



2016-1-TR01-KA219-035243\_3.

# Strategic Partnership between schools 2016-2018

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#### A general view of the project values



Strategic partnerships aim to support the development, transfer and / or implementation of innovative practices, as well as the implementation of joint initiatives to promote cooperation, mutual learning activities and exchanges of experience at European level.

The main goal is to enable organizations to develop and strengthen networks, develop their capacity to operate at transnational level, share and confront ideas, practices and methods. These projects can also produce concrete results that are then disseminated to the community as project products and exchanges of best practices.

The "Break Barriers-No Prejudices" project implemented in our school during 2016-2018 took into account those Horizontal Priorities required in current school education and student personality training:

- Developing relevant and high-quality skills and competences: supporting individuals to acquire and develop key skills and competences to foster professional insertion, socio-educational and personal development, and participation in civic and social life. (promoting lifelong learning and improving the quality and effectiveness of learning mobility experiences).
- Social Inclusion: Priority has been given to diversity-based actions that promote through innovative and integrated approaches common values, equality, including gender equality, non-discrimination and social inclusion through educational activities (stimulating skills development social, civic, intercultural, media literacy and critical thinking, while combating discrimination, segregation, racism, intimidation and violence)
- ☆ Open education and innovative practices in a digital age (actions supporting innovative methods and pedagogies)
- The social and educational value of European cultural heritage (the importance of European cultural heritage through education, lifelong learning, informal and nonformal learning, including through actions to support skills development, social inclusion, critical thinking and the involvement of young people, the promotion of a new participatory and intercultural approach to heritage, as well as educational initiatives to encourage intercultural dialogue involving teachers and pupils from an early age.)

Regarding the specific priority that is relevant to the field of education, our project aimed at combating early school leaving and its disadvantages and ensuring quality education so that all pupils enjoy success, including children from disadvantaged groups and which may

face specific problems; there has also been a particular emphasis on strengthening collaboration between all actors in schools, as well as with families and other external stakeholders; improving the transition between different stages of education; supporting networking of schools that promote collaborative and holistic approaches to teaching and learning; improving evaluation and quality assurance.



Various activities were organized during the project, such as:

- Activities that strengthen cooperation and networking between organizations;
- Activities facilitating the recognition and validation of knowledge, skills and competences acquired through formal, non-formal and informal learning;

#### O imagine generală a valorilor proiectului

**Parteneriatele strategice** vizează sprijinirea dezvoltării, transferului și / sau punerii în aplicare a practicilor inovatoare, precum și punerea în aplicare a inițiativelor comune de promovare a cooperării, a activităților de învățare reciprocă și a schimburilor de experiență la nivel european. și schimburi de bune practici.

**Scopul principal** este de a permite organizațiilor să dezvolte și să consolideze rețele, să-și dezvolte capacitatea de a opera la nivel transnațional, să împartă ideile, practicile și metodele. Aceste proiecte pot produce, de asemenea, rezultate concrete care sunt apoi difuzate în cadrul comunității ca produse de proiect

**Proiectul "Break Barriers-No Prejudices"** implementat în școala noastră în perioada 2016-2018 a ținut seama de prioritățile orizontale necesare în educația școlară actuală și formarea personalității elevilor:

- Dezvoltarea de competențe și competențe relevante și de înaltă calitate: sprijinirea indivizilor pentru a dobândi și dezvolta abilități și competențe cheie pentru a încuraja inserția profesională, dezvoltarea socio-educațională și personală și participarea la viața civică și socială. (promovarea învățării pe tot parcursul vieții și îmbunătățirea calității și eficacității experiențelor privind mobilitatea în scop educațional).
- Incluziunea socială: Prioritatea a fost acordată acțiunilor bazate pe diversitate care promovează prin abordări inovatoare și integrate valori comune, egalitate, inclusiv egalitatea de gen, nediscriminarea și incluziunea socială prin activități educaționale (stimularea dezvoltării competențelor sociale, civice, interculturale, media alfabetizare și gândire critică, combătând în același timp discriminarea, segregarea, rasismul, intimidarea și violența)
- ★ Educația deschisă și practicile inovatoare într-o epocă digitală (acțiuni care sprijină metode și pedagogii inovatoare)
- ★ Valoarea socială și educațională a patrimoniului cultural european (importanța patrimoniului cultural european prin educație, învățare pe tot parcursul vieții, învățare informală și non-formală, inclusiv prin acțiuni de sprijinire a dezvoltării competențelor, incluziunii sociale, gândirii critice și implicării tinerilor, promovarea unei noi abordări participative și interculturale a patrimoniului, precum și a inițiativelor educaționale care să încurajeze dialogul intercultural între profesori și elevi de la o vârstă fragedă.)

În ceea ce privește prioritatea specifică domeniului educației, proiectul nostru vizează combaterea părăsirii timpurii a școlii și a dezavantajelor acesteia și asigurarea unei educații de calitate, astfel încât toți elevii să aibă succes, inclusiv copiii din grupuri defavorizate și care se pot confrunta cu probleme specifice; sa pus un accent deosebit pe consolidarea colaborării între toți actorii din școli, precum și cu familiile și cu alți actori externi; îmbunătățirea tranziției între diferitele stadii ale educației; sprijinirea creării de rețele de școli care promovează abordări colaborative și holistice în materie de predare și învățare; îmbunătățirea evaluării și asigurarea calității.

În timpul proiectului au fost organizate diverse activități, cum ar fi:

- Activități care întăresc cooperarea și crearea de rețele între organizații;
- Activități care facilitează recunoașterea și validarea cunoștințelor, abilităților și competențelor dobândite prin învățarea formală, non-formală și informală;

- Intercultural activities promoting the traditions and cultural customs of the ethnic communities in Dobrogea in order to raise awareness and remove any barriers.
- Awareness raising and barrier / prejudice elimination so that students understand the positive and negative aspects and make their own contribution to improving the educational process at European level.
- Improving training in education, training for challenges related to equity, diversity and inclusion from the learning environment with invited specialists in these areas;
- Activities to promote the integration of refugees, asylum seekers and newcomers and to raise awareness of the refugee crisis in Europe;

Also, within the Strategic Partnership of the project were organized **transnational learning**, **teaching and training activities** for pupils and teachers, which bring added value to the achievement of the project objectives. These activities are particularly relevant for one or more areas of education, given that during these activities students develop certain key competences and produce common products.

The main objective of the Break Barriers-No prejudices project was: Awareness and elimination of image / prejudice barriers so that students understand the positive and negative aspects and make their own contribution to improving the educational process at European level.

Specific objectives were followed such as:

- ⇒ Raising awareness and eliminating image / prejudice barriers
- ⇒ development of critical thinking, life skills and key core competencies,
- ⇒ creating a framework for European schools to work on the theme of stereotyping and prejudices to overcome them;
- ⇒ increasing the intercultural, social and communication skills of teachers and pupils;
- promoting the use of ICT in the conduct of activities and communicating with partners on all aspects of the project;
- ⇒ development of lifelong learning competences: project management, foreign languages, problem solving;
- ⇒ preventing early school leaving, and increasing the number of students to ensure a more competitive Europe in the world;
- ⇒ cooperation with larger institutions (other schools, formal and informal local organizations, NGOs, parent-teacher associations) for greater impact on more people and ensuring long-term dissemination of our project results;
- ⇒ highlighting the relevance and relevance of learning provision in education, training through the development of new and innovative approaches, and supporting the dissemination of best practices;
- ⇒ promoting the provision and evaluation of key competences, including core competences and cross-cutting skills, especially in the entrepreneurial spirit, languages and digital skills;
- ⇒ Promoting equity and inclusion in education, training, enabling quality education for all and preventing abandonment and promoting the participation of disadvantaged groups in society;
- Developing a better understanding of our pupils and the capacity to respond to social, linguistic and cultural diversity;

- Activități interculturale care promovează tradițiile şi obiceiurile culturale ale comunităților etnice din Dobrogea pentru a creşte gradul de conștientizare şi a elimina orice bariere.
- Creșterea gradului de conștientizare și eliminarea barierelor / prejudecăților astfel încât studenții să înțeleagă aspectele pozitive și negative și să contribuie în mod individual la îmbunătățirea procesului educațional la nivel european.
- Îmbunătățirea formării în educație, formarea pentru provocările legate de echitate, diversitate și incluziune din mediul de învățare cu specialiști invitați în aceste domenii;
- Activități de promovare a integrării refugiaților, a solicitanților de azil și a celor nouveniti și de sensibilizare cu privire la criza refugiaților din Europa;

De asemenea, în cadrul Parteneriatului Strategic al proiectului au fost organizate activități educaționale, de predare și instruire transnaționale pentru elevi și profesori, care aduc valoare adăugată în realizarea obiectivelor proiectului. Aceste activități sunt deosebit de relevante pentru unul sau mai multe domenii de învățământ, având în vedere că în timpul acestor activități elevii dezvoltă anumite competențe cheie și produc produse comune.

Obiectivul principal al proiectului Break Barriers-No prejudices a fost: Conștientizarea și eliminarea barierelor imaginilor / prejudecăților astfel încât studenții să înțeleagă aspectele pozitive și negative și să contribuie în mod individual la îmbunătățirea procesului educațional la nivel european.

Obiective specifice urmărite, au fost:

- ⇒ Creșterea gradului de conștientizare și eliminarea obstacolelor imaginii / prejudecăților
- ⇒ dezvoltarea gândirii critice, a abilităților de viață și a competențelor esențiale de bază,
- ⇒ crearea unui cadru pentru școlile europene de a lucra pe tema stereotipurilor și prejudecăților pentru a le depăși;
- ⇒ creșterea competențelor interculturale, sociale și de comunicare ale profesorilor și elevilor:
- ⇒ promovarea utilizării TIC în desfășurarea activităților și comunicarea cu partenerii pe toate aspectele proiectului;
- ⇒ dezvoltarea competențelor de învățare pe tot parcursul vieții: management de proiect, limbi străine, rezolvarea problemelor;
- ⇒ prevenirea părăsirii timpurii a școlii și creșterea numărului de studenți pentru a asigura o Europă mai competitivă în lume;
- ⇒ cooperarea cu instituții mai mari (alte școli, organizații locale formale și informale, ONG-uri, asociații de părinți-profesori) pentru un impact mai mare asupra mai multor persoane și asigurarea difuzării pe termen lung a rezultatelor proiectului nostru;
- ⇒ evidențierea relevanței și relevanței ofertei de învățare în educație, formare prin dezvoltarea unor abordări noi și inovatoare și sprijinirea difuzării celor mai bune practici;
- ⇒ promovarea furnizării și evaluării competențelor cheie, inclusiv a competențelor de bază și a competențelor transversale, în special în spiritul antreprenorial, al limbilor și al abilitătilor digitale;
- ⇒ promovarea echității și a incluziunii în educație, formare, asigurarea unei educații de calitate pentru toți și prevenirea abandonului și promovarea participării grupurilor dezavantajate în societate;
- Dezvoltarea unei mai bune înțelegeri a elevilor noștri și a capacității de a răspunde diversității sociale, lingvistice și culturale;

#### **IMPACT ON STUDENTS:**

The project promoted cooperation between schools and nations, an exchange of ideas and pedagogical approaches leading to the creation of a transnational network and increasing the schools' European dimension and prestige. The institutions involved managed to create an inclusive environment which helped all learners achieve their full potential.

Students had the opportunity to improve their skills in the sphere of ICT, ARTISTIC, SOCIAL, PROBLEM SOLVING, MUSIC skills, cooperation, language. The project had a favourable influence on all students through improving their communication in a foreign language, developing skills for search and selection of information from different sources, and assistance for the creation of a certain product. During the project students searched for different information and created some flyers, brochures or videos. One of the most important outcomes were a Calendar (Civil Holidays Calendar), a Travel Guide (Romanian Travel Guide) and a Magazine (Essay Magazine). They also made some interviews with their grandapents with the topic "Proud Out Loud". They created the LOGO of the Project during a contest and made some slogans for printed on T-shirts, they also made a brochure about 10 important facts about your country. During the current activities they made posters and flyers on the topic and created the Free Zone in school. They searched for some songs that messages could be suitable on the topic of the project and try to sing them, they experienced a lot of features of different cultures and made cookery workshop (Slovenia) or Traditional Art craft workshops (Romania). All of these helped us to achieve more knowledge and be more tolerant, patient to another and developed the key competences better and to achieve our objectives.

Students developped understanding and knowledge of the different cultures and way of life of others through working in a team and developing and presenting an entrepreneurial idea at the same time in order active European partnership to be created and all stereotypes to be shattered. The established relationships have a lasting effect on the exchange of educational materials, ideas and resources.

Desired impacts occured at local, regional, national and European Level by placed on participant actors as:

- ✓ Integrating entrepreneur competences into school curriculum by leading clubs running certain project activities with a team work is a desire in all partner schools.
- ✓ Improving students' Self-awareness, self-management, social awareness, interpersonal relationships, decision making skills
- ✓ Overcoming lack of motivation into social issues.
- ✓ Improving autonomous personality in early age
- ✓ Developing students' making and identifying personal and academic goals, demonstrating cooperation and team work, and identifying ways to resist peer pressure to engage in unethical activities.
- ✓ Having more positive attitude towards the European project and the EU values;
- ✓ Students are aware now of different cultures and the aspects involved and they were given an incentive to critically question their own culture and an approach to inter cultural dialogs and learning.



#### IMPACTUL ASUPRA ELEVILOR:

Proiectul a promovat cooperarea între școli și națiuni, un schimb de idei și abordări pedagogice care au condus la crearea unei rețele transnaționale și la creșterea dimensiunii și prestigiului european al școlilor. Instituțiile implicate au reușit să creeze un mediu incluziv, care a ajutat toți elevii să-și atingă întregul potențial.

Elevii au avut ocazia să își îmbunătătească abilitătile în domeniul TIC, ARTISTIC, SOCIAL, SOLUȚIONAREA PROBLEMELOR, MUSIC, cooperare, limbă. Proiectul a avut o influență favorabilă asupra tuturor elevilor prin îmbunătățirea comunicării lor într-o limbă străină, dezvoltarea abilităților de căutare și selectare a informațiilor din diferite surse și asistență pentru crearea unui anumit produs. În timpul proiectului, elevii au căutat informații diferite si au creat câteva pliante, brosuri sau videoclipuri. Unul dintre cele mai importante rezultate a fost un calendar (calendarul civil de sărbători), un ghid de călătorie (Romanian Travel Guide) și o revistă (revista de eseuri). De asemenea, au făcut niste interviuri cu bunicii lor cu tema "Proud Out Loud". Ei au creat LOGO-ul Proiectului în timpul unui concurs și au făcut câteva sloganuri pentru imprimarea pe tricouri, au făcut și o broșură despre 10 fapte importante despre tara dvs. În timpul activitătilor curente au realizat postere și pliante pe această temă și au creat Zona Liberă în școală. Căutând câteva melodii, mesajele ar putea fi potrivite pe tema proiectului și au încercat să le cânte, au experimentat o multime de trăsături de culturi diferite și au făcut atelier de gătit (Slovenia) sau ateliere de artizanat tradițional (România). Toate acestea ne-au ajutat să obținem mai multe cunoștințe și să fim mai toleranți, să trăim mai bine față de alții și să dezvoltăm mai bine competențele cheie și să ne atingem objectivele.

Elevii au dezvoltat înțelegerea și cunoașterea diferitelor culturi și a modului de viață al celorlalți, prin lucrul într-o echipă și dezvoltarea și prezentarea unei idei antreprenoriale în același timp, pentru a crea un parteneriat european activ și pentru a distruge toate stereotipurile. Relațiile stabilite au un efect de durată asupra schimbului de materiale educaționale, idei și resurse.

Impacturile dorite au avut loc la nivel local, regional, național și european și au fost plasate pe actorii participanți ca:

- ✓ Integrarea competențelor antreprenorilor în programa școlară de către cluburile de conducere care desfășoară anumite activități de proiect cu o echipă de lucru este o dorință în toate școlile partenere.
- ✓ Îmbunătățirea cunoașterii de sine a studenților, autocontrolul, conștientizarea socială, relatiile interpersonale, abilitățile de luare a deciziilor
- ✓ Depășirea lipsei de motivare în problemele sociale.
- ✓ Îmbunătățirea personalității autonome la vârste fragede
- ✓ Dezvoltarea formării studenților și identificarea obiectivelor personale și academice, demonstrarea cooperării și a muncii în echipă și identificarea unor modalități de a rezista presiunii de la egal la egal pentru a se angaja în activităti neetice.
- ✓ Formarea unei atitudini pozitive față de proiectul european și valorile UE;
- ✓ Conștientizarea de către elevi a diferitelor culturi și de aspecte implicate și li sa oferit un stimulent pentru a pune la îndoială critica culturii proprii și o abordare a dialogurilor și învățării interculturale.

#### IMPACT ON TEACHERS

Our project provided to our teachers to learn and to use what they needed for a better future business life in these terms:

- -Better education approach for better future of EU; Challenges and Opportunities in Today's World of Prejudices.
- -The teachers of the partner schools had the opportunuty to exchange ideas, thoughts, pedagogical and methodological material, observe lessons during the project meetings, learn about the inclusive approach, in this way making the learning and teaching process more effective.

Teachers also developed their language skills, communication, managerial and negotiation skills as well as team spirit. Learning about different educational systems gave them new tools in their work, which increased their motivation somehow.

#### IMPACT ON FAMILIES AND COMMUNITY

The website are spreading the outcomes of the project;: families became more aware of the European dimension of education through the workshops and little shows organized for the audience of families. workshops and little shows for the audience of families

Students and teachers had the opportunity to exchange examples of good practices and learnt more about presentation skills and skills for working in a multicultural team.

The project stimulated the concept of European citizenship and the idea of destroy prejudices for better future. It also encouraged the use and study of foreign languages and the application of modern technologies. Partner schools cooperated with each other during the whole project and met face to face during project meetings to discuss and establish a common approach to issues that have appeared in the course of work. Thus, students will understand the real capabilities and opportunities of the future European citizen with all values, rights and duties.

#### IMPACT ON SCHOOLS, PARENTS AND COMMUNITY:

The purpose of creating PREJUDICE-FREE SCHOOL was the main expectation of the project. Activation of students clubs inside the schools provided extra useful achievements for the prestige and academic success of the schools. The school and local communities also made use of the contact with all partners and the final product because this is like a window towards different European countries and their cultures. This is of extreme importance especially for small partner communities which take part in this project. We created a project website and a Facebook page to spread out in detail the results of the project; students organized seminars and small performances for their families so they could have a clear idea about the European dimension of education. Local municipalities were also included in these activities.

On the other hand, we cooperated with non-governmental organizations, local formal and informal institutions and schools in the region to spread the impact and results from the effective teamwork.

Liliana Gheorghe, Romanian Team Coordinator Teacher



#### IMPACTUL PRIVIND PROFESORII

Proiectul nostru a oferit profesorilor noștri să învețe și să folosească ceea ce au nevoie pentru o viață viitoare mai bună în acești termeni:

- abordarea educației mai bune pentru un viitor mai bun al UE; Provocări și oportunități în lumea de astăzi a prejudiciilor.
- Profesorii școlilor partenere au avut ocazia să facă schimb de idei, gânduri, materiale pedagogice și metodologice, să respecte lecțiile în timpul întâlnirilor de proiect, să învețe cu privire la abordarea incluzivă, făcând astfel procesul de învățare și predare mai eficient. Profesorii au dezvoltat, de asemenea, abilitățile lor lingvistice, comunicarea, abilitățile manageriale și de negociere, precum și spiritul de echipă. Învățarea despre diferitele sisteme educaționale le-a oferit noi instrumente în munca lor, ceea ce le-a sporit într-o oarecare măsură motivația.

#### IMPACTUL FAMILIILOR ȘI COMUNITĂȚII

Site-ul web răspândește rezultatele proiectului: familiile au devenit mai conștiente de dimensiunea europeană a educației prin intermediul atelierelor și micilor spectacole organizate pentru audiența familiilor. ateliere și mici spectacole pentru audiența familiilor Elevii și profesorii au avut ocazia să facă schimb de exemple de bune practici și au învățat mai multe despre abilitățile de prezentare și abilitățile de lucru într-o echipă multiculturală. Proiectul a stimulat conceptul de cetățenie europeană și ideea de a distruge prejudecățile pentru un viitor mai bun. De asemenea, a încurajat utilizarea și studierea limbilor străine și aplicarea tehnologiilor moderne. Școlile partenere au cooperat între ele pe parcursul întregului proiect și s-au întâlnit față în față în cadrul întâlnirilor de proiect pentru a discuta și a stabili o abordare comună a problemelor care au apărut în cursul lucrului. Astfel, elevii vor înțelege capacitățile și oportunitățile reale ale viitorului cetățean european cu toate valorile, drepturile și îndatoririle.

#### IMPACTUL PRIVIND ȘCOALA, PĂRINȚII ȘI COMUNITATEA:

Scopul creării unei școli PREJUDICE-FREE a fost principala așteptare a proiectului. Activizarea cluburilor studențești în cadrul școlilor a oferit realizări suplimentare utile pentru prestigiul și succesul academic al școlilor. Școala și comunitățile locale au folosit de asemenea contactul cu toți partenerii și cu produsul final, deoarece aceasta este ca o fereastră spre diferite țări europene și culturile lor. Acest lucru este extrem de important, în special pentru micile comunități partenere care participă la acest proiect. Am creat un site de proiect și o pagină de pe Facebook pentru a detalia rezultatele proiectului; studenții au organizat seminarii și mici spectacole pentru familiile lor, astfel încât să poată avea o idee clară despre dimensiunea europeană a educației. De asemenea, municipalitățile locale au fost incluse în aceste activități.

Pe de altă parte, am colaborat cu organizații neguvernamentale, instituții locale și informale locale și școli din regiune pentru a răspândi impactul și rezultatele muncii în echipă.



## Red Cross Activities and Breaking Barriers and Prejudices

I am a class teacher, teaching pupils in the second grade. I have been a mentor of Red Cross Activities for many years. We do very different things. We try to help people who are in need, we try to help pupils, who have learning and other difficulties.

We visit institution for older people – nursing home » Zavod sv. Martina« a lot. We go there very often. I think only when we spend there a lot of time; pupils can get a proper picture, how the people there feel and what they need. Some of the people there are ill, some are lonely, and others like to be alone. We all need time to see how we can collaborate and make life more satisfactory. After some visits certain pupils could find out what someone needs.

One boy always takes someone (an old man having trouble with walking) for a walk – he has learned how to do it. Some old people like individual approach. A lot of them like to work together. Before national holidays we bake biscuits together. Older women like to tell traditional recipes. I think we should be very persistent if we want that god things happen.

Only then we can break barriers between us. Among the pupils there are some, who are really persistent and have done a lot of good things.

We found the Project Erasmus + very interesting, because of its topic break barriers and prejudices. It motivated us for thinking, about why our work is so important and about what else we can do. We are glad that one of our pupils (Benjamin) and I got the opportunity to attend one project meeting. It was interesting experience and we share it with other pupils.

We enjoyed meeting other pupils and mentors and exchange ideas. Also it was nice to see the school and the country. Such an opportunity gives us energy for further work and makes us think about our work and how to improve it. Also we are glad that we could show the nursing home to all visitors from partners' schools when project meeting was in Bohinj.

Mihela Odar – Slovenian teacher

"Being a part of Erasmus+ team is like trying a chocolate cake without knowing what is inside. It seems to be just a simple cake covered with chocolate, but is much more than that. It makes you feel warm, accepted and loved. You just have to taste another piece untill is done. And then, you want more!"

Erasmus+ project "Break barriers-No prejudices" is a beautiful and educational experience

that is worth doing and redoing! It gives us

Connections

Links across and within learning areas

COHERENCE

the opportunity

to meet new people and

Pathways

Clear learning pathways and progressions

that is worth doing and redoing! It gives us

COHERENCE

the opportunity

make friends with them

and discover new cultures made of history,

habits, customs, traditions and local food. Erasmus puts us to the test using a language that is not ours to interact with people. This project leaves us an unforgettable memory. I really enjoyed participating!

Diana Menicucci – Italian Team

## A great experience



In my opinion, this project was the best experience I've ever had.

I started this amazing project in Slovenia, in March 2017. There I met amazing people and I made a lot of friends. I had the experience to stay at a host, my host was Urska, an amazing girl, who is 15 and

is the nicest girl from the whole world. She is really friendly and speaks English very well. She was really nice with me and her parents were amazing! I was very lucky to meet these people. In five days we became really good friends but our friendship became much better when we met in Romania. Because of this trip in Slovenia my English became better. It was quite hard to have conversations in English because I hadn't done this until then.

Well, we had fun and interesting activities in the school from Bohinjska Bistrica and we saw new things. Their school was really nice, even if it wasn't a big one. Children were really friendly and happy. We had trips, but also we had interesting activities about the purpose of this project: to break barriers and to say no to prejudices.

It was interesting to travel by a car in a foreign country and I really liked it.

For the second meeting, from Romania, I and my friends were more involved to prepare everything, we rehearsed a lot and it was really fun to do everything. We were hosts this time so it was something new. I and my brother Stefan, who was involved in the project too, were hosts for 2 girls: an Italian one Anthea, and a Slovenian one, my friend Urska. They met my family and they became a very good friend to us all. This time I spoke English better and I had my brother who talked better than me, being bigger. We understood each other so it was perfect. We had funny activities home and at school.

At school we had a lot of activities. We learnt new things about how to behave with people how to don't discriminate each other and to don't use prejudices. Also we had nice trips in which we had the opportunity to know each other better. Within the second meeting I made much more friends than at the first one, especially from Turkish and Slovenian teams. The kids were fun and friendly. We made friendships that cannot be forgotten. I love them and I miss them all. I would like to meet them again in the future because I am sure that it would be an amazing opportunity for us all.

Erasmus project was the best experience I've ever had. From this project I learnt new things and I made new friends. We all travelled, worked in team and all of us could get involved.

Before travelling in Slovenia, I didn't know what is waiting for me. I travelled for the first time in a foreign country but it was really nice. I had the experience to improve my English, to learn new things and to stay at a host. The family who hosted me was amazing. They took care of me and made me feel like home. I was lucky to meet people like them so THANK YOU! From this meeting I learnt to love. I learnt that yes, we can love people, even if they are different, even if they are from other country, even if they don't spend a lot of time with us. I saw beautiful places and beautiful people. We had fun and interesting activities and we learnt more about each other's culture.

From the second meeting, from Romania I learnt that you can get everything you want if you work for that. I worked more this time, because me and my team wanted everything to be perfect. We worked in team and we had new experiences. I had the opportunity to be a host, so I learnt to be more careful and friendlier. I learnt much more things about diversity and I made lifetime friendships with everyone. I realised that we have different cultures, different languages, and different clothes but anyway, we are the same. If we could make friendships, if we could understand each other, than everyone can. We all need to learn to love and accept people as they are; to understand that the world is full of cultures, languages and colors.



Does this describe your friend?

is there for you, no matter what.

I am very grateful to our teachers, who gave us the opportunity to take part in this project. I thank also to all the children involved, because they helped me to brake the barriers, to overcome differences and create new friendships.

About the topic of this project, my opinion is that prejudices make everything worse. We look differently, indeed, we think differently, but however, we are the same. Doesn't matter if we are white or black, if we don't wear the same clothes, if we can't do something and another person can, we have to be united and make the world better. The differences between us make the world beautiful. And that's what we understood from all the activities. In this project we worked as a team, we learnt new things and everyone could get involved. It was amazing!

Geru Gabriela Teodora - Romanian team

#### ERASMUS+ project - unforgettable experiences

The fourth mobility took place, also in Ortona. A void filled my soul. I wanted to relive those moments. It's been six months since everything happened, and now, with tears in my eyes, I look at those memories.

Well, for those who are lining up on linguistic knowledge, who are willing to try new foods and stay for a week in a different environment from home, for them, the Erasmus + project was created for them.



From the point of view of the student who participated in a project of such size and which is a Turkish quarter, I only benefited from it. Hiding a person from another country seemed amazing to me. I have understood much more about the culture and traditions of Turkey. My English language has improved considerably, because throughout the project I This project has been funded with support from the European Commission. This outcome reflects the view only of the author, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein.

have only spoken in this language. I have even learned a few sentences and basic things in Italian.

Each meeting has ended with tears. Why is this good thing? Because we had some close friends in a few days and we cried because we did not have to see again. It was as we have known for a lifetime. I visited cities, museums; ancient sites that I did not even know they exist. I was totally impressed. The culture of Ortona, which was not a typical Italian one but also of Italy, amazed me.

Going to Italy, I realized that the rumors that circulated about it were only stereotypes. Italians are cold and unassuming, right? I completely contradict this statement. The family who hosted me throughout my stay behaved as if I were the fifth member. They gave me the best conditions, they were extremely careful about my needs. Delicious is a word too small to define Italian food. I tasted Pescara-specific pizza and some skewers with sheepskin. I saw how another education system works, ranging from classes and endowments to discipline. The Italian one relies heavily on skills, which seems to me to be a very good thing. I even attended one hour of Italian economy.

Everything we've done, posters, PPTs, essays, we did in mixed teams, collaborating, coming each with ideas, and the end was always amazing. This experience has taught us to be better, to tolerate, *not to judge a book after the cover*.



In May 2017 it was Romania's turn to take on its responsibilities as a host. It was the first time I had practiced so well, the knowledge of English. The girl who was about to sit at my house was Gizem and she was Turkish, just like a part of me. I found out much more than I knew about their culture and traditions, and I felt closer to

them. On the first day, the children of each country presented a specific dance and song.

On the second and fourth day we presented to them the Museum of Ethnography and Folk Art, the Danube Delta Eco-Tourist Museum, located in Tulcea and Peles Castle in Sinaia. They were all completely surprised. In the other days I have experienced both the Romanian language and the other native languages together, we have discussed together the causes of discrimination and we have looked for solutions to remove barriers of any kind, we

have written common essays, made posters, staged sketches, we sang, anti-discrimination slogans on t-shirts, taught about civil rights, Romanian craftsmanship, tasting traditional Romanian products and partner countries. Everything was dynamic, full of color and joy! It seemed like we knew each other for a lifetime!

The third mobility has come, and therefore my direct participation in mobility activities! We reached Ortona, a seaside resort on the Adriatic Sea. The girls who were in Romania and who were to host us were waiting for us. On the first day, each country presented a film about culture and traditions. We grouped together and created posters, then we talked about their tolerance. We went to a boulevard, similar to the Old Center of Bucharest, to a Catholic church. On the cliff of Ortone, I visited Castello Aragonese. The view from the highest point was amazing. On the second day, I went to Chieti, a gorgeous city that fascinated me in all respects. On Wednesday, we were supposed to go to Lanciano. I visited a museum based on art, history and religion. On Thursday, we headed for Pescara. I was impressed when we presented the exhibits contained in a vast museum of biology and history. At noon, I served pizza specific to this area. In the evening, a dinner was organized where we all got together. Here, the participation certificates were also offered. On the last day we created other posters and media that included curiosities about the country. When the coordinating lady announced that the project was over, my eyes were filled with tears. From now on, we really did not have a chance to meet each other. I could synthesize it as a day with a stronger emotional impact than the one in Romania. We talked about what the project left us and how we felt Italy.

Meeting so many people from different countries, working on topics such as diversity, inclusion and friendship made me more responsible in my behavior, attitude and thinking.

Sabina-Semra Chemaloglu, 15 ani, Romania team

## Thoughts...Thoughts

Erasmus+ project "Break barriers-No prejudices" was a great experience for me. I met new cultures, religions, languages and new people with different customs and traditions. This project helped me to improve my English language.

Lorenza Vedilei – Italian Team

The prejudice is very bad thing like you are looking somebodys outfit and you are classiffying according to his appearance but maybe he is very kind to the people. The most imprtant thing is respect to other people. If you respect them they will recpect to you, too. We must respect and be generous to the people.

The ERASMUS+ project is the most beautiful project I have ever seen. Because this project aims to integrate people from different countries.

My trip was very good. Romania is a very beautiful country. People are very kind and generous. We went a lot of historical places and we did a lot of activities. I'm sure I will never forget it.

Mert Naim Sever – Turkish Team

#### Visiting Staly

I enjoyed the meeting in Italy. It was the first time I went for such a long trip. I am not very good at English and I was a little afraid how I will understand other people. Before we went to Italy, we were learning songs. So I met three girls from ninth grade and we learned the song "Ne bodi kot drugi" (Don't be like the others).

In Ortona it was very nice. I could speak a little English with others. I still communicate with some friends. I liked the family where I was staying during our meeting. I think all people were nice: children, teachers and the family where I stayed.

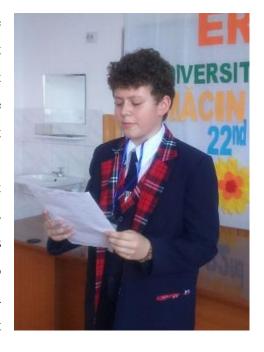
Now I don' have prejudices about how I will understand people from other countries and I think it is good to learn foreign languages.

Alen Kukić-Slovenian student

#### My Erasmus experience

Hello! I am Zamfir Rares Anton from the Romanian team. First I want to say that this project had fulfilled all of my expectations and more. I met new people, I spoke English with others face to face and also I discovered that I still need to learn a lot more than I do normally.

Second thing on the list is that I had a great time as a guest as much as a host. Both perspectives felt so different and this is the best thing about this project. You never know what to expect and how to react. You need to think fast, otherwise you'll be in a very bad situation. The first of these two was the host



perspective. Here in Romania I hosted a Slovenian boy. When I met him I was afraid of what will come next. However, day after day, I got deeper into my comfort zone alongside my new friend and we could talk better with each other and play together, actions that we did not do at the beginning of the road. When I was the guest it felt like I walked in fog. Everything was new and all of these emotions overwhelmed me. Despite of having one of my best friend living with me at the same host, I was unsure of my actions, but I got a lot of courage with every speech that I had have to do in front of all the participants in this project.

After this project I developed a lot of my skills. From speaking English to working on computer, these traits have improved substantially. I made PowerPoints, I learned about different cultures, I made posters about different themes and visited a lot of monuments and places, and everything I have done in this project changed me. Erasmus has changed me in a better person.

I want to take part in another Erasmus+ project in high school after this one because I saw other ones that focused on different points of view and where other people participated and I want to learn more about every culture implicated in this projects.

Zamfir Rares Anton, 15 - Romanian Team

## Thoughts...Thoughts

In my opinion the Erasmus Project was a very good experience. I met new people, new cultures, new typical dishes and I discovered new amazing places. I improved my language skills and I also learned new words of different countries. I had a lot of fun and I hope to participate in this project again.

Anthea Cotellessa- Italian student

I believe people need to stop "following the crowd" and form their opinions.If everyone in this World had respect for each other there will be no prejudice.We,as humans we need to focus on knowing each other not judging each other.Parents need to instill in their children the value of one treating others as they,themselves,would like to be treated truly are.

When I went to Romania.I belived that we'll break our barriers.Well I learned there is no need to have perfect grammer to talk English.İf you are saying my grammer is not perfect I can't speak English.Well that's ridicoulus.I broke all my prejudges about English.Also I had a lot of new friends.I missed all of them.Also I had a chance to know a new culture.İt was good trip.

\*\*Eray Irmak- Turkish Team\*\*

## Friendship

From the beginning of the project until now, I made a lot of friends and I will never forget them. I think that this project is made to make us to understand that it doesn't matter if

there are different religions and different cultures.



For the first time when our friends from the other countries came, I felt a little bit unsafety but spending more time with them I started to know that they want the same thing as us "FRIENDS".

I liked to have a Turkish people in my house and to learn more about his culture. In every evening we spoke about each other interest and future plans. However we spend good times here in Romania.

And when I went in Italy I also met good

people, but the problem was at my behavior. First time when I met them, I was picky, but then I understand the good action made by family where I stayed. After I spent some days in Italy I got another point of vision. I saw that life can have all different colors, not only in a pink way. Activities were so interesting; I made a lot of interesting, I learned a lot of things about how to give love to other people and we had fun as well discovering how similar can be! When I left Italy, felt so sad a whole week and I hoped to come back in the shortest time possible. This project was the best project where I participated, and I will never forgive it. Here I made a lot of friendships which will never be broken by time and distance.

Stoian George, 15 – Romanian team

## Thoughts...Thoughts

My participation in the Erasmus project has been a good experience. I had the opportunity to



demonstrate my skills to people with cultures different from mine. It was a great satisfaction! Practising language skills and learning new things is constructive. In my opinion these activities are very important because they allow me to improve myself

from various points of view. I would like to repeat this beautiful experience!

## A trip for a lifetime

I want to talk about my Romania trip. To me Romania cuisine is different, but it was great.People were very kind and friendly.Romania was wonderful.I think; I never forget this trip. My favourite place, Dracula's Castle. It's incredible. I learned tolerance. To me, tolerance is nessesary in friendship.



And now, I want to talk about prejudice. Unfortunately we have prejudice. Different religions are the main stones of prejudice. Because people classify each other according to different religion. For example marriage. People usually marry same religion. But there can be a difference of thought.

Pelin Akbulut - Turkish Team

## Erasmus + Impacts

In all my fourteen years on this Earth this project was the most beautiful thing that ever happened to me. After the Comenius project I never thought that I could be part of another one, but life wasn't as cruel as I was expecting and gave me that chance to travel and meet new people and see other cultures and how they are living in harmony with all the persons around them. Half of my dream came true.

In Slovenia, the first LTTA, I was for the first time far away from home, so it made me be more careful than usual. But it made me feel really happy as I have found my soulmate that I've been waiting for a lifetime. It also changed my way of thinking because until the meeting I was like a bit cold with people, but getting to know the kids from the meeting from Slovenia and here.

During Romania LTTA everything made me realize that I didn't want to be that way anymore. I started my experience as if I was alone in the middle of the Earth just for having fun. I started giving more respect to other nationalities than I have already been and made me want to stop at that time and start the day again and again for the rest of my life.



I can say in this project I made a lot of friends, I got to know myself better, I developed my self-esteem a lot and made me want to be my own example in life. Someway all of the kids did something to me. Every laugh, smile, just their way of being made me feel five years younger, little and really

happy. I can say that the real personality of mine came finally out.

Andrada-Maria Vangheli, 14 - Romanian Team

## Breaking barriers

We, as the human race, need to focus on not judging people before we know them for who they are. Today, there are so many different people in this world that steatypes are almost always incorrect, as many people choose not to be followers, but to be individuals. I know many white who, If they see a black man standing on the corner, wearing a certain type of clothing, will discern that he is in a gang and has intentions of hurting others. How could someone says such a thing when all they have seen is one's appearance? The boy standing there could be a great student in school who helps other and plans to become someone important in the future.

I went to Romania with Erasmus Project. I think I broke my prejudice to other people. I saw new people, new culture, new families... And I love all of them. They are still my friends. And We are still in contact. That's awesome.



Before Romania I had some prejudice to other people, other culture. But now (I mean after Romania) I don't have any prejudice.

I saw 'people are want to talk with me. Also I don't need to have much grammar. Maybe just a few words is okey for comminucation.

#### DON'T FORGET THESE SENCENTES

"No body is perfect. You don't have to be a perfect person. Already you can't. But you can do this, break your barriers. Look what you're talking with who. You can be friend with she/he. Prejudice is a bad thing (maybe worst thing) for safety and good world. You can change this world. You are not one person. You are us. You should believe to this.'

Yağmur Tuna – Turkish Team

Erasmus+ project is one of the most important and educational experiences that can be done in life. One of its strengths is to bring people of different nationalities into contact and put themselves to the test. It is an experience that remains forever in our hearth. Unique. It must also be said that students learn to appreciate things that were previously despised. It is an intercultural exchange that everyone should do at least once in their life.

Alesia Duka – Italian Team

## Erasmus+ Project – a great opportunity

Erasmus+ Project is a great opportunity to socialize, share each other's cultures and see how different the world is. Through the project I made a lot of good friends that I still speak too these days. It was so funny that even my parents tried to speak English without knowing it at all. From all the activities we had in all of the countries I realized how beautiful and entertaining life can be, we are all stuck in our own box and we are trying to get out of it but it never works. Life is very short from these perspectives and this project gave me the opportunity to change myself into a better person and be more open minded to new ideas and new concepts of life.

When the other countries came to Romania, we were all awkward and didn't even say a word. It was weird in the first days but with time we got better and started talking to each other more. I don't think that I am the single one who experienced this problem. This is mostly caused by mobile phones because interacting online is easier than interacting offline.

Online, you don't even know who you're talking too so that is why you open yourself more. But, once you get in front of that person, it just becomes harder to communicate. This is why project like these are very good for your mentality and attitude.



However, I would like to thank to my teachers and the parents that made this possible by working hard and cooperating one with another to create this amazing once in a lifetime experience

\*\*Apostol Stefan Alexandru - Romania Team\*\*

## Erasmus+ experience

I work at Primary school in Bohinj as a teacher of Slovene language and I lead the facultative subject School Journalism. I am also involved in provision of gifted students. In Slovenia certain amount of school lessons are intended for activities with gifted students.

I have found the project Erasmus+ Break Barriers – No Prejudices suitable to implement into all forms of my engagement with students.

For the group of students at School Journalism I thought they will be able to expand their horizons through the international experiences. The most active and interested students as well as I got the opportunity to visit Romanian school in Macin. We had preparatory activities followed by the interesting meeting of all partners' schools in Macin. We all enjoyed it. We did our best to inform others in our school about the event and I think it was a welcome task for young journalists.

Together with other teachers we intended to go to the libraries and to inspire students to read books which would offer them different perspectives to our prejudices and barriers. A lot of books were read and introduced to different audiences: to their school-friends at school lessons, as an exhibition of art products in the school library, we visited old people in the institution for elderly and talked to them about books. This task is not always easy. Old people are different. Not all of them can hear well. So pupils try to adjust the situation. They speak louder than usual.

I think this Erasmus+ is an interesting program, through which we learn a lot –students and also teachers. It offers an opportunity for collaboration between different nations and it makes us collaborate in our own school. It challenges us to deal with interesting and important topics and it motivates us to follow the initiated activities.

The travel to Romania was beside a learning experience, very pleasurable. We saw Romania as a landscape, which we liked a lot and it was very interesting to see how school life is organized in our host school in Macin.

Marija Helena Logar – Slovenian Teacher

## Thinking...

The humankind can born different sense. When I saw blind people, I know he/she's smelling sense so better. Everyone have special evolution. And we should know anyone, nothing is perfect. If we're perfect why don't we respect to different religion, different skin and different culture? Please break barriers because if we don't break barriers it will be our harm.



#### Trip To Romaina

When I arrived Macin, I was so excited. I took a deep breath. And when I went to Alex's home I shocked. So to say I forgot English. That night was so confused but when I woke up and went to school I acclimate at that time. Actually, Romania was first abroad experience for me. New people,

new culture, different cuisine. But I don't think about bad think of Romania. It was just as I thought. I loved them all. Alex is so friendly. I am so happy for stay at Alex's home, met Alex and Alex's family. They were very sympathetic with me. In fact, to get to the Romania, I think that was lively country. Ordinarily most families living in the villa. For my country isn't possible. They had a rich green space. Macin was very silence. I guess I didn't hear car horns. People were very calm. In a nutshell I loved Romania and I miss my friends. I would like to visit Macin in future.

*Mehmet Menteşe – Turkish student* 

#### A new me?

Erasmus+ was the first experience of this kind in my life. It was a really good and useful experience. I was one of the children that went to Slovenia. I was very excited but also kind of nervous because I did not knew what to expect from that travel. I did not knew what kind of people I will meet or how we will communicate with each other. But everything turned out to be a very nice and beautiful experience that I never want to forget.

From that travel I have learned a lot of things. First of all I learned to never judge a book



by its cover and always to try to meet people before deciding if you like them or not, a thing that I used to do a lot. I also used to guide from the stereotypes from the internet or from the social media platforms but actually people with other religions or other skin colour are trying to make you feel as good as possible or to be as nice as possible when they talk with you. I ate a lot of various and delicious food that I would not probably have tried in other circumstances. I saw a lot of traditional clothes and traditional dances and listened to music that was different from the music in my country and I really liked everything about those and I like to know more about them if there are any chances.

Erasmus+ also changed me as a person in my point of view. I am not afraid to say that I was a very judgmental person and kind of rude with new people sometimes. I used to hate everything that was not Romanian from small things like music or some types of clothes to languages and sometimes people.

There were times when I have taken some jokes to far or I said things about someone without thinking before but now I do not do that anymore. Now I understand that everyone is different and different is a good thing. Now I try to find more things about other cultures and I found some things that I really like and enjoy doing. I am thankful to Erasmus+ for opening my eyes and letting me to see how beautiful the world actually is!

14 years old Andrei Raluca-Georgiana from Romania

"Tolerance is the ability to forgive those who tend to speak before thinking. "Catherine Pulsifer

## Romania - my first Erasmus+ mobility experience.

Before the mobility I was not sure what the project theme rally means. Before we visit



another country, we all have had some prejudices, although we don't know why. Maybe we have heard some rumour, we imagine things ...

When we arrived to Macin, we forgot what we imagined about it. The countryside was beautiful. The hosting families were very nice. The culture was rich and diverse. We became friend with pupils from

different countries. I feel like we will stay friends for ever. My best memories belong to Dracula's castle and the view to the Black sea, museums and markets.

I hope also other pupils will get a chance to go to mobility and break some prejudices this way. I am very grateful to the family, who hosted me. They treated me as I if I was one of them. I thank also to all teachers, who have done a lot of things for us.

Urška Napotnik, Slovenian Team

I loved this experience where I met very nice people. I discovered other cultures and habits. We spent a lot of time together happily. This aspect represents the central theme of this Erasmus project, no prejudices!

Giulia Ricci – Italian student

I liked most staying by Romanian family and meeting new friends. The Romanian family accepted me really friendly and staying by them was very interesting. I have overcome some prejudices to foreign languages, because I realized it is not too difficult to communicate in English. I also learned some words in Romanian and Turkish and Italian. The most favourite events were visiting some Romanian castles and aquarium. I found very interesting the school in Macin, at the entrance there is a wall painted by fresco of Saint George (Gheorghe), who is the protector of their school. I found out that it was painted by students and their teacher of Art.

Maks Proje, Slovenian student

#### My Erasmus+ experience

My name is Mocanu Luana and I am an 8th grade student at Gheorghe Banea Măcin "Gymnasium School. Six months ago I visited Italy, more specifically Ortona, on the occasion of the Erasmus project, which I am very happy to be part of. It was an experience I never forget, a unique experience, an experience that opened my eyes to the people around me and

their traditions.

I think the Erasmus experience is one of the most beautiful and beneficial experiences in the life of a student. Thanks to this project, I had the opportunity to travel for the first time with the plane, to visit a foreign country and to meet different people. With the help of the activities organized by the teachers, I improved my English but I got it and new knowledge about the Italian culture. Usually I do not get home quickly in a foreign place, but there I got very quickly with the help of the students there, who are very welcoming. They are very open to Erasmus students and curious to know another culture, which has facilitated my integration into a group and my accommodating to their living environment respectively. I was hosted by Giulia, a girl I can not describe. She is friendly, loving, careful with



the people around him, understanding, and the five days with her passed very quickly, and this saddled me, because next to such a person you want to stay a year not a few days and I hope to meet again as soon as possible with her.

Even though I will finish the 8th grade this year I hope that I will have the opportunity to participate in the Erasmus project again in high school and encourage all students to do it because it is a unique experience in life.

Mocanu Luana, 14 - Romanian team



## Erasmus+ "Break Barriers - No Prejudice"

Working in a team on Erasmus+ "Break Barriers – No Prejudice" project I had improved my English communication abilities, I have learned what a conflict is and how to avoid it. At first, a conflict seems to be a situation in which people from different part are involved. It's an ever present process in human relations. I find that a conflict has more definitions: it is universal, it lacks continuity and it is a consicious action.



Secondly I learn to avoid a conflict. We need to be realistic in your goals. A conflict is hard to avoid but we learned how to manage it somehow in different contexts. Now I know what a prejudice is and how it can hurt someone else. We learned together that knowing other culture can help you to be more tolerant, frienglier and the communication is the key to mutual respect, as well. I have the chance to talk to some important people such as the Head of Civil Police and the Mayor of a city of Ortona. During the mixed groups activities I managed to improve my knowledge, my English and my digital competences, so I can produce better videos or Power Points, now, I can make a brochure or a flyer. I also I have courage to think about problems and try to find a solution.

We also shared our experiences and our culture through our traditions and customs and of course through our cuisine. Every country has their traditional food. We could find out so many similarities that make our workshop so unexpected, funny and interesting.

"A nation without traditions is a people without a future." - Alberto Lleras Camargo.

Toader Răzvan Dan, 13 - Romanian Team

#### "The highest result of education is tolerance."

Helen Keller

Erasmus project was a great experience for me. I met new cultures, religions, languages and new people with different customs and traditions. This project helped me to improve my English language.

\*\*Lorenza Vedilei - Italian student\*\*

## Respect each other!

If everyone in this world had respect for one another, we would live in peace and be able to



let others believe in what they wish and accept that everyone is different. I believe it all comes down to parents teaching their children right from wrong in our world and raising them in an environment that is centered around acceptance of different ways of life and cultures of people. If we all teach our

children and change our ways, sometime in our future we will be closer to accepting that a man's character is based upon the content of his soul, not his religion, gender, ethnicity or the color of his skin.

When I went to Romania, I learned that I would break all prejudices or barriers there. I don't need the grammar to be completely accurate. For instance, if I tell it fluently and clearly what I am trying to say no matter how wide my English vocabulary. I have too much new and perfect friends. If you go to the abroad & say something like "i don't know English, what will i say" you can't be a participant in any event or project. I broke all my prejudgements about can't speaking, saying, doing when i went to Romania and i got well with everyone in there. Sometimes we find the opportunity to know each other's tradition closely, sometimes we sang, played games, had enjoyable time. I am sending my thanks to everyone who contributed to this benefit.

Gizem Mutlu – Turkish student

"Unlimited tolerance must lead to the disappearance of tolerance. If we extend unlimited tolerance even to those who are intolerant, if we are not prepared to defend a tolerant society against the onslaught of the intolerant, then the tolerant will be destroyed, and tolerance with them. We should therefore claim, in the name of tolerance, the right not to tolerate the intolerant." Karl Popper

#### Break barriers – No prejudices $\sim$ a great experience



We are usually different and that's the beautiful part of the world. Diversity makes life beautiful. If everyone looked like exactly the same and thought in the same way, life would be boring, somehow. Well, it would be a little bit weird, wouldn't it?

We are all the same, being humans-beings, but still different because we have different appearances, lifestyle, customs, traditions, beliefs, culture. We must accept each other as we are that we are

different and this is the way things should be. These differences should bring us closer and closer, instead of running from each other. I really like colors! Imagine that there isn't any difference between our races, skin color, religion type, river color, physical appearances, languages, nature colors... (the world is quite colorful!) How would it be? I think it would be just black and white! Don't you think, the world is beautiful in its colors? I think so!

Perhaps, we must break all these barriers between us and get to know each other exactly the way we are and not to judge anybody before that. We shouldn't judge people because they think differently from us, and we shouldn't persuade them we think better and we are right. When you talk to people it is important to accept different opinions and find out a solution that is convenient and available to all. We must try to get on each other and become friends. I that way we can live together, building a peaceful atmosphere and making a better world.

Nobody is perfect, so, on the outside, everyone may seem strange in one way or another, but the soul of each of us is clean and sensitive, so we should not have prejudiced in any way. We just should love each other in a world of normality! Normality means accepting people and the world as it is, with its differences and colors. In a colorful world, love has no color!

I think it's time to love everybody as they are, helping them anyway, that means breaking barriers, and stopping to have any prejudices, not to judge by appearances, not to reject because of certain differences. In this way we will be ourselves!

Lombardi Xenia, 15 years old - Romanian Team

"Tolerance is giving to every other human being every right that you claim for yourself." Robert Green Ingersoll

## Together We Gan Change the World

by: Mark Shepard

1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 I believe it's not too late Together we can change the world.

Lay the puzzle pieces out Find out what it's all about Together we can change the world

Refrain:

Can't do it by myself So I'm asking for your help Together we can change the world

Sail past where it's been charted

Roll your sleeves up, let's get started

Together we can change the world

Together we can change the world

With our hands and with our hearts

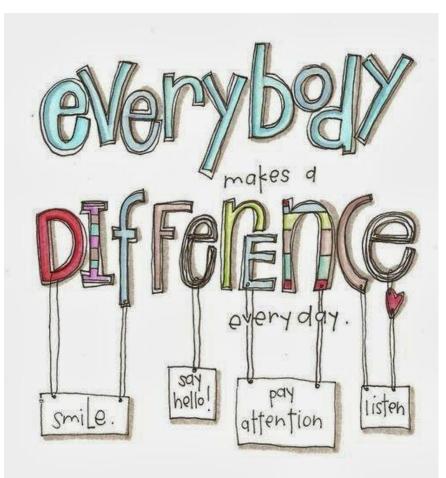
We can dare to make a start

Together we can change the world What if we spoke with one voice, Knowing that we have a choice? Together we can change the world REFRAIN

Change your mind and change your life

Set aside the fear and strife Together we can change the world When we open up our eyes

Then we start to realize
Together we can change the world
REFRAIN 2x
1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8
I believe it's not too late
Together we can change the world.









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# We believe in making ofference!

