



NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 5/2022

The official newsletter of the ACE Erasmus+Project

A FEW WORDS FOR THE BEGINNING

It is the third year of our work on the "Active, creative, enterprising" project. We are slowly approaching its end, although we still have a lot of work to do with the documentation and dissemination of our achievements.

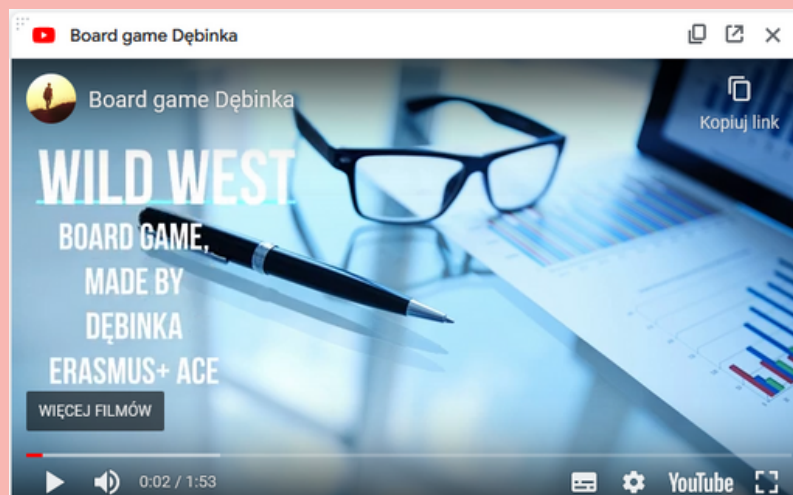
In this last newsletter you will find information about the summary of the three project tasks. The first was related to educational games as a tool for teaching about economics and entrepreneurship. The second was related to the preparation of interviews with successful people who turned their passion into a working business. The third is a set of educational materials developed by teachers from partner schools, which will be used in the future to educate skills and gain economic knowledge for the next generations of our students. This issue also includes summaries of short-term exchanges of groups of C4 students in Italy and C5 in Spain, as well as a short material describing the entire project.

We invite you to read!

Polish editorial team

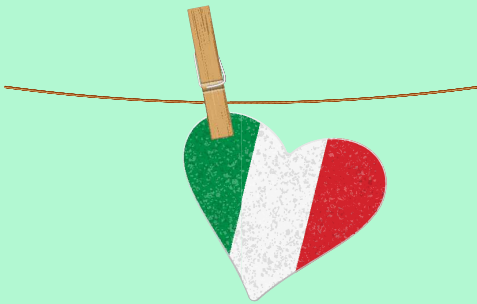
ANYONE CAN WIN

The game is fun - everyone knows it, but not everyone understands that the game can also be an element of education. As part of our project, each school was to investigate what educational games are available on the local publishing markets and present the other schools with an example of one of them, which has undoubted educational values related to shaping economic knowledge and skills. The second part of the task was more complicated - the teams of students were to design their own original games that could be used in school practice, and then prepare prototypes of these games and test them. It was a demanding challenge. You had to show off your teamwork skills, as well as conceptual work, artistic skills and IT knowledge. The results were surprisingly good and the presentation of the games in Italy was a lot of fun for the participants in the short-term student exchange. You can learn more about games from the material on eTwinning and on YouTube





ITALIAN DAY



Each Erasmus trip is preceded by a school day devoted to the history, culture, geography, traditions and cuisine of the country we are visiting. This was also the case before the beginning of the Sicilian adventure of Dębinka students.

The program of the Italian Day included playing with QR codes, an exhibition of artistic photos depicting Italian monuments, a presentation of posters prepared by students and occasional wall magazines. During the foreign language lessons, students could try to learn the basics of Italian based on a tutorial prepared by one of the students.

There were also Italian delicacies and music presented during breaks in lessons. All this allowed the students to better understand the Italian atmosphere, and thus get a taste of Italy, which several of our students were to meet soon.



SICILIAN ERASMUS ADVENTURE ...

For six days, from 13 to 18 March 2022, a group of 7 students and 2 teachers from the "Dębinka" Social Primary School visited sunny Italy. The expedition was another in a series of meetings with partners under the Erasmus + program "Active, creative, entrepreneurial". This time our team visited the picturesque town of Rosolini located in Sicily, where we could interact with students and teachers from Spain, Greece, Romania and Italy - school delegations with whom we have been cooperating for nearly three years.

The official opening of the meeting took place on March 14 at the Istituto Comprensivo F.D'Amico school, via Soldato Pitino. During the course, students presented commercial and original ideas for games that can be used to learn economics and entrepreneurship. They also had the opportunity to get to know the charming Rosolini, Modica and Noto and went on a trip to Mount Etna. They met local entrepreneurs and had the opportunity to learn about their business ideas (ranging from the food industry to tourist services). Most importantly - they met wonderful people and their hospitable homes. We know that this trip will leave many unforgettable memories.

Here you can see a short film report from our trip:

A full report from the trip seen through the eyes of Polish students can be found on the Dębinka website:



TRIP TO SICILY

The trip to Italy was an amazing, unforgettable experience. Firstly, the hosting families made us feel like home. Their hospitality was unbelievable! Furthermore, the places we visited were very interesting and we got to see how the everyday life in another country is. The activities, like the board games about economy we created, presented and played with other students, were interesting and fun! By doing these activities, we got to know the rest of the kids and made plenty of friends, with which we still talk to via social media. We also got the opportunity to learn some basic Italian that can be useful in the future.

Evie Papadimitriou, Varvara Iatropoulou.



TERRASA

It was one of the most incredible experiences I ever had in my life with unique memories, lifetime friends and a new “family”. The hospitality was great and our host families made us feel like home and even better. All the places we visited were unforgettable and we would love to visit Catalonia again. Lastly, the sadness we felt the last days was indescribable. We hope to see you all again and have a great time with you all.

Synanis Panagiotis, Mokka Eirini

SOME THOUGHTS AND FEELINGS OF THE GREEK STUDENTS ABOUT THE PROGRAMME ACTIVE CREATIVE ENTERPRISING

Yolina: The Erasmus+ program was an amazing “trip” for me, because I learned about customs, cultures, traditions and habits from other countries. However, I hope to meet children from other walks of life the other years because this year I was a new pupil at school so I didn’t meet anyone.

Macsen: In my opinion the Erasmus+ trips were very exciting and interesting. I got to travel to other countries, meet new people and learned new things. I hope that in the future I get to go on more trips.

Myrto: It was an amazing experience. We could have done more, but everything we did was more than enough.

Aris: Erasmus is fun! You can travel and communicate with people around the world and even meet them. I suggest you to join this experience and have fun!

THE MEETING IN TERRASSA

This meeting in Terrassa has been truly unforgettable; full of joy and laughter. We have shared unique experiences.



Thanks to this opportunity provided by the Erasmus+ project, we have been able to get to know different cultures from all over Europe: specifically from Greece, Poland, Italy and Romania.

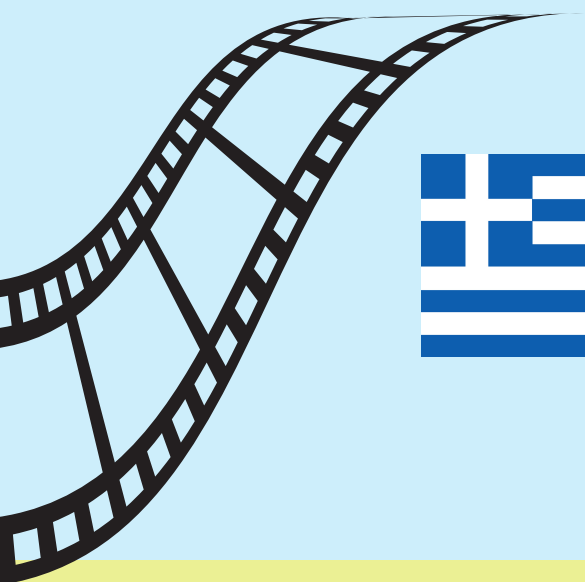
The various activities to be able to teach them our traditions (pole dancing, castellers, hockey, ...) have allowed us to connect with our culture and, at the same time, with all those people who wanted to know it.



"MY PASSION - MY LIFE" DOCUMENTARIES

Autumn of 2020, students participating in the project started working on another project task. It was the preparation of documentary films showing the characters of local businessmen who derived their idea for the company from their life passions. The first difficulty to overcome was to find such people and obtain their consent to record, then prepare a script and a list of questions and prepare for work from the technical side. Making a movie is a demanding task: you need to think over its concept, and then make a recording that has to be properly edited. An additional complication was the need to prepare an English-language version of the film. In this way, young artists acquired specific skills related to directing, creating a recording and editing video material using digital tools.

The best of the films were presented during the international C5 meeting, which took place in May 2022 in Catalonia. You can see examples of student works here:



CATALAN DAY IN DEBINKA

Catalonia is Barcelona, and what would Barcelona be without Gaudi? Therefore, it could not be missed in the walls of DeBinka. And how to best show Gaudi? The most characteristic element of his work was the use of mosaics and motifs rooted in the world of plants and animals. So we decided to refer to this idea and prepare a set of creatures inspired by the work of this extraordinary architect and artist. Our Odysseuses, who prepared drawings of a lizard, a bull, a snail, a dragon and a cat, turned out to be the best prepared group for this, and then actively participated in their mosaic finish.

A separate panel on the Catalan Day was a speech prepared by students who set off on a journey to Terrassa days later. Their story was about the history, culture, music and culinary arts of Catalans. The whole thing was illustrated with films and photos sent to us by our Catalan friends and with the lessons of regional dance. An additional attraction available during the breaks was the opportunity to listen to Catalan music (e.g. [click here](#)) and try Catalan delicacies prepared in Jaglanka. [You can see the film coverage of the day here.](#)



IMPRESSIONS FROM SPAIN, SUMMARY OF THE CATALAN MEETING

By Vlad Pop, Romanian student

The last mobility of the ACE Erasmus + project in Catalonia was one of the most amazing experiences we had, all thanks to the hosts and the activities we did, such as visiting buildings, playing sports and participating in workshops.

On the first day we arrived, we were greeted with beautiful Pep Panux dances and musical performances of the students from El Cim school. After that I participated in a treasure hunt and I saw many beautiful buildings from Terrassa, including the Sant Esperit Cathedral (gothic cathedral), which was huge and full of sculptures and paintings.

On the second day, we've had two workshops, one with "trencadis" (broken tiles mosaic) and one with "Entrepreneurship in 4 words", after which we had a film festival, in which every partner team presented the stories of local entrepreneurs who turned their passion into a business, and we visited Masia Freixa (a modernist house in Terrassa, with a roof like the waves of the sea). The third day was my favourite, because we had a full day trip in Barcelona.

We visited Sagrada Familia from the outside (the most beautiful building I've ever seen) and also the city center, full of beautiful buildings with a long history. After the break we went to La Pedrera (a modernist private residence designed by the popular Catalan architect Antoni Gaudí).

On the fourth day we've participated in three more workshops, including Pep Panux, drums, ball de bastons (traditional dance) and human towers. In the afternoon, we visited Castell-Cartoixa (a very old medieval castle, first mentioned in documents in 1110, more than 900 years ago), where we saw very old objects and even a human skeleton!

On our last day in Terrassa, we've been to Seu Egara (a complex made of 3 churches, built around the year 450), a beautiful place with a long history, where we saw very old churches with very old paintings and objects. The food was great and not only that, but everything was great! Sadly, at the end of this amazing week, we had to say goodbye to the friends we've made there and go home...





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WHAT HAVE WE LEARNED? OUR IMPRESSIONS

ITALY

Ilaria - Thanks to the project i have discovered new traditions from countries around the world

Greta - I have learned a lot about Spain tradition and its history thanks to the trip to Barcelona



ROMANIA

Andrea - The project have been a new opportunity to practice English

Tania - I have learned about countries culture and some words in other languages



GREECE

Macsen - The Erasmus Project give me the ability to travel to other countries

Christina - With this project I had the opportunity to learn more things about different countries.

Evangelina - I have discovered different types of food and my ability to adapt has grown



POLAND

Amelia - I have learned Catalan culture thanks to the activities such as human towers and dancing

Marta - During the project I have learned about new cultures, entrepreneurship and volunteering

CATALONIA

Oriol Daura - I have met new people around the world

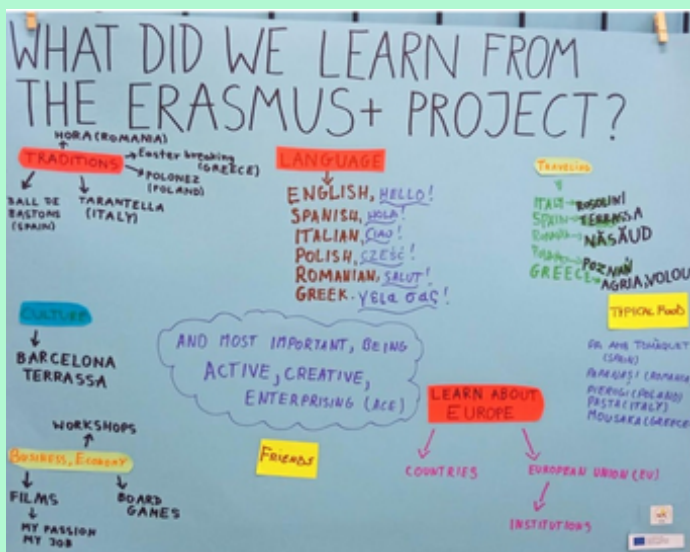
Maria Mazas - I have learned new Polish words

Arlet Fernandez - something that I learned is the general culture of the EU but the most important thing is the experience that I have with people from other countries.

Marti Dalmases - I have learned about new cultures

Judit Sales- The Erasmus Project gives me the opportunity to travel around the world and discover new cultures, but also it gives me lots of friends.

Gerard Comas - I have made lots of friends, learned about different cultures and new languages.



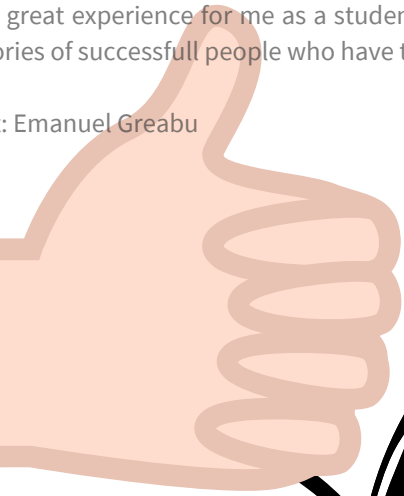


WHAT I LIKED FROM THE SPANISH MOBILITY

What I liked from the Spanish mobility was the Treasure Hunt, because it tested my English and socializing skills, while also putting my memory to the test, trying to find the locations of where we are and where we need to go. The funny photos really did make it more interesting and fun. I also liked the Sagrada Família visit, because I am fascinated by unfinished projects, catholic churches and Gaudi's work. The colored glass was really beautiful, both in lightning of the church and in design, and I really liked it. One more thing I liked were the workshops, because they were really interesting, making activities fun and interactive for students of all ages, from all countries that participated in the mobility. Another activity I liked was hockey, because I like learning to do new things, even though I'm not that good at it. In this project, I learned about economy, entrepreneurship and the importance of ideas in it, business plans and IT components in Canva.

It was a great experience for me as a student, and also for my future, as I had the chance to listen and see some great stories of successful people who have turned their passions into a business and implicitly, a way of life.

Student: Emanuel Greabu



This was my second time going in an Erasmus mobility. I met again the friends I've made participating in the Greek mobility of the Active, Creative, Enterprising Erasmus+ project and we had so much fun. I enjoyed all the activities, but my favorite was the treasure hunt because in my team there weren't just my schoolmates from Romania, but also students from other participating countries and we could chat with each other. I also enjoyed the trip to Barcelona because I could visit the Sagrada Família and La Pedrera. This was my favorite mobility from all of them and I would go back anytime. The Catalan hosts were really nice and friendly to us.

All the workshops were really fun and I've learnt so much things about businesses and entrepreneurs from the other participating countries.

Student: Sofia Dan

I'm glad that I had the chance to visit Terrassa with my teachers and my schoolmates. It is an amazing place and we had a lot of fun together. I really enjoyed the treasure hunt, because I discovered new buildings. The visit to „La Pedrera” was one of my favourite's and the workshop, in which we evaluated the meeting and the project itself, at the end of our interesting and full week of activities, was a chance for us to be creative, to work with students from the other countries and see how they think, and to put all our ideas together in order to represent on a poster what this project meant and taught us.

Now, I want to thank the kind hosts for welcoming us with so much love.

Student: Silvia Fetti

I want to say thank you to our kindhearted hosts. This was my first time going in another country with my classmates and it was unforgettable. My favourite part was when we went on the treasure hunt. I discovered old buildings covered in all kinds of paintings. There were also buildings with interesting shapes and colours, inspired by nature. I liked the fact that each workshop was organised in such a way that we had to work with students from the other participating countries. It was a chance for me to get to know students from other countries and find out things about their educational system, their values. I was impressed of their social skills and how good they are at social interaction.

This experience was a lot of fun and I would definitely participate again in an Erasmus+ mobility.

Student: Tania Zagrean



IMPRESSIONS AND EXPERIENCES

I want to start by saying thank you to our hosts who tried their best for us to have a great time in Spain. This was my first time going to another country with an Erasmus project. This mobility helped me make new friends, even from my own country. My favorite activity was the treasure hunt, because I saw many institutions and historic buildings that were built very aesthetically and looked so interesting. Also, the treasure hunt helped me get to know the city better and by socialising with students from the other participating country I learned a lot about their culture and way of life. Getting involved in the production of the video from the meeting, "My passion, my life", was an opportunity for me to improve my editing skills and to appreciate more the work of the entrepreneurs who turned their passion into a business, one of them being my mum, who was one of the subjects of the video.

I enjoyed this experience and I would definitely try it again.

Student Lara Catana

This experience, as a coordinator of the Romanian team, from Mihai Eminescu Middle School, in Nasaud, involved in the "Active Creative Enterprising" Erasmus+ project, was a great opportunity for me to enrich my cultural, didactic, economic and entrepreneurship knowledge and it represented the best context for me to get to know wonderful people from four amazing countries. I was very much impressed by the power of the team that we managed to form, by working together for the same goal, of taking this project to an end, but not anyhow. All of us tries our best to walk tall and to achieve great results together, being coordinated by a person with great view of what this project should represent and leave behind.

I want to thank all the project members from each participating country for getting involved in the activities of the project, in organising workshops, trips, and arranging everything for the guests to feel welcomed, safe and content.

Last, but not least, I want to ensure the Catalan hosts of my appreciation related to the way in which they closed the project. Majestically!

Teacher: Maria Greabu

Getting involved in Erasmus projects is the perfect opportunity for a teacher to develop himself / herself, both at personal level and professional level. As a member of the Romanian team in this project, I enriched myself by getting to know wonderful people and building friendships around Europe. At a professional level, seeing teachers in their schools, talking to them about different aspects concerning our work and mainly concerning the materials we had to prepare was an opportunity for me become better at what I do. The Catalan experience was amazing for both teachers and students, being a great chance to learn from each other. We thank the Catalan hosts for their effort and kindness!

Teacher: Anamaria Muthi



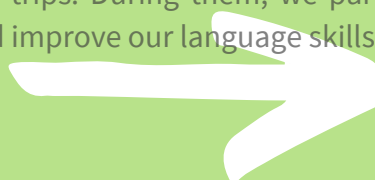


CATALAN ADVENTURE WITH ECONOMICS IN THE BACKGROUND

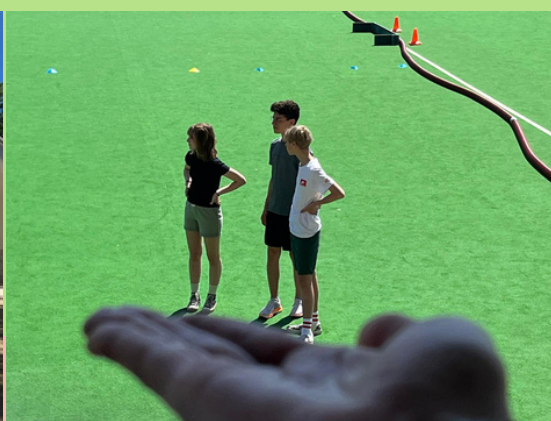
Our last, summarizing trip in the Erasmus + ACP (Active, Creative, Entrepreneurial) project took place from 8 to 14 May, and its goal was the extraordinary region of Spain, which Catalonia is undoubtedly. During the exchange, we had the opportunity to visit Barcelona and Terrassa, but above all, to sum up the next project tasks and get to know the partner school community better. The most important moment was a small film festival, during which we watched documentary films made by students from Romania, Italy, Spain, Greece and Poland in the last two years, and which presented the profiles of people who turned their passion into a thriving business.

Participation in the Erasmus + program allowed us not only to gain real knowledge and skills related to economics, but also allowed us to build relationships and acquire experiences that are difficult to obtain in classical education. Erasmus trips are not ordinary trips. During them, we participate in many workshop activities, learn to work in an international team, and improve our language skills.

You can see the film summarizing the trip here :

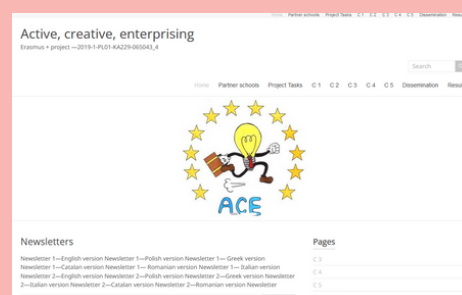


A short photo report is also available:



WHAT WILL REMAIN AFTER US?

One of the main tasks of the project was for teachers to collect examples of good practice in teaching the basics of economic knowledge and skills, and then to prepare them in the form of an online publication containing lesson plans and teaching aids. In this way, we want the project results to be available to other teachers who can benefit from our experiences. The publication will be published by the end of June, i.e. after the publication of this issue of the Newsletter, but it will be available on the schools' websites:





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A FEW WORDS AT THE END ...

It has been three years since the beginning of our project, the main goal of which was to find methods of teaching the basics of economics. At that time, we wanted our students to be more active and be able to take responsibility for their fate.

We managed to achieve a lot, although due to the pandemic many activities had to be modified and carried out at a different date. The project also lasted a year longer than expected.

It is certainly a success to carry out almost the full scale of all five short-term exchanges of groups of students. It was not easy and not all delegations could take part in all meetings, but the mere fact of organizing the travel and stay of students and teachers without undue complications during the pandemic is an achievement.

We completed all the project tasks and there were as many as 10 of them. Most of them required the involvement of teams of students and teachers working together for several months. Despite the difficulties associated with working remotely, and then partially exchanging students participating in individual activities, we carried them out in full and with good results.

The project taught respect for other cultures, contributed to getting to know them better and breaking stereotypes. Thanks to our work, we have learned to better weave economic topics into classical school education. I think that we have also proved that it is worth doing it, because it contributes to arousing interest in economics and a better understanding of the world around us.

Saying goodbye to you to thank everyone who supported our project over the years. Without your involvement, especially in a pandemic period, it would be difficult for us to complete all the tasks. I would like to thank the students who wanted to take part in our activities. I hope that the experiences you have gained in this way will bear fruit in the future. Finally, I thank my excellent international team of teachers which I have had the pleasure of leading for three years. Your work inspired me.

Project coordinator

Adam Bech



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