

### Isperih, Bulgaria 22-27 April 2015

The sixth partnership meeting in Comenius project took place from 22<sup>nd</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> April in Isperih, Bulgaria. There were guests from two partner countries-Romania and Turkey. We welcomed twelve students-7 students from Istanbul and 5 students from Cluj-Napoca, and six teachers-3 from Romania and 3 from Turkey. The opening of the sixth partner meeting was in Ethnographical museum. There , students from High school “Vasil Levski” presented Bulgarian custom“ Lazaruvane”. After the emotional welcoming, we all head for the monument “Han Asparuh” - the symbol of our town. We took photographs with our partners and employees of the City Hall. Our guests were very warmly welcomed at the City Hall. We shared common problems. On 23<sup>rd</sup> April, in the afternoon, we met our partners with ritual in our school“ Vasil Levski”We continued with a concert “The difference unites us“. In our workshop the students from Isperih, Istanbul and Cluj Napoca presented their presentations. The topic was “My capital and its history“. Our workshop ended with a movie “Comenius”- bridge to tolerance and friendship. The second day, April 24<sup>th</sup> 2015 spent under the motto “Heirs of an ancient culture”.A film was shown in the Historical museum about the Thracian cultural heritage. We visited the Thracian tomb which is under the protection of UNESCO. We spent several hours in the unique nature of the Archaeological reserve Sboryanovo and religious temple Demir Baba Teke.. The next days were devoted to “Travelling in the History”. We acquainted our partners from Romania and Turkey with part of our cultural and historical heritage. On April, 25<sup>th</sup> we visited Kovachevsko kale near town Popovo. After that we went to Veliko Tarnovo. In the old Bulgarian capital we saw Tsarevets, Patriarchal palace and Samovodska bazaar. We visited Dryanovo monastery, Bacho Kiro cave, Ethnographic museum “Etara”.Our historical tour continued on April, 26<sup>th</sup>. It included a visit to the Madara Horseman rock ancient monument under the protection of UNESCO, rock caves, monument outdoors in Shumen-1300 years Bulgaria, walk in the centre of Shumen, Tombul Mosque, a visit to the Roman Abritus near the town of Razgrad. Our gala dinner was on April, 26<sup>th</sup> in honor of our partners from Romania and Turkey. The sixth partner meeting was an unforgettable experience for us – teachers and students from High school “Vasil Levski ” .The spirit of understanding, tolerance, friendship and respect was among us. We felt like a part of the big Comenius family.

Zorka Naidenova

Coordinator of High School “Vasil Levski”

Town Isperih, Bulgaria













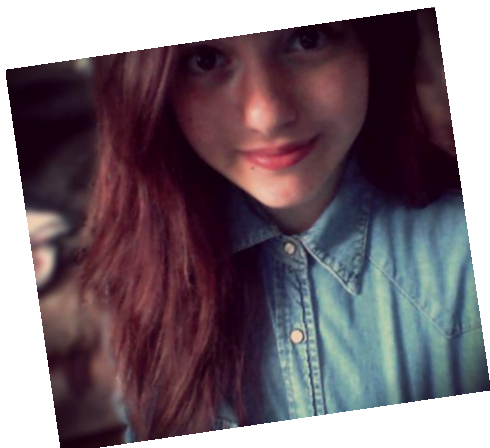






## Students opinions for the project

For me, the Comenius project is an opportunity of making new friends that are completely different from us. It's a chance to see their culture, their beliefs, and basically the way they live. I met some incredible people. We laughed together, travelled together, shared moments of joy, even sang together. And in the end of our amazing stay, it was very hard to say „goodbye“ to each other. But we all promised that one day, we're going to see each other again. We are so different, yet so alike. All I can say is that I'm really happy to be in the Comenius family. Words cannot describe how glad I actually am. Thank you all for making me a part of the project, because these memories are never going to fade away, and hopefully so won't the friendships.



Katia Bogdanova, 17 years old

My opinion for the project Comenius is that it is a great opportunity for students to make new friends and to practice their foreign language. The idea for the students to live in other student's family is perfect because in this way one can see the other country's everyday life. Project Comenius didn't only give me the opportunity to see a foreign country, but it also taught me how to work in a team. For me this project was a huge boost for my self confidence. Thank you!



Kaloyan Kalchev, 18 years old

For me Project Comenius was one of the most exciting experiences in my life. Experiences, full of lots great memorable moments, new friendships which continues today and I hope they will continue forever, because the people I met were very positive and benevolent. This was an opportunity to meet the cultures of the other countries and I'm proud to be part of the big family of Comenius. I wish many students have the opportunity to join a project like this.



Bozhidara Milenova, 18 years old

The Comenius project for me is a great way to learn about the religious and cultural heritage of foreign countries, to improve my English, my self-esteem and social skills. I met new people and started new friendships. I learned about the different habits of different nations. I met so many nice friends. We shared photos about the mobility, wrote many e-mails and were happy that we were allowed to attend such beautiful project. We have the same interests.



Mertdin Mumun, 18 years old



## Pope John Paul II In Bulgaria

For the first time in the thirteen – century history of Bulgaria, a Pope visited our country. It was in 2002. There was a unique meeting between the Pope and the Bulgarian Patriarch. The Pope blessed the foreign politics of the Bulgarian Government in particular Bulgaria’s integration efforts, and especially the country’s efforts for EU membership. Many doors were opened to our country after his visit. At the meeting in Bulgaria they also talked about all the big contributions of Bulgaria to mankind, about tolerance in Bulgaria. Bulgarian were extremely impressed with the strength of his spirit. The Pope said he had “never ceased” to love Bulgarian people. The monument of Pope John Paul II in the town of Belene was opened on 15 November 2014. The opening ceremony was presented by the President of Bulgaria - Rosen Plevneliev. He noted the essential role of St. Pope John Paul II in the struggle of millions of East Europeans for freedom and dignity. He is the Man who changed the world.

