


# SKYPE MEETING WITH REFUGEE STUDENTS

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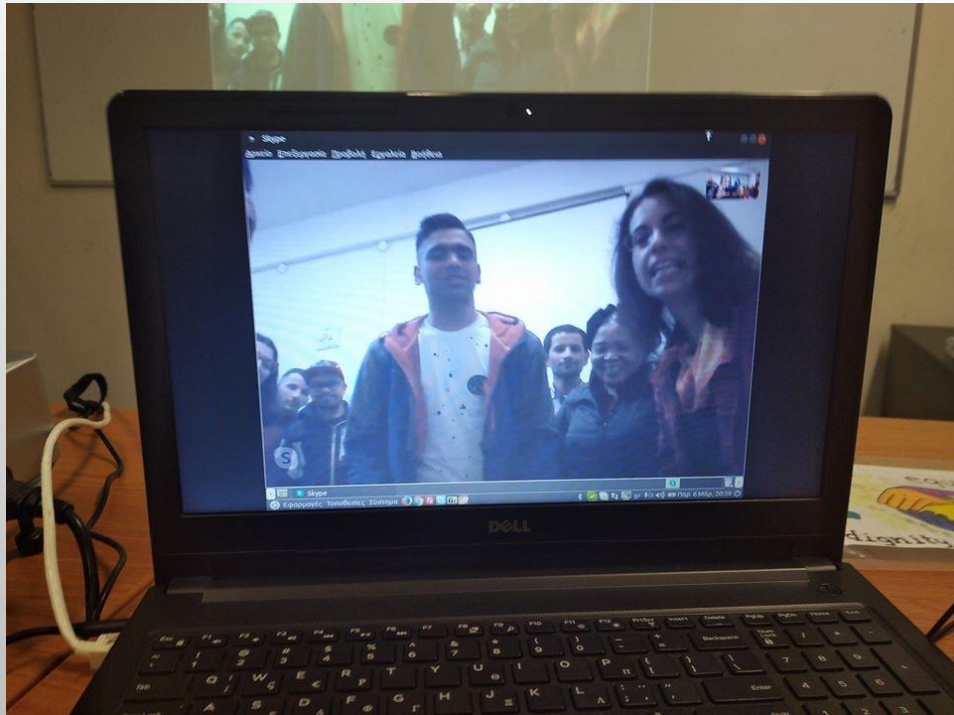
On the evening of the March 6th, the Erasmus group of High school of Moudros had a skype meeting with the refugee students who attend the Evening school of Mitilini Lesvos.

The teachers of the two schools have known each other for some years and have participated in other projects. The online meeting had been prepared for some time and finally took place giving the chance to students to meet and communicate. Most refugee students spoke in Greek and a few in English and in French. Both parties asked questions and gave replies, exchanged smiles and laughs and were grateful for this opportunity.



Naturally, they talked about school subjects, but also about life, difficulties, journeys, friendships and dreams about the future. All of us here at the high school of Moudros would like to thank the teachers **Mrs Despoina Verri, Ioulia Sarantou**, also all the teachers of the inclusion classes and of course the students of the **Evening school of Mitilini Lesvos**. We would also like to express our thanks and gratitude to **Mr Christos Hatzilias**, school counsellor and coordinator of, among other, volunteer projects, who attended the meeting and who strongly supports our project. Nice people lead you to nice paths. We promise to meet again and to keep working on humanitarian values and principles.

**The refugees we talked to in our last communication have been living to Greece from 1 up to 10 years.**



# REFUGEE'S ANSWERS TO OUR QUESTIONS

## DO YOU LIKE LIVING IN GREECE?

- -IT FEELS NORMAL.
- -I REALLY REALLY LIKE LIVING HERE.
- -IT FEELS LIKE HOME, IT IS NOW MY HOMELAND.

## HOW DID YOU FEEL WHEN YOU FIRST CAME TO GREECE?

- -AT FIRST IT WAS STRANGE, DIFFERENT, BUT NOW IT FEELS NORMAL.





- **WHY DID YOU DECIDE TO LEAVE YOUR COUNTRY AND COME TO GREECE?**

- -WE CAME HERE FOR A BETTER FUTURE.

- -POVERTY.

- -I DID NOT HAVE A FUTURE IN MY HOMELAND , SO I CAME HERE FOR A BETTER FUTURE.

- **DO YOU MISS YOUR FAMILY AND YOUR HOMELAND?**

- -I MISS THEM A LOT , BUT I WOULD NOT RETURN TO MY HOMELAND.

- **WHO DO YOU HANG OUT WITH?**

- -WE HAVE FRIENDS WHO ARE GREEKS AND ALBANIANS.



- **WOULD YOU ADVISE YOUR FRIENDS TO COME HERE IN MYTILINI?**
- -OBVIOUSLY, BECAUSE IN GREECE THERE IS MORE FREEDOM THAN IN MY COUNTRY.
- -OF COURSE, HERE THEY WOULD HAVE A CHANCE FOR A BETTER FUTURE.
- -YES, THE SCHOOL HERE IS REALLY GOOD.
- **DO YOU HAVE ANY PLANS FOR THE FUTURE?**
- -I IMAGINE MY FUTURE HERE, IN LESVOS.



# SCHOOL

- -IT IS A PLEASURE FOR ME TO GO TO SCHOOL BECAUSE I LEARN NEW THINGS.
  - -I LOVE SCHOOL.
  - -I AM REALLY HAPPY HERE, MY TEACHERS HELP ME A LOT.
  - **IS SCHOOL DIFFICULT FOR YOU?**
- TEACHERS ARE HELPING US A LOT AT SCHOOL AND MAKE EVERYTHING SEEM EASIER, WE LOVE THE FACT THAT WE HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO LEARN.





• **DID YOU COME HERE WITH YOUR FAMILY OR ALONE?**

• -I CAME HERE WITH MY BROTHER WHO IS MARRIED TO A GREEK WOMAN.

• **WOULD YOU PREFER BEING HERE WITH YOUR PARENTS OR YOU LIKE LIVING ALONE?**

-I PREFER LIVING ALONE BECAUSE I AM FREE, I CAN DO WHATEVER I LIKE WITHOUT HAVING MY MUM OR MY DAD CALLING ME ALL THE TIME AND ASKING ME WHEN I AM GOING HOME, I LIKE MY FREEDOM. I CAN GO FOR A DRINK WITHOUT HAVING A SPECIFIC TIME TO GO BACK HOME.

- **WHEN YOU FIRST CAME HERE, DID YOU FEEL FEAR, THREAT, RACISM?**
- -NO, PEOPLE HERE ARE REALLY GOOD PEOPLE.
- -NO. ALSO, WHEN I WAS SAD AT FIRST, PEOPLE HERE HELPED ME A LOT. NOW, I AM DOING MY BEST TO HELP THEM WHEN THEY NEED MY HELP.
- -MYTILINI IS A REALLY CALM PLACE, I DID NOT FEEL ANY THREAT.
- -NO, THIS IS A QUIET PLACE WITH NO PROBLEMS.
- **WE ASKED A WOMAN IF SHE HAS EVER FELT BEING IN DANGER AND HER ANSWER WAS NO, SHE NEVER HAD THAT FEELING SHE FEELS SAFE AND SHE DOESN'T WANT TO LEAVE GREECE, SHE LIKES OUR COUNTRY.**

- **HOW DID YOU FEEL AT FIRST, WERE YOU EXCITED TO START A NEW LIFE TO AN ENTIRELY DIFFERENT PLACE OR YOU WERE AFRAID AND UNHAPPY BECAUSE YOU DIDN'T KNOW HOW EVERYTHING WAS ABOUT TO EVOLVE?**

- “WHEN I FIRST CAME, WHAT I DID WAS TO BURST OUT CRYING, I DIDN'T KNOW WHERE I WOULD LIVE, I MEAN A HOUSE ,I DIDN'T HAVE ANYTHING TO EAT, BUT SOME PEOPLE WERE WILLING TO GIVE ME A PLACE TO LIVE AND GIVE ME FOOD. AS LONG AS I'VE BEEN LIVING HERE I'VE MET ONLY GOOD PEOPLE. AFTER A WHILE I HAD STARTED FEELING LIKE HOME. I FOUND A JOB AT A FACTORY. THERE I WORK FROM 8 IN THE MORNING TILL 5PM, AFTER THAT, I GO TO SCHOOL.”



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# *THE END*

- IT WAS AN AMAZING EXPERIENCE. THANK YOU ALL.

