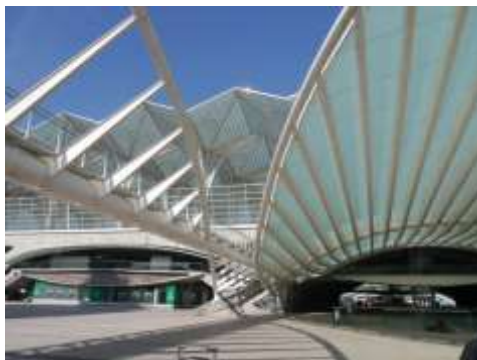


Second Comenius project meeting in Almada

Escola Secundária Romeu Correia hosted the second Comenius project meeting for 16 guests from partner schools. Coordinators from Slovenia, Germany, Poland and Latvia arrived in Portugal with their teams and students on Saturday, 13th April and stayed until 21st April.

The first day (Sunday, 14th April), teams had the opportunity to cross the river and visit Lisbon, the capital. There, they could observe the features of modern architecture in its most varied expressions of the old monuments of the rich Portuguese past. They visited the Oceanarium, designed by renowned architect Peter Chermayeff, a place that plays a very active role in multiple research and conservation efforts, regularly collaborating with academic and zoological institutions on projects such as CORALZOO, SECORE, FAITAG, and even in situ environmental conservation efforts focusing on Lamprey-eels, from the Tagus estuary, and Sea-turtles in Cape Verde.

They admired also the work of the Spanish architect Santiago Calatrava - The Gare do Oriente station that dominates the view, and all that area, reconverted an important part of the city by creating a new concept and a modern urban space.



Next, they visited the neighborhood with the largest number of heritage sites connected with the Portuguese voyages of discovery: Belém. It was from the beach in Belém that Vasco da Gama set sail to discover the sea route to India and the grandiosity of the former empire can be sensed throughout the area. One of the most imposing symbols of the city is here - the Mosteiro dos Jerónimos. They visited also in Belém, much more recent, but still invoking the grandeur of the Age of Discovery, the Padrão dos Descobrimentos. And on the river bank, another marvelous Manueline monument, again classified as a UNESCO World Heritage site, the Torre de Belém. As the city is made of contrasts, they had the opportunity to visit an art exhibition at the modern Cultural Centre.



Teams at Belém, visiting historic monuments

They also went inside number 84 of the Rua de Belém, in a factory founded in 1837 with azulejo panels from the XVIIIth century, almost as famous as the sweet pastries sold there, the famous Pastéis de Belém.

On Monday, 15th April, teams were received by a representative of the City Council and the principal. A press conference was held in the secondary school by journalists of local newspaper. Mrs Vilma Nečimer, the project coordinator presented the aims of the project.



Reception and press conference

The guests were showed around the school, kindergarten and subsidiary schools as well. The students participated at the lessons. All of them were able to experience the beat of our school.



Teams visiting different classes

In the evening, another experience about Lisbon and the World Heritage Song – the Fado.



Teams made conclusions about the quiz results

At the project meeting, the work already made by respective countries was presented.

About quiz, teams discussed national results and try to find out why some results are higher or very lower than the international average. It was also important to find some strategies to improve knowledge.

Films on teenagers values were also presented by students and cultural differences were discussed.



Presentation of the films produced by students

The Tourism has provided a guided tour (Tuesday, 17th April) around neighborhoods to visit the old town (Casa da Cerca, Panoramic Elevator, Pipe Fountain, Naval Museum, Cristo Rei) and Convento dos Capuchos Belvedere in Costa de Caparica.



Visiting and learning about local heritage and costumes on a guided visit

Program next meeting in Poland, strategies and aims as well the next activities on the project about the media and the interaction with the different generations were discussed points during the workshops.



Work session on next meeting – Poland camp

The time also permitted to visit (Friday, 20th April) some famous Portuguese sights like Estoril, Cascais, Boca do Inferno, Cabo da Roca (the western part of Europe) and Sintra, contacting with Portuguese landscape and culture.



Teams exploring our oceanic landscape

Teams travelled back (Saturday 21th April) early in the morning. Everybody was pleased with Portuguese hospitality, cuisine, weather, and they really seemed to enjoy their stay in Portugal.