

4th Transnational Meeting of the Project Group Erasmus+ “Learning from History... Planning the Future together” and Participation at the 2nd Human Rights Symposium in Austria
8th to 11th of November 2018

– Protocoll –

Participants from the three partner countries Spain, Italy and Austria were taking part. The programme consisted of:

- Participation at the 2nd Human Rights Symposium including Activities aimed at the Erasmus+ Group and possibility to connect with the group
- Joint project evaluation
- Outlook and further Cooperation

Participation at the 2nd Human Rights Symposium / Workshops for Erasmus+ Group

- Official opening ceremony
- *Infomarket* – Presentation of the involved organizations participating in the Erasmus+ project, exhibition of representative/informative posters
- Workshop Block “From remembrance work to Human Rights Education”
 - Human Rights Education, Reinhard Leonhartsberger
SOS-Menschenrechte Österreich, www.sos.at, e-mail: leo@sos.at / standup@sos.at
 - Johann Gruber Box, Bernhard Mühleder
 - Holocaust Education from www.erinnern.at, Christian Angerer
Materials available at the website
- Connecting Lunch: Connection with official representatives, international guests
- Walk around former concentrationcamp Gusen
- Discussion about children rights, children welfare, child abuse with Peter Guran, Horst Schreiber, Christine Winkler-Kirchberger, Renata Schmidtkunz
- Concert: Timna Brauer and Elias Meiri Ensemble
- Workshop „Janusz Korczak and Irena Sendler" by Karl Garnitschnig and Heide Manhartsberger-Zuleger.
Irena Sendler (15 February 1910 – 12 May 2008), was a Polish social worker and humanitarian who served in the Polish Underground during World War II in German-occupied Warsaw, and from October 1943 was head of the children's section of *Żegota*, the Polish Council to Aid Jews.
Janusz Korczak (22 July 1878 or 1879 – 7 August 1942), was a Polish-Jewish educator, children's author, and pedagogue. After spending many years working as director of an orphanage in Warsaw, he refused sanctuary repeatedly and stayed with his orphans when the entire population of the institution was sent from the Ghetto to the Treblinka extermination camp, during the “Grossaktion” Warsaw of 1942.
- PoetrySlam to the topic of *flight*
- Concert Tonkünstler
- Breakfast with Literature to the topic of the flight and Greek music
- Commemoration of humans who died in the Mediterranean while their flight and public activity to set signs against the difficult situation of refugees

Evaluation

The evaluation followed the concept of *Appreciative Inquiry*

What worked out great and should be considered for future projects:

- „The fundament is fundamental“: Activities for getting to know the other participants (teambuilding games) and to becoming a group are important in the 1st meeting. The positive group spirit and developing friendship made it possible to include further participants later on and very important the project as a whole.
- The different backgrounds of participants (politicians, students, teachers, guides from museums,...), different role/age/gender/language were different barriers we overcame together as well as enriching factors.
- Learning from the expertise of other institutions dealing with Holocaust-education
- Learning about the history of other participating countries
- Learning about the political situation from other countries
- Strengthen competences
- Different approaches/methods
- Used methods were an inspiration for implementing them in our own work
- Profitating from extern experts
- Getting inspirations from other participants/projects
- Student exchanges: Ability to compare different national views, experience of connected history can help future connection
- Transnational Meetings were very important to guarantee a good quality of the project. It was necessary to meet in real to do conscious preparation.
- Contribution of all participants concerning organization/project
- Self-reflection
- Good coordination
- Motivation
- Open-mindedness – to be open to new methods and interests
- Expertise of participants who had been involved in former projects

Potential for advancement / collected wishes for the future:

- Student exchange: The limited number of students who could participate became a big problem because the teachers needed to choose students as the whole class could not participate. The choices will always be unfair, and they troubled teachers as they were difficult to explain to parents/students. This is also the case if students are chosen by marks/chance.
Possible solutions: The whole class participates. Alternatively at least the parents should be informed beforehand how students will be chosen. If the pupils are hosted by the families, the costs can be held low. Families can also profit from host children if non of their children is going abroad.
- More schools & pupils involved

- Evaluation process with students as well
- More coping strategies - show students that history does not need to repeat itself and how they can deal with feelings of hopelessness, anger and sadness. This can be achieved f.e. in an artistic way.
- Commemorative activity in KZ Mauthausen/Gusen with students from Austria, Spain, Italy
- Pupils can visit all participating countries
- More reflection on the existing activities to define strong/weak points
- Continue cooperation & not waste what was achieved

Outlook and further Cooperation

- Let's cooperate in the future!
- Further school exchanges between the participating schools – these should include personal planning meetings / educational or joint commemorative meetings.
- Participating students/teachers should become multipliers for their colleagues
Example from Empoli: Participating students in the school exchange in April will talk about their experiences to other student. For this event an expert is invited. He meets the students beforehand to plan the activity.
- Be creative! How can we include our expertise in the student exchanges?
Example: Can we implement the presented projects (Infomarkt, workshops, from the Best Practice Handbook etc.) into the student exchanges?
- Apply for a longer project – 2-3 years. Students could experience what the Erasmus+ Group did, maybe to visit all three participating countries
- Involve students in symbolically gatherings/commemorations, f.e. in Mauthausen. They benefit from unforgettable emotional experiences.

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