



Erasmus+

Súkromná stredná odborná škola Pro scholaris

Work for an Inclusive School Heritage

Report

**The 3rd Short-Term Exchange of Groups of Pupils
in Žilina, February 25 – March 01, 2019**





The report is covering the 3rd Short-Term Exchange of Groups of Pupils. All the students from Spain and Italy arrived on the 24th of February 2019 and were accommodated in the host families of the Slovak students. Project activities started on the 25th of February, 2019 and ended on the 1st of March, 2019 with the departure of all the student participants on the 2nd of March, 2019. Activities were held at Private Vocational School Pro scholaris. Although students' learning/teaching/training activities (C6) and students' learning activities (C6) were held in separate classrooms with own schedule, there was plenty of interaction and common activities with the teachers like meals, coffee breaks, cultural activities, city-and-nature visits and thematic excursions.

The 3rd Short-Term Exchange of Groups of Pupils (C6)

The activities realized during the 3rd Short-Term Exchange of Groups of Pupils (C6) accomplished all the goals, duties and responsibilities resulting from the application form.

After a short welcoming on Monday by the headteacher, Mr. Tomáš Milata, there was the Workshop 1 aimed at "Presentation of SI Projects led by each partner at local and discussing the project results and success". It was realized in the one of the school classrooms. Students dealt with sharing the activities done over the last several months within the Pro-Social Behaviour Clubs in their high schools.

Following the previous one, Workshop 2 was targeted at various topics covering the 21st- century skills. Digital presentations of the students reflected ways of dissemination of the project results which were shared at this presentation meeting. The student participants created a poster in mixed teams, what can be downloaded from the project website www.wish-project.eu.

The first two workshops resulted in increased awareness about the activities done over the past 14 months of the project duration by the student teams. This also means that student participants were inspired by each other in order to use the experienced practices of other high school students.

On Tuesday, all participants attended thematic tour which included excursions to an institution aimed at special care of abused (or lone) women with children. It is called Áno pre život, n.o. (Yes for Life, NGO). We visited the asylum house and also the sheltered employment which has contracted several handicapped persons up to this day. The clients of the asylum house or the workers within the sheltered employment (protected workshops), respectively, produce gingerbreads and other cakes and sell them to the network of sweetshops in the region of Rajec. Besides the thematic excursion, students visited also the most spectacular cultural and historical highlights of the Rajec region including the village of



Čičmany well-known for its amazing folk house decorations. On the way there, we stopped by the largest mechanical wooden Bethlehem in Slovakia which is in operation and maintained for visitors in the village of Rajecká Lesná.

One of the obligatory workshops represented a big event successfully enjoyed in the Stanica-Záriečie Cultural Node on Tuesday. This musical event involved musicians from the student but also teacher participants. It resulted into a nice and joyful evening packed with music played and sung by the Spanish and Slovak participants. It was opened to the public hence other people could see and experience the result of social inclusion. Just because some of the performing participants were students from disadvantaged environment or students with special needs. The whole-week project activity was officially opened here and all the participants were welcomed by the headteacher, Mr. Tomáš Milata. It was a nice dissemination example in a public space to increase the visibility of the whole project.

Wednesday was another working day. Last workshop for the students focused on "Preparing a digital magazine of SI Projects and their results". Practically, students worked with a special editing software (Scribus) which enabled them to prepare and finish the digital magazine. It is also available for free download from the project website.

Thursday was filled with an excursion to the Youth Diagnostic Centre in the community of Lietavská Lúčka. We visited special educational facility which takes care of girls with problematic behavior. The participants were informed about the activities, operation, schedule and awards/penalties within the Youth Diagnostic Centre. Afterwards, thanks to the co-operation between the project co-ordinator and regional authorities, we all moved to the seat of the Žilina Self-Governing Region where all the participants were welcomed by the vice-chairman of the region's authority, Mr. Peter Dobeš. Main natural, cultural and historical monuments of the whole region were introduced to the students by the executive director of the Žilina Tourist Board, Mrs. Iveta Chabádová who showed a spectacular video. Official closure ceremony connected with certificates' giving was realized afterwards. Right after the lunch which was prepared and served by the cook-and-waiter students in the facility of regional authority, we moved to the Žilina city center where the students of SSOŠ Pro scholaris realized thematic city tour for all the participants. Besides the main squares, it comprised not the main city cathedral with a unique tower only but also the Rosenfeld's Palace or a fabulous Jewish Synagogue to better understand the historical perspectives of Žilina.

Last day of the short-term exchange of groups of pupils was about the trip to Bojnice. The most beautiful castle in Slovakia attracted the students' attention and it was also tightly connected with one of the project topics – social inclusion. In practice, the castle is equipped with special forms of helping the visually impaired visitors. Students attended a nice evening party all together.



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All participants left Žilina on the 2nd of March, 2019, in early morning hours due to international flights or long drive home.



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