

## ERASMUS+ STUDENTS REFLECT ABOUT CLIMATE CHANGE

DEFORESTATION | C2. SHORT-TERM EXCHANGES OF GROUPS OF PUPILS

The School 2,3/S Dr. Daniel de Matos promoted the ECSC Portugal Exchange between March 28 and 31, 2022, hosting teams of students and teachers from the schools of Spisska Nova Ves (Slovakia), Perugia (Italy) and Kastamonu (Turkey).

The Erasmus+ European Challengers to Save Climate (ECSC) 2020/23 project mainly aims to raise awareness of climate change with activities on fossil fuels, environmental damage in the ocean, changes in land use, green energy and deforestation.

This was the theme of the Exchange in our school, with activities related to the theme "Deforestation", namely the exhibition of posters "We Are Worried" made by our students, which had been previously presented in a videoconference with the other schools. About the forest, the participating students were invited to produce housewares with forest residues, with the support of the Centro de Ocupação Juvenil da Cáritas, Planeta Aquarela and the Municipality of V. N. Poiares.

The foreign participants got to know our school, the Portuguese education system and the municipality, highlighting the remarkable visit to the Education Museum, led by Dr. Pedro Santos. On Tuesday, they planted a laurel tree and aromatic seeds in the Plant Nursery and visited the Pedagogical Forest, located in the green spaces of our school. Dr. Joana Vieira presented the conference "Forest and Climate", online.



Wednesday the 30th, was dedicated to visiting the different types of forests of the central region in the Carvalho, Buçaco and Boa Viagem Mountains. On the 31st, there was an exhibition, with a demonstration of local culture and forest handicrafts and the sale of products. The students were also able to interact during a biology lesson, taught in English, on the theme "The importance of photosynthesis to prevent climate change". During these days, the participants were enthusiastic about the conviviality provided and developed communication skills in the English language.

The final balance is of great satisfaction due to the contact between students from schools in the European Union. It was the result of the collaboration of a dedicated multidisciplinary team, involving several local entities and dozens of students from our school, including the Students' Association.

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