

REFLECTION ON THE EXCHANGE ECSC SLOVAKIA

INTERCÂMBIO ECSC ESLOVÁQUIA (SPIŠSKÁ NOVÁ VES) 27TO30MAR2023 | C3. SK - LAND USE CHANGES
CURSO CIENTÍFICO-HUMANÍSTICO 10ºA 2022/25

I have written this reflection resulting from the meeting I held on Friday 17 April 2022 with my participating students, their parents and the accompanying persons of the ECSC exchange in Slovakia 27 to 30 March 2023. The students handed in their individual reports of the exchange, including the following chapters: Research on Slovakia; Theme and activities of this exchange; Descriptive diary of this mobility with photos; Evaluation of the mobility; Conclusion.

We concluded that:

1. The programme was quality and was fulfilled. The organisation in Spisska was excellent and very dedicated in all aspects (local culture, activities, transport, sleeping, accompanying, visited places, etc.). The Portuguese students mentioned exceptional Slovakian students. They loved seeing snow and walking in the snow.

2. Participants' evaluation:

2.1. Preparation meetings in V.N. Poiares with participants (students) and parents --> rated 4.9 (from 1 to 5)

2.2. The exchange was rated 4.6 (on a scale of 1 to 5), with the short period of 4 days being the not so positive aspect.

2.3. "Report of Participant" was rated by the 5 students in 7 questions with 'excellent' out of 31 and 4 'Good' (overall experience, ECSC work, cultural exchange, organization, expectations, communication in English). In the open questions they mentioned that they enjoyed meeting other cultures, recognised the preparation of the Portuguese school, the organisation of the Slovak school and admired the dedication of the Slovak students (Matej, Peter, Ivana and Kat).

3. The proposal for improvement for the next Erasmus project was to have more meetings between participants (before the exchanges) to carry out activities with the supervision of a teacher.

4. In her Exchange report, student participant Ariana Simões wrote: "Having participated in this project was one of the best things that happened to me". Duarte mentioned that "we understand the importance of taking care of our planet (...) and also the diversity of species that exist in wetlands". Maria recognised the "destructive and worrying role of eutrophication and acidification of watercourses and lakes, in addition to the introduction of invasive species in these ecosystems".

It was a very intense exchange, as "we did a lot of things in a very short time" (Francisca Lopes). In fact, such a welcoming environment was created in which we felt that

"we were people from such different cultures, but who understood each other simply by looking at each other and speaking English in an immaculate communion, which gave hope for a better Humanity! A proof of such a union was not having time nor feeling the need to call the family, because there, in a short time, a new and beautiful family was created... " (Maria Santos).

At the moment of farewell, the proof of the affection that united us during these days was evident: "After a lot of fun, the moment came for farewell, some cried, (...) this experience will stay with us forever" (Duarte Fernandes). Fabiana Coimbra concluded well: "All this journey and the people involved have a huge space in my heart. Now, let's save the planet!"

Many thanks to Janka and her Slovakian colleagues and students who were so dedicated to this ECSC Spisska exchange as it made us so happy and gave us such valuable activities and good memories.

Written by the Erasmus+ coordinator of the Portuguese school AEVN Poiares, Alcino Simões, 27abr2023

