

Assisting students with their transition from education to the workplace – A Multicultural Approach

The week spanning over the 6th and 10th of May was particularly enriching for students and educators frequenting the ALP Secondary/Post-Secondary School in Paola. Throughout the week, the school hosted a group of Erasmus+ students and educators from Germany, Portugal and Italy. The participants currently form part of a partnership which aims towards enacting the goals targeted by the Erasmus+ project titled *Fit for the European Job Market through Application, Training and Internships*. The project specifically aims to ameliorate the students' understanding of how to use the skills and competences gained within their current educational setting whilst in the process of transitioning to the workplace. The students were thus provided with workshops during which they all worked together in the process of formulating a Curriculum Vitae and Cover letter, irrespective of their nationality. This process led to the realisation of potential job opportunities across all member states of the European Union, irrespective of where the students would have received their educational tuition.

Additionally, the contingent also visited popular industrial companies across Malta and Gozo in order to provide the visiting partners with knowledge about both developed and burgeoning work sectors on our islands with the aim of encouraging students to select Malta for both education and employment. This was all done through a multicultural approach within which all nationalities had the opportunity to spend time together during activities related to both the project itself and to other aims such as orienting the foreign partners with Malta and its culture. Later this year, the Maltese students will have the opportunity to meet all the participants again in Portugal where they will work on evolving skills which are eminent for successful job interviews. Some ALP students will be retaining the employment opportunity offered to them during the school's Applied Career Exposure Experience for the Summer months. This Erasmus+ experience is therefore truly rendering its fruit amongst ALP students.