

COMENIUS SPUREN PROJECT – IMPRESSIONS etc. ...

Hi, I'm Andrea Atzori and I come from Cagliari, a small city in Sardinia, Italy.

Last May I was in Paderborn, Germany, during the “European week”, for the COMENIUS SPUREN project.

Visiting the beautiful city of Paderborn and during the time I stayed at the Liborianum. I had the opportunity to talk with the other people who participate in the project, students and teachers from a lot of EU countries.

At the beginning, it was hard for me speaking only in English with everyone, because I've never spoken English for such a long time with people I don't know.

Anyway, I started talking to the other European students while playing some table games based on proverbs. Then we started socializing and I told them something about me and about my interests, and so they did. This was very important for me. I've learned a lot of things of many different cultures and I had the opportunity to tell them something about mine. I think it's a good way to make us young people feel like we are all from the same country!

To develop this way, every group had to create something characteristic about their country. In my opinion that was the most interesting (and funny) part of the meeting.

Some groups explained the development of their nation from the birth of the UE till our days and it was curious how states so near could develop in such a different way. The little Bulgarians performed scenes in English about proverbs from their country, while the Finnish made a video.

We Italians decided to do something that we like to do: music and theater/acting. Our performance was a mix of them. (SEE THE OFFICIAL SITE FOR THE TEXTS “Johnny and the dustman, Il gatto e la volpe” [HERE!](#))

It was very exciting for me, for my friends and my teachers, and I think for ‘the audience too’. After that, speaking English started to be something like a habit for me, becoming a very useful practice, and I socialized with almost everyone who was there for the project. I am more or less the same age of the other people, so it was easy.

Another moment, that in my opinion was very important to know them better, was when the founders of the project organized a sort of treasure hunt in the city. It was an intelligent way to MAKE us communicate in a common language (even because the teams were formed by four people of different countries), and an excuse for exploring the main places and buildings in the city.

I think that the “hunt” was like a metaphorical way for the organizers used to help us understand that, if you want to achieve a common goal, you should cooperate with people who have the same objective. I think this is an ethic we all should adopt for the development of the UE.

Finally, this was a funny and helpful experience because I improved my English, I met a lot of fantastic people and I learned many things of the European culture I didn't know before.