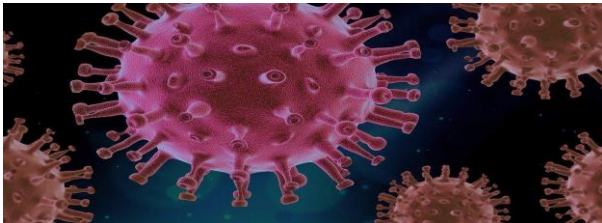


**KA229 'On The Move For Social Inclusion'
VIRTUAL MOBILITY, Penafiel, Portugal, April 12th
to 17th 2021.**

At last it was time to travel to Portugal, but, unfortunately, Covid-19 also made an appearance in our lives ... disrupting all our exchange and training plans in Penafiel, Portugal.



Faced with the impossibility of traveling to Portugal, we decided to request an extension of the project in the hope of being able to travel later and, in the meantime, we continued having several remote contacts.



On the other hand, this situation made us reinvent ourselves, seek new solutions to the new situation and gave us the opportunity to make a Christmas menu in our kitchens with all the BVT students that we broadcasted via Google Meet to the rest of the international delegations, being able to thus, continue to give life to the project and, at the same time, involve a greater number of students and thus spread the project more widely, one of its main objectives.



At this time we still had the hope of being able to travel to Portugal and meet there all of us. But fate was capricious. The situation caused by the pandemic, far from improving, worsened day by day and we saw our meeting in Penafiel in danger. We had to request another extension, the last possible one, in the hope of being able to carry out the mobility. But, given the evolution of the situation, we had to reinvent ourselves before the increasingly clear possibility of not being able to travel to Portugal ... and, since we could not stay without knowing Penafiel and its surroundings in Portugal, we carried out a virtual mobility between on April 12 and 17, in which we could enjoy its culture, its customs, its gastronomy, its architecture, its museums, its theme parks, its history, etc.



Fortunately, and as all things have their positive side, this modality, although it cannot be comparable to physical mobility, gave us the opportunity to involve all 1st year BVT students and 2nd year students who did not go to practices in that period, as well as another small group of students who participated in previous mobilities.



Therefore, the diffusion and impact acquired by the project was much higher than that of physical mobility.



In the first place, we visited the 'Escola Secundária de Penafiel', the educational center of our hosts, who showed us with a video recorded by the students of the center and from where its headmaster greeted us.



Later, we followed a series of virtual cultural visits guided by videos. We started with Porto, where we could see the Sé de Porto cathedral, Avenida dos Aliados; Bolhão Market, Torre dos Clérigos, Praça dos Leões, Jardins do Palácio de Cristal, Mirante do Douro, Palácio da Bolsa, Museu da Alfandega, its famous bridges, the interactive museum 'World of Discoveries', the Church of the Clérigos, the river Douro and the wineries located on the other side of the Douro, in Vila Nova de Gaia, the Paço de Sousa monastery, etc.



We continued the visit virtually knowing the city of Guimarães and its surroundings, while the students from the different international delegations interacted through eTwinning and other social networks.



Another visit took us to Quinta da Aveleda, a farm dedicated to the production of wines and other delicacies in the area.

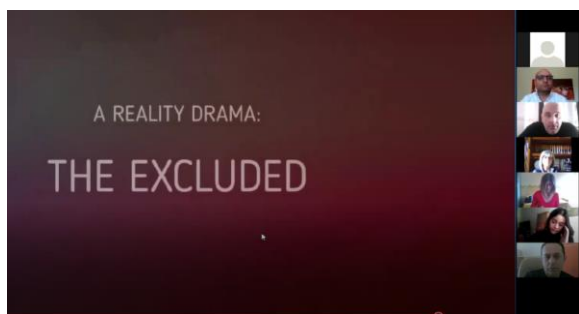


The virtual visit to Penafiel itself was also spectacular, with its historical and commercial center, the municipal museum of Penafiel, its most charming corners, etc.



Amarante was another of the surprises that our Portuguese friends had prepared for us. The bridge of San Gonzalo, the church and the convent of San Gonzalo, Solar dos Magalhães and Casa de Pascoaes are just some of the places they showed us.

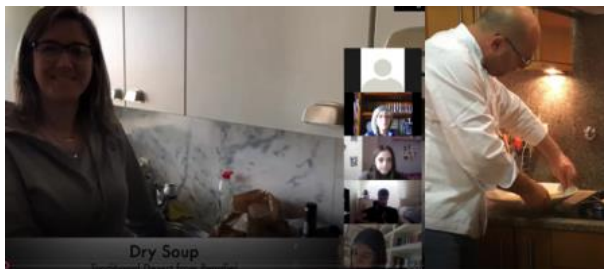
Interspersed with these virtual visits, the students from each of the delegations presented their videos on some of the topics related to the project's objectives.



On the other hand, Portuguese and Italian students performed various musical works.



And the Portuguese teachers delighted us with some typical Portuguese dishes ...



All these activities and visits were of great interest, they were interspersed with different activities such as Kahoots, etc. and it should be noted that the students and teachers really enjoyed the activities organized by our Portuguese friends who, with a lot of effort, dedication and imagination, were able to turn adversity into opportunity for a large number of students who, otherwise, would not have the opportunity to get to know the Portuguese culture.



And with this latest virtual mobility conditioned by Covid-19 we had to end this fantastic project that began in 2018. A long journey in which many young people (and not so young in the case of teachers) have been able to enjoy a Europe that unites us as we have developed a series of invaluable values that, otherwise, it would have been difficult to receive and disseminate.

We can only thank the Erasmus + Program and the European Union for the opportunity they have given us. We have made great friends, we have known and enjoyed spectacular places, different cultures that have made diversity an element of union between nations and people, and have made us grow as European citizens.

FOR EVER YOURS, DEAR FRIENDS!!

