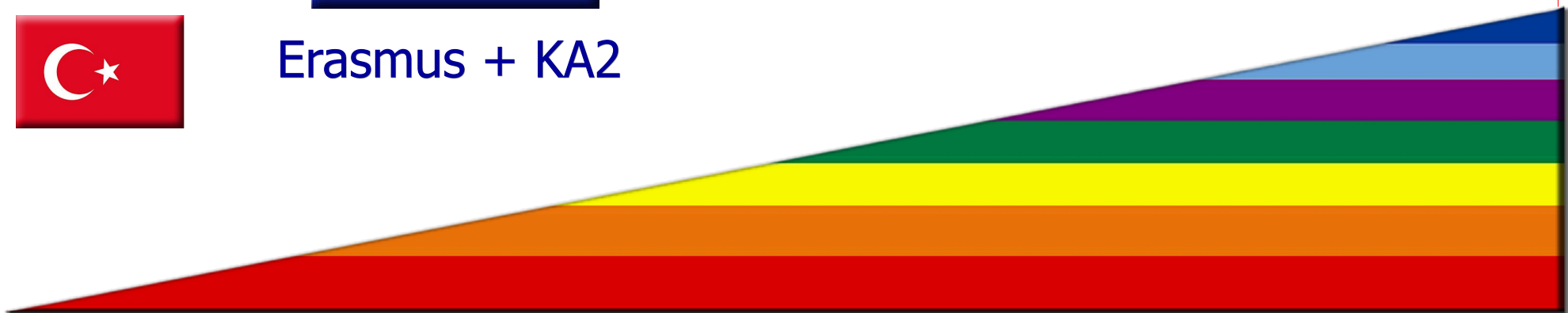


starting date: 1st September 2014

ending date: 31st August 2016



Erasmus + KA2





Introduction

Erasmus Plus Action Key 2 Project “Volunteering is our job” promotes volunteering jobs which consist of activities in different fields such as: social, environmental, cultural, educational.

Students and teachers have the chance of

- ♦ building a cultural bridge through the different cultures;
- ♦ developing peace, tolerance among cultures ;
- ♦ exchanging ideas;
- ♦ raising awareness of cultural diversity in EUROPE;
- ♦ setting positive approaches towards Europe and European countries;
- ♦ improving language and ICT skills;
- ♦ bringing innovative approaches in learning, teaching, training;
- ♦ adding European dimension to education, by working with the participating organizations;
- ♦ developing different methodology in formal education;
- ♦ being awareness of Multilingual EUROPE;
- ♦ setting international communication and cooperation.

The students and teachers learn how to work in an international project group, joining open-air and public events, charity work, meetings, competitions, performances, workshops that set a cultural bridge through the different cultures, developing peace, tolerance among them, and besides empathy, sensibility, good intention and wishes.



Transnational Meeting Turkey-Sivas November 2014





Sivas
(Turkey)



ÖZGÜL BOLAYIR

(English teacher, coordinator of the project)

I couldn't dream that the project would be effective on a large amount of people who took part in it.

We all are happy while doing volunteering in a great corporation from Italy, Spain, Bulgaria, Hungary, Poland and Turkey.

Everybody did the best with great efforts actualizing the project activities. During all mobilities, All students, teachers had so many unforgettable days. I saw bright smiling on the pupils' faces by working together. I was so impressed when I listened to hungarian students' songs in six languages.

They managed to sing these songs perfectly. I will never forget the happiness of the orphans in Poland when we played traditional games with them and their taking our gifts .An orphan boy ran after our bus for a long time until our bus disappeared.we managed so good things with our big Erasmus+ family. I'm very happy to give this opportunity to the students especially the deprived students. Our friendship will last even if our project ends.



Emre Tayfur (English Teacher)

It was the first time that I have been to abroad. By the way of this project, I had a good opportunity to meet new people and different cultures. In Poland, I prepared Pierogi, traditional polish dish with the students. In fact I don't cook and I don't know how to cook. I felt as a great Chef during that time. For a long time, I shared my experiences in Poland with my students at school. I gained the desire of taking part in this kind of projects. I improved my teaching methods and discovered myself. Shortly, It was a great experience for me.

Serdar Karabulut (Music Teacher)

I don't know English very well so before the trip to Hungary, I studied English. My English level increased. Because I had a chance to practise English. As a music teacher, I took part in Music Show in Hungary. The hungarian team was so successful that they composed the project song and the hungarian students sang all partner schools' traditional songs in their languages. I learnt a lot of things about teaching methods, different lifestyles. I liked hungarian cuisine which is close to Turkish cuisine. I will never forget the days I spent in Hungary.



Kadir Bahar (ICT teacher)

All activities were enjoyable in Poland and Hungary. I hope the activities will be enjoyable in Other countries, too. All people in the project have been working very hard and doing their best. The belief for the project is very high. It makes us very happy. I liked language courses. I know a little Polish, Hungarian and I will learn others , too. My english is getting better day by day. Meeting with our Project group is making me happy. One of my memories is that We designed our project garden with colourful flowers. Everybody worked a lot. The Athmosphere was excellent. We had so fun everywhere. I'm looking forward to next mobility.

Ahmet Turan Özkan (History Teacher)

I have never been to abroad. It was the first time that I was involved in this kind of activities and I had an opportunity to compare with cultures , lifestyles. All activities are so imiginative and orginal. I 'm very pleased to join you, Erasmus+ group. I teach World history to my students. While visiting historical places in Hungary, Completely, I felt history that I teach. The warm welcoming of Hungarian people affected me so much. I found some similiarities with hungarian culture and language. It was a good pleasure to be there and know new people.



Gamze Selvi (17, student)

I got the opportunity to go to Hungary. Hatvan is a very pretty town. I admired its city settlement. I was full of excitement when we gave a concert for Charity. Everybody watched us seriously at the concert. I felt myself like a famous singer while singing our traditional songs, other countries song and our great project song. I spent wonderful days in a week with my friends from all partner schools. If you are given the opportunity even if you have never thought about going away before, do it. Believe me, You will like it. Erasmus+ Projects give us a great chance to see different cultures, people, developments on our skills and doing our project activities. I won't forget my experiences which I had there.

Melike Ersin (17, student)

What a nice experience I had in Hatvan. My host family treated me so well they are my second family. When my friend From Hungary came to my city, she was very excited she had no idea about me until she saw me in Sivas. We liked each other I always called her as my second sister. We have a good relation now and it will last. I gained my self-confidence after project activities, I joined a few events at school as an organizer. This is one of the project benefits on me. I discovered myself. My teachers discovered my skills, too. We shared nice moments with a large Erasmus+ project group. We did lots of things together and mainly volunteering out of borders. While leaving there, we cried a lot hugging each other. Thank you so much, my dear teachers that you gave me such a nice opportunity.



Yaren Yıkılğan (16, student)

At first, My family was in a great hesitation that I would spend a week with a family abroad. After staying with my host family, I learnt that I have had a nice family. They behaved me like their daughter. Before the project, I didn't use to talk so much and was a withdrawn person. There are some changes on me. I like learning languages any longer. The architecture of Hungary, Budapest, is gorgeous. I admired the nature of this country. Discovering a different culture is a privilege that no one should be denied. I made good friends from Bulgaria, Spain, Italy, Hungary, Poland. I enjoyed a lot in Matra Oxygen park. I want to go to Hungary. Who knows, I will go there for my university education or exchanging university student programme of Erasmus.

Betül Kaya (17, student)

Some of the best moments I experienced were on activities with a great task I made in Hungary. I like all activities such as singing songs in Five languages, digging the garden to plant flowers and designing the project garden with our project group. We all tried Hungarian traditional folk dance and I like Hungarian traditional costumes. I wish for everybody to be able to enjoy this experience. I can honestly say it was one of the best periods of my student life so far.



Ebru Sena Erdoğan (17, student)

I'm very happy that I was involved in this project. I learnt so many things about polish people , culture and other cultures. By the way of the project, my english level increased.

When we visited to the local orphanage in Poland, I was so impressed that the children there prepared some food for us. We gave them handmade caps which some voluntary women in my city knitted . They were very happy and wore them .

I will always remember our incredible days there . I will keep in touch with my all foreign friends.

Ayşenur Noyan (16, student)

I have been to abroad before but taking part in this project and working with project group in abroad are very different feeling and it provided me to learn more information about other cultures.

Diverse cultures and lifestyles opened my horizon. Other foreign friends got information about my culture ,too. My host friend loves Turkish people. I'm very happy that we all in this project are the cultural ambassadors. I won't forget my days with my Erasmus+ family.



Emre Kiratik (17, student)

When we arrived in Tarnowsky, My host friend welcomed us very warmly. He always helped us on each activity. His attitude was so nice that I felt myself at my home. I always go somewhere in my country to join sport tournaments this time I joint sports tournaments in Tarnowsky and I enjoyed the activities so much. We worked together to prepare a healthy life book in groups . This task was so nice that I learnt the group soul. I always remember my days which I spent there.

Çağla Gören (17, student)

I'm very pleased to have a lot of friends from different countries. I had great experiences on learning different cultures, people and life styles. During the visit to Poland, I was very excited. I enjoyed there a lot and learnt so many useful things. This experience added me something good on my skills development. I tried traditional polish cuisine and tried to cook Pierogi. I liked it so much we have a similar with it. We called it as Hingel. Relationship among foreign friends were excellent. In a short time, we became good friends. I think we are lucky to be involved in this project.





*Tarnobrzeg
(Poland)*



Katarzyna Kachelska

(Maths teacher, coordinator of the project)



Polish teachers

Our Erasmus+ stay in Turkey was a truly educational and memorable experience. We felt impressed by the Turkish culture with its music, delicious food and architecture. Not only were we heartily welcomed, but also treated as family members. Our hosts did everything to show us the lifestyle, language, traditions and cultural heritage of Turkey. We particularly enjoyed the dance show, the Ebru workshop and the trip to Cappadocia .

What's more, we felt inspired by the way the school in Sivas engaged its students in charity work. Both the extremely moving seminar on animals as well as the visit to the animal shelter will stay in our minds.

Finally, the visit in Turkey turned out to be an excellent example of a perfect "Volunteering is our job" project meeting which served as a helpful practical guideline about how to organise and manage the next meeting in Poland.

Wioletta Szyguła

Maria Woldan

Weronika Lis



Polish teachers

Bulgaria welcomed us with fog and magnificent mountains. We have to admit that the landscape was unusual for us and we will always associate it with Vratsa together with the omnipresent scent of rose oil.

We were impressed by the school building, its state-of-the-art equipment and modern classrooms. We think it's every teacher's dream to work in such an environment. The stay was a chance to discuss school management as well as teaching aids and materials available in different countries. We could compare teaching conditions with our project partners, exchange ideas and methods. Those were certainly useful and fruitful conversations.

The seminar on immigrants was an eye-opener and showed different perspectives on the topic. We still remember the Italian team's touching video presenting people of Sicily helping the immigrants leave the boats. It stimulated a lot of considerable discussions.

We can't talk about the stay in Bulgaria and not mention the delicious food we were served. The shopska salad is now our favourite mouth-watering treat!

Katarzyna Kachelska

Weronika Lis

Aleksandra Wachla

Polish teachers



When we close our eyes and start thinking about the visit in Hungary we feel incredible warmth touching our bodies. The warmth is not only because of the weather we experienced there. These days were hot and sunny. And we, the north people, desperately need the sun, especially after four winter months. But what is much more important, the warmth came from the people we met there. Our Hungarian friends are very hospitable, open-minded, friendly and very well-organized. And we think all of you would agree that we don't make a song and dance with it.

What we found really interesting was the lively discussion between three history teachers from Poland, Hungary and Turkey. Each of them spoke just a little English but that wasn't an obstacle to be involved in the discussion for nearly an hour. That's what we should call European Communication.

Another example of that was one of our students- Mateusz Zawadzki. During his English lessons it's difficult to encourage him to express himself in English. During our stay in Hatvan he was the most talkative person especially when he was surrounded by girls.

The visit in Hungary gave us power to take more activities in our working life. Thank you friends.

Katarzyna Kachelska

Weronika Lis

Sebastian Jarzabek



Polish students

We will never forget our project meeting in Sivas. It was an unforgettable experience, because the host students became our friends. They are our new brothers and sisters now!

Turkey will always stay in our hearts! When we think about the stay, the first things that come to our minds are hospitality, honest people and tasty meals at our host families.

It was a lesson of tolerance and openness to cultural diversity, a chance to develop sensitivity towards the needs of stray animals, an opportunity to have fun, meet new people and do something good for the local community. “Teşekkürler”- it’s all we can say while our hearts feel much more!

Adrainna Kraus
Kinga Kurczyk
Kornelia Głowania
Artur Mrozek



Polish students

The delicious food, the landscape, the school- those three aspects of the stay in Bulgaria are our immediate associations with the project meeting in Vratsa. Just by looking around us we felt transferred to a completely different world. The mountains with its peaks covered in mist made the world similar to those we know from fantasy novels- simply incredible!

The classrooms were great and we think we would be much more motivated to study if we could learn in such a well-equipped and well-maintained building.

We liked the trips to Veliko Tarnovo and Ledenika cave. The laser and light show was fun! We have never seen anything like that before!

We enjoyed ourselves a lot and our hosts' positive and friendly attitude compensated for the cloudy and rainy weather.

Anna Siwiarek
Agnieszka Sokołowska
Krzysztof Karwot
Mateusz Pełka

Polish students

*Pole and Hungarian — two good friends,
joint fight and drinking are their ends.*

*Lengyel, magyar – két jó barát,
együtt harcol s issza borát.*

*Polak, Węgier — dwa bratanki,
i do szabli, i do szklanki.*

Our visit in Hungary was like visiting our old friends because we had already met our host students during their stay in our country, Poland. We were welcomed with open arms and felt like home there. We will never forget the charity concert that the Hungarian team organised. It was a true challenge for us. We attend a military secondary school and art performances are not exactly our cup of tea. It gave us motivation to learn something new and made us proud of the fact that we could present a small piece of our culture to others and do some volunteering job at the same time. Apart from that, we really enjoyed the dancing workshop, because we had the opportunity to learn the traditional Hungarian dance- Chardash.

Our hosts created pleasant homely atmosphere through various group activities they prepared for us.

We met a lot of new people from other countries and made friends, because we spent so much time together, for example learning to sing, giving out leaflets, planting trees and flowers or walking around Hatvan in the afternoon.

It was a great meeting that we will never forget! Köszönöm! Viszontlátásra!

Monika Kot

Zuzanna Ślęzok

Adam Krasoń

Mateusz Zawadzki







*Hatvan
(Hungary)*



Kiss György

(ICT teacher, coordinator of the project)





I haven't got a sister, but since I have known her I have one.



*It was a wonderful day.
And we tried something interesting.*



At lunch in a restaurant (Hungarian and Polish team)



We were singing together-the best experience ever



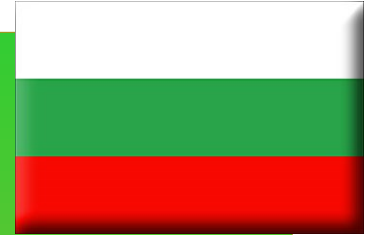
*In this picture you can see me and my turkish host family.
They were very kind and helpful with me.
Who sitting next to me she is an english teacher and she
translated a lot to the host family.*



Vratsa
(Bulgaria)

Veselka Spasova

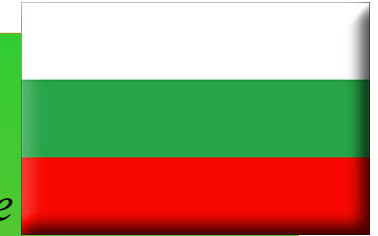
(English teacher, coordinator of the project)



This is a very exciting time. That are excellent weeks with very qualified and enthusiastic teachers in our project. Very intense and intensive classes with loads of tips and information. The project is also a platform that enables the exchange of experience and information about interesting initiatives.

We wish to promote international mobility to develop professional skills, exchange teaching and management ideas and go beyond intercultural differences. It makes sense after all – only when, we, the qualified, motivated and informed school teachers and administration staff prepare our students for the future.

Of significant importance hereby is the establishment of clear objectives with regards to the future of European cooperation. It is great for our students to be able to talk English with other fluent speakers. The project exceeds my expectations. During the working weeks the participants have the chance to learn a lot about European institutions, European integration, European mobility programs as well as current challenges and new opportunities for the European Union. All the workshops aim at deepening the knowledge of topics involved in the project. At the same time a wide range of methods to have the right attitude toward the European diversity was taught and can now be used to multiply the information and spread the idea of European citizenship. Lots of educational tools and methods like interactive presentations, seminars, language courses, questionnaires, were used.

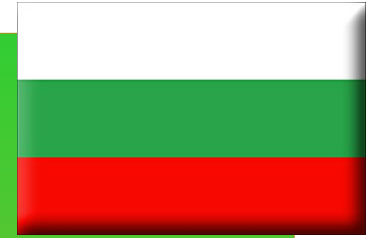


Our students broaden their vision of Europe and learn the differences of the participating countries' languages. It is a possibility for them to start new friendships, an opportunity to diminish prejudices of the students to the other participating countries, to develop the ability of creative thinking, to provide the integration of the students about different cultures, to provide cooperation and coordination among them, to help students to develop self confidence, social and emotional skills.

We aim to achieve the best performance of the education act, which contributes to an autonomous and creative personality, the formation of healthy students, creative, efficient, active and cooperative.

This project is a great challenge for new cultural and traditional enrichment. Besides the educational process, the Erasmus+ School Partnership will facilitate the access to the information and will help in taking the decisions to promote and participate to European partnerships, cumulating the benefits that such cooperation may bring to students, teachers, parents and local community. It is a chance to us, the teachers to improve our vision and career.

We consider that an efficient and modern educational management, involves a permanent comparison between the realities of our school and the realities of other European schools, where the institutional management has proven its efficiency.



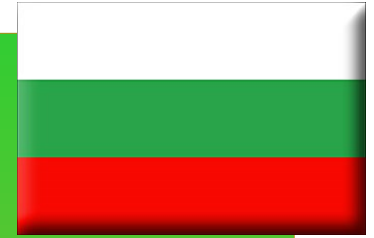
Violeta Zlidolska (Pedagogical counsellor)

Volunteering is a topic, always up to date! I think that the more often we do good deeds, the more valuable and complete people we will be. In my work I try to bring up children just that - a willingness to help others, to do good without expecting praise, to be positive. The project "Volunteering is our job" enable students to work on behalf of others, to feel others' pain and sympathize, to give "without measure" it. The project gave the students an opportunity to interact with students from other countries. It made them tolerant towards more different students than them in terms of faith and religion, skin color, knowledge and skills.

For me, personally, the opportunity to communicate with colleagues from other nationalities, was useful. I touched their culture, their educational system, the history of their country.

It was useful for me to observe how students and teachers from other countries, representatives of different generations, communicate with each other. I saw how the land lies.

I visited Hungary, its capital. For the first time I travelled by plane. I experienced great emotions and everything due to my work in the project. I felt myself useful with all that I did for the students and together with them. All of this brought me personal and professional satisfaction.



Zdravka Nikolova (Teacher)

“Volunteering is our job” is a wonderful opportunity for both students and teachers to reveal some precious traits of human nature which might have been considered lost if daily news are taken into account, where violence prevails.

The project proved that there is always a way to show respect and caring to other people, mainly people in need and of disadvantaged background.

Apart from mastering English through intercourse with students from the participating countries, the above is the most valuable outcome of the project.

Students took part in various initiatives to give a hand to people who needed it, be it their peers, little children or adults.

They showed real thought, interest and care for them with no prejudice and worked in teams for the benefit of the target people, at the same time feeling satisfied and implying creativeness in what they did.

Aleksandra Tsenova (Student)

No doubt this is and will always be one of my most exciting experiences in my whole life. The ability to be able to see and touch something completely different from your ordinary life and to meet people who in a very short time become really good friends, is amazing.

Yes, in the beginning was stressful. Thousands of preparations and thoughts on how to impress them and how to show the best from ourselves, but eventu-

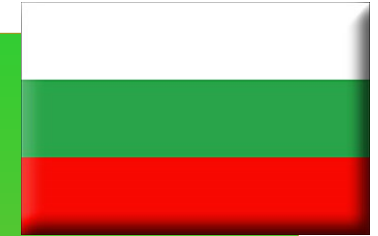
ally all those nerves and worries were useless.

I had the pleasure to meet so many great people and the opportunity to spent a couple of days with them, but even more fun was this one week with Martina and the whole team from Italy.

I am looking forward for the next part of the project in Italy and I am sure this will be a truly memorable adventure.



Gergana Yankulova (Student)

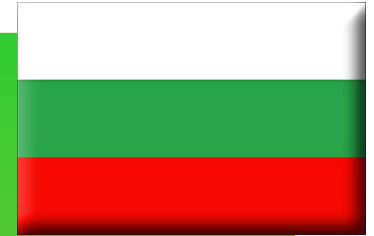


At the beginning of the project I had no idea what to expect. I had no idea that this is going to turn out as one of the best experiences in my life. The opportunity to meet people from different countries made me realize that people are the same all over the world.

All teams became friends for a very short time because everyone was very open and positive. I met a lot of new friends that I still keep in touch with. I had the pleasure to spend my time with the Italian team. All of the girls from the team were very friendly, funny and charming. For sure I will never forget the times spent with them.

Meeting so many positive, open-minded and inspiring people, was like a breath of a fresh air and I will never forget that adventure.





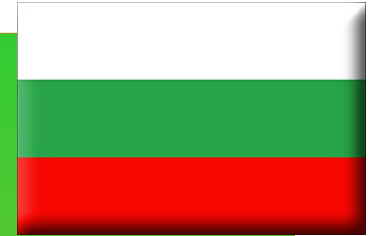
Gergana Zhivkova (Student)

The project for me was a wonderful experience. In Poland and in Bulgaria I enjoyed everything of it. When I was in Poland I was so excited. I met wonderful people from the other countries. They were so nice and I made a lot of friends. The girl who was my host - Ana, was very friendly. She and her family were so hospitable and they were really nice with me. We had so much fun together. I and Ana, we became friends at the beginning.

When I left Poland I couldn't wait for their team to come here to Bulgaria. The Polish team was awesome and funny and we had a great time and I will be friends forever. In Poland I really liked the town in which we were. And I also really liked the other places that we visited.

It was so beautiful and I would like to see it again some day. We saw a lot of interesting places just like Krakow and Auschwitz, it was exciting. In Krakow we were in a salt mine under the ground. This whole experience in Poland was amazing for me. It was full with emotions and beautiful experiences.

When we met the teams here in Bulgaria, it was really funny. And I will remember it. I met a lot of new people. I was really sad when they had to leave. We laughed and cried together. This project for me was a unique experience which I'm going to remember.



Inesa Penova (Student)

When my teacher told me that I'm going to join the project I was very excited. I have always wanted to be part of projects in our school. I really liked the theme which was "Volunteering is our job".

I think it's wonderful to help people, to make them happy even if you don't know them. When you make something like this, it gives a meaning of your day. I also like the idea that in the project I'm going to meet many new people, make new friends. And that's what happened. My guest was a Spanish girl. Her name is Marina.

I really liked her and I sincerely believe that we became friends. In the beginning I was nervous if we could understand each other, but after a while I got used to talking in English. Mariana was so kind, clever and cute so I liked her immediately. I also made a lot of friends from the Polish team, Turkish team and of course from the Spanish team. The final night when we had to say goodbye to each other I gave two of my drawings as a gift to my friends Marina and Nieves and I will never forget how happy and how grateful were they. That's my precious memory.

The Spanish team was closest to me so I really miss them now. But I will see them on March in Alicante when I will be guest there. I can't wait to go there, it's going to be awesome. I'm so happy because except that I will visit a new country and I will see so many new things and places and of course I will meet my Spanish friends there.

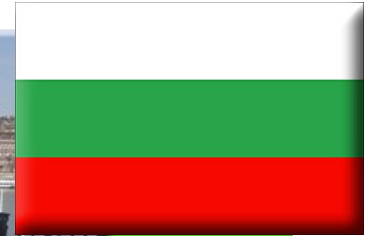
Kristin Petkova (Student)

Last year when I visited Hungary I was very impressed its beauty and unique look.

I was looking forward to seeing this beautiful country because I really love to travel abroad and see different cultures, to have some fun and my purpose of new experience. In Hungary I met a lot of nice people and made lots of new friendships.

I was impressed by its beautiful nature and its old buildings. With my “Hungarian sister”, we became best friends and I was very happy when she came to Bulgaria.

She liked our Bulgarian cuisine, culture, nature and history. Also, I met here lots of new people and I was extremely happy that I took part in this project and I want to say thanks to our incredible teacher Mrs. Veselka Spasova, that she gave us this chance.



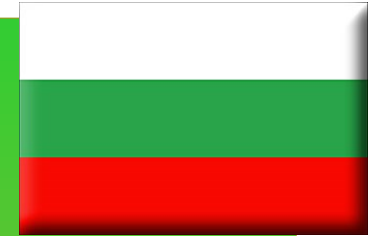
Kristina Danielova (Student)

My participation in the project was a memorable and exciting experience for me. I met many people, visited wonderful places and experienced wonderful moments. From March 7th to March 15th Bulgarian team visited Poland. First we went to their school, where we met other teams and all participants in Poland. For the first time we had a language course in Polish. It was fun, maybe we didn't cope the best with Polish, but we learned the most important things which was helpful. The Poland school was very interesting for me. In it students were trained for police officers, soldiers and firefighters. In Poland, we learned traditional Poland dances. We tried traditional Poland dishes and prepared our own piroggi. In Poland, we visited many places. I was very impressed by Auschwitz. This is a place with big history. In the same time Auschwitz is a very sad place. We visited the salt mine Wielichka. Also we visited an orphanage. We played different games and had fun with them.

Militsa Dimanova (Student)

As the school is an institution where we can expand our knowledge, we also can communicate with new people and make new friendships. One of the most formidable challenges at school are the projects in which take part enthusiastic students. I was not confident whether I should participate in the project because this was new experience for me. However, it was a pleasant time. That's why I decided to take part again in another project. Firstly, you don't know your host even though at one moment you become best friends and part from a new family. The time spent with your host is exciting time. Unfortunately every project has its end. This is the most emotional part because you realize that you might never see your host again.

Kristiyan Kamenov (Student)



The project for me was a wonderful and unforgettable experience. I met very nice people and I visited beautiful places.

When I was in Turkey everything was amazing, the boy and his family who welcomed me, were the kindest and the most friendly people. Now he is like my brother and his family is like a family for me. The people from the other countries were very kind too, I got on with them immediately. We went out every evening and we had a lot of fun.

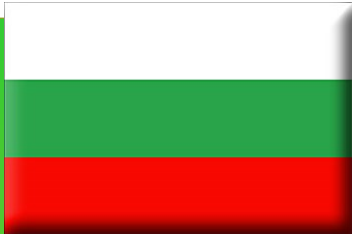
When it was getting late nobody wanted to go home. The time passed so fast that I didn't realize it was the day when we were going back to Bulgaria. It was very nostalgic day. I couldn't wait until October when we would meet again. And October came, he was already here and I was very excited to see him again.

I met the students and the teachers from the other countries and we became friends quickly. They are amazing people and also very friendly. As in Turkey we were going out every day and evening.

We went to many cafes, restaurants and other places. We also visited Ledenika cave, Veliko Turnovo, Klisurski Monastery and I think they liked Bulgaria.

The day when he had to leave, came. It was harder to say goodbye because we didn't know when we would be able to see each other again, but I hope it'll be soon.

There must be more projects like this.



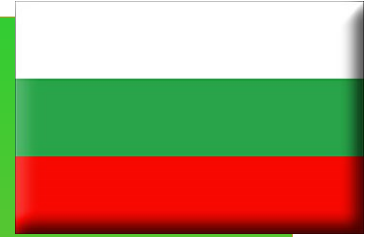
Lyubomir Stoychev (Student)

For me this project is one of the best experiences I have ever had, full of emotions. Firstly, my Spanish friends visited Bulgaria.

In March we are going to Spain and I'm so excited and impatient. I like this project because I met many new friends. Here, in Bulgaria we visited different places – we saw Ledenika cave, Klisura Monastery, Veliko Tarnovo and many other cultural and natural objects. I am looking forward to seeing my friends again in Spain.



Mario Lyubenov (Student)



My reflections from the project are that we had too much funny adventures in the local restaurants and cafes and also too many nice places in Bulgaria like Veliko Tarnovo, Ledenika cave and Klisura monastery.

These experiences was amazing. I put on my mind memories which never could be deleted.

I met a lot of nice people who opened my eyes for the new world.

Their world was very different from mine and entertaining.

Even between the teachers had a lot of interesting events which we can't forget.

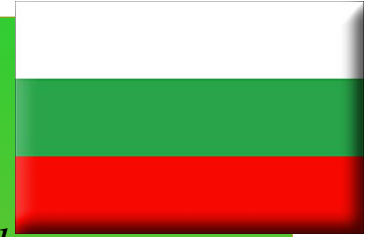
Our experience through this week when guest were here was one of the best moments of my lifetime.

The whole week went like a moment. Friendships that we created, was based on warm feelings and non-stop laugh.

The most beautiful things for our friends were the nature, delicious Bulgarian food, pretty, nice Bulgarian girls and institutions around the center of the town. I hope when I go to Spain to have similar opportunities to get fun.

Greetings from Bulgaria

Melani Pier (Student)



This project for me was one wonderful experience full of positive emotions. I will remember it for the rest of my life.

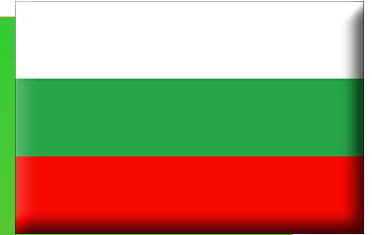
First it was the visit here in Bulgaria. At first I was a little bit worried but most of all I was really excited. The Italian team is just so great. They are really friendly and polite. I was host of Mavi. She is so nice and friendly. And we became friends at the beginning. We had so much fun with the rest of the Italian and Bulgarian team.

We spent a lot of time together. And I will remember when we played billyard. We saw the Ledena cave it was so cool.

Then we saw Klisura monastery which is near my hometown Vratsa. The last trip was to Veliko Turnovo - this city is just amazing and it's very old. I am really happy because I managed to make a lot of new friends. And the people from the other countries were so funny and interesting. We had such a great time together. I really enjoyed the time spent with the rest of the teams when we were all together.

This project for me was one of the best experiences I have ever had and I have a lot of good memories. I made a lot of new friendships. I can't wait to go to Italy. And I can't wait to see the Italian team.

Mihail Mitev (Student)



It is hard to describe the feelings passing through your mind regarding exchange projects.

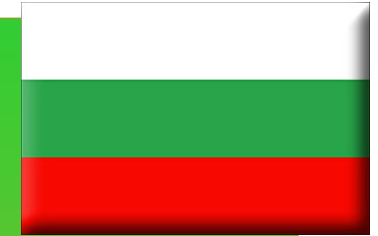
They give us life-important experience beyond the walls of the school. Personally, I had the chance to visit Hungary in April.

I will never forget the people I have met there and the whole of time I had. Actually all 9 day that I spent there, were filled with deeds helping the human beings. The included activities made

us understand each other.

It was more interesting when we were hosts – we continued our teamwork and now I can claim that we could inspire more people to volunteer and do something for development of our Earth.

Pavel Shahov (Student)



I have been part of student exchange projects, before (Comenius), so I expected it to be somewhat the same – I can not say it was not, but it certainly had its differences.

First of all there was a bigger variety of people I had the chance to meet and become friends with – now I have friends all over Europe, which is wonderful! We got to know each other almost from the start and we formed friendships very fast. People could see multinational groups walking around the city, talking to each other (and understanding each other) and having fun!

This, in my opinion, was amazing since we do not usually see something of this sort here in Vratsa.

Secondly, being able to go abroad and see a different culture first hand is something everyone should do in their lifetime. My time spent in Turkey brought me many great memories and I am certainly going to visit there again!

Furthermore, we got the chance to improve our language skills especially those, who know more than their native language and English. We also get the chance to learn something new about the host country!

In conclusion ... you know what – enough with the formalities! We all had a great time together and I am very happy to have participated in this project! I wish to see all my new friends soon & I want us all to gather somewhere when the project is finished and celebrate!

Because not often do you get the chance to be part of something wonderful like this!

“This isn’t goodbye! This is until we meet again!”

Best regards

Petya Vasileva (Student)

I am Petya Vasileva and I am from Bulgaria.

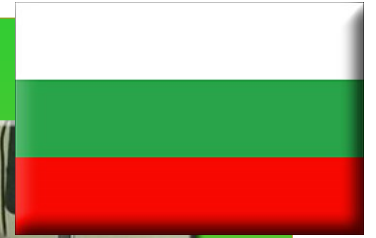
“Erasmus+” is the first project in which I have participated. This is a great opportunity to learn about the culture of other European countries, to meet with customs of distant and not so distant countries, to see the beauty of towns in which you have never been there before.

Thanks to this project, I met wonderful people. I made good friendships and I gathered unforgettable memories.

During the working visit in my country I hosted a spanish student. She is wonderful! We had a great time in Bulgaria.

I'm about to visit Spain next year and I'm very excited.

I am extremely happy that I had the opportunity to be a participant in this project.







Alicante
(Spain)



Esther Ana Cristina Baidal López

(English teacher, coordinator of the project)

Esther García (Teacher)

Participation in the project Erasmus + in Hungary has been for me an enriching experience. We met teachers and students of many nationalities, with new cultures and new educational systems for us. Personally I felt very welcomed by the hosts. They did an excellent job both teachers and all students. They showed us how is your day to day in the center, we did many activities such as learning Hungarian, tests for the charity festival of song and dance, sightseeing and cultural visits in which our group could know their country and customs.

All this without forgetting at any time the main topic of the project: volunteering. In Hungary, the students made English presentations about the influence of human being on the environment. Students did their jobs brilliantly, contributing from their point of view to show the main problems we have in each region, becoming aware of them and how we could all collaborate to improve each of these situations.

We had a good coexistence with teachers who participated with us. I think it is important to involve the maximum number of teachers in these mobilities to generalize the experience to all the school communities.



Carmen Roldán (Teacher)

I took part in the mobility to Hatvan (Hungary) and for me it was an unforgettable experience, both from the personal and professional point of view.

From my personal point of view, because it helped me get to know a new country and language, as well as sharing experiences with other teachers.

From the professional point of view, because the fact of working in a project in association with teachers and students from six different countries helped us realise that we have more things in common than we previously thought.

I have to say that the organization was a success!! Our Hungarian partners designed a series of activities which made us enjoy ourselves and learn new things everyday.

Personally I'd choose three activities: the garden we grew altogether, with plants brought from every country, the visit to Budapest and the music performances where all the six countries sang together in six different languages.

At that moment I realised that barriers do not exist although we always try to build them up.



Belén Cuenca (Teacher)

The project Volunteering is our job (and, specifically, the meeting in Poland, that I had the pleasure to attend) is a place to discover other ways of living and thinking, knowing, learning, understanding, sharing, laughing, and, above all, building from the knowledge of the others, respect for the other, appreciation of the others and collaboration with the other. We are united by the same emotions and dreams, we can do great things.

Rodolfo Sánchez (Teacher)

I think that this kind of programs does more for the EU than any law or norms that come from Brussels.

When it comes to specify what I lived in Sivas and Hatvan, the experience has been highly enriching above all from my personal point of view; the chance to know a different culture (Sivas) and a area of Europe that before 1990 was very unknown to us (Hatvan) is something priceless because you are not a tourist, you “live” even if it is just for a week the reality of each of these towns.

Since I am a History teacher the experience has been even more exciting thus it has allowed me if not knowing deeply, having a glimpse of two moments, two worlds and two fundamental cultures to understand the twentieth century in Europe.

Finally, meeting teachers and pupils from six different countries makes me claim that borders and differences just come from ignorance and lack of awareness.



Sara Al-Droubi (Student)

I really will never forget this experience in my life. I went to Sivas, in Turkey, and now I can't remember my days there without feeling some homesickness. We met great people, we knew a new culture, and we felt like home. I'm so excited about their coming next year and we must make sure that they'll feel the same amazing sensations when they come.

Lucía Sánchez (Student)

This project has supposed to me an incredible experience, because I could visit Poland and learn about cultures different from mine. And of course, because I've met a lot of incredible people that I could never forget.

Mario Díaz-Ufano (Student)

For me it was an incredible experience, I met a lot of fantastic people whom I spent a great time with and I visited a country I had always wanted to visit: Hungary.

And the most important thing is that I've noticed that besides the cultural differences, we are all equal and we all have the same concerns, the same desire to have fun, meet new people, etc.

I highly recommend this Erasmus Plus exchange to all the people who have the opportunity to do it because you will never forget neither the experience nor the people you meet there.



Andrea Martínez (Student)

This trip to Hungary will be unforgettable because it has been a fabulous experience and I want to thank for that week. Thanks Erasmus +, as I met a lot of fantastic people from all the countries, it is the best experience of my life!!

After this trip I realized that union makes strength, and all of us together are stronger. Thank you very much. You and all the moments are part of my life!!

Mercedes Fernández (Student)

Hello! My name is Mercedes. I'm from Spain and I participated in a volunteering job in Hungary.

I think this is an opportunity to meet many people from a lot of places around the world.

This job helped me because I am a timid person but after this trip I have got many friends. I met many cultures from my international friends. They taught me some words and customs of their countries.

I am very thankful because I think this is a beautiful place with really great people.



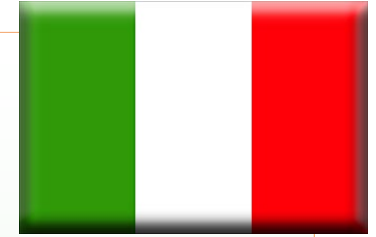
SİVAS LİSESİ







Pachino
(Italy)



Pina Roccaro

(English teacher, coordinator of the project)

ERASMUS PLUS KEY ACTION 2 represented, personally, a teaching activity outside the school routine, a challenging opportunity to cooperate with colleagues of the European school institutions, an excellent opportunity to promote each other's diversity and a meeting with other cultures.

The work with international teachers was exciting and productive, especially for the noble target: Volunteering is our job."

Observing that the first apprehensions of the students, during the various ministays, gradually gave way to the enthusiasm, the desire to know the new cultural and human reality, with its customs and traditions, was a rewarding satisfaction.

Knowing a new country, a new language, but considering of being only one race, no differences, prejudices and barriers, becoming aware, then, that we have a lot of things in common, it is human.



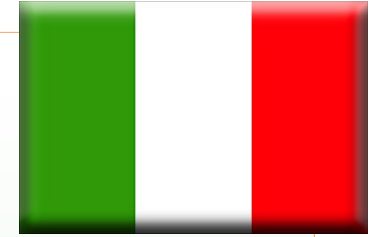
Also being welcomed by families with a great spirit of hospitality, it means that families have shared this experience, feeling that there are no differences among human beings, the Diversity is probably in our heads where the term should be replaced by Welcoming, Hearing, Acceptance of the other.

Very soon students and colleagues, from Turkey, Poland, Hungary, Bulgaria and Spain, will be accommodated in our town; of course the development of the activities for our ministay has been starting for several months with students and teachers, but I want to emphasize the cooperative spirit, that has broken out, can be considered valuable for all of us, expressing teamwork, fruitful in terms of relationships, organizational and obviously productive.

But the adventure is going on and it will give us, of course, amazing emotions ... FANTASTIC!!!!!!!



Graziella Corallo (English Teacher)



Volunteering was the central theme in most of our activities, during our week's stay in the Turkish city of Sivas. We learnt about national NGOs and local charities, volunteering service with disabled people, mistreatment and cruelty to animals; we also visited a street animals' shelter. Obviously, our trip to Turkey was much more than this. It was a week full of activities, experiences and great emotions.

First of all, we were greatly impressed by the people we met. Everybody of us will remember the warm welcome and the friendly hospitality of Turkish people. Both the families that hosted our students and the Turkish teachers who organized the event were always kind and ready to help us.



Food was their best way to express hospitality and creativity. Since breakfast, they liked to prepare a lot of delicious home-made dishes, all made of fresh, genuine ingredients. The generous, attractive courses were placed all together on the table, since, as they say, "First, you eat by your eyes, then by your mouth". Traditional kebab and sweets, like the typical "baklava" could be easily found in many places of the city.

With its 300,000 inhabitants, Sivas is a fairly large city. It is located on a high tableland of central Turkey at an altitude of about 1,200 meters. As a consequence, it is a very cold town in winter and hot and dry in summer. We found it completely covered in snow, with icy roads and freezing temperatures (minus 10 degrees); yet, people did not care about that and the streets were always full of busy people and cars.

Sivas is a quite lively city, with new shops and buildings, but ancient, historical monuments are also present. The Madrassah with the Twin Minarets, dating back to the 13th century, is its symbol. It is an old Islamic seminary, lying in a modern square in the heart of the city. From the nearby mosques, you could hear the muezzin's ritual chant calling the Muslims to prayer, five times a day.

Music is another aspect of Turkish culture that impressed us. It is a kind of music that mixes ancient, traditional sounds and typical instruments to contemporary style pop songs. It conveys you a mixture of positive sensations: joy, energy, sensuality. Folk dances are still alive and we were shown some at the school gym. After admiring the dancers' skill, we were involved in dancing, as in a great party. Our Italian students danced, embraced and had fun with Turkish, Bulgarian, Spanish, Polish and Hungarian students, all sharing the feeling of being as one.

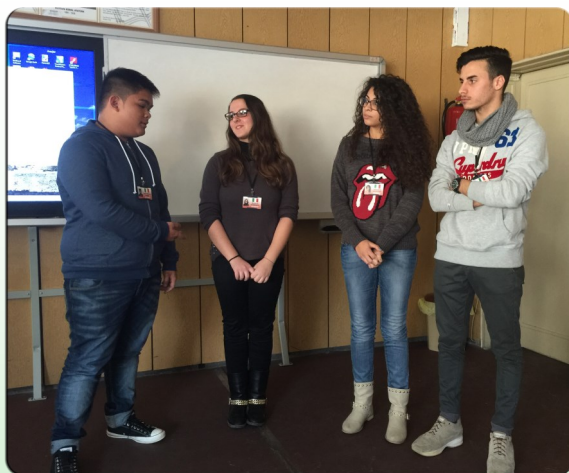


Actually, we spent a week living side by side with people from different countries, using English as our common language. We worked in the laboratories, tried to learn the basics of Turkish language, had lunch at the same table, went out together in the afternoon. The Turkish teachers, on thanking us and saying goodbye at the final meeting, said “Remember that you will always have a family here in Sivas”. We felt as we were at home , even though we were miles away from our home town.



I think the projects “Volunteering is our job” has successfully achieved its goals: a cultural bridge through different cultures has been built and our foreign language skills, especially in English, have been improved.

I hope my colleagues and the other students who are leaving for the next destinations, can fully enjoy their experience and make the best of it. I am sure it will set a positive approach to European countries and every meeting will represent a step forward for the development of peace and tolerance among cultures.



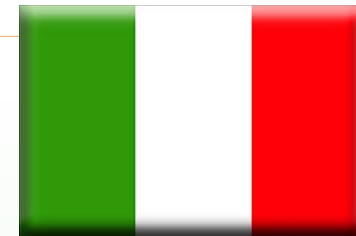
Campo Gabriele (Student)

Delicious Turkish food!!!!!!!!!!!!

I knew Sivas culture , starting from food. The best Turkish food is the Lamachun:

a Turkish pizza rich of meat and spices. I usually took spicy soup and yoghurt.

The typical dishes are the ekmek, Turkish bread, kebab: a plate of meat and the pide: bread rich of meat and cheese. In my opinion Turkish food is fantastic!!!!



Sebastiana Giannone (Student)

I met a lot of generous and friendly people from Bulgaria, Turkey, Hungary, Spain and Poland. Now I have got a lot of friend from different countries and cultures, I consider them my new second family! I will never forget them. I'm looking forward arriving in my country on January 2016 .

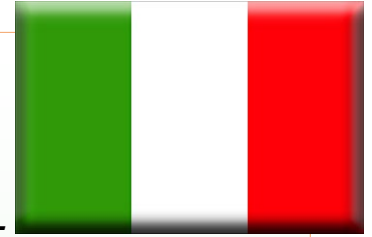
John Michael Ramil (Student)

During the week in Turkey, it seemed to stay at home. I felt good with the family that hosted me. I'm settled quickly and I met a lot of beautiful people. I never forget this experience, I hope returning one day and meeting again all my friends.

Bruna Di Raimondo (Student)

The most beautiful thing of this experience was to know a new culture, a new language, to meet new people, a new family. This was an experience that helped me to grow up and learn better English language, but above all to disapprove strongly the prejudices of today's society .

Sara Pintaldi (English Teacher)



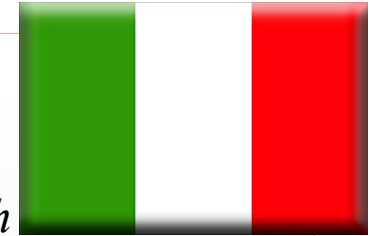
It was a great idea for the European Community to start a new period of exchanges with Erasmus+ KA2. I have just come back from the second ministay held in the Polish town of Tarnowskie Gory for a week involving the 6 countries of the project Volunteering is our job!"

It was a long journey to reach the place, but it was worth it. The Polish school welcomed us in the friendliest way and was able to make us feel at home from the first moments on.

We felt part of a group that liked working together and sharing experiences. Everything was arranged in detail and with the cooperation of the entire Polish school staff. Our students hosted by Polish families were treated as sons or daughters by them and as brothers or sisters by their host friends.

The entire group of about 60 people including host students and teachers and the teams from the other 5 countries became closer and closer while working together at the different activities of the project, playing games, doing sports, dancing and learning Polish.





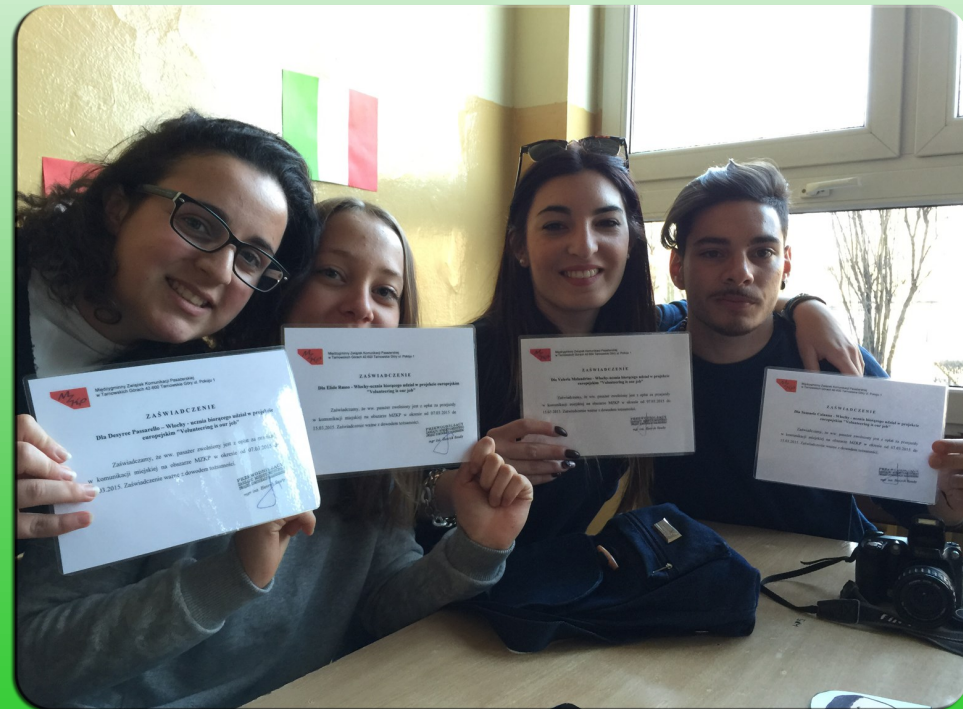
The week we spent in Poland was rich in unforgettable moments, too.

The visit at the local orphanage was a particularly touching moment with students playing with the children and giving them gifts and sweets. Also the trip to the Concentration Camp of Auschwitz and Birkenau had a strong effect on our hearts and it is something we will keep in our minds forever.

The trip to the Salt Mine of Wieliczka with the marvellous salt engravings and statues as well as the Cathedral, the Castle and the Market Square in Krakow were amazing.

Teachers and students from different countries became a united group in a very short time and when we had to say goodbye everyone was crying, including host families.

The warm atmosphere created among students, teachers and parents enjoying time together shows how greedy the European peoples are to be one country and one people and I think that politicians who just concentrate their efforts on merely economic matters should learn from the experience of our students from 6 different countries in order to reach the goal of building the European Citizenship.





Elide Russo (Student)

Erasmus in Poland made me realize how stupid mankind still believe in the racial differences. It was beautiful to realize how people from different cultures can live found in harmony and respect and discover new customs and ways of life.

Valeria Malandrino (Student)

It was the most beautiful experience in my life. If I could I would repeat it not one but billions of times. Meeting new people, different cultures and different mentalities , not to mention the fantastic "sister" I had the honor of acquiring . Indelible was the experience made at the orphanage, a sign of how we are often ignorant and selfish and do not realize that sometimes the problems we create are unnecessary.

Calanna Samuele (Student)

It was wonderful, this experience allowed me to expand my cultural background. I found a second family, I felt like I was at my house and I found and enjoyed other two sisters and a brother.

Desyrèe Passarello (Student)

My experience in Poland was really special I knew some people that will be always in my heart. My Polish partner is my sister I really love her. I liked Poland and the whole experience. In the orphanage I had a wonderful experience and the children will be always in my heart because they are really really sad and they are really unfortunately

Barone Sabrina (English teacher)

Erasmus plus KA2 has played a big role in my teaching and learning experience and in my life. It gave me an opportunity to live in a different country, and familiarizing myself with other people, share our cultures, food, languages, stay, and life.

I believe this experience enriched me, opened my mind, and changed me for better.

I'm still in touch with lots of people that I met on my Erasmus and I know that these friendships will last a lifetime.

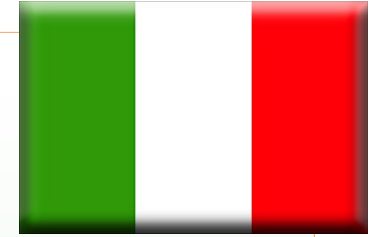
Davide Skiba (Student)

My experience in Hungary was very nice. I was greeted by people I did not know, but they made me feel part of their family. I with my friend Tomi, we had great fun. At first I was very shy in speaking the English language because I did not know what to say, but after the first day we started to joke and talk about it with him, with the other boys of the project. The Hungary is a very beautiful country, and for the various places that we have, both for the people very welcoming. All together we did various activities, we have been in the capital, we were in the mountains, we visited the Parliament.

This experience made me realize that, in any part of the world you are, if you have the right company, you can have fun! He was one of the most beautiful experiences of my life.



Terzo Angela (Student)



The experience that I did personally was beautiful , like all things has had its good and bad points.

Downsides , in quotes , because I think it's normal , at first glance , having to relate to people in a language that we speak and we learn only at school , namely, English and adapt to their habits .

The positive was the carefree and live their days as if they were normal because now we were aware of the reality that was present in Hungary.

The Erasmus program helped me a lot because it introduced me to the culture of each country , especially the Hungarian , and the difficulties facing the nation , where the kids have fun with little and are content with little unlike us that we always ask more .



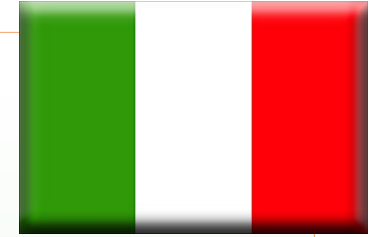
Francavilla Noemi (Student)

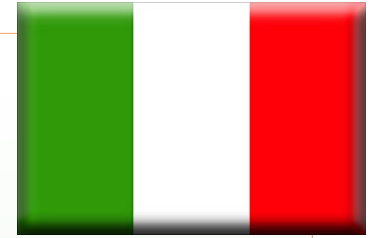
The experience made in Hungary was something unforgettable and exciting. Seeing with our own eyes and knowing the different realities that in the various places of the world, it is something that enriches us both from a cultural point of view. Personally I saw the poverty of those people and I realized how lucky I am.

Latino Francesca (Student)

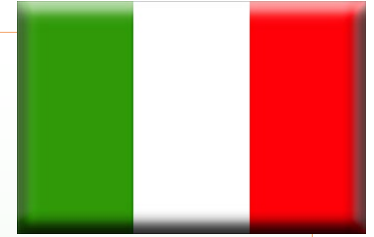
Erasmus Project, in my opinion, is a fantastic way to know countries far away from us. I visited Hungary, it was a fantastic experience that allowed me to know a reality different from mine. We have carried out a lot of activities as example: volunteering, music workshop, Hungarian lessons.

It was a very pleasant and interesting experience. It allowed me to meet lots of people with cultures and different traditions from mine. Despite the early days it was difficult to integrate, but it was the most beautiful week of my life.





Carnemolla Camilla (Student)

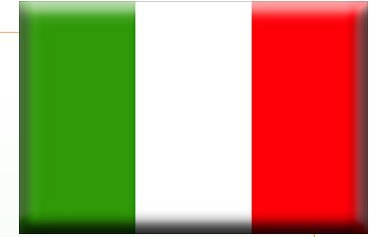


That week away from home was important to me. I lived outside Italy, learning a lot about the ways of life and habits different from mine, I learned new words in the language and found a reality different than European. For the first time I had contact with international students and I discovered another world because before I was unaware of the history and life of another continent. I had the opportunity to travel, to taste new foods and to learn about new traditions. Erasmus was a really interesting and important experience for me.

Elisa Scrofano (Student)

My impression of the experience in Bulgaria is positive. Welcome in Vratsa was warm, and I knew beautiful people, teachers and a lot of teenagers from different countries. We visited lots of places, but my favourite was Ledenika, a cave in the mountain. We attended Bulgarian lessons with our correspondents and everyday we went out to a bar in the afternoon or in a pub in the evening. The Bulgarian girls were very friendly and we are a beautiful group together. This experience is positive because it changes your personality and your relationship with other cultures.

Sudano Martina (Student)



Participating in the Erasmus Project has been an educational experience. On one hand it allowed me to increase my knowledge of the English language, the other to know and to experience a reality totally different from the Italian.

I found new social and culinary traditions strange for me, but very interesting. I was also forced to adapt to different situations, making me more independent. for the first time I had contact with international students, comparing me with them I had the opportunity, even jokingly, to learn words and idioms in different languages, feeling a unique town: Europe .

Mavi Fronte (Student)

Erasmus was certainly the most important experience for me, both from a cultural point of view, but also from a personal point of view . From a cultural point of view it gave me the opportunity to learn about customs and traditions very different from mine, and especially for the English language, because it gave me a big help to understand and speak better.

From a personal point of view it introduced me to people really kind and helpful.

I was close with my friends in a short time.

An adventure that surely I would do again, really beautiful !



THE EXPERIENCE IS GOING ON!!!



Erasmus + KA2

