

Evaluating the ERASMUS experience

My name is Manos Pimplis, I'm 17 years old and I am a student at the Second Vocational High school of Chania. The specialty I am studying is Refrigeration and Air-conditioning. With our school we participated in the European ERASMUS program "The Recycling of Electric and Electronic equipment and Air Quality" with Spain and Bulgaria. This was a fantastic experience with the other students and the activities that took place.

First of all, I would like to mention that this program has greatly influenced my ecological awareness of air quality having researched and discussed these issues in our projects and our meetings. For example after the discussions and activities on recycling we participated in I have been influenced on this topic very much. My family and I now have at home all the recycling bins. In addition, when it comes time to choose air-conditioners in my line of work I will keep in mind all the facts I have learned through this program.

Another factor that made this experience unforgettable that I would like to mention is that I met some amazing people in this program and we shared unforgettable experiences. However knowledge of English was required for communication between us. To tell the truth it was fun because when we were trying to speak but didn't know a few words we would try to describe them. Still we managed to communicate. One of my most enjoyable experiences was on the bus rides in which we put on songs that were Spanish and we tried to sing or we put on Greek songs and the Spanish team would try to sing them. Finally, the teamwork between my classmates was excellent for carrying out our work.

Altogether, this was an unforgettable experience having learned so much about environmental awareness and about the cultures of other nationalities, but also it has given me knowledge that I can incorporate in my future work and make me a better technician.

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