

Good morning,

I would like to greet everyone and say that it's an honor to be here.

We are here mostly because of the students, they are our goal and sharing is the way to reach this goal.

So, we are here to share knowledge, experiences, cultures, languages, friendships and very important, families.

We believe this is the way to establish links between different cultures and make our students realize the profound meaning of being active citizens, as well as the concepts of brotherhood, justice and equality.

In a time that Europe is going through a serious social and ecological crisis it is particularly important to look towards the next generation.

We are concerned that, the way Europe is developing, it creates real risks for the protection and wellbeing of our young citizens.

..so, it's important that we help to inform and educate them and start sowing the seeds of global wellbeing in the schools.

Our schools cannot stay out of those realities. My school, Agrupamento de Escolas de Póvoa de Lanhoso, is involved in European projects since two thousand two.

Developing intercultural projects is very important for us, that's why we have embarked in this adventure with 7 countries.

This team has proved to be fantastic. The teamwork between coordinators, teachers and students has made this experience a true success.

Let us proceed with our dream...preparing students to build a better world.

Finally, I would like to say that it's an honor to have here a representation of the Portuguese Government. It would be great if you could help us in the disclosure of these initiatives that help in the development of our youth.

It's important that the media also promote the positive things that happen in these partnerships of schools and countries.

Thank you all the entities, project coordinators and all the schools who have made it possible for this project to develop.

And last, but not the least... thanks to all the Italian team for welcoming us in these Learning/Teaching/Training activities, as well as the families that so generously host the students from 6 visiting countries.

Thank you so much!!

Cristina Santos