

January 22-27
2023

Luxembourg

Erasmus +



Group 3 (Luxembourg)

MONDAY

23.01.2023

The Italian and Swedish students were welcomed in the AL AULA by the headmaster, the teachers and the coordinator of the project, who presented the program for the following days.

With the activity “photo challenge”, organized by the Luxembourgish students, the guests visited the school and its surroundings. They took pictures in front of the school, the statue, the forum, the running track, the bus stop, the egg/banana sculpture etc. ... The pictures are going to be judged on Thursday and the most creative one will win.

After the photo challenge, the students were divided in four groups and they worked on why the cultural diversity matters and wrote down their reactions to different statements regarding “our common strength, variety of our cultures” and the importance of the international day of cultural diversity, dialogue and development.



Panoramic view of Luxembourg city during the UNESCO guided tour

Afternoon:

UNESCO city tour

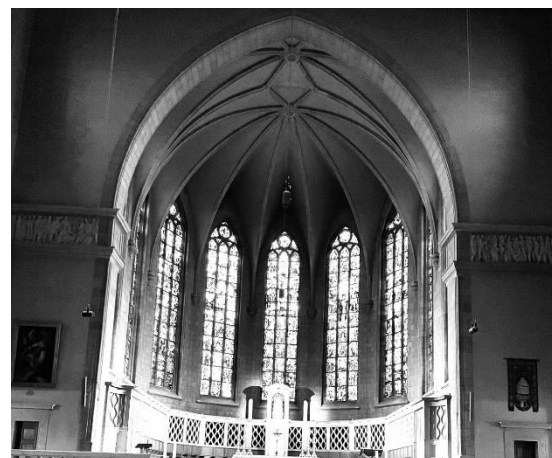
The latest updates to get you through the day



For lunch we went to the restaurant “Le Pavillon” in *Parc Merl*/near the school. There all the participants tried the traditional Luxembourgish food “Kniddelen”.

In the afternoon the students were divided in 3 groups again for the UNSECO city walk. The guides showed the statue of the “Gëlle Fra”, the golden lady. They walked along the walls of the fortress, seeing plenty of sights, bridges, buildings, etc.. They also visited the cathedral, the Town Hal, the “Palais grand-ducal”, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Place Guillaume II, also called “Knuedler”.

The evening was spent with the host families.



Cathedral, Luxembourg (photo taken by Léa Serrano)



Erasmus+

TUESDAY

24.01.2023

On the 24th, the students taking part in the Erasmus + project were involved in an interactive lesson about poetry slam, a literary contest in which competitors performed spoken poetry in front of a live audience.

Poetry slams began in Chicago in the 1984, with the first slam competition designed to move poetry recitals from academia to a popular audience. American poet Marc Smith, believing the poetry scene at the time was “too structured and stuffy”, began experimenting by attending open-microphone poetry readings, and then turning them into slams by introducing the element of competition.

The students were split into two groups. The two teams focused on the fundamental values of Erasmus: the importance of travelling and the European community.

The activity started with a brainstorming, gathering information and thoughts about the themes in order to formulate verses.

The two Luxembourgish champions Cosimo Suglia and Nicolas Calmes guided the group through the steps and sharing their experiences. As soon as everyone finished the writing, the groups were reunited to present their productions and leave the poetry slam completed. The texts had great variations considering the form and the content; it went from rhyming poems to prose texts. In terms of content, some focused on the feelings of anxiety, fear and anger but also more positive ones like happiness, freedom and appreciation.

The activity was followed by a meal in the cafeteria where Italians, Swedish and Luxembourgish students had the opportunity to spend time together and taste the products of the canteen.



Visit at the CVRIA

In the afternoon everyone headed to Kirchberg in order to visit the European Court of Justice (ECJ). Once everyone passed the strict security check, the group was welcomed by two guides who led us to one of the biggest Court rooms. Judges Marc Jaeger and François Biltgen presented their tasks and the functioning of the CURIA. The meeting was followed by a visit of the impressive buildings.

The *Palais de la Cour de Justice*, which acts as a seat of the ECJ, was developed in five stages, while the ECJ was initially located at the *Villa Vauban*.

Architectural styles changed, so that we can see a mixture of styles and material used in the construction of the site like the pink granite adopted in the 80s. In the 1996, the building of the fifth and last expansion of the *Palais*, together with renovation of some of the oldest spaces took place. This last phase was directed by the French architect and designer Dominique Perrault, also known for the design of the *Bibliothèque nationale de France*.

At the end of the visit, a linguist lawyer talked about her career and her important position in the mechanism of the European Union.



Wednesday

25.01.2023

Guided tour: Cité des sciences et Haut fourneau A



On Wednesday the group started working on digital brochures. We were split into 3 groups and each group had to work on brochures regarding the different countries that are a part of this Erasmus+ project. Group 1 started on the brochure; the theme was the trip to Italy with Erasmus+. Group 2 did the same but focused on the trip to Sweden. Group 3, the last group, was focusing on the trip in Luxembourg. We got some snacks after some time working, then we worked some more and then it was time for lunch at the FORUM.

On Wednesday the group also visited Belval. Belval is a city in southwestern Luxembourg near the French and Belgian border. Some people call it "the land of the red soil". The industrial parts of the city are the west and east. The western part has been shut down but the eastern part is still up and running. It deals with steelwork and it is operated by Arcelor-Mittal. Because the city relies so much on steel it was greatly impacted by the steel crisis. The first buildings outside of industrial buildings were The Rockhal and the bank.

In the steel factories they use blast furnaces for the production of the steel. The definition of a blast furnace is: a facility that produces liquid iron from processed iron ore in a continuous reduction and smelting process.

The *Hauts fourneaux* are the last 2 original blast furnaces in the whole Grand Duchy of Luxembourg. But they are no longer active. This site is characterized by the 2 towers, that are called A & B and they are around 80 - 90 meters high. They are preserved as monuments to the iron and steel industry and they are the most striking landmarks. They are also a symbol of growth and prosperity, as the steel and iron industry have shaped the south from the 19th century close to the furnaces the city of science, research and innovation can be found. There are also buildings for the Luxembourgish university. The first 2 blast furnaces started up in October 1911, on the same day the ARBED was founded. In 1913 the company produced 361 000 tons of steel, averaging about 3000 workers every day in the factories. They produced steel girders, railway tracks, sheet piling and more.

The blast furnace consists of a metal shell lined on the inside with a layer of refractory bricks. These bricks protect the outside (of the furnace) from excessive temperatures and abrasion. A regular blast furnace is over 40 meters high and can be divided into different zones. The upper part of the blast furnace was used for charging. The largest part of the furnace in which the reduction processes occur.

The rest above the blow moulds: this is where the hot air is blown into the combustion zone. The rack where the iron war and slag collect in liquid form and the tapping openings are located there, so that the iron ore and slag can flow out.



(Picture by Andreea Arens)

Visit of the *Mines de Rumelange*

26.01.2023



During the morning activity, the students continued working on their digital brochures. They were still divided in 3 groups, each group working on a different brochure for one of the 3 countries.



We worked hard and had a break at 10 o'clock. We continued working and got done by the end. After all of that hard work it was time for lunch, so we took the bus to Rumelange, where we first had lunch upon arrival.



After lunch we visited the *Musée des Mines* in Rumelange. Rumelange is a town in the south and it is located close to the French border. Luxembourg was the leading steel producer in Europe during the 19th century, the mines changed the history and society of the country.

In the museum you can see the old mines specifically the Walert mine. You can experience the working conditions that workers faced in the mines. You can also see a big network of tunnels that are several kilometres long and that twist and bend all the time. It was also cold in the tunnels, about 10c° and it was very humid, with a humidity of 90%. When exploring the mines we were divided into smaller groups so it would be easier to walk around the mines.



Closing Party

at the AL

The Luxembourgish coordination team had invited the school management, the host families, and everyone involved in the project for the closing event. The local students had prepared a closing party with various activities like music, games, etc. For dinner there was a buffet from a restaurant called *Chiche*, which everyone enjoyed. We shared different traditions from our countries, many laughs and a great ending of the project.

