

A Puzzle of Migration











POLONIA





A Puzzle of Migration

Migration seen through the students' eyes

This book is proof of collaboration between children of four nations: Italy, Poland, Croatia and Romania, who were brought together by the Erasmus + program: "Bridges over opened minds", a project that stands for an opening towards tolerance and the awareness of the rewarding possibilities that cultural miscegenation brings in any culture.

On a large scale, this European Erasmust project undertakes the difficult work of trying to cope with a large spectrum of needs of minority students, foreigner students, immigrant and disadvantaged students and their families on one hand and the local people on the other hand. The main objective is to bring people together, combine their needs and find solutions, accept one another and involve all parts in active participation in the society by engaging them in collaborative activities. One outcome of such workshops proposed during the mobility in Romania is the Puzzle of Migration seen through the eyes of students. Although the following pages show the diversity and the differences between cultures, they also celebrate their similarities under the guise of stories and drawings shaped by the children's inspiration,

creativity and effort.



ȘCOALA GIMNAZIALĂ Nicolae Torga"



Finally Home

A long time ago, I lived with my family and friends and everything was great because we were able to practice our traditions and live free, unbothered by anyone.

But soon, we were forced to go somewhere else, because, as gypsies we were not welcomed anywhere. So we took our wives and children and left our old lives behind, hoping for better. We travelled a lot, went from place to place, but it seemed that we did not belong anywhere.

Eventually, we found a place and, at first, everything was fine: we had places for our tents, but we wanted more. Our kids needed education, and we needed jobs and other important things. But the people reclaimed us, saying we don't deserve this. We were offended, of course, and we decided that we can't live like this ... so we had to move again.

After a lot of walking through unknown places and countries, we found a village. We were very scared and we didn't want to be kicked out again, so we agreed that we should be very careful.

But soon, we found out the villagers were very friendly and kind with us, they respected our traditions and helped us build homes for our families. Soon, our lives got better and better, and we finally felt that, after a lot of work and travelling through hostile places, we found a community that accepted us.

The history of migration

Once upon a time, far away in the wild, two people were exhausted from their continuous journey they had all their life. There were a woman and a man with their skin burnt from the sun and with bruises all over their legs, caused by a long period of walking. The purpose of this journey? Migration.

They were banished from their origin country from the lack of housing and jobs. And so, here they are! Traveling with no destination, just to find them a place in this world.

"Maybe, someday , we will buy ourselves a house, have children and live happily ever after".

"It sounds so simple to do that... but is harder than we could ever imagine"

" let's hope this is the beginning of everything"

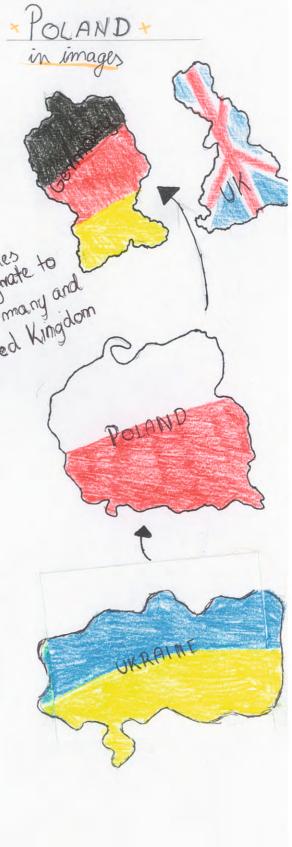
The night was dark and full of terrors, but the migrants were sitting next to a bonfire, talking. Suddenly a giant wolf with yellow eyes and sharp white teeth appeared. They were forced to leave everything and run.

Those two people ran as fast as they could and have found a small and queer chalet, a property of a rich man, a count. He said he always comes to the chalet when he hunts in the woods. The migrants asked him what could they do to earn some money. " Well, you can help me hunt every Saturday and Sunday. And if you do well, you will be paid some money", said the count.

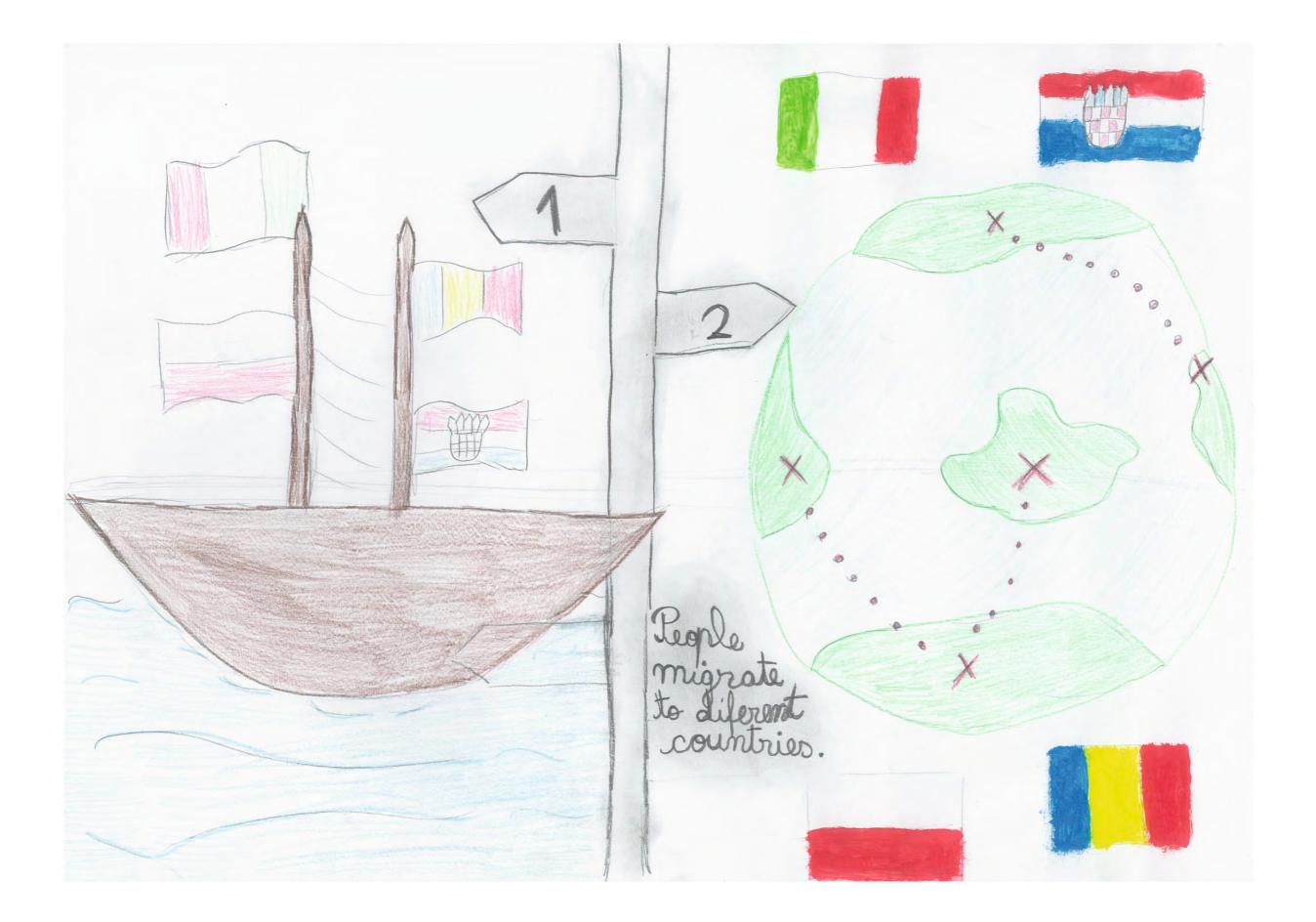
The migrants accepted undoubtedly. They were happy that they have found themselves a house and a well-paid job. They settled in the chalet after a week and they lived in peace and happiness.



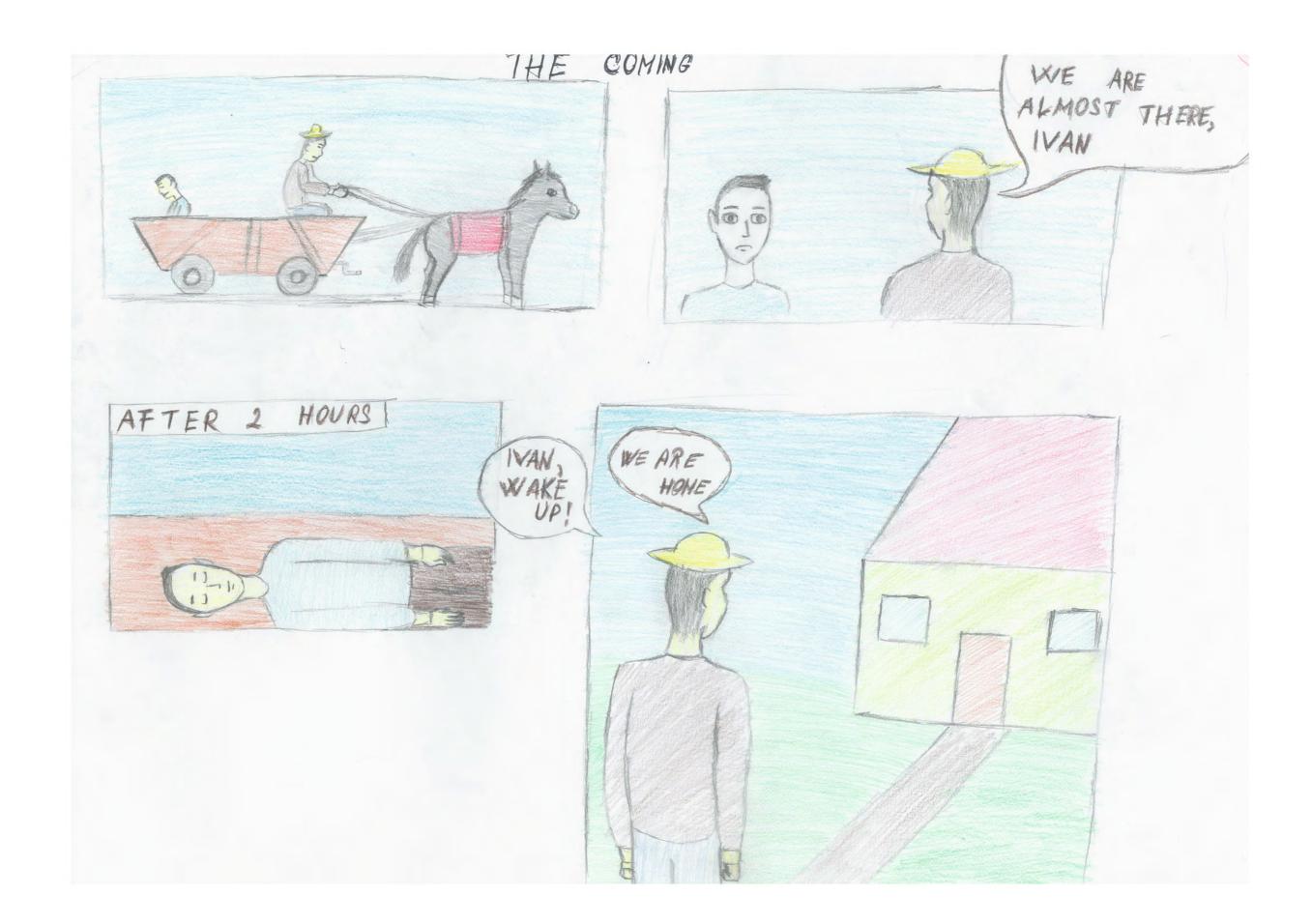
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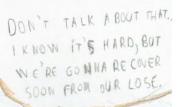


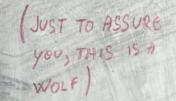


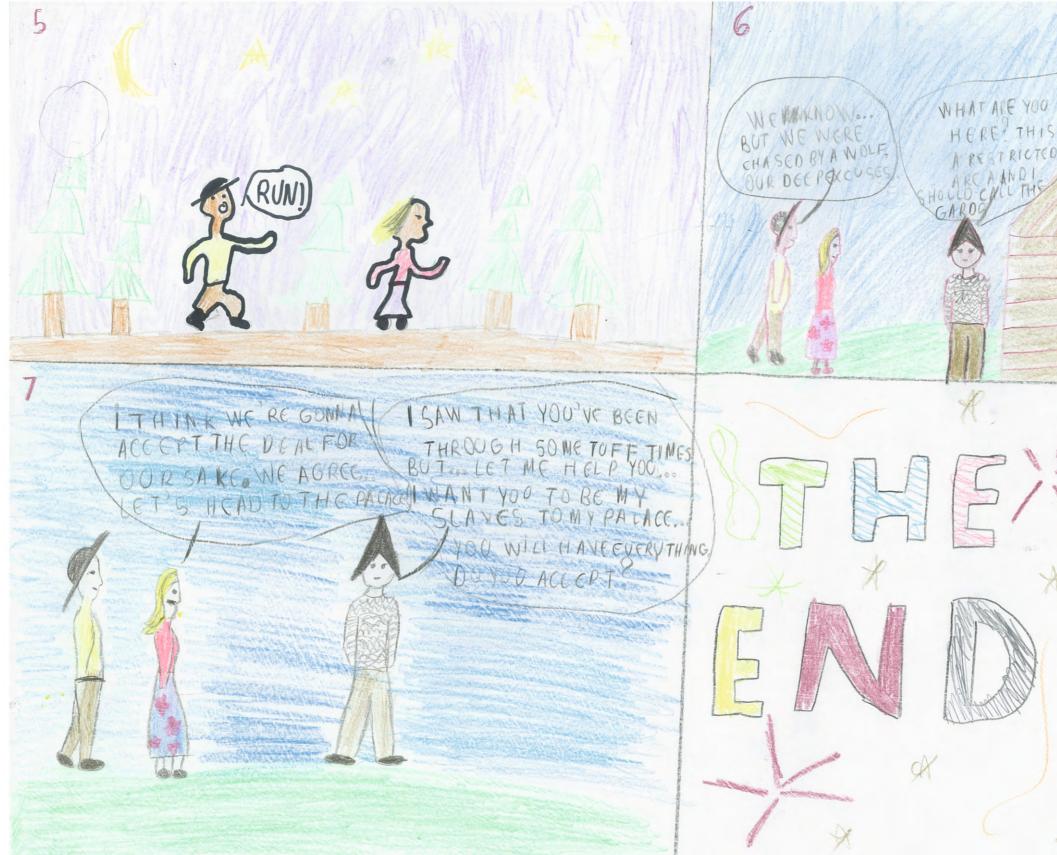












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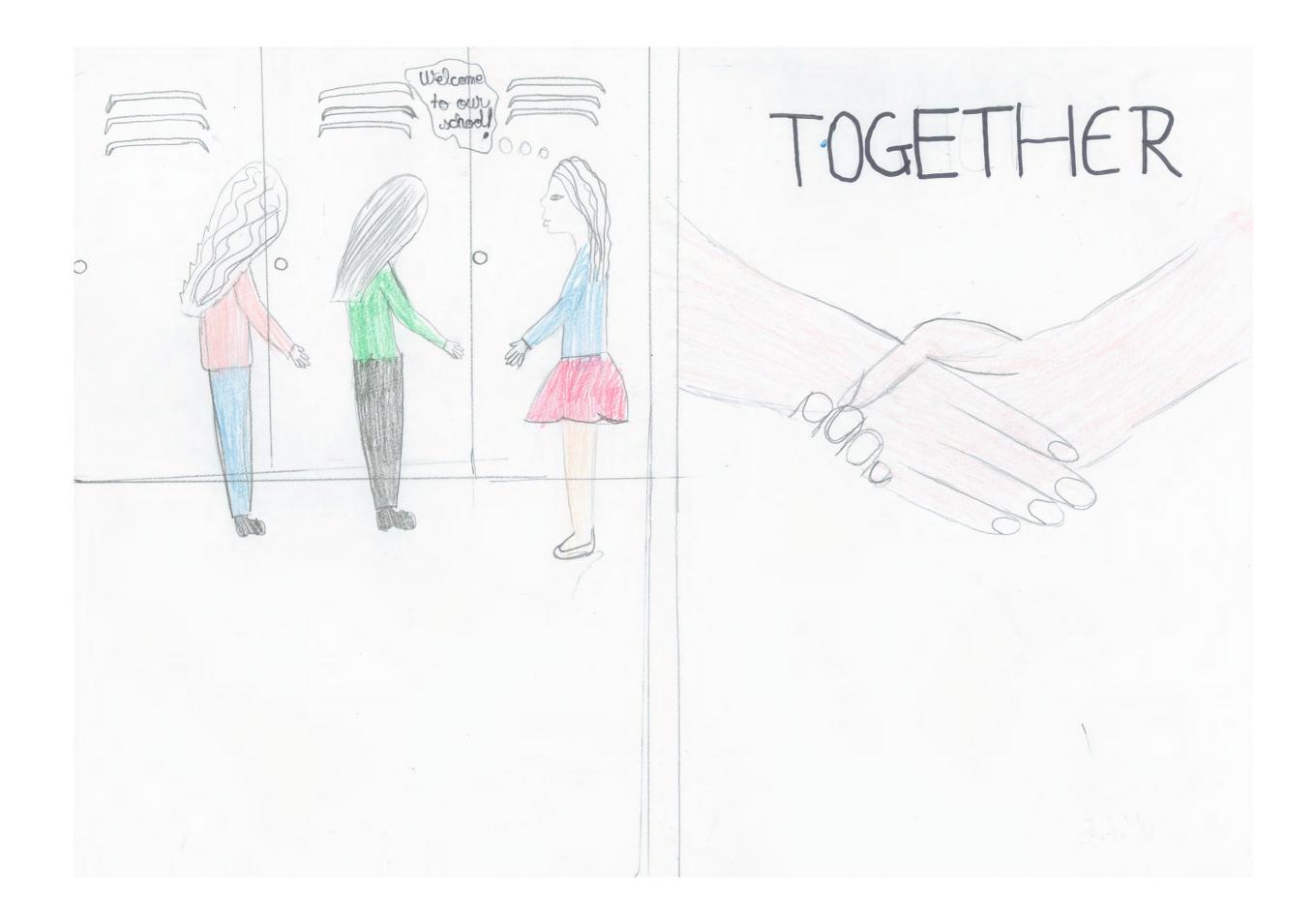


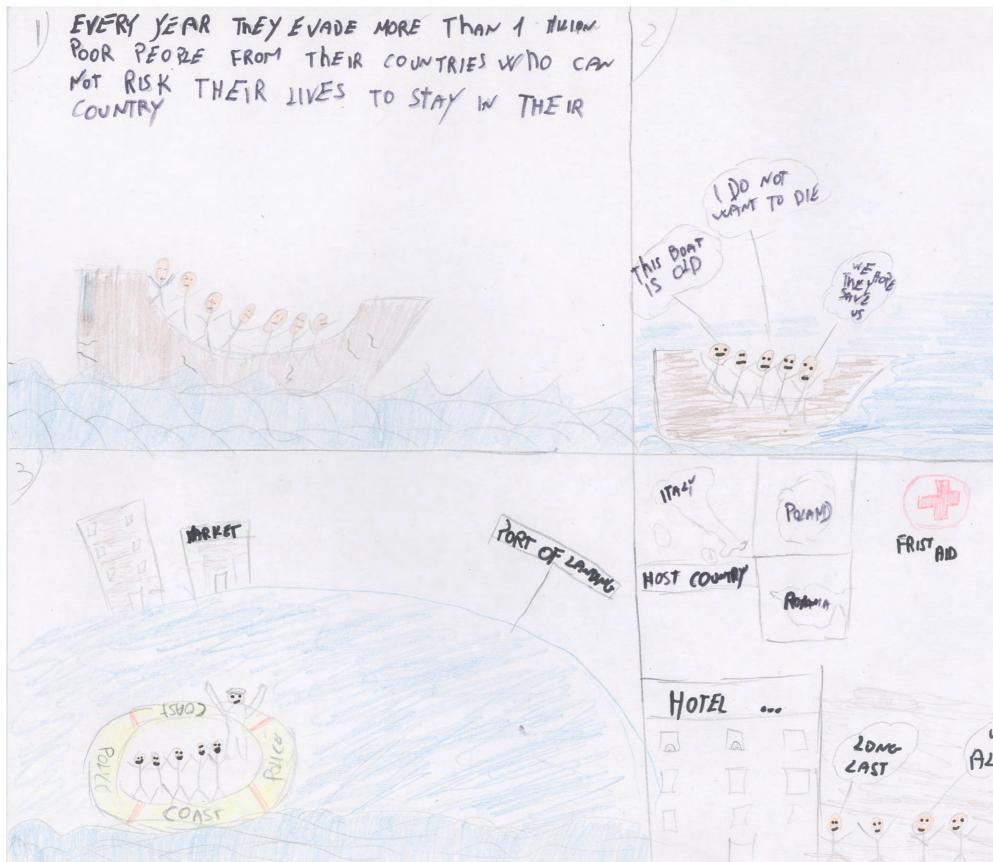
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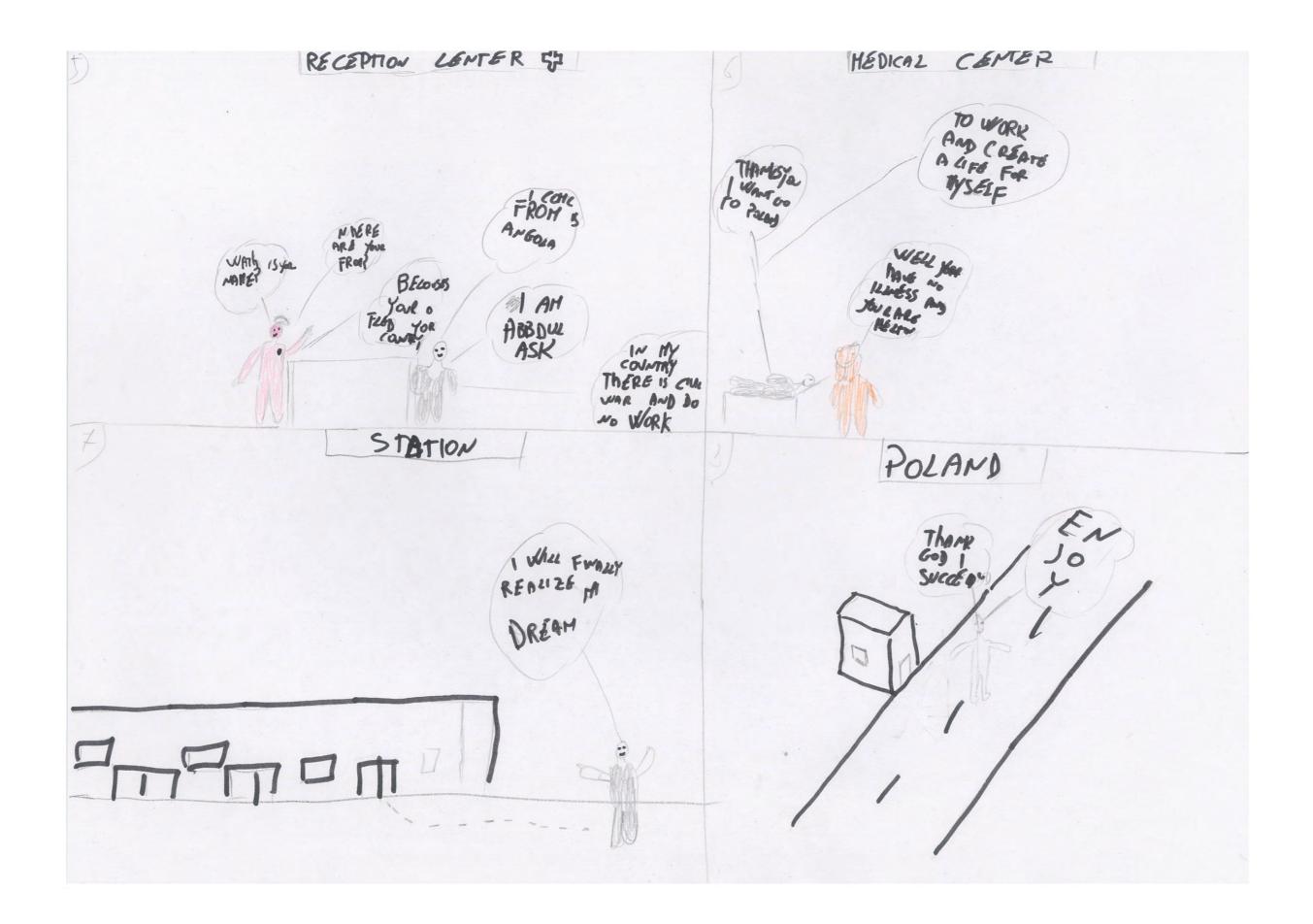








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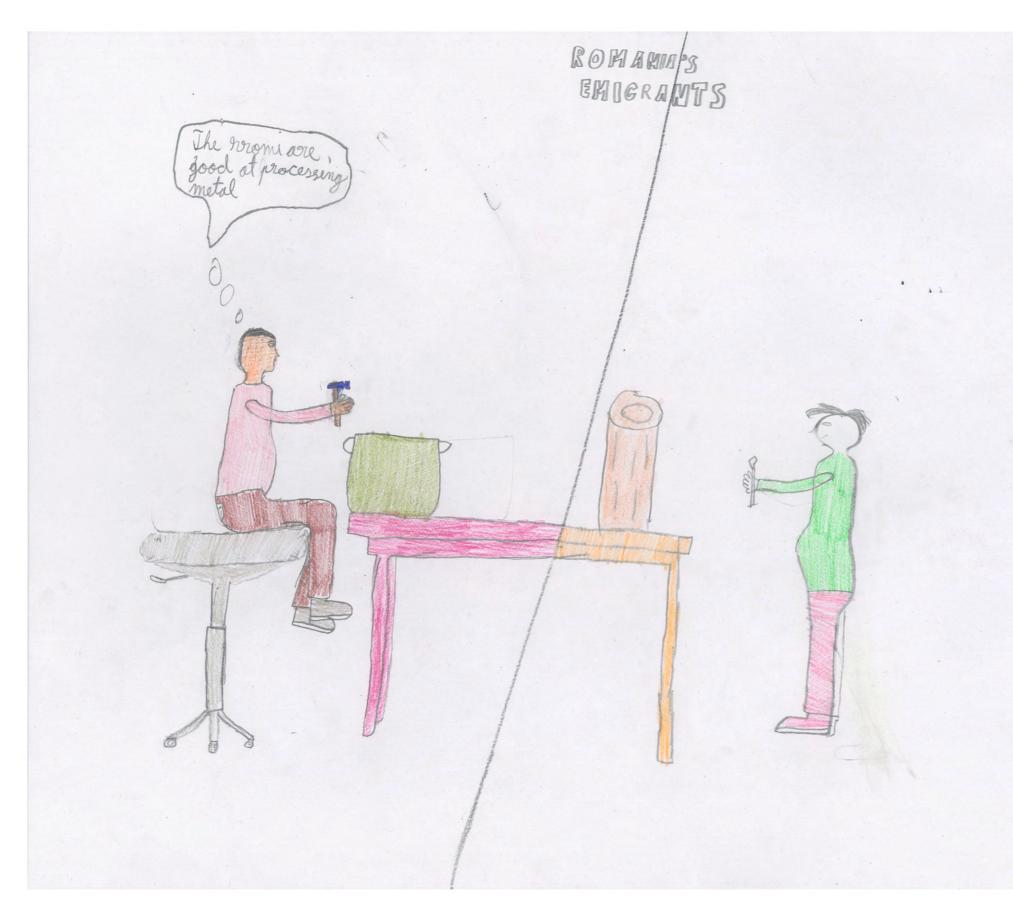
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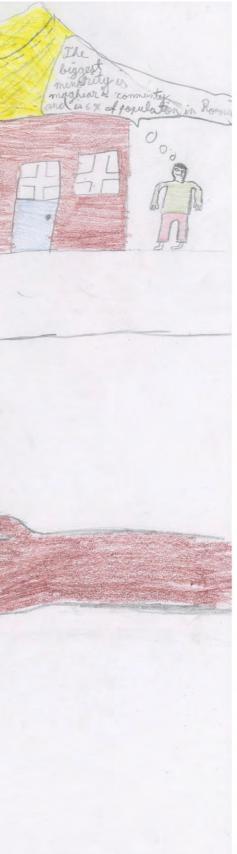






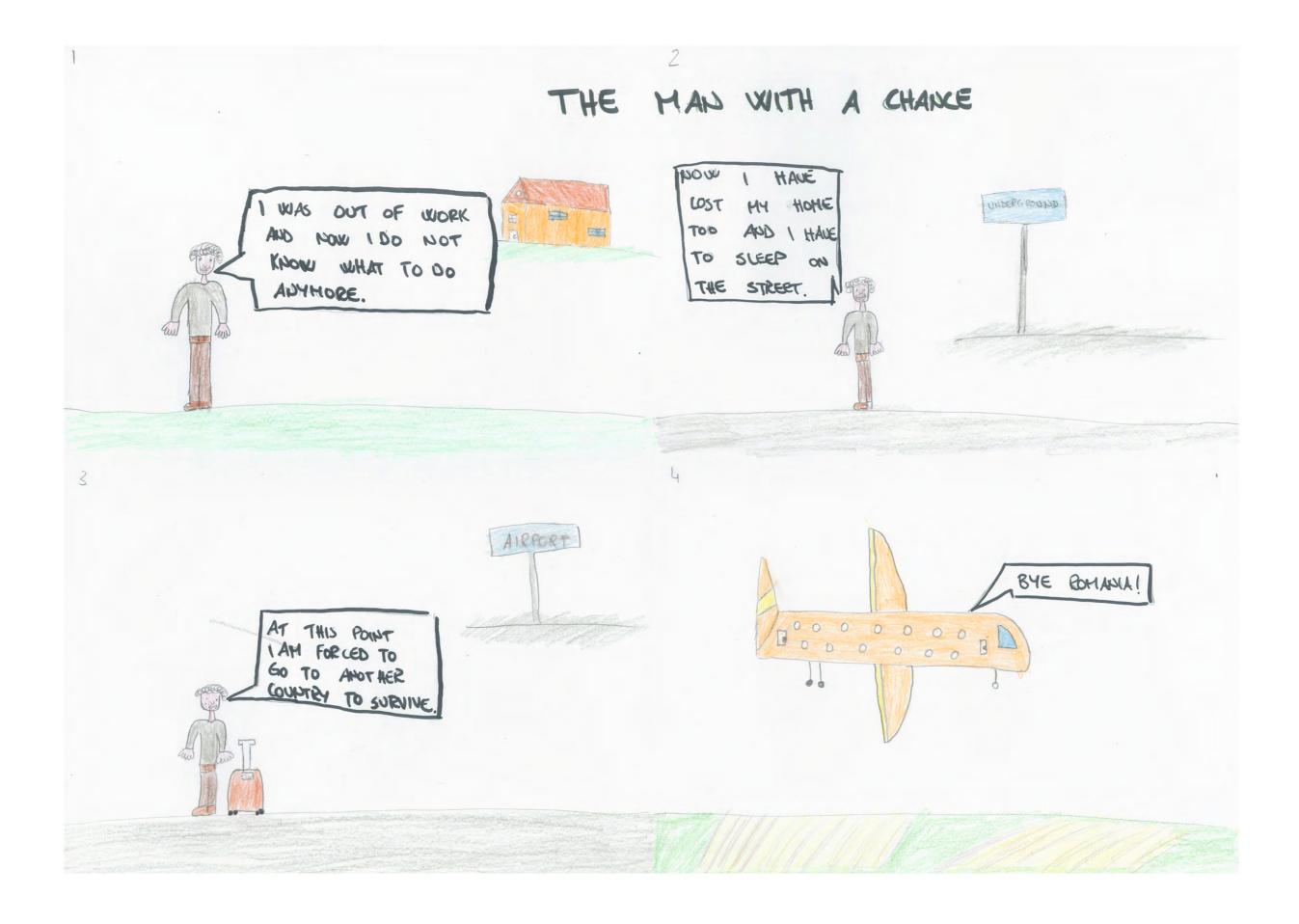


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Confessions and final impressions

These workshop took place on December 6. at Romanian School in Bacau. We drew a comic about emigration. The works were performed by two students from Romania and three from Poland.

The comic book depicted people who go outside from mothers countries to others countries. Among others to Italy, Poland, Greece and Romania. Thanks to these activities, we learned about the fate of emigrants from particular countries. During the work there was a nice and friendly atmosphere. We enriched our knowledge about emigration. Later, we took a part in a lecture on Roma. In my opinion, these classes were very interesting.

Weronika Smoguła / Poland

At Wednesday, the main topic of the workshop activities was Emigration. Our task was to make a comic book. We were divided into groups. In each of them there was one participant from each country. My group drawed the way in which emigrants moved between different countries.

We participated in a lecture also, which gave us information about the fate of emigrants from particular countries. In my opinion it was a very useful lesson. I used a english language for a comunication with each other and I learned a lot about history of emigration.

Paulina Sobieszczyk / Poland

The last day of staying at a school in Romania turned out to be very interesting for us. We learned that we will create a comic book about the migration of people to the others countries. It was an ideal opportunity to learn about history and traditions. Together with the participants of the project, we had the unique opportunity to talk together about the migration and history of our countries.

We combined pleasant and useful. Our task was to draw comics about migration. In groups, we communicated in English, it was quite a challenge. The joint work gave fruitful results. Beautiful and interesting comics were created. Each group had a different idea. Comics have shown many reasons why we can change our place of residence. Our works have been exposed. We had a very nice time in Romania.

We made friends with students from other countries. We are happy that we had the opportunity to visit Romania and learn about their culture. We hope that we will continue to keep in touch with each other.

Wiktoria Stępak, Oliwia Brzezińska, Kinga Wnuk / Poland

I did not know the history of immigration from other countries. During the work in the school of Bacau I discovered that our European countries have many things in common. I liked the way we learned it. We were all committed thinking, deciding and drawing a story of migration.

Giuseppe / Italy

At the school in Bacau we talked about migration then we were asked to create a comic book designed by us guys, inventing a story with immigration as its central theme. I was in a group with a Romanian girl and a Polish girl and together we decided to tell the story of a boy who ran away from his country at war to seek better living conditions abroad. Unfortunately, at the beginning the protagonist of our history, as well as the majority of immigrants, finds it very difficult to integrate and has to overcome many obstacles before being completely accepted in the new country. In the end, however, proving to be a good person, manages to be accepted and find a little 'of serenity and once established tries to bring into his new home even the family remained in his country of origin.

It was nice to work in a team because after having decided together what to do, each one of us drew a part that was part of the whole story we created to tell. At the beginning we did not know what to do but then slowly the work took shape and meaning. Antonio / Italy

Initially I feared that working with other foreign kids would be difficult for English because I'm not good with foreign languages but I saw that we understood each other anyway. The drawing was a great way to tell what we were learning. There were so many stories to tell and we made a big bill with drawings puzzles rapresenting a comic book.

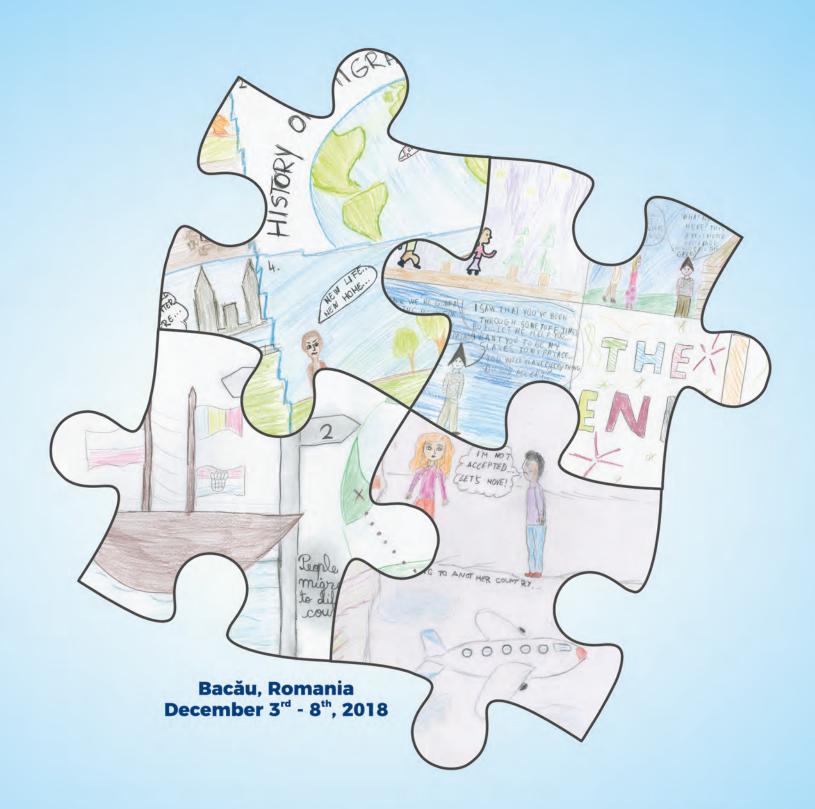
I really liked the History of Migration workshop because, even if we did not know our new friends' language, we could understand each other without any problem and, another thing I liked was that we have done this work together, sharing our ideas and the outcome was impressive. The story we drew, was about a man who unfortunately lost his job and even the house, so he decided to take a ticket to go to a friend of his in London and looked for a job there. Things went well and he slowly managed to re-establish himself economically. This migration happens today very often especially among young people who travel abroad to find a better job.

Bulai Vlad Alessandro / VII-th grade "Nicolae lorga" Bacau / Romania

Sabrina / Italy

Renato / Italy





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