



Greetings from tomorrow

Travel Journal- The meeting from Finland

Starting from March the 5th 2018 to March 9, students and teachers from the five partner schools within the Erasmus+ project “Greeting from Tomorrow” took part in the Course “How to save the world trough education”, in Helsinki, Finland. The mobility was hosted by the high-school, “Maunulan yhteiskoulu ja Helsingin matematiikkalukio”, joining over thirty members of the project from Bulgaria, Finland, France, Italy and Romania. During this week students learned the importance of reducing waste and methods of doing this trough education by attending to different activities, such as: presentations, team buildings, visits, workshops and meetings with specialist.

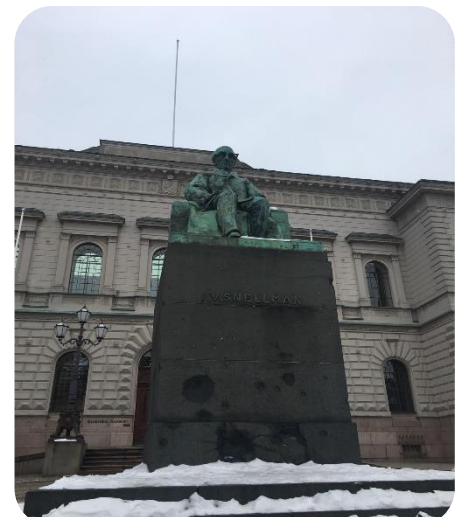
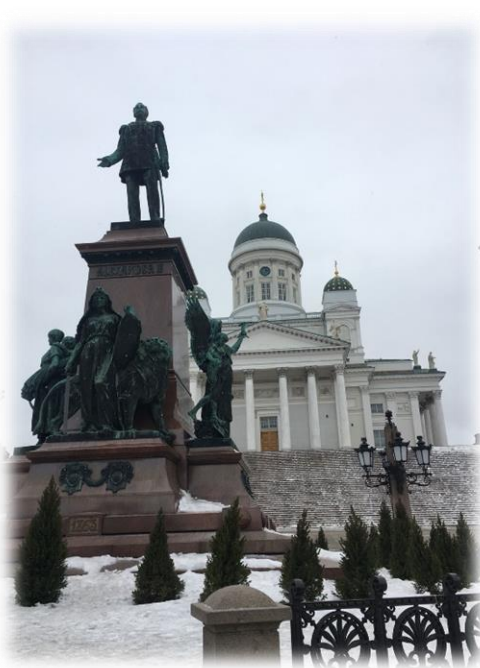
In the following, we are going to present our thoughts and experiences from the five-day mobility, letting you know how the interactions within the project group and the information that we gathered made us understand more about the importance of collaboration in sustaining a better life for the future.

We will start with the day when we arrived in Finland and the students met with their host, on 4th of March. We had the necessary time to accommodate the home where we would stay during the trip, and some of us already started the activities and explored the city with our hosts.

The first day, 05.03.2018:

On the first day, all of us met each other at school, the headmaster welcomed us and after that all the students started to introduce themselves by saying 3 things/3 sentences about their host/guest. After we had the presentations of the schools and cities by partners from other countries, we had the lunch at school.

We were divided in small groups and guided by Finnish students and teachers in Helsinki where we saw some very important and beautiful sights such as: Helsingin säätyalo, Helsingin tuomiokirkko and the statue of Alexander the second.



After that we took the ferry and go to Suomenlinna, a beautiful island wich is very important especially because of the history stories. If the weather was more 'friendly' and warm, I'm sure we could enjoy more the view of the unique Suomenlinna.



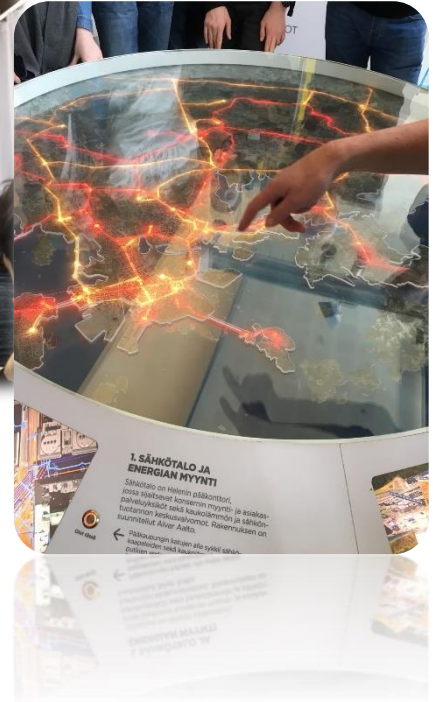
After the interesting visit, all of us came back with the ferry. All the students and teachers had free schedule.

Second day, 6th:

In the second day of the project, we met at the central square and after that we went at the Helsinki University museum and University Main Building. There, our guide explain to us every single part of the museum wich is filled with history and unusual and unknown facts. It was really interesting to find out all those new information.



We had the lunch at Caverna. After that we went at Helen (Helsinki Energy) where an expert present us the details about the process through which energy is share across the country, namely Finland. It was nice to find out some new techniques that you can use in your own country and to realise that some of them are already use in your native country.



I can say that this day was a day full of new and interesting information that definitely delighted us. After the last point in the schedule, we had free time with our host and the rest of the students.

Third day, 07.03.2018:

We met at school and the first thing we did was to share photos and stories from the Monday Helsinki walk and then we were divided into two groups. Firstly, we had a discussion about „What would we take back to our country?“. After we have written a few ideas on electronic

blackboards. We did a video about this topic similar to a talk-show.



The second group had an workshop which consists in cooking with waste food from a store. After each team finished we all gathered to eat what we cooked. After each person ate we were walking in the Central Park-Maunulan Maja. We went to our hosts and we had dinner . We were really happy to try their traditional meals and deserts.



Thursday, 8th

We met at school as an usual and we played Kahoot! is a game-based platform, used as educational technology in classrooms and other learning institutions. After that we went at library to debate the topic “How to save the world through education”. We were divided in three groups and every group had a question and we had to answer in different ways (by making a PowerPoint presentation or through speech) .



After the debate, we had lunch at canteen and we were supposed to make a video of each person who were part at this project and we had to continue one of the sentence: „In 20 years, I will/ It will be..”.After that we went at our hosts. We had an amazing day.

Friday 9th

Our last day within the mobility started with a visit to the “Vantaan Energia” Waste incinerator. Located in the outskirts of Helsinki, the facility uses bio fuel, especially domestic garbage, to power up two furnaces, producing up to 30% of Vantaa’s electricity need. During our guide we learned about the composition of the house garbage and the percentage of plastic paper and biofuel in an average household. We wore advised by our guides to store garbage selectively and they presented some of the harmful effects of burning unsorted trash. The visit ended with a tour through the facility, following every step of the biofuel, from the storage unit up to the cooling chimney.



Coming back to MAYK we had lunch, preparing for the final discussion on the project. During evaluation of the mobility we exchanged views on the last five days, highlighting the key aspects of how the education can play a definitive factor in the development of the world. In this week we had the opportunity to learn plenty about food saving, energy and heating distribution, energy consumption in a household, urban planning and emerging problems such as AI, automatization, electric and public transport; all major aspects in the solution of saving the planet.



As a tradition within the Erasmus+ mobilities, students and teachers gathered to plant the “Greetings from tomorrow” tree, a Chinese juniper. This was not only our humble contribution to the environment but also a message to the world that we are planting the future, as the plant itself but also the next generations of planet savers. The tree came to symbolize our commitment to education and protecting the environment, our shared friendship between students and teacher throughout Europe and our hope for a better, greener future.



Finally, we gathered in the school cafeteria to attend the party. The school offered multiple traditional Finnish dishes and the students took care of the entertaining, displaying social and classical dances that are usually performed during senior prom.



Sunday 10th

Sadly, the mobility ended and it was the time to leave Finland and to head back home, bringing a lot of beautiful memories, unique experiences and a lot of stories to tell to our friends.