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PRESS RELEASE – MEETING IN SPAIN

Madrid, Spain, 25-29th April 2022 International visit at I.E.S Joaquín Turina

A unique Erasmus+ project about European citizenship and cultural heritage of Czech Republic, Spain, Denmark and Malta

‘European citizenship – Cultural heritage unites us’ is the title of the exceptional Erasmus+ project which centers around various exchanges among I.E.S. Joaquín Turina in Madrid, Spain; Vordingborg Gymnasium & HF in Vordingborg, Denmark; Sacred Heart Minor Seminary in Victoria, Gozo, Malta and Academia Mercurii in Náchod, Czech Republic. In this project, the central focus is on the importance of European citizenship which is being reinforced by cultural heritage. This time, the project’s approach was the exploration of Spanish cultural heritage, organised by I.E.S. Joaquín Turina, in Madrid, Spain.

In the week of 25 until 29 April, students from the aforementioned schools of the Czech Republic and Malta travelled to the capital of Spain, Madrid to visit the Madrid secondary school and explore the Spanish cultural heritage. Danish teachers came to use the opportunity for job shadowing of teachers of the bilingual department of I.E.S. Joaquín Turina too.

It was to be a very busy week. On Monday, the students started their week doing sport activities together and then undertook a walk of Mythological route of Romans and Greek statues and symbols in the historic heart of Madrid. The day was finished in the famous worldwide gallery Museo del Prado where students were admiring the amazing paintings within a workshop. On Tuesday, students and teachers travelled to UNESCO sight Alcalá de Henares to visit the birth place of Miguel de Cervantes, the Roman city ruins and medieval university and competed in a photo competition. Wednesday was spent at another UNESCO sight, Toledo. Within mathematical route, students could admire many places connected with the three cultures having lived there in Middle ages, e.g. the Monastery of San Juan de los Reyes, the Synagogue of Santa María la Blanca, medieval fortification, cathedral and stone bridges, Bisagra gate and many others. Thursday and Friday were dedicated to exploration of Spanish culture within various workshops at the organising school, lessons observing for teachers and students, learning Spanish basic vocabulary and tasting Spanish cuisine, meals prepared by Spanish families. In the afternoons, the students took advantage of the big city to explore Spanish culture together and to get to know each other better to develop their friendship and practice their knowledge of Spanish.

This Erasmus+ project is co-funded by the European Union, will last until the end of August 2022 and is a great opportunity for students to improve their spoken English and Spanish, boost their self-confidence, develop their social skills, travel, meet people and face new challenges.