project paper

Climate change -raise awareness - take action



meeting Sofia, Bulgaria (05/2022)



Co-funded by the Erasmus+ Programme of the European Union

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Erasmus+ Project trip to Sofia, Bulgaria. The fifth meeting of the current Erasmus project took place in the most distant destination – Bulgaria. We, the participants of this trip, split up the work on this article and each of us wrote about one of our very busy project days. Enjoy the reading!



Sunday – that was the day we left. to Prague by minibus. We had a few refreshments at the airport, and then our plane took off from the runway. The take-off as well as the landing went smoothly and the six students from 1R and Kvinta accompanied by their teachers Mr. Zdeněk Novák and Mrs. Tereza Švadlenová. They went for sightseeing around the Bulgarian capital and the got to the meeting point of our next Erasmus+ project. We began exploring Sofia already by night on Sunday and the so-called ,journey to find something to eat' ended up by visiting a convenience store and buying instant noodles for our first dinner. A local dog (let's call him Bobby) joined our group for ,the dinner hunt' and he ,led us' to the hotel. Monday – we started this day early in the morning. The other Erasmus groups arrived on Monday morning – we had time for our activities. We went on an excursion to the second biggest city in Bulgaria – Plovdiv. We met our guide Martin in front of our hotel. In Plovdiv, we saw the local architecture and after we climbed up one of the seven hills located in the city, a beautiful natural-urban scenery opened to us. The jewel of the town was the ancient theatre, where various theatrical performances still take place. It was also an ideal occasion to test our knowledge of physics and literature – while singing the Czech national anthem, we tried the acoustics of the choir section in the theatre. We spent our evening back in Sofia and we tasted the local cuisine.



Tuesday: the day that everyone got together. Our Bulgarian hosts were teachers and students from the Thomas Jefferson Secondary and High English School. The adventure started already on our way to school. It was quite complicated (the GPS signal was lost because of the high number of underpasses in Sofia Dbut as we left our hotel early, we finally managed to arrive on time to school. Some students were already waiting for us in front of the entrance, and they gave us a tour of their school after. They led us to the outdoor chill zone where we waited for the rest of the Erasmus students and teachers from Germany, Poland, Austria, and Slovenia that were also participating. When we were all gathered, the official ceremony of the Erasmus+ (Climate change) meeting started. The opening ceremony was traditional - some students were dressed in folk garments and the other ones showed us their ,Choro dance'. After this warm welcome we focused more on ecology and on general introduction of our main topic. After a few presentations we had an opportunity to meet local students with whom we went for lunch at a nearby restaurant. After having a great meal, we started practising our presentation on "Environment and Tábor", which represented the main part of the meeting. After the presentations, we were ready to spend the evening with our new friends. We had a great time, but we had to say goodbye to each other, at least for a few hours until the next morning. We finally returned to the hotel to 'recharge our batteries' for the next day.



Wednesday – the day with a busy activity schedule – as the theme of Erasmus+ project is about "Climate Change", we went together to the Ministry of Environment and Water, where we got acquainted with some Bulgarian efforts to protect the environment. Since we were serious about the challenge of protecting the environment, our Czech group walked only ,on foot' (which at the end of the day made the song 'I already have a thousand miles in my legs' ring in our heads). At the Ministry, we heard a presentation about energy resources in Bulgaria and we learnt about their plans to deal with the different types of energy in future. This was followed by a lunch at a local restaurant and then by a long way back to school (with the beautiful surroundings of a local green park). At school, we tried to create ornaments with rag paper, and we had a lot of fun. We ended the evening with an official dinner for students and teachers where the Bulgarian students taught us their traditional Bulgarian dances.





Thursday – we started our afternoon with a tour of the capital city. In this historic city, and at the same time a modern urban centre in a mountainous valley, we discovered the beauties of its history and some important buildings. We visited the President of Republic's residence, the Ivan Vazov Theatre and some local thermal springs and spas (some even use the power of the minerals). The city tour was enriched by a theatre performance about some Bulgarian history episodes, that were well explained by our guide Slavyan. After a delicious lunch, we headed back to school where we finished the whole project week with a national folk Bulgarian dance and the certification of all project participants.



Friday – Friday morning started early – the breakfast was wrapped; the suitcases were ready – it was time to say goodbye and then we headed to Sofia airport. Our ,Mother Prague' greeted us just before noon. The last ,Erasmus coffee break at Václav Havel Airport' and were heading back to Tábor. This meeting was particularly useful in every way.

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title picture: laudia Barbosa text editor: Marek Švadlena, Táborské soukromé gymnázium a Základní škola



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