

EPAS trip to Eupen

I was asked to go on the trip to Eupen with a few others from my school. I agreed to go as I was really intrigued to see what this was about. I had imagined there to be formal discussions or European Parliament style debates, however that was not the case. I really liked that it was an informal discussion with people from Germany, Belgium and Luxembourg, this allowed us to get to know each other better and I found it to be quite nice to have some informal discussions for a change. We arrived at around 10 O'clock in Eupen where we met some other people from Luxembourgish schools. We also where able to get some beverages and food before sitting down to hear the opening speeches. Then we got separated into groups where we where able to brainstorm idea on how to encourage young people to vote in the upcoming European elections. We then made posters where we displayed our ideas, which we then had to present to the rest of the groups. I really enjoyed my group as the organisers made sure to include people from each country. This allowed us to get more ideas as each individual had very different ideas on how to spread the word about the upcoming elections and how to make young people aware of the political choices that are available to them. After lunch, we had the honour of hearing and asking questions to three different people from the European Parliament. We where able to ask as many questions that time allowed us to and we always got a response from one of the three parliamentarians. For the trip to Eupen I had little to no expectations as I had never really attended such an event beforehand, however, my experience was amazing. If I get the chance to attend such an event again I would and I would highly recommend it to fellow students.