Erasmus plus project

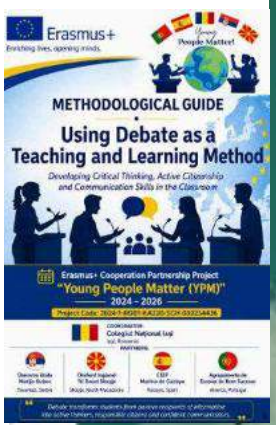
Young People Matter

2nd Year Magazine - June 2026



QR

to our 2nd Magazine



Co-funded by the Erasmus+ Programme of the European Union



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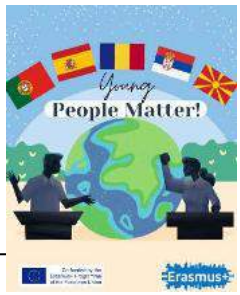
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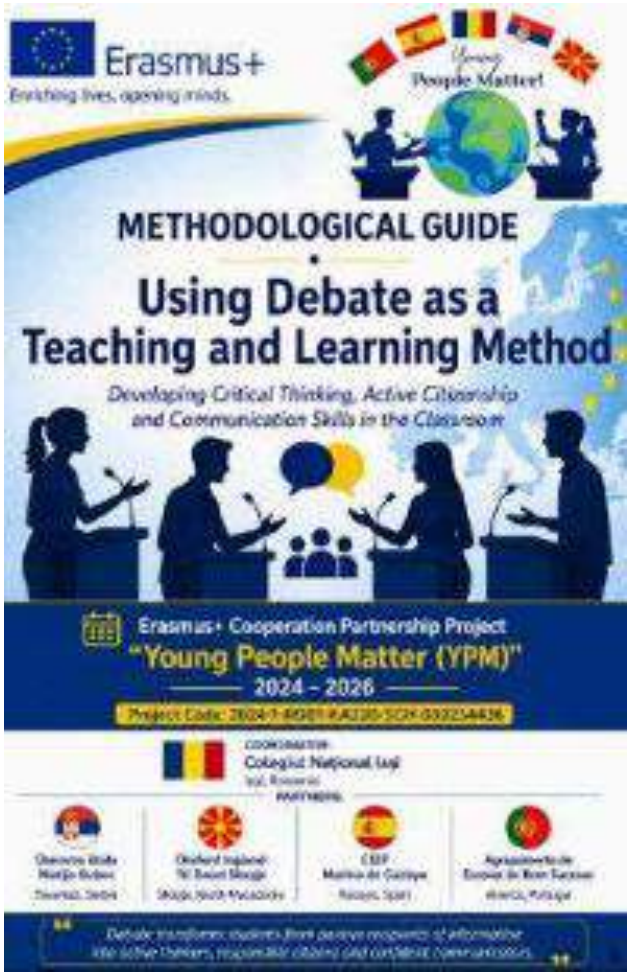
PROJECT • Active

Young People Matter

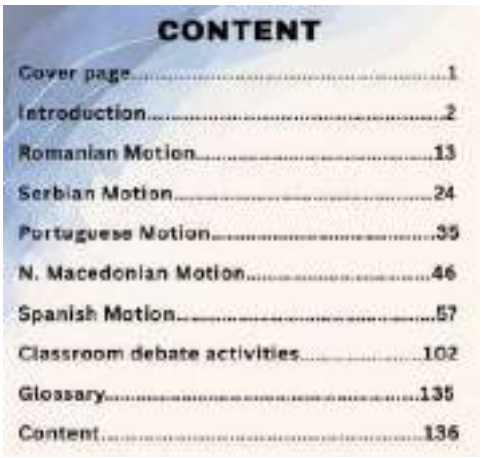
"Young People Matter" is a KA220 SCH Erasmus project with partners from Romania, Spain, Portugal, Serbia and North Macedonia. It focuses on students aged 11-15 and aims to raise participants' awareness of 5 common European values (democracy, human dignity, freedom, equality, human rights), to practice active citizenship, to develop key social, civic , linguistic, digital, learning competences and to train teachers with an innovative learning and teaching method : Public Forum debate.

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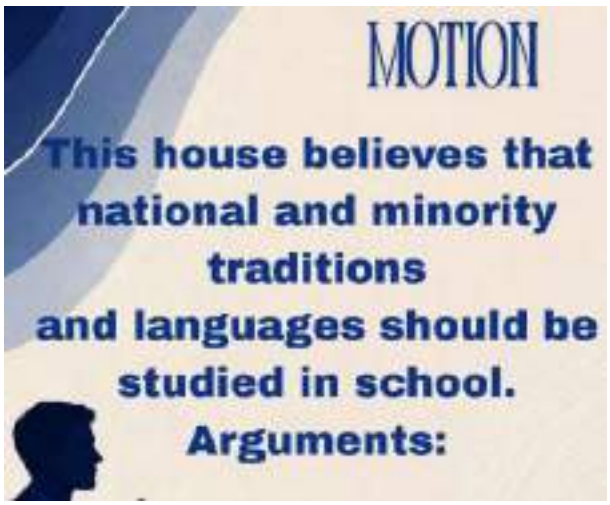


Click on the images to read the methodological guide and download a free copy



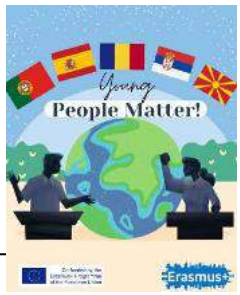
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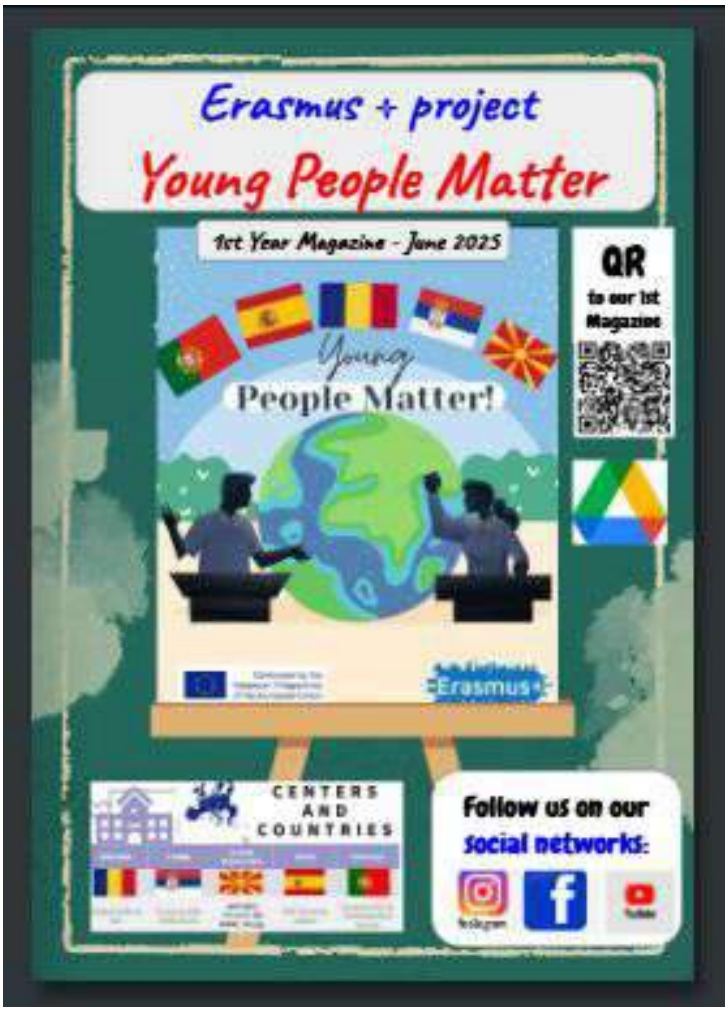
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1st Year Magazine
Young People Matter













2nd Year Magazine Young People Matter

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Journey to Macedonia from Serbia









From Serbia to Macedonia

By: Nevena Antal

We left for Macedonia on Saturday evening.
Four teachers went with us Nevena, Miroslav, Stela and Stanislava.
The trip was hard because we were traveling all night.
I slept only half a night.
I felt tired,excited and happy to travel to Macedonia.
We arrived in Skopje around 8:40.
I was really glad to see all of the students from Spain,Romania and Macedonia.
Kids from Portugal arrived a little bit later.
I was really glad to see them also.

Journey to Macedonia from Spain and Portugal



Spanish group travelling to Macedonia

From Spain to Macedonia

By Alicia Podolska

On saturday 18th of october I flew to Frankfurt and from Frankfurt to Skopje with Carmen, Martina C, Martina D, Diego, Lucas, Aleix, my and my teachers Alia, Hortensia and Juanfran. I flew to Skopje because we participate in an erasmus project. Before the trip I was stressed and now I am very happy.

From Portugal to Macedonia

By: Inês snd Bojana

On October 19th, we started a new adventure with the erasmus program, heading to Macedonia. The trip lasts until October 25th, and we are still here, enjoying this amazing experience.

We travelled by plane, which was something very special for me because it was my first time flying. I have to admit i felt a bit nervous at first, especially during-take-off and landing, but after a while, I got used to it and really enjoyed the experience.



We arrived in Skopje, the capital of Macedonia and so far, we've only had the flight itself, but it was already enough.

Guided tour around Skopje



Skopje walking tour

By: Oleg Juvan and Sebastian Luca

On Monday oct 20 we woke up on 7AM and went to Europe House to present the projects.
After that we went to the center of Skopje around 2PM.
We visited the house of Mother Teresa.
We went with the teams of Portugal, Spain, Romania, Serbia and Macedonia.
We went to the center by bus and took photos with the statue of Alexander the Great.



We also went to the old Bazaar to buy souvenirs and delicious food because we were tired and hungry from the trip.On the trip it was very sunny and the people were nice too.



Some of the students bought beautiful souvenirs and the streets were packed.In the end we went to the hotel by bus and everyone was grateful of the trip because it was a beautiful day.at the end of the day we had a great time in the center of Skopje,we saw a lot of interesting monuments.Before we were a little tired but after we were packed with souvenirs and Happiness.

Guided tour around Skopje





Walking tour around Skopje

By Răzvan Crețu

In the morning we went to Europe House. There, somebody from every country presented their school, their country and some freedom fighters. The presentations lasted 3 to 4 hours, but they were worth it because after those, we learned a lot about their history and vulture

We also have visited three major history monuments in Skopje, the first is the Mother Teresa museum in the way to the center of Skopje, her full name was Anjezë Gonxhe Bojaxiu, there was her previous home, now a memorial house. Then we visited the centre of Skopje (Macedonia Square) in North Macedonia, it's the largest city square in the country, it's located by the Vardar River. At the center, it was a statue of Alexander the Great on a horse built in 2011,

There was another statue and three bridges one of which is the Stone Bridge and it's the oldest structure in the Skopje center and also connects with the Old Bazzar, the center was built with traditional Macedonian models that resemble their culture, the renovation of the center in the years 2010-2014.



After Old Bazzar, it was originally built between the 12th Century but was modified along the history. It was a major trading center and cultural center of the Balkans, connecting merchants from Europe, Asia, and the Middle East. The last history monument we have visited today was the Fortress of Skopje(Kale). The fortress is located on the hill next to the center of Skopje. It was built in the time of ruling of the Emperor Justinian I in the 6th century.

A taste of culture and emotion: Macedonian meals



By Beatriz Alves and Martina Diez

North Macedonia may be a small country, but when it comes traditional food, it's a true explosion of flavours! Between mountains and green valleys, Macedonian cuisine blends Greek, Turkish and Balkan influences, creating unique dishes that delight every plate.

One of the most famous dishes is Tavce, Gravce, the national pride: beans slowly cooked in a clay pot whit peppers, onions, and spices served whit crispy bread Simple, but full of taste!

Traditional Macedonian food is not only delicious it tells the story of the country's past. During the Ottoman period, many recipes were created using local ingredients like beans, peppers, cheese and meat. Over time, these dishes became part of family traditions and celebrations.

Another classic is Ajavar, a spread made from roasted red peppers and eggplant, often served whit grilled meat or bread. The Shopska Salad, made whit tomato, cucumber, onion and grated whit cheese, adds freshness, while sweets like Baklava and Tulumba bring the perfect ending to any meal.

When I first tried Macedonian food, I was really surprised! It's very different from typical Portuguese dishes. Some things I absolutely loved, like kebab, but others I didn't enjoy at all, like Ajvar. Still, it was an unforgettable experience like a mix of happiness, curiosity, excitement, and even a little homesickness for Portuguese food.

In the end, tasting Macedonian cuisine wasn't just about food it was about feelings, discovery and connection. A journey full of flavours ...and emotions.



Students presentations at EU House in Skopje

EUROPE HOUSE PRESENTATION:

By: Cosoi Gavril-Marius, Lucas Garcia

On the 20th october we went to the Europe House in Skopje, North Macedonia, were all the teachers and students in the project Young People Matter have made presentations about their country and their culture. They presented general information about their country, popular traditions and important information about their culture, also shared major political and historical figures.
We went to the Europe House, because we want to speak for our country, to make our nation speak about our greatness and importance in our world.





Everyone spoke and made a difference so now we know more about the world and the countries among us. The ''exchange'' in information between each other made us experience different lives of other people in different countries. Before visiting the country and entering the Europe House, we didn't know what to expect and what to feel, but after seeing what everyone had to share we were really surprised that we learned more about each other and discovered new things and experiences we never have seen before. We are really happy that we've got this experience and opportunity.

Trip to Ohrid: medieval city The Jerusalem of the Slavs



Field trip to Ohrid

By: Lucija and Eva

On Tuesday, 21st October we went on a trip to Ohrid,Macedonia.

We went by bus and we traveled for three hours. We saw many monasteries, Samuels fortress and the beautiful lake Ohrid.

Children from Spain, Serbia, Portugal and Romania went on the trip to Ohrid.

We tried many different types of food, we toured the city and bought souvenirs.

The trip was very beautiful and we made a bunch of memories. We learned that there are 365 churches in Ohrid for each day of the year, we also learned that two thirds of the lake is in Macedonia and one third of it is in Albania.

We also learned how paper was made and how Gutenberg press works.



Canyon Matka boat trip and exploring cave Vrelo



By Razvan, Stefan and Jovan

On Wednesday 22nd of October we went to Canyon Matka and Cave Vrelo. We went through the canyon with boats. It was very beautiful, full of nature and life. With the boats we got to the cave. It had a unique beauty and was full of rocks, stalactites and stalagmites.
It also had a few small lakes inside.





We went there because we wanted to see the wildlife of Macedonia. We learned that Cave Vrelo is one of the deepest underwater caves in the world.



Before the trip, we were really curious about how the canyon would look like.
We would really recommend going to that canyon because the view is stunning and the air is very clean and healthy.



Traditional dances from Macedonia



By: Inês snd Bojana

On Wednesday, first we came to my friends Bojana school. It is very different from my school in Portugal, but like it because it's bigger than my school. Bojana greated me and she sitted me in my steat. Then they announced that some girls are going to dance tradicional Macedonian dances. They started dancing and i thought to myself that these Macedonian dances are very special, fun and entertaining. But before they danced i thought that they weren't going to be good, but turns out that tehy are really good. After they dance they told us that the girls who where dancing they are going to teach us the dances they danced.

Me and my friend Bojana were tired, but i wanted to learn the dances so me and my friend Bojana got up and started dancing with the students.we laugh,danced and spoke and the night was coming to a end.



The dances stopped and we allhad to go home becouse tommorow is a big day. We are going to have debates, e-twinning and other things.
On the way to the hotel, me and my friend Bojana are talking.
We reached the hotel and i wished Bojana good night and so did her.

International debate competition viewed by our students



Hello, My name is Oleg, I´m 12 years old and I won 1st place in Portugal on the debates.

Our topic was that "students should choose their own subjects".

The debates in Portugal were fun and Interesting.It was very intense for the others but we had fun.

We were preparing for the debates right after the project in Serbia (the 2nd mobility).



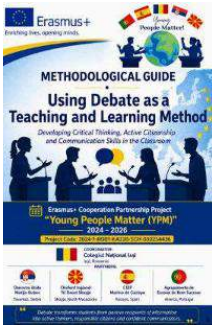
Not a lot of Macedonians unfortunately got a lot of certificates.Besides the debates we also had E-Twinning.

I didn't experience that but I hope it's fun like in the debates.



Overall I was happy because I got a lot of certificates from the project.

So yeah the debates in Portugal were fair fun there was no teasing and ect.



5th mobility overview at CEIP Marina de Cudeyo, Rubayo, Spain –23-30 May 26

Spanish school: CEIP Marina de Cudeyo





Cultural activities in our town, Marina de Cudeyo





Sightseeing in Santander







Exploring our region: Cantabria







Guided tour sightseeing around Santander



Palacio de la Magdalena

On Sunday, we went to breakfast right after we got up. After breakfast, we went back to our rooms to pack our bags and then headed to the beach for a walk. We walked around the city of Santander, discovering its sights and traditions.

During our first hours in Santander, we explored some of the city's main attractions. We visited the Centro Botín and the Magdalena Peninsula, where we saw the mini-zoo, the Palacio de la Magdalena, and a famous beach.



Guided walking tour around the Bay of Santander

After that, we went to Bikini Beach. We had fun, swam, and enjoyed the beautiful surroundings. We had a great time and returned to the hotel having learned many new things.



Seaside views in Santander

School festival of European cultures at CEIP Marina de Cudeyo, Spain



The traditional festival was one of the most memorable moments of the project. Each country presented its culture in a different way, through food, traditional costumes, or dances. On May 25th, the school organized a festival for all students in the school gym.



We enjoyed watching traditional Spanish dances performed by the San Pedruco dancers, who wore colorful costumes and danced gracefully.

Link to the piece of news published by the Regional Government of Cantabria about our Erasmus project Festival



Festival programme

Students presented dances and acrobatic performances. The festival promoted respect, tolerance, and new friendships.

Family meals with Spanish families and exploring the region of Cantabria

International students exchange having meals at Spanish families



On Monday 25th May, we had the opportunity to visit the homes of our Spanish hosts and enjoy a family dinner. It was a great experience that allowed us to learn more about their daily lives, traditions, and culture.



I went to one of my Spanish students house. First we ate dinner with him and his brother and then we went inside their room. It was really cool and amazing. Also for dinner we ate some traditional Spanish potato omelette with tuna (tortilla de patata).They were really good and I liked them a lot. After dinner we went on a mountain.There was also a coffee bar, and we went inside to drink some juice and also we were eating some other Spanish food. Finally we went ito the city center for a short walk by the beach. It was so beautiful, and I felt amazing.





Later, many of us went for a walk around the city and along the beach. The beautiful scenery and friendly atmosphere made the evening unforgettable.

Cultural trip to Altamira´s Caves, Santillana del Mar and Gaudi´s Palace in Comillas



On Tuesday, May 26, 2026, we went on a trip to the Altamira Caves by private bus from Santander at 9:15 a.m. We were excited to visit this unique place and learn about its history and prehistoric paintings.

Views of the prehistoric paintings at the museum of the caves of Altamira

After the visit, we explored the old town, where our guide explained how people used to live in the past. We then had lunch at a restaurant and continued our visit to some traditional old houses.



Gaudi´s palace in Comillas



International groups t-shirts at Altamira´s caves

In the evening, we returned to the hotel, tired but happy after a full day of activities, took a shower, and went to sleep.

Boat trip around the Bay of Santander



Boat tour around the Bay of Santander paid by the Town Hall of Marina de Cudeyo

On Wednesday, we went on a boat tour around Santander, starting from the Centro Botín. We visited several beautiful places along the coast, including beaches and nearby islands.

During the trip, we saw amazing locations such as Playa del Sardinero, Isla de Mouro, and Playa de Somo. The ocean was clear, and the weather was



Guided tour in English by Carlos Sainz, Ecoturismo in Marina de Cudeyo

Boat tour to school for international students and teachers



We really enjoyed the experience and learned more about Santander's coastline. It was a relaxing and unforgettable day.

Official visit to the Parlament of the region of Cantabria



The Parliament of Cantabria in Santander was built in 1791. We visited it on Wednesday and were excited to learn more about its history.



Link to the our visit´s piece of news posted by the Parliament of Cantabria

Inside, we saw fossils in the stone, colorful decorations, and also learned that the building used to be a hospital. Later we had a talk about Spanish political system. We learned that Spain is divided into seventeen regions and saw a hall with the seventeen flags, one from each of them.

During the visit, we spoke about education systems and the importance of the Erasmus Programme. It was a great experience about democracy and youth participation.

Photos and videos from workshops and the international debate competition at the teacher training center CEP Santander

Welcome at the teacher training center of Cantabria





eTwinning and project magazine workshops for students and teachers











VIDEO: A typical day in our schools:

Osnovna Skola Matija Gubec



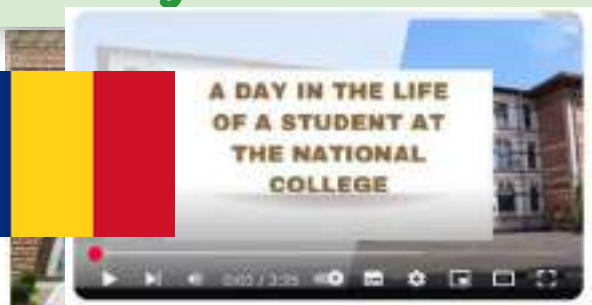
erasmus.school day.Serbia

Oksford Ingland-Tri Dooel Skopje



Oxford England-Three Skopje

Colegiul National Iasi



ROMANIA - Colegiul National Iasi - A day in our Colegiul Național Iași

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

Agrupamento de Escolas do Bom Sucesso

CEIP Marina de Cudeyo





VIDEO: Benefits of our Erasmus project in our students and schools:

Osnovna Skola Matija Gubec



Oksforydhhfgfghfghfsghfgs hd Ingland-Tri Dooel Skopje



Colegiul National Iasi



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

Agrupamento de Escolas do Bom Sucesso



CEIP Marina de Cudeyo



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Osnovna Skola Matija Gubec



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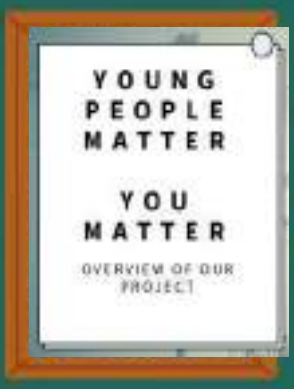
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Erasmus plus project Young People Matter c
Romania, Serbia, Macedonia,... más
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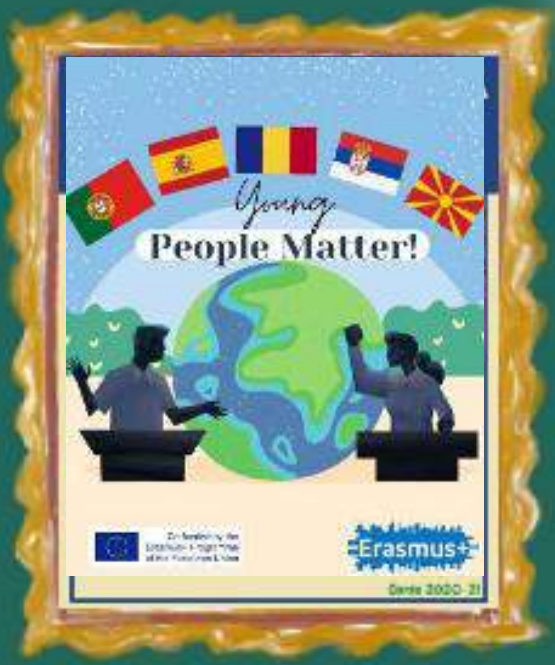
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