



O.N.L.I.N.E



13-16 October 2021



BULGARIAN TEAM HOSTING THE FIRST EXCHANGE

“We had the honour to be the first hosts in this Erasmus+ project and we were a bit worried at first if everything would go well but at the same time excited to be the first hosting country. Fortunately, it all went well and we hope our guests left our country with good impressions, nice memories and lasting friendship.

We are proud to set the beginning of this wonderful project and spark the interest and curiosity for learning and exploring in all participants!”

Yoana Konstantinova, Coordinator for Bulgaria

“SAFETY ON THE NET”

SHORT TERM EXCHANGE OF GROUPS OF PUPILS IN MEZDRA, BULGARIA

The objectives of the short term exchange of students in Bulgaria:

- Presenting the project in front of school community (students and teachers);
- Students getting to know each other personally by each country giving a presentation about their country/town, school;
- Students getting to know the school in Mezdra, basic vocabulary and facts about Bulgaria;
- Learning more about “Safety on the Net” by participating in workshops and trainings;
- Preparing materials connected to the topic “Safety on the Net”;



- Teachers sharing experience by getting to know each country's educational systems and different educational tools and apps;
- Preparing and organizing Erasmus days event;
- Discussing evaluation and dissemination activities;



ERASMUS+ ACTIVITIES



The first day of the meeting (13 October, 2021) started with the visit of the school where guests were welcomed with bread and honey by Mariela Goranova, the headteacher of the school 'Ivan Vazov' and students in national costumes as tradition goes.



The meeting started by presenting the project in front of the school community and the local media, then students presented themselves, their countries, towns/regions, schools. The students participated in a workshop about Bulgarian basic vocabulary and culture, followed by a kahoot quiz.

The teachers were welcomed by the deputy mayor of Mezdra and presented the project in front of the local authorities and media.



Famous Bulgarian sights visited during the first day: Ritlite and Dyado Yotso



ERASMUS+ ACTIVITIES

The second day of the meeting (14 October, 2021) started with workshops for students .



Getting to know more about safety on the net through educational videos, quizzes, presentations.



Questionnaires prepared by each country and presented by students.



Workshops/trainings for teachers sharing experience on different educational systems, tools and apps used in the different countries.



ERASMUS+ ACTIVITIES



After the students learned more about the topic they presented what they have learned in the form of brochures, drawings and posters, used to decorate an Erasmus+ corner in the school.



Meanwhile the teachers had two trainings: on how to use “Wakelet” tool and on Inclusion and they received certificates for the successful trainings.



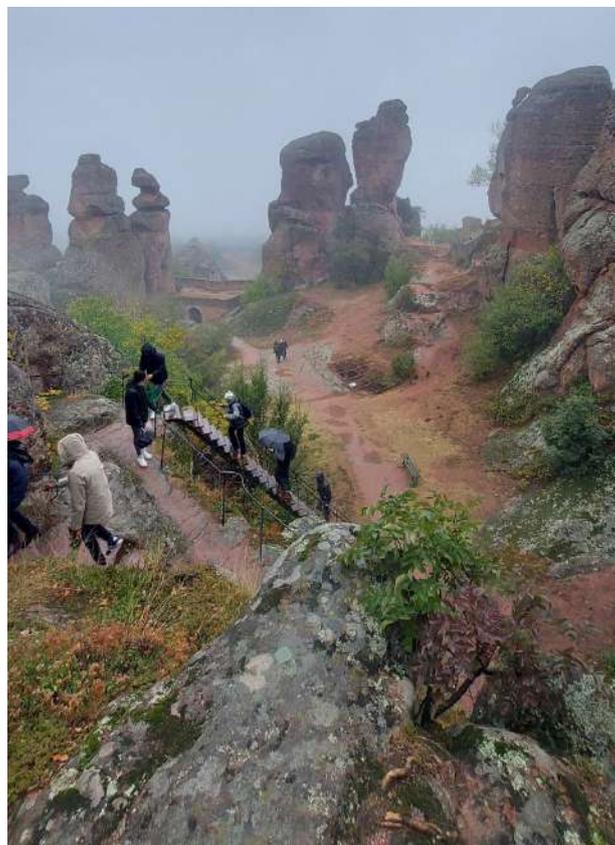
ERASMUS+ ACTIVITIES

The famous Bulgarian sight - Belogradchik Rocks

The Belogradchik Rocks are a group of strangely shaped sandstone and conglomerate rock formations located on the western slopes of the Balkan Mountains (Stara Planina) near the town of Belogradchik in northwest Bulgaria. Many rocks have fantastic shapes and are associated with interesting legends. The Belogradchik Rocks have been declared a Natural Landmark by the Bulgarian government and are a major tourist attraction in the region.



On the second day students and teachers visited the famous landmark and enjoyed the beautiful scenery. Unfortunately, the weather was rainy, windy and chilly but everybody was astonished at the beauty of Bulgarian nature.



ERASMUS+ ACTIVITIES

On the third day of the exchange (15 July, 2021) participants had a workshop “Be careful what you share online” in the regional town of Vratsa, which was organized by a local IT company “Vratsa Software Community”.



Students played different roles and raised their awareness on net safety and how to be more careful when sharing personal details and passwords.



Here is an interview with Emilian Kadiiski, a teacher and a co-founder of “Vratsa software community” and “Vola Software”.

-Hello, Mr Kadiiski! Please, introduce yourself with a few words!

-Hello, my name is Emilian Kadiiski and I have graduated from the Maths school in Vratsa. After that, I completed my master's degree in informatics at Sofia University. Then I started working as a web programmer and in 2011 I participated in “Teach for Bulgaria” program. This program recruits, trains, and supports capable and motivated professionals to become teachers for a period of two years and then to continue their long-term contributions. Currently, I am a co-founder of “Vratsa software community” and “Vola Software”, and at the same time, I’m teaching 10th and 11th graders in Professional technical school “Nikola Yonkov Vaptsarov” in Vratsa.

-How did you decide to start teaching?

-Once, when I was at university I saw a poster “We are looking for school leaders”. Something in me changed, I was just finishing my master's degree and I was seeing the problems in education. I wanted to change the studying environment and right away I decided to become a teacher.

-What would you advise your students when being online?

-In the first place, I would tell youngsters to take online safety seriously. The Internet can be a wonderful place to learn, shop, play games, and talk to your friends.

ERASMUS+ ACTIVITIES

-Unfortunately, there are also predators, identity thieves, and others online who may try to harm you. To be safe online, you need to be aware of the dangers. I also get to know my students with terms like cyberbullying and data privacy, I explain to them that being a "digital citizen" means learning about the responsibilities and behaviours for interacting in this space.

-Thank you very much!

-Thank you too for allowing me to be part of such an interesting and beneficial project. Hope to see you again!



In the afternoon the participants visited a cave near the regional town and spent time in the nature, allowing students to get to know each other better and play common games in the open.



In the evening students and teachers celebrated together with local community "Erasmus days- We are all equal in diversity" by presenting different cultures and traditions and tasting local dishes with parents. The event was registered in the Erasmus days calendar.

ERASMUS+ ACTIVITIES



Bulgarian team



Spanish team



Italian team



Turkish team



Portuguese team



Croatian team

ERASMUS+ ACTIVITIES

On the fourth day of the meeting (16 October, 2021) students and teachers all visited the capital city Sofia, where we were given some materials and booklets by the “Bulgarian Center for Safe Internet” which develops various materials aimed at raising public awareness of the risks to children when using the Internet, social networks and mobile devices, as well as ways to prevent and seek help.



After that students played in international groups “Treasure hunt”- a phone game, which is a fun and interactive way to get to know Sofia by solving a series of challenges, codes and riddles. The winning team received small presents from The Information Centre of the EU in Sofia (European Commission in Bulgaria).



Meanwhile the teachers had a project meeting to share examples of good practices during distance learning and discuss tasks, obligations, administrative work, evaluation and dissemination, as well as plan next mobility in Spain.



In the evening the participants had a farewell supper and a ceremony on giving Certificates to each participant.

ERASMUS+ ACTIVITIES



During the whole exchange students were hosted in the evenings by Bulgarian families and had dinner together with their Bulgarian peer. They had the opportunity to get to know closer the Bulgarian customs and traditions, made new friends and practised their English.

HOSTING



Stefani (Bulgaria) with Ema (Croatia)

"...I had a great time these five days and I wish it had lasted a little bit longer so we could hang out with other students more, but hopefully I will get the chance to participate in other mobilities..."

Ema Sarić



Niya (Bulgaria) with Carlos (Spain) and Bruno (Portugal)

"...This was a once in a lifetime trip that we are going to remember for the rest of our lives, where we made amazing friends around Europe, learned more about Internet Safety and experienced new foods, cultures and customs..."

Portuguese students

"...I'm really grateful to my host and her family because they were very kind to me. Furthermore, I really enjoyed all the activities, I really liked seeing new places and to have tasted different food..."

Carlos Brache



Left to right- Umutefe, Mustafa, Ayyüce (Turkey) and Stela (Bulgaria)

"...visited breathtaking places, i took a lot of photos there. I'm so happy to be a part of this project. I hope one day i'll see Bulgaria again..."

Mustafa BOZDEVECİ

"My first experience in ERASMUS+ Project was amazing. I've met amazing people, seen wonderfull places and improved my English as well. It was better than i expected. I'm so happy for being a part of this project..."

Ayyüce KIRBAŞOĞLU

HOSTING



Left to right- Antonio (Spain), Viki (Bulgaria), Tomas (Portugal)

"...I really liked the Bulgarian people, lovely and welcoming people, the dinners were the best, you felt welcomed in that house and you were part of that family. It was an unforgettable experience, and I hope to be able to do more Erasmus soon. Thank you very much to everyone who has made this project possible."

Antonio Luis Romero Fortes



Lucija (Croatia) with Evelin (Bulgaria)



Silvia (Bulgaria) with Rita (Italy)

"...I think I lived the best week of my life. I met such good people and I loved all the moments spend with them. I left a piece of my heart in Bulgaria."

Rita Muzio



Denislav's mother, Arian (Croatia), Denislav (Bulgaria) and Denislav's father

HOSTING



Lilia (Bulgaria) with Simona (Italy)

"...I'm looking forward to meeting at least part of the amazing people I met and made memories with."

Lilia Slavcheva

"I think it was one of the most beautiful experiences in my life: it allowed me to know a new culture and traditions but also a lot of special people from every country who made me feel at home. Thanks!"

Simona Maiorano



Gabriela (Bulgaria) with Martina (Italy)



"...I would like to emphasize that this wonderful project has given my relatively unexperienced team a chance to meet so many interesting and nice people. They have had their first visits abroad and have come home with unforgettable memories. They say they will do their best to be able to join the next mobilities."

Orhan Erdoğan, Coordinator for Turkey