Erasmus, Italy: Day 5

Our last day wasn't just about concluding our project of the week, but also about reflecting on the time we've spent together, saying goodbye and of course enjoying the last moments of the trip before having to pack up and leave a fantastic place behind.

Out of all the days of the Erasmus mobility in Riva, the last one was the most eventful, at least for me. By Friday, we've finished working on our articles for the website and we've prepared some notes on the final presentation. The purpose of this presentation was to introduce ourselves to the classes that watched us through Zoom, tell them about our work, and what we have learnt or found particularly interesting from the lectures and trips we took throughout our stay. We also made it our goal to introduce Erasmus+ to future generations and younger classes from other grades so that they would carry on the torch and participate in future programs.
In the morning, when everyone arrived at the coworking room, we finished up our slides for the presentation and prepared the last bits before going online. On the Zoom call, which started at 11:45, classes from all of the countries participating joined in to listen to us.

We started off with some introductions. Two people from every country prepared a short slide about their hometowns and told us a bit about their school as well. Next, we talked about the Erasmus+ project itself, how it works and what the program is about, in general. We also showed the audience some pictures of us working on the articles and also of our adventures in Italy, so that they would see that Erasmus is not all work but a lot of fun as well.
In the next stage of the presentation, a group talked about the website which was our main project of the week, how we worked on it and what we wrote about. In a nutshell, they also summarized some of their favourite lectures from the professors and professionals who were invited to present to us about their jobs.
In the end, we summarized what we've learned and what we can take away from this week of collaboration. The finale was a short video which some of the French students made, showing everyone participating in the program say exactly one word, to summarize our week and our experience. I enjoyed watching this video so much as it brings back so many memories. Just as it was meant to, it did summarize our week quite perfectly.
After the presentation and logging off of Zoom, we had some time to talk a bit to each other and to say goodbye. After one week of getting to know people it's always a bittersweet feeling to say goodbye and part ways. On one hand, there's the feeling of wanting to return home, but on the other, you'd really just like to stay and spend some more time with your new friends, especially in a beautiful town like Riva del Garda.

Around lunchtime, we headed out to town to enjoy one last pizza, and make the most of the remainder of the afternoon. Apart from sightseeing and souvenir shopping, we accidentally met with almost all of the students participating in Erasmus, so we were able to spend some more time together and properly say goodbye. I remember speaking to everyone one last time, going to the lake shore one last time, going to eat a tiramisu (because how could I not?) and then finally, taking a stroll inside the medieval parts of the town. Around midnight, we finally returned to our rooms and started packing our bags for the journey back home.
The next morning, packed with awesome memories and of course sacks of Pasta Fresca, we boarded our bus and said goodbye to the mountains towering over the town we've come to love so much.

Lilla André (HU)