

## Lets Talk about Syria

County School Inspectorate Braşov, Romania is partner in an Erasmus+ project “**Let’s talk about Syria**”, 2018-1-TR01-KA347-057871, with İskenderun İlçe Milli Eğitim Müdürlüğü, Turkey and Raseiniu r. Girkaľnio Pagrindine Mokykla, from Raseiniai, Lithuania.

The project is being developed under Key Action 3 - Support for Policy Reform. Structured Dialogues among Young People - and aims to raise the awareness among young people in the three regions - Braşov, Iskenderun and Raseiniai - of the dangers of discrimination, intolerance and xenophobia through actions to promote tolerance, empathy, equal opportunities and the importance of education for the integration of all citizens into society.

This project is designed to draw attention to the widespread education as a tool for ensuring the integration of society. Social acceptance can only be achieved through the support of all sectors of society, the collection of data by scientific methods, and the construction of policies on it. For this reason, it is aimed to make international participation discussions with young people who are educated in the three districts and to share the results report with the decision-makers and the public.

From Brasov County, the project involves 120 pupils from five colleges: National College "Andrei Şaguna" Braşov, National College "Dr. Ioan Meşotă" Braşov, National College of Informatics "Grigore Moisil" Braşov, National College "Unirea" Braşov and College of Sciences “Emil Racoviţă” Braşov.

Some of the activities of the project, implemented till now, are:

- An exhibition with drawings and paintings of Syrian pupils from Turkey - “I am from Syria, I am also a human” - was organized: in November, in Iskenderun, in January in Braşov and in May in Raseiniai.

- The celebration of International Day of Migrants, on the 18<sup>th</sup> of December 2018, in Braşov, with a debate on migration. Over 100 pupils from Braşov met with representatives of Migrants Office Braşov, National Agency Anti-trafficking-Regional Centre Braşov, County Police Inspectorate Braşov, Regional Center for Evaluation, Prevention and Counseling against Drugs Braşov. The debate was moderated by Vlad Măcelaru, former Representative for Romanian Youth at UNO.

- In January we organized a transnational meeting in Brasov with 30 participants, from Braşov, Iskenderun and Raseiniai. For a week we organized workshops and activities on the concepts of discrimination, refugee, racism and tolerance. One of the moderators was Andrada Cristina Baba, Representative for Romanian Youth at UNO. The participants met people who migrated to Romania from Syria, Venezuela and Dominican Republic and discussed with them about Romanian Policy and their problems as immigrants.

- The celebration of International Day against Violence in Schools, on the 30<sup>th</sup> of January 2019, in Braşov, with the participation of 150 pupils and teachers from Braşov high schools, Turkey and Lithuania. We organized two debate demonstrative matches, in English, with the motions:

1. This house believes that students should be held legally responsible for bullying in schools
2. This house would permanently ban the social networking accounts of users who practice cyber-bullying

- In May, 8 pupils and two teachers from Brasov participated to the transnational meeting in Raseiniai. They participated to workshops and activities and met some members of the Lithuanian Parliament to talk about Syria and refugees problems in Lithuania.

Our next meeting will be in Turkey in October and this time we will visit Syrians in their houses and also in the camps where they live. This project was designed to talk about refugees problems and we believe that we succeed it in many countries by using the power of social media too.

To be selected for the mobilities, the pupils from Braşov wrote essays about migration – with the theme “Migrant for a day”, essays that we intend to publish at the end of the project – participated to an interview and have formulated messages for the decision-makers.

More information, photos and articles about the activities of the project you can find

- On the website of the project <http://www.letstalkaboutsyrria.com/index.php>
- On the Facebook page of the project <https://www.facebook.com/groups/letstalkaboutsyrria/>