

Final Speech – Virtual Mobility - Italy

I would like to begin by thanking Teacher Mari Carmen and Teacher Maria del Mar for encouraging us to build this project that is ending today. It was well worth taking up this challenge and meeting all the other partners.

I (also) want to thank the Italian team for organising this virtual meeting. You managed to overcome the challenge of converting face-to-face activities to virtual ones. In the planning of these 3 very pleasant days, you contributed to the maxim "Education is the most powerful weapon which we can use to change the world". Congratulations! Well done!

Differences are essential to humanity. They are the result of a birth circumstance and should not be the root of hatred and conflict. Unfortunately, human beings tend to disregard people they consider inferior. However, all peoples are unique and deserve our respect, regardless of skin colour, gender, religious beliefs, ideologies, sexual orientation, etc. If we all manage to accept this, we will all have a greater chance to live harmoniously, far from concepts of superiority or inferiority.

In this project we have prioritised the fight against the sick mentalities that are based on disrespect and intolerance against certain groups of people, making students aware of the terrible effects of these

behaviours on the development of the human being and of the importance in fighting hate speeches and hate behaviours within schools and in society.

I hope that this partnership will have a strong impact on our students by raising their awareness of respect and tolerance towards others, allowing a reduction or even an elimination of injustice and violence, discrimination and marginalisation.

I would like to thank everyone, students, teachers and parents, for the two wonderful years we have worked together.

In this very particular context, physical mobility was not possible but I'm sure that these three days of sharing ideas and experiences will remain in our memory forever. Better days will come. If everybody follows the sanitary rules everything will go well - TOGETHER WE CAN!

Maria Vasconcelos