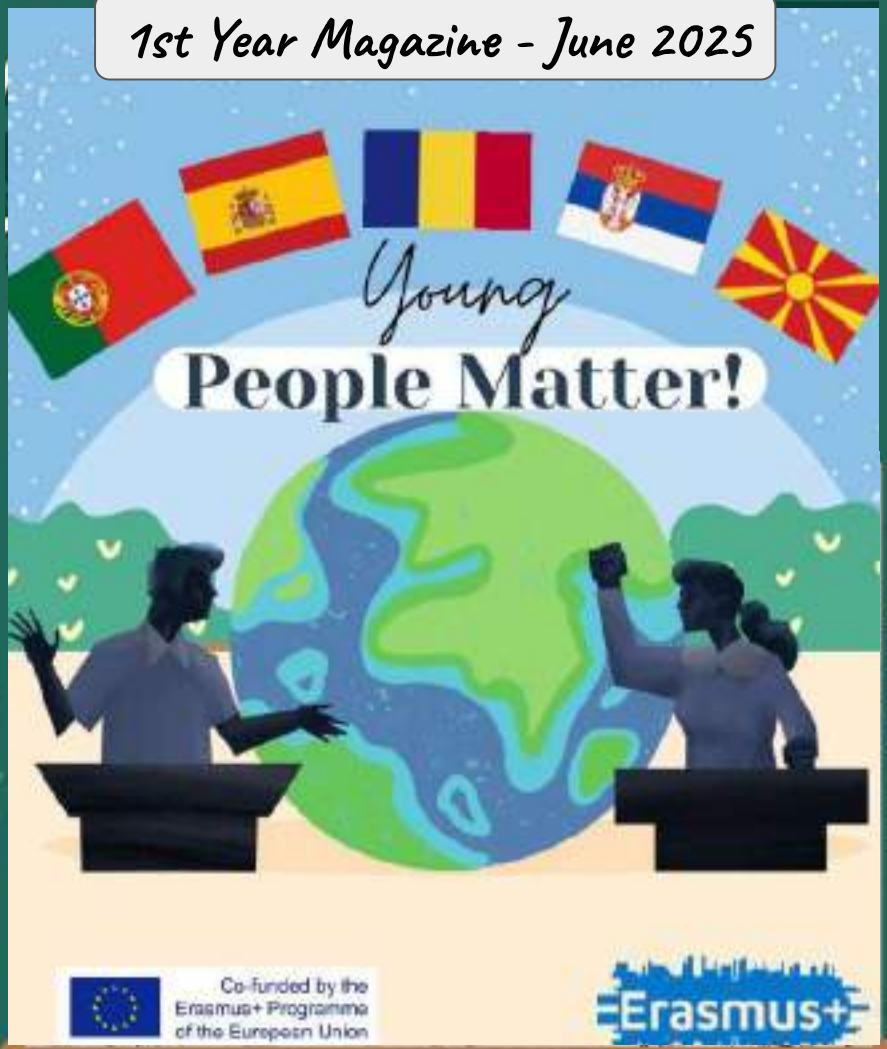
Erasmus + project

Young People Matter

1st Year Magazine - June 2025



QR to our 1st Magazine

CENTERS AND COUNTRIES

ROMANIA	SERBIA	NORTH MACEDONIA	SPAIN	PORTUGAL
Colegiul National Iasi	Osnovna skola Matija Gubec	OKSFORD INGLAND-TRI DOOEL Skopje	CEIP Marina de Cudeyo	Agrupamento de Escolas do Bom Sucesso

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Welcome to our Erasmus project:

YOUNG PEOPLE MATTER

YOU MATTER



Romania, November 2024

The main objectives of this project are to improve the linguistic competence of our students in English and our national languages, the use of technologies, intercultural exchange through the use of debate as an innovative educational resource.



During our current school year 2024-2025 and next school year 2025-2026, our five schools from Romania, Serbia, Portugal, Macedonia and Spain have started a new Erasmus project called "Young People Matter", You Matter.



Serbia - February 2025

You can see some videos of the first three mobilities recorded by the Spanish students and teachers using the following links and QRs.

VIDEO: A typical day in our schools:

Osnovna Skola Matija Gubec



erasmus.school day.Serbia

Oksford Ingland-Tri Dooel Skopje



Oxford England-Three Skopje

Colegiul National Iasi



YouTube

Click on the images to watch the videos made by our students

Agrupamento de Escolas do Bom Sucesso



CEIP Marina de Cudeyo



Follow our schools on Social Networks

Osnovna Skola Matija Gubec



Oksford Ingland-Tri Dooel Skopje



Colegiul National Iasi



Click on the images to follow our school on social networks!

Agrupamento de Escolas do Bom Sucesso

CEIP Marina de Cudeyo





1st mobility in Iasi, Romania

Students group visit



Sightseeing in Romania



Tasting Romanian food



Students presentations







A New European Experience

A New European Experience for Debate

During their stay in Romania, participants took part in various activities. They visited the Romanian Parliament, met the Mayor of Iași, explored the city, and tasted traditional Romanian food. These experiences helped them connect with each other and better understand Romanian culture before the competition.





Before the official debate rounds, a demonstration match was held. Romanian teachers formed the debate teams, ensuring participants interacted with a variety of people. This helped students make new friends and collaborate across cultural boundaries.

On November 21, 2024, students from Serbia, Romania, Macedonia, Spain, and Portugal gathered in Iași for a multinational debate competition. They debated the resolution "Lowering the voting age to 16" in Public Forum format, where two-person teams present arguments and respond to counter-arguments.

The event lasted about four hours, allowing participants to practice their speaking and critical thinking skills. The competition was judged by a mixed judge, consisting of a Romanian teenager and a teacher from another country. This structure ensured fair evaluations and encouraged diverse perspectives. The students gained valuable experience in expressing opinions clearly, collaborating internationally, and making new friends.

This event is an important step in promoting debate and international cooperation. We hope future Erasmus+ partnerships will continue to engage young people in such activities



Young People Matter!

NEWSPAPER

Demonstrative debate

)n the 20th of November 2024, there was a debate on the topic of ecological issues in the lern world. Among the participants, there were Radu Popescu and Iacob Dan Arthur, both)m seventh grade. The event brought to light concerning issues regarding the state of our ıet right now, with the two teams presenting relevant arguments and oferrin g an impactful ormance. One of highly argued topics was the question "Should Ecological Education be a ıing in Romanian schools?" I personally sided with the first team, which claimed that, as tudents' programs are already loaded, there should be no more pressure put on them by having another subject introduced.

ɔpreciated the interesting topic, and despite not being able to stay until the very last minute the debate due to classes, it was, in my opinion, a great presentation overall. I am looking ɔrward to similar activities in the future, as the arguments made by the team I personally dn't agree with helped me view the topic in an entirely new light and perspective, which I think is the essence of a great debate.

ny opinion, this project helped, through this type of activities, to improve the participants' eaking skills, self confidence, and their public speaking skills as well, as they are strongly ated to the experience you have. It also helps students become aware of the problems our eneration faces nowadays and stimulates them to think of productive solutions as well.



NEWSPAPER

The European Quiz





The Portuguese team in the Young People Matter project, organized for all the groups participating (N. Macedonia, Spain, Serbia, Portugal and Romania), a quiz about European institutions, on the platform Quizizz.com. It took place in the Events Hall of Colegiul Național Iași, on Thursday, the 19th of November 2024. The Portuguese teachers and students made sure we knew how to use it and log in, and explained that it worked a lot like Kahoot, which got everyone excited to play.

The energy in the room was contagious. Whether it was a quick-fire answer or a funny debate over the right choice, every team was fully engaged. Even when the questions got a little challenging, everyone stayed positive and kept the atmosphere lighthearted. It was amazing to see how well the students worked together, pooling their knowledge and supporting each other.

As the quiz went on, it became clear that the Romanian team was in the lead, consistently answering correctly and staying on top of the scoreboard. But, even though there was a bit of friendly competition, everyone was cheering for each other, happy to be part of such an exciting and educational experience. In the end, the Romanian team won the quiz, and their victory was celebrated with a round of applause from all the other teams.

However, the real win was the sense of friendship and the fun we all had. The quiz wasn't just about being the fastest or getting the most answers right—it was about learning together, celebrating what we had already learned, and connecting with our fellow students from different countries. The event wrapped up with lots of smiles, laughter, and a feeling of pride for everyone involved.

My friends and I really enjoyed this experience because it helped us improve our general knowledge and geography skills in such a fun way. We didn't expect to learn so much, but as we played, we started remembering things we didn't even know we knew! It was awesome how the quiz made learning feel like a game.

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NEWSPAPER

Family dinner







FAMILIY DINNER





FAMILIY DINNER





FAMILIY DINNER





Debating, my personal experience

by Casiana Atesoaei

Before I started debating and before I joined the club (where I am trained by Andrei Obreja and Maria Oglinzaru, who I can't thank enough for the efforts they put in for me and my colleagues), I wish I had been told these tips that would have made my debate journey a bit easier. Firstly, even if you win every match, you won't necessarily feel like a good debater, and that's normal. It takes time, and no one will hurry you.



Secondly, sometimes you will lose. You will feel bad, you will hate the match and even your teammates, but don't let disappointment stop you. And lastly, remember not everyone is a great public speaker, and not everyone has the gift of the dab.



Learn to help, to be proud of your teammates even if they didn't do perfectly.

Because, at the end of the day, you have to enjoy the debates. Even if you lose, you had fun, you learned, and you will do better next time.

I will always encourage people to debate, not just in official matches, but in their everyday life.

The Erasmus project, Young People Matter, gave me the wonderful opportunity to share debates with students I will never forget, to interact with teachers that inspired me, and to become a better debater and even better person.

2nd mobility in Tavankut, Serbia



Students group visit



Sightseeing in Tavankut



Trying Serbian food



Students presentations



Subotica sightseeing and visiting the host school







By Ivana nd Nevena

On the first day,, we visited the City Hall where we were welcomed by Nenad Ostojić, a member of the City Council responsible for education. Since the project focuses on mutual respect and appreciation of diversity, we visited the Cathedral of St. Teresa of Avila, Paulinum, Muhadžir Mosque, the Orthodox Church of the Holy Ascension of the Lord, and the Franciscan Church. After lunch at the Gurinović Inn, we headed to Tavankut

Upon the guests' arrival in Tavankut, we headed to the bust of Matija Gubac, where the students of our school introduced the guests to the figure and significance of Matija Gubac. Then we showed them the school atrium, a clone of the Gubac linden tree, straw paintings that adorn the school hallways, and we talked about numerous collaborations both in the country and abroad. Then the students demonstrated rolanje - an old way of ironing, Bunjevac folk costumes, and the school museum. After that, a workshop was held, the aim of which was to show project participants methods and strategies for overcoming the fear of public speaking.

Visit to RTV Vojvodina and Novi Sad





By Teodora and Petra:

On the second day of mobility w we visited Novi Sad. At Radio-television Vojvodina, we were hosted by the editor of the Second Program, Andrea Juhas, who, together with her colleagues, introduced us to the newsrooms of national minorities. We visited television and radio studios and learned how shows, news and other programs are created. The guests were presented with how rich Vojvodina is in languages, cultures and nations that live and work in the same country together with the majority population.

The aim of the visit was to encourage young people to think about whether the languages and traditions of national minorities should be taught in schools, and to express their views (for or against) during the upcoming debate.

On that day, we also visited Petrovaradin and introduced the guests to the main tourist attractions of Novi Sad.

Presentations on languages from European languages and minorities:





By Tiago Ferreira and the Portuguese team:

We went to the HNV where we were welcomed with a presentation of this institution which supports the Croatian minority in Serbia. Each team made and showed presentations about certain traditions in their countries. We all learned about Easter traditions in Serbia, Spain and North Macedonia as well as Martisor in Romania and, of course, Carnival in Portugal.

Another presentation was about minority languages in the partner countries. I was surpised to know that there are so many in Serbia, N.Macedonia and Romania.

It was a very fun day and we all learned a lot about each other.



Family dinner in Serbia

Jack and the Giant, and Trouble in the Jungle



Students experiences:



On the 13th of February 2025, we had the occasion to have dinner at certain Serbian pupils` houses. We all felt quite nervous before going there. I was at Stasa and I had a great time. Sophia went to Angela`s house and she enjoyed it as well. Iulija, Teodora and Melanija went to Simona`s house.

I (Sofia) went there with Maria. As a gift for Stasa and her family, I brought lots of chocolate bars, few face masks and a jar of blueberry jam. Maria also purchased small gifts for our hosts.

Simona was a host, and she gave away a box of cookies, a mug, and a hairpin.



Traditional dances from Tavankut, Serbia





By Kalina and Miguel

The name of our traditional dance is KOLO. There are so many dances from Vojvodina and Šumadija. They are divided into groups. There are also rules of the circle in the dance. Our traditional clothes are also part of the tradition and the dance.

The most popular dance is Užičko kolo, which is danced in the whole country, especially at weddings and celebrations. There are also our local traditional dances such as Momačko kolo where a man dances with two women.

A lot of our students dance folklore after school and they all helped in showing some of these dances on Wednesday in the school gym and we had lots of fun.

Valentine´s party at school



By Iulia Palie and Lucija V. Šimokov

The Valentine's party will be on the 14th of February. All the teachers and students from each country are going to come. It celebrates love and affection in different ways, with the day's significance recognizing and honoring the ties that link people, whether couples, friends, or family members. We will celebrate this day for spending time together and saying goodbye to each other before we leave.





Mobility in Tavankut, Serbia

CONCLUSIONS ABOUT OUR WEEK



Staša:My best day was when we went to Novi Sad,and I'm very happy because I met all the students from other countries. I also really liked the activities that we had together such as workshops and dancing.

I hope they had a good time here with us and that we will keep in touch and see each other again

Ana: My best day was Tuesday, because I went to visit the television that I had never seen before and I really liked it and had a lot of fun .

I spoke to other people and was able to make new friends,I learned how television works , and was also able to shop.



3rd mobility in Lisbon, Portugal



Students group visit



Sightseeing in Lisbon



Trying Portuguese food



Students presentations









FADO NIGHT



By The Portuguese team:

With the aim of promoting Portuguese culture, the international projects team of Bom Sucesso School organized a fado night at the Palácio do Sobralinho on April 2, 2025. Fado is a musical genre typical of Portugal in which Portuguese guitars are the main instruments and fado singers sing lyrics that express feelings such as nostalgia and everyday life.

The evening was attended by the partner teachers of the «Young People Matter» project, some of the school's teachers, the school management and members of the community, such as the vice-president of the Town Council, the president of the Parish Council and representatives of the Arcena's Community Centre. The evening began with a dinner where traditional Portuguese delicacies were tasted, such as caldo verde and arroz doce, among others. This was followed by a musical performance by two fado singers, Margarida Soeiro and José Geadas, and two guitarists, Armando Figueiredo and Luís Petisca. Finally, a photographic record was made for later recollection







Reception at Vila Franca de Xira Town Hall



By David Cotrim

The reception at Vila Franca de Xira Town Hall happened in the last day of the mobility in Portugal. The mayor of Vila Franca de Xira welcomed us very well, with gifts for everyone, students and teachers. The students were given a notebook, a pen, and a book about the city of Vila Franca, and the teachers were given a bottle of wine produced in the local vineyards.

Then we went to the Neorealist Museum of Vila Franca de Xira, where we visited an exhibition which portrayed the stories of courage and suffering of the Portuguese deported to the concentration camps of the Nazi regime during World War II. It was a great experience; everyone was interested and it was a way for us to learn more about our past. And so the beginning of the end of mobility in Portugal began!



Traditions and Flavors
A Day in Local Culture!



By Luisa Reis

On April 4, 2025, the last day of mobility in Portugal, we visited the Ethnographic Museum of the Casa do Povo de Arcena and took part in the workshop "Com as Mãos na Massa".









At the Ethnographic Museum of Arcena, we were able to see old everyday objects, traditional clothing and elements of Portuguese popular culture, especially from our region. A real trip back in time!

The morning ended with the workshop "Com as Mãos na Massa", where we learned how to make bread with chorizo - a practical, fun and (above all) tasty experience. Everyone made their own bread and at the end we were able to enjoy the result!

It was a delicious and enriching way to end the mobility, valuing our roots and local cultural heritage.

Erasmus Closing Ceremony

My experience as one of the presenters!



By Isabel Varela

I was on stage with Guilherme, and together we had the responsibility of presenting the ceremony and announcing the winners of the debates, the dances and the singing performances in several different languages: Portuguese, Spanish, Romanian, Serbian and Macedonian.

The atmosphere was full of joy and nervousness about the outcome of the debates and, although we knew it was the end of Erasmus week, it was also a time to celebrate everything we had experienced together.







Later, we had the arraial. It was a party full of: delicious food, lively music, lots of dancing and smiles all around. I remember us all dancing, holding hands, even though we didn't all speak the same language. However that didn't matter, because the music and the good mood brought everyone together.At the end, we ate a cake with the logo of this Erasmus project: Young People Matter.

This experience taught me that we can make friends from anywhere in the world and that, even though we are different, we always have something in common. I will keep this day in my heart and I hope there will be many more moments like this.

Debating, my personal experience



by Mariana Nunes

The debates, for me, were so much more than just competing against another team. They were truly a life-changing experience that pushed me far beyond what I thought I was able of. When I first heard about the project, I doubted myself. I never imagined I could stand up, argue a case, stay calm under pressure, and defend ideas that sometimes didn't even reflect my own beliefs. But I agreed to participate in the debates, and I'm so glad I did it.



Throughout this journey, I learned to overcome my insecurities and to communicate more clearly, logically, and respectfully. I improved not only as a speaker, but as a listener. I started to value the importance of hearing other perspectives, understanding different opinions, and responding with empathy instead of judgment. These are lessons I'll take with me.



One of the most rewarding parts of this experience was the people I met along the way. I got to know an amazing teammate and teachers who supported me, inspired me, and made this experience even more meaningful. Together, we shared nervous laughs and that sense of pride after each round – whether we won or not.

The debates challenged me, changed me, and helped me grow. I realised that failure is not the opposite of success, it's part of the process. Today, I feel more confident and more aware of what I'm able of. And above all, I feel proud of how far I've come, and of the courage it took to get here. This journey meant a lot to me, and I'll carry its lessons with me for a long time.

Photos and videos from our week in Portugal



Welcoming act at the Town Hall



Learning about Portuguese explorers and history









Closing ceremony at school







Next school year of our Erasmus project YOUNG PEOPLE MATTER



Next school year 2025-2026, we will continue developing the project in our five schools and will celebrate the last two students mobilities, which will take place in Macedonia and Spain.

The mobility in Skopje, Macedonia will take place from October 19th till 24th, 2025, and the last project mobility will take place in Rubayo, Spain, possibly from 24th to 29th May 2026.



Romanian families inviting our international students to have traditional dinner at their homes



Goodbye celebration at the school in Serbia

During the mobilities, students will get to know the schools and regions from our countries, will develop international debate contests about education.

Thank you students, teachers and families for your collaboration and participation in this great project!

4th mobility planning to Skopje, Macedonia – Oct 25



Students group visit



Sightseeing in Lisbon



Trying portuguese food



Students presentations



5th mobility planning to CEIP Marina de Cudeyo, Rubayo, Spain – May 26

Spanish school: CEIP Marina de Cudeyo





Cultural activities in our town, Marina de Cudeyo





Sightseeing in Santander







Exploring our region: Cantabria







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OVERVIEW OF OUR PROJECT



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