

ERASMUS + PROJECT
The EU : a free cultural exchange area
Meeting report of the partners' visit to Estonia
from June 3rd to June 7th 2015

Were present at the meeting :

- Estonia : 4 teachers
- Slovenia : 3 teachers
- Latvia : 5 teachers + 2 students
- Turkey : 3 teachers + Headmaster
- France : 4 teachers

1) Overview of the year 2014-2015

a) The productions

- Plastic productions + comments made by each country, showing the stereotyped visions of the other partners
- Realisation of a collection gathering of all these works by France
- Realisation of a 3-minute film shot by each country based on the comments on how the partners see us.
- Gathering and editing of these films by Slovenia
- Creation of the project logo by Slovenia
- Writing and recording of the first 2 stanzas of the project « European Anthem » by Slovenia and Turkey

b) Contents of the meeting in Estonia

- Meeting with the Estonian students and the Headmaster
- Screening of the film showing the stereotypes
- Working sessions
- Discovery of the Estonian culture (music, traditions, history, geography, daily life ...)

c) The benefits of the project.

- Good involvement of the students
- All the countries could disseminate the information on the project inside their school and some of them could also do it outside their school.
- Very good relationship between the teachers taking part in the project; discussions over their own teaching practices in their country.

d) The difficulties met.

- The deadlines and modalities of the productions have not always been respected, which has been a handicap for the countries in charge of the final synthesis (collection and film).
- Difficulty in combining the academic imperatives (calendar of exams ...) and the imperatives of the project.
- The simultaneous recording of the music, song and video of the stanzas of the anthem reveals to be unsuitable to a final quality editing . **Thus, it has been agreed to use the soundtrack sent by the Slovenians and record the soundtrack and the video separately.**
- It has been recalled that all the various comments have to be written/translated into English.
- The communication between the students has been difficult : the use of e-twinning is not very attractive for the students and quite complex to use. It has been decided to integrate the students to the Facebook platform created by the teachers. Latvia has offered to create a blog enabling to collect all the works linked to the project during these **three years.**
- Creation of 2 assessment sheets by the French school (1 for the students, 1 for the teachers) aimed at helping to update the difficulties and finding solutions to solve and improve them.

2) Forecasts for the year 2015-2016

a) The productions

- The 3 countries (Estonia, France and Latvia) will write and record their stanza of the anthem according to the established modalities above. **Deadline to complete and transmit the works : the meeting in Slovenia** (the date will be set later)

- Each country will suggest and send a chorus in English to Estonia. **Deadline : December 1st 2015**. The Estonian school will choose one of the suggested chorus, with a possibility to modify it so as to adapt it to the music of the anthem. The Estonian school will sing and record the chorus with the school choir .
- All the countries send to all the partners a suggestion of 2 salty ingredients, 2 sugary ones and 1 spice/herbs which are characteristic of their own culinary culture. **Deadline : October 1st 2015**
- **In October**, the partner countries will communicate with one another to know if the ingredients they have selected are easy to find or not. If the ingredients are impossible to find, they will send them to the concerned country(ies) .
- To show the mixing of culinary cultures, each country will imagine and cook a salty dish and a sugary one with at least 1 ingredient of each partner country . The recipes will be written in English and sent with a photo of the dishes to the French school. **Deadline : March 30th 2016** .
- **In November**, for the making of the film, the French school will send all the partner schools a tablecloth (the same for everybody) and 5 aprons with the project logo.
- Each country makes **a 3-minute film** showing :
 - in a student's bedroom: their cultural specificities (music, paintings, posters of famous people such as athletes, objects, clothes ...)
 - in a common kitchen : the cultural mixing through the cooking and the tasting of the created dishes.
 Important modalities to take into account : **1 minute** for the scene shot in the bedroom (with a soundtrack it would be perfect !) and **2 minutes** in the kitchen without any soundtrack. (Agnis will try to organize the screen showing the 5 kitchens in a mosaic display .)
- Sending of the films to the Latvian school for the final editing. **Deadline March 20th 2016**. Please respect the durations of the films (1 mn in the bedroom and and 2 mn in the kitchen!)
- The Latvian school is going to create the Erasmus blog gathering the documents of the 3 year-project. Be careful, it is essential to update the blog for the year 2014-2015. It is desirable that the blog should be updated and start on January 1st 2016.

b) The meetings.

- In October** (the date has to be set by the end of June), the Slovenian students come to Bordeaux (it is not part of the Erasmus+ project) . They will be welcomed by French families.
- **In April-May** (the date has to be set before the end of June), all the partner countries will meet for a new project meeting in Slovenia. The French school will come with students who will stay with Slovenian families.