

# W.A.T.E.R

## We all treasure elements and resources

### *Multilateral Comenius Project*

Let's look back in time. How was it like in Croatia  
and France ?

Impressions about the last two mobilities in Auxonne  
(17 - 24 November 2013) and in Durdevac (2 - 9 March 2014)



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# EDITORIAL

A humorist once said : one day God created the most beautiful country on Earth, with the nicest coastline, lofty valleys, majestic rivers, fertile plains and impressive mountains, and He decided to call it France. But there was a hitch as the other countries started complaining about the unfairness of the situation ; thus, so as to make up for His blunder and make things even, God created ... the French.

This is what came to my mind when I realized that we were going to be hosts in the 4th mobility of our project. And I wondered : "Have we got what it takes to welcome our partners and make them feel comfortable and enjoy their stay ? Will all our guests who have come such a long way to visit us go back home with fond memories of their week ?" Well, when I look at all the smiling faces on the photos, and when I remember the warmth of our relationships, I can say that everyone proved up to the mark. This is where the magic of a project like W.A.T.E.R. stepped in, and here is the formula : when someone who has left her/his homeland with an open mind and an open heart is received by another person with an eagerness to please and share delightful moments with her/his guest, well, when this is the case, then the meeting is bound to be a success. This is undoubtedly the greatest common achievement of this Comenius adventure, bridging gaps and creating lifelong bonds. Thus, a joyous atmosphere of friendship and good mood prevailed during the weeks in Auxonne and Durdevac, as it had already been the case in Brailà, Vouzela and Bursa, and everyone – students, parents and teachers alike – made one's best to turn each experience into an unforgettable time. So I would like to thank you all for your efforts and for letting your humane side shine through.

**DAVID TARNAUD**



# WHO TOOK PART IN FRENCH MOBILITY ?



# COMENIUS TEAM IN CROATIA





# IMPRESSIONS

## A FRENCH WEEK

As being a unique experience in my life, taking part in this project is definitely unforgettable. Staying in a foreign house for a week, with a foreign family, in a foreign country has helped me to see differences and to compare two almost distinct worlds, starting with religion, climate, culture and ending with daily routine or even clothes.

Receiving a hearty welcome, I found my hosts as being very friendly and generous; besides this, although the first day there was actually my birthday and I was not with my family, I really felt special because everyone told me “Happy birthday” and also because they made me a surprise with a chocolate cake on which “Bon anniversaire, Adriana!” was written. So, I spent my first day with the other participants of the project, visiting the French students’ high school and town. I noticed that their classrooms and laboratories are well-endowed with advanced technology and thus I was surprised by how much practice they do. I think this is one of the differences in comparison with my country.

During our stay in France, we had the opportunity to visit the amazing church watchtower, the famous wine-growing school and mustard factory, the interesting medieval hospital, Louis Pasteur’s birthplace or even the Arts Museum from Dijon. These were the moments when we found out some more information about the history of France and evidence for its fame.

Apart from these, we had the chance to talk to the other members of the project, share impressions, make new friends, have a lot of fun together when we worked in groups for editing some short movies with the subject of home water use or when we made the lipdub with the song “Shark in the water”; I totally loved that moment, mainly because I had never done something like that before. And, of course, I can’t forget the farewell dinner, an unforgettable party where we danced, sang, tasted French dishes and that unavoidably finished in a sadly way because our tears announced the end of the fourth meeting of the W.A.T.E.R. project.

To conclude, I really appreciated the attempt of the French people to make us feel as if we had been at home and though the weather did not support us when performing the established activities, the hosts made us forget about this. I am completely convinced that I intend to come back in France and meet again my friends there; moreover, I am going to take part in another Comenius project especially due to the fact that this is an opportunity to make friends in the whole world.

**Adriana – Romanian team**



# ABOUT FRANCE

It seems like yesterday the moment when we did the check in at the airport in Bucharest for our trip to France. I, for one, was very excited and curious to meet in flash and blood my correspondent's family as I had already pictured them in my mind given to Floriane's details about how her parents look like. Needless to say, I could hardly wait to see Floriane again .

From the very first day, I got an insight into a new culture with various and interesting traditions. I still remember the first lesson learnt about French people in the night we arrived in Auxonne: they always kiss each other's both cheeks when they say <<Bonjour>>. I also tasted the Burgundy cuisine including " les escargots"( snails), "les grenouilles"(frogs) and "le pain d'épices"( spice bread) ,which were, surprisingly, delicious. In addition, I have enlarged my music playlist with pop French songs. In what concerns the weather, as Floriane used to say, we experienced all the seasons in just one week: fog, rain, snow and warmth inside our homes.

Comenius project offered us the opportunity to meet people from different countries and we definitely made the best out of it. We created inter-cultural bonds which are due to last and I am sure one day we will meet again ( we have already started to save money in labelled jars for our future journeys) . Last but not least, we all have acknowledged the importance of water in our lives and the complexity of water systems which exist under each city.

To put it in a nutshell, there are no words to describe how amazing this trip was. I fell in love with the medieval narrow streets and gothic architecture. I was surprised by the variety and multitude of items available in shops and I was extremely amused by our effort in shooting a video during the lipdub session. I will never forget Auxonne and the people I met there.

**Andreea Huiu – Romanian team**

## FOND MEMORIES OF FRANCE

The aftertaste of our trip to Auxonne that still lingers equals that of the mature red wine that we had the chance to taste there. The newly-gained experiences tingle our memory with the powerful aromatic appeal that characterises the Burgundian Pinot Noir.. It was an educational and yet entertaining journey that appeased the curiosity of a stranger who wished to learn more about the region. During the visits to the mustard factory and the wine –growing school in Beaune we learned a lot about these two famous staple products and their line of production. On the other hand, the visits to the medieval hospital and the Louis Pasteur's birthplace and lab in Dole bridged the past and the present and enlivened decades of history. We also tasted the local cuisine and enjoyed the hospitality of the French colleagues who took pains to show us around, guide us at the church watchtower in Auxonne or the Arts Museum in Dijon and accompanied us in our meetings with the local authorities. Above all, we would like to thank our colleagues David Tarnaud, who impeccably organised the mobility and Stephanie and her wonderful family who received us at their home, cooked for us and gave us another aspect of the French, or should I say an alternative, way of living.

**Christina Axaopoulou – Yannis Iatridis (Greek Team)**

# IMPRESSIONS

## TRIP TO AUXONNE

How can we put into words the amazing experience we had in Auxonne. We had so much fun, learned so much, interacted with such wonderful people. All our expectations were exceeded.

The warmth welcome made us immediately feel amongst friends and throughout the visit this feeling of kindness and friendliness was present at all times.

Despite the cold, cold weather, every day brought a very unique memory: the visits to Auxonne, Dole, Beaune and Dijon allowed us to enrich our cultural portfolio; the time spent with the other teams, especially during the meals, made us more aware of the similarities, differences and oddities about the countries present there. We enjoyed conversation exchanging times, the immersion on a different landscape: the architecture, the language, the gastronomy, the traditions,...

Our French experience(s) were truly unique: first in Marie's house then in Odile's home: they made us feel as part of their families (and what lovely families they have!) and introduced us to some of the French cuisine: "Tartiflette" and "Cassoulet". By the way, "Kir" became our favourite drinking experience!!!

The farewell dinner was the pinnacle of a truly perfect experience.

Everything was wonderful! And David, you were an EXCELLENT host!

**THANK YOU!**

**THE PORTUGUESE TEACHERS : PAULA CERVEIRA JESUS, ANA CATARINO, CRISTINA MARQUES**



**MY VIEWS ABOUT COMENIUS WEEK IN AUXONNE, FRANCE**

Hello, I am Băluță Ciprian and I want to share with you my views about an awesome week spent in Auxonne, France. It was a wonderful week, despite the bad weather which I didn't even notice.

The French people from this multilateral project, were awesome, their families were very warm and took us under their roof with a big warm heart. I have only good words about this people.

We saw a lot of very nice places and tourist objectives, like the Notre-dame Church from Auxonne, the room of Napoleon Bona

parte from the barracks, when he was the commander of that military objective.

We visited the wine-growing school of Beaune where we learned how wine is made. At the Fallot mustard factory we had some real fun learning how mustard is made.

We had to do some videos about how we should use water, and not to waste it, because this was our theme, WATER. We had a lot of fun shooting the videos, and every team had their own crazy ideas. I was Gandalf the Grey/Black and I told everybody how they SHOULD NOT WASTE WATER.

We attended to some classes and I observed a huge difference between our school system and theirs. First of all, they have less stressful classes and they don't have so much homework as we have... Second of all, their baccalaureate exam is totally different from ours.

The differences appeared also in the society, in France everything is closed Sunday and Monday, when in our country everything is opened even Sunday.

As a conclusion it was a very nice week and I will have for the rest of my life some awesome memories about this week and I hope that in the near future I am going to see again all that awesome people, because they stole my heart.

**Ciprian Baluta – Romanian team**



# ABOUT FRANCE

## AN INTERNATIONAL HEART

It was a beautiful Sunday afternoon! The seagulls hovered in the air in the breeze of November and families of the city enjoyed the last rays of sunlight to stroll by the seaside when we embarked for this adventure. Well, I will stop with these impressionistic descriptions and focus myself into the reality. After weeks of anticipation and preparation, on the 17th November of the last year, we changed the Lusitanian lands by the Gallic ones to represent our school on the fourth mobility of the Comenius project - WATER!

We were hosted in Auxonne, a small but beautiful town in the Burgundy region, bathed by the river Saône. Their primary «ex-libris» are the Gothic cathedral of Notre-Dame and the barracks where Napoleon lived for four years and received his first military training. During the week, we had the opportunity to perform numerous visits not only in Auxonne but also in nearby towns. We dedicated a day to a trip to the town of Beaune where we visited a wine making school, one of the famous «Dijon mustard» factories and the medieval hospital, the latter being one of the most enduring hits of the week. We also had the opportunity to get to know, after a night of a big snowfall, the city of Dole, specially the birth-place of Louis Pasteur and its laboratories. The last day of «work», if we can call it work, was dedicated to meeting Dijon. We had a meeting in the administrative consul of Burgundy, we got to know in detail the network of storage and distribution of water in the city and we visited the Museum of Fine Arts, housed in the old palace of the Dukes of Burgundy.

But this trip served to me as an irrefutable proof that the beauty of a place is not in its landscape or monuments. The people are the ones who give it life and energy. We were extremely well received throughout the entire week. Personally speaking, I enjoyed all the visits but the relationships that I created with the young people who came from such different cultures but, in the end, shared similar ways of thinking and their feelings about life were similar to mine made this trip «magnifique». At any moment, I stopped a little, looked around and I realized that I was having lunch or dinner with young people, each one from a different country, and I felt in family. It was this sense of family that was constant throughout that week, that made it so special and certainly an experience that I won't forget soon!

Well, after a night of goodbyes, tears, promises of future meetings and a peaceful journey back to our «garden planted next to the sea», here we are again. We came, undoubtedly, richest persons, with a heart full of memories and grateful for this wonderful experience!

**José Luís Carvalho**  
Portuguese team



# IMPRESSIONS

I am very thankful for the chance to be one of the participant in the Comenius project team. With this Project I learned a lot of new things, information, met new people as well as make new friends from France. I have seen many beautiful places in a week which I would never forget. I found out that I like the French and France a lot. The people here were really very friendly and the families we stayed in were very hospitable. Now I know more about France- about their national and common food, habits, language, history, sights , .....

With the help of this Project I improved my English, especially the speaking part and I am really glad to say I could have taken part in that 2-year Project at school which made my 2 years at school interesting, enjoyable, and entertaining.....

I will also miss the teachers from France, too. Thank you David –French teacher for your kindness.

**ADNAN GÜVEN YÜZEL – STUDENT**

A team consisting of five, teachers and students from our school – Yıldırım Beyazıt Anadolu Lisesi - Bursa TURKEY , had the great opportunity to go to France , as a part of Comenius activity.

All the participants from the countries involved in the Project arrived in Auxonne 17th November 2014. The whole week was really rewarding as we had the chance to go sightseeing around the host-school area , visit many interesting places around Auxonne , take a visit to the Pasteur's lab where the students had the chance to make a research, the medieval hospital and the museums and the visit to the Local Authorities and their way of welcoming us were really impressive.

Our Project meetings proved to be as interesting as the visit. Our partners involved in the Project shared their ideas, thoughts and future plans with us and all together and we decided to continue the Project in the same note of responsibility, common interest and true friendship. Each team presented the activities developed so far and the outcomes of those activities , learning ones from the others and making future plans together.

Our three students , hosted in their French families, not only shared this multicultural experience but also had the opportunity to use the language they learn at school for real communication. They really get on well with students of the partner teams and they enthusiastically participated in all the activities organized with

pleasure.

I was fascinated by everything that happened around me and I will tell everybody that France is such a place with hospitable people inside. Thanks to David - the very gentle and hospitable man- who got us to experience a very unforgettable evening with his family.

**CEMIL KARAOĞLU - TEACHER**

I am very happy I could be a part of Comenius Project. I got a lot of experience with the Project. I have met with a lot of people with whom I am still in touch . This Project helped me to improve my English especially my speaking . I have visited many beautiful places and cities all around the host city. I have learned a lot of things about this country, its culture, history, traditions and habits. These two years were very good and important for my future life because it gave me a lot of experiences which are important for my future life. It is very different to live in native families and try their real life and just visit the country.

Such European projects are connecting us. Thank you Comenius Project.

**ALIZE DAĞDEVİREN – STUDENT**

I enjoyed all the activities that we did in France .I really like this country. Thank you Comenius Project for giving me the opportunity to meet all these people. I'm so happy. And thank you so much to my host family. I hope I can go back one day. France's history is amazing and I would like to go to France again on holiday with my family.

These memories will be forever written in my mind. I'm so happy that I had the opportunity to visit France, a special country for me with so many different cultures. And I also feel so lucky that I made lots of best friends.

**MELISA AYYILMAZ - STUDENT**



# ABOUT FRANCE

## **I LEFT MY HEART IN AUXONNE**

Being part of the Romanian delegation for the 4th Mobility of the Comenius Project W.A.T.E.R. in Auxonne, France was one of the loveliest experiences I've ever had. I can honestly say that it was a delightful journey, broadening my horizon and influencing me on so many different levels.

To begin with, it is well-known that France has a lot to offer when it comes to sightseeing. Auxonne is a relatively small, but tremendously beautiful town of the Burgundy region, situated on the banks of the river Saône. On the first day we visited the host town, which has a unique charm induced by the narrow streets and gothic architecture, especially on foggy days (of which we had quite many!). Our visits included the Artillery School where Napoleon received his first training, the wine-growing school of Beaune, the Fallot mustard factory, the Hospices de Beaune (former charitable almshouse), Louis Pasteur's birthplace, the Conseil Régional de Bourgogne and last but not least, the Arts Museum of Dijon. As it's clear to see, our schedule was pretty compact. There was a constant flow of information which kept our curiosity alive during the whole trip. However, what impressed me the most was La Chouette (the owl - icon of Dijon), sculpted on the side of the Notre-Dame church. The story says it can grant you a wish when you touch it with your left hand. Whether it's true or not, I'm keeping my fingers crossed anyway.

Still, a place is never just about the landscape. It is the people that make it special. It's people that give a place its specific vibe and energy. I can wholeheartedly say I have met truly wonderful people in France. Although I am normally a quite soft-spoken person, they succeeded to make me open up and I believe we built really strong friendships in the limited amount of time we disposed of. What I particularly enjoyed were the music classes, where we had the chance to sing in a choir along with a local band. Speaking of music, I think that creating a Lip Dub for the song 'Shark in the Water' was a really fun idea, which encouraged our creativity and made us a stronger team at the same time. Another special moment was the Farewell Dinner from the last night. We danced, we jumped, we laughed, but we also shed tears at the thought of possibly never seeing each other again. Nonetheless, nobody left the place before being assured that we are definitely going to reunite

sometime, somewhere in the future. It was undoubtedly a night which I will always hold dear.

To put it in a nutshell, my opinion is that along with the understanding of the diversity of European cultures, languages and its value, there is a much greater goal we have accomplished: we created memories for a lifetime. If we are the sum of all people we have ever met, then I am dead certain I have returned as a much better person.

**CAMELIA DUMITRACHE – ROMANIAN TEAM**

The mobility to France was an extraordinary opportunity for the 3 students and 2 teachers of our school to spend unforgettable days with the other partners involved in the Project.

Visiting the partner school and two other schools (so far) of different levels facilitated our success to the Turkish educational system, thus realizing how education and instruction can go hand in hand with open-air activities, concern for the others and respect for water resources. The relaxed atmosphere in all schools visited is also illustrated by the lack of violence between students, which is a remarkable thing. We all had the pleasure to acknowledge the mutual understanding between students and teachers, the respect, trust and personal valorization between them.

The Project meeting emphasized what each partner had achieved so far and the personal involvement of students' parents and the community has been obvious all through the formal and informal activities. Using English as the community language of the Project enabled both students and teachers to improve their knowledge of English in sharing experience with the teachers and students from the other partner countries. The fact that the students stayed in their counterpart families enhanced the European dimension of our partnership.

We thank David and his family for their kind host of a "real and true French experience", their warm welcome and hospitality. We thank our kind hosts – teachers, students, and parents for their constant concern for us during our stay.

The friendship and warm feelings we have from all the people we met in France, as well as for our dear partners, will undoubtedly last forever.

Thank you France! Thank you Comenius!

**ÜLKÜ YILDIRIMLI – TEACHER**



# IMPRESSIONS

## TRIP TO DURDEVAC

Another mobility, another surprise!

So many similarities with the Portuguese landscape! We felt at home! The most striking resemblance was the hospitality of the Croatian people! Durdevac captivated us with its legend, the naïve art, the folk music, the traditional costumes, the monuments, the gastronomy,... but specially by its people! How generous and friendly they turned out to be!

All the visits played an important role in our project but our favourite was the visit to the Plitvice Park! It was memorable and the guide understood Portuguese.

Koprivnica, Zabreb and the other villages were very agreeable places to visit and the river “Drava” scenery was wonderful, especially the “Drava monster”! Every visit we made was accompanied by Croatian music: one more week and we would be able to sing along...!

We found the time the teams spent together the most enjoyable. We tried to teach several Portuguese words but our “hard work” was not successful!

In the end everything turned out to be the most memorable experience.

Anja you were such an energetic and humorous host! Thank you! And all of the Croatian teachers involved in this project were also excellent hosts. Thank you very much for your kindness and availability!

**The Portuguese teachers : Paula Cerveira Jesus, Ana Catarino , Maria dos Prazeres Figueiredo**



My trip in Croatia with Comenius was an extraordinary experience and a big opportunity to participate at this project. Thanks to Comenius I overcame my fear of the planes. I'm very happy to have met so many people of different countries. The Croatians are very friendly and sociable. I liked the program of this week especially the visit in the National Park in Plitvice and the visit in Zagreb on the Saturday with my teachers. I learnt some Croatian words with my host family and I created many connections with all the members of this family. When I arrived in Croatia I felt an incredible feeling of happiness because I realized that “I was in Croatia for the Comenius Project, which was amazing”. If I had to do it again, I wouldn't change anything except for the duration of the trip. I want to return in Croatia to see my host family and I want to see again all the people of Comenius. If I could go again now in Croatia I would do that IMMEDIATELY !! I'll never be grateful enough towards the teachers who enabled me to live such an experience in Croatia.

**Lea Pereira – French team**

# ABOUT CROATIA

This week in Croatia was wonderful! I am happy because I chose this country for Comenius Project. I discovered beautiful places, a great country, I met lovely persons, and I made an unforgettable trip! It was an enriching experience that I am glad to have lived. I loved to speak English with foreign partners. There was a very good atmosphere between us, and I won't be able to forget this week among Croatians and other partners.

I'm extremely lucky because my partner was an amazing girl. I learnt lots of things with her, and she finally became my best friend after these moments together. Her family was lovely with me, I felt well in their house. They were welcoming, generous and very friendly. As for students, they were so funny, very nice, clever... I loved to be with them!

Thanks to Comenius Project, I could discover a new country, a new culture, a new language. It was very interesting. If I could do it again, I wouldn't hesitate! I would catch a plane in order to meet them once again!

My English is better than before now. It was a pleasure to speak English each day... I sometimes think in English.

**Noémie Fevre – French team**

The week spent in Croatia represents for me an unforgettable experience. All this time I met new people, new habits and traditions and most importantly, I improved my knowledge. Every day we had educational activities about water use and the most beautiful water connection was the trip at Plitvice Lakes where wonderful waterfalls were delighted us.

With regard to plant and animal diversity, we found out that the area of the Plitvice Lakes belongs to the most significant areas of Croatia and a great number of these plants and species is protected by law. In addition we discovered that the National Park is heavily forested, mainly with beech, spruce and fir trees, and features a mixture of Alpine and Mediterranean vegetation.

How about people, I think that Croatian people are very special, honest and educated and I noticed this when I made new friends who were not necessarily involved in Comenius project. On the other hand, they are very smart and good in maths, physics and English too. Together we measured the flow of a river, we learned a few things about the flora of each country involved in the project and share some conclusions.

In the end I can say in Croatia everyone was nice to me, especially Anita and her family who were the best

hosts! They were so funny, friendly and treated me like I was their daughter. I hope to keep in touch with all of them and who knows... maybe we will meet again someday.

**Georgiana Gidiuta – Romanian team**

In my opinion the week which I spent in Croatia was the best week of my life. The Croatian atmosphere made me feel at home. I have a lot of friends there with whom I speak daily and we have a strong relation of friendship. I was pleasantly surprised by the warmth with which I was received and my host family was great and the host family made me feel at home and they have been for that wonderful week my parents and siblings.

In conclusion I love Croatia and Croatian people and I hope that in this summer I will go there because my friends are there and now I miss that week.

**Lazar Sabin – Romania**

In my opinion the week which I spent in Croatia was the best week of my life. The Croatian atmosphere made me feel at home. I can say that this experience has changed my life, because I realized how important it is to communicate and to make new friends. This project it was not only about water, it was about friendship, team working and a new „family”.

Now I can say that Croatia is my second home. I am sure that I will never forget this wonderful experience.

The participation in this kind of project is very important because you learn a lot of things that will help you in life.

In conclusion I love Croatia and Croatian people and I hope that in this summer I will go there because I miss that moment when I was with my new friends.

**Andrei Vasile - Romania**





# IMPRESSIONS

Our hearts must have doubled in size since the beginning of this project because we have been exposed to so many pleasant moments and so much good vibes in each mobility. This trip to Croatia didn't fall short of our expectations as it was another opportunity to discover a great place and live some moments which we will hold dearly. Zagreb was a surprise for us as we discovered a human-friendly capital, living at a pace we were not used to. But the mobility started in earnest when our host picked us up at our youth hostel, and from this moment on, we came across numerous people whose willingness to make us discover their culture and traditions was so moving, whose eagerness to make us taste their excellent food was a pleasure.



The whole week went on so fast that the moment to be parted came too soon. A painful time it is, but let's look at the bright side of life and find comfort in the belief that these tears are the mark of an unforgettable experience for everyone.

The French teachers : Odile Labaune, Chrystelle Rigaud, David Tarnaud.

## IMPRESSIONS ON CROATIA

My trip to Croatia was really the best week of my life. It enabled me to meet a lot of new friends. Indeed it was great. It was an eventful stay and a cool experience abroad. The trip taught me about a new way of life. It gave me some new qualities like tolerance and more open mindedness. And I shed a lot of tears at the end !

**Ninon BEIGENGER**

Croatia..... It is a country which reminds me a lot of good things to me. It is a place where I spent the best time of my life. I'll always remember your kind-heartedness, friendliness and hospitality. I'm sure we'll meet again one day! As if it were yesterday I remember so clearly my flight to Croatia. It was a two-hour flight by airplane with a lot of dreams about the nearest future, about the seven days of my life, which I was going to spend not as usual. When we arrived at Zagreb airport we saw some people with smile on their faces. They were our Project partners. It was a nice surprise. Together we waited for the Portuguese team together and during this time we had lots of time to talk at a table at the airport. Time passed very fast and soon the Portuguese team arrived and together we drove to Durdevac. When we arrived at the hotel there was another big surprise waiting for us. Nearly all the Project team and parents with the host teachers were waiting for us with a cake and candles. It was our English teacher's birthday 2nd March and they remembered that. It was exciting.

The seven days we spent in Durdevac were the best adventure to me. Everybody was nice to us. All teachers and students were so cool. I can not forget when we went to their classes they tried to translate everything which are said there.

I'd like to go there again and see my friends again. I miss everybody! We had fun there and I'm sure that if we met again we will feel wonderful together!

**AYÇA ÇOLAK – STUDENT**



# ABOUT CROATIA

It is quite difficult to summarize in a few paragraphs everything we experienced during this week at the meeting in Croatia. However, there are some aspects that must be part of our impressions.

The visit to Croatia was a wonderful experience for all of us. We had such an extraordinary time with our Project team from France, Romania, Greece and Portugal. We really felt like “at home”, surrounded by friends, who made sure we could experience great places, food and activities.

We have discovered a new country and what a country! So friendly, welcoming and warm. It was also a travel in the past; thanks to the old stones, castles, churches and the “picock”. The picock was the real sign Turkey and Croatia had many things in common in the past.

The visit to Durdevac- Croatia was an unforgettable experience with wonderful places such as ‘The Plitvice National Park’. We went there on a really rainy, windy and cold day, which let us forget the cold and feel the joy, warmth and the beauty. It has been established to preserve nature’s unique value where many lakes, waterfalls and the forest, fields meet each other. It is like a corner of paradise.

Comenius showed that active people from all around the world can organize their time and their interests in other cultures. But WE all showed that we care our planet and our future which we are creating together right now. We want to broaden our minds and break up with harmful stereotypes. We try to understand the world by understanding different nations and the dialogue is our best tool.

When given a choice of travelling to Croatia again we would definitely say, YES!!!

**ÜLKÜ YILDIRIMLI – TEACHER**

Our meeting Croatia was full of excitement, surprises. I like the culture, music and food. I was charmed by the warmth and hospitality of the Croatian schools. I was happy with our group of teachers and begin working with on the Project. Croatian teachers were full of joy and energy. Each

of the teachers made a lot of good in the Project. All the time we spent together were the most precious ones. Our hosts created a wonderful atmosphere with folk music, which induced us a good feeling for relaxation.

Thank you Croatia!!

**ALAATTIN DAĞDEVİREN – TEACHER**

Firstly, I’m so glad that I went to Croatia. My partner Nina and her family were very hospitable. I thank them from here because they welcomed and hosted me in the best way. Croatians are very friendly and they were always smiling and I love it. I didn’t feel like a stranger. People’s houses were close to each other so everyone knew each other and this is an amazing thing. It is a small town. Our partner school in Croatia was very nice because there are a lot of social activities to do and each student were enjoying themselves. I feel lucky that I participated in this Project and had the chance to see new places and meet foreign people. Learning about new culture was great. We have friends in many countries now and I’m so happy for that. I love Croatians and I want to go there again to see my friends.

**EZGİ KABACA – STUDENT**



# THE LIPDUB SESSIONS

A lipdub video was shot both in France and Croatia : music is said to bring people together. Well, it worked and added an extra opportunity to share some time as a group, regardless of our differences. Another fond memory ...



# Who's who

## FRENCH TEAM

**Name :** Hugo  
**Surname :** COSTA  
**Class :** year 11 (science)  
**Hobbies :** Football and magic  
**Personality :** I'm open-minded, I'm talkative and usually happy, I love meeting new friends, I like spreading joy, but... I always feel tired !



**Name :** Emilie  
**Surname :** Trenque  
**Nationality :** French  
**Age :** 16 y.o  
**Grade :** 11th grade  
**Interests at school :** I love english and French but I hate Mathematics.  
**Extra-curricular :** I'm passionate about dance and practise it on Monday, I hang out every week ends with my friend. I also love reading.  
**Personality :** I laugh all the time with my friends ! I'm a reliable and open-minded person. I think that I am very kind with people and I love meeting them. I'm curious and love discovering countries and new cultures.

**Name :** BEIGENGER  
**Surname :** Ninon  
**Nationality :** French  
**Age :** 16 years old  
**Grade :** 11th (science)  
**Interest at school :** At school, I like all the subjects but I prefer physics and chemistry.  
**Extra-curricular interests and activities :** I practise circus. I like going to the cinema with my friends. I love listening to music and reading books. I really like taking photo with my camera.  
**Personality:** I'm a kind person. I'm broad-minded and hard-working. When I am stressed I speak a lot that's why I am talkative.





# WHO'S WHO

## FRENCH TEAM



**Name:** Léa

**Surname:** Pereira

**Nationality:** French

**Age:** 16 (17 the 20 April)

**Grade:** 11th grade (Economics)

**Interests at school:** At school I like French, History, English, Spanish, Sport, Science and Art

**Extra- curricular interests and activities:** I'm fond of babies because I want to be a midwife, I love listening to music, taking photographs of babies, drawing, practicing sport especially riding bike and watching movies when I have the time.

**Personality:** I'm patient, cheerful, curious, hard-working, stressed and sociable. I don't like the conflicts with people. I think I'm so kind because some people abuse my kindness. I like to talk about politics especially with my parents. When I want achieve my goal I'm determined, motivated and I work hard to achieve this goal.

**Name :** Lucas

**Surname :** Guillermin

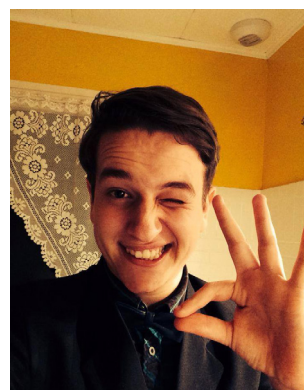
**Nationality :** French

**Age :** 16

**Grade :** 11th grade

**Interests at school :** I like English, French, History, Art and Spanish.

**Extra-curricular interests and activities :** I practise music three days a week (Voice lessons, music theory and musical culture). I really love singing, it's my passion. I also love to play the piano and I sing in a musical troupe called «Artist on stage». All these activities rhythm my life perfectly.



**Personality :** I think I'm fun, kind and nice. I really like my friends, there are marvellous ! I love going out and talking with them. I also like speaking and learning other languages and travelling. I'm tolerant and I don't like people who are not.

**Name :** Guenin

**First name :** Valérie

**Age :** 35

**Status :** teacher (Latin, ancient Greek, French)

**Family :** I live with my partner and my son who is almost four years old.

**Interests :** I'm fond of cinema, I like old movies as well as independent ones ; of course I like reading, especially novels and classic books ; I enjoy ballet dance that I have practiced for several years, and, even if it's painful, I like dancing with ballet shoes. In a general way, I like going out for a show : one of my greatest memories, my first ballet at the Opera Garnier (and the only one I have ever seen).



**Personality :** I'm quite reserved, a bit shy, but I can quickly become animated when the discussion gets passionate. I appreciate discovering new countries, and learning foreign languages to discuss with people. I really love my job, working with teenagers.

I am **LUMINITA MOCANU**, a teacher of English from Braila, Romania. I like travelling, reading, going to the gym. Have been teaching English for 16 years now, mainly students aged 11-19 at the National College 'Nicolae Balcescu' in my home city. I am really fond of everything that concerns English and my role in the project is as a translator, organiser (our coordinator sometimes thinks of me as an organizer freak) and editor. I am looking forward to doing the rest of the programme together.



## TEACHERS - ROMANIA



I am **CRISTIAN TONCEA**, a teacher of Computer Programming and Mathematics from Braila, Romania. I like travelling, reading and I like cars. Have been teaching Computer programming (algorithms and C++) for 17 years now, mainly students aged 11-19 at the National College 'Nicolae Balcescu' in my home city and I am the coordinator of our ECDL Center. I am really fond of everything that concerns ICT and my role in the project is coordinator and web designer of our project web page. I am looking forward to doing the rest of the programme together.

## TEACHERS - FRANCE



**My name:** Odile LABAUNE

**My age:** 49

**My status:** professor (biology and geology)

**My family:** married, two sons (20 and 18 years old)

**My interests and hobbies:** Orienteering, aikido, cinema, literature....

What can I say to let people know who I am ?

I can first say that I'm quite tall, with blond hair, that I like to wear simple clothes and shoes (you'll never see me with high heels). I also can tell you a few things about what I really like to do: watch movies (particularly old ones), travel to discover other ways of life, run in the forest with music in my ears, hike in nice landscapes, spend time with the people I like..... I have very important friends that I try to see every year, the distance doesn't matter. I also have a big and nice family (3 sisters, one brother, a lot of nieces and nephews).

That is to say that I 'm not a lonesome girl and that I don't mind leaving home for a few days or a few weeks....

I was about to forget an important thing: I can't survive without chocolate.

# W.A.T.E.R. Project will be back

## See you soon in GREECE...



The White Tower,  
Thessaloniki