



TOLERANCE AND EQUALITY PROMOTE KINDNESS

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2020-1-RO01-KA229-080207

NEWSLETTER

No.2

SAY NO TO STEREOTYPES





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Between May 16-20, 2022, a 32 students and 12 teachers from **Ion Holban Technical College - Romania**, **Vocational School of Nuclear Engineering "Igor Kurtcatov"- Bulgaria**, **Lazdijai Motiejus Gustaitis gymnasium - Lithuania**, **Istituto Omnicomprensivo Guglionesi" Guglionesi- Italia** and **Çarşamba Fen Lisesi- Turkey** participated in activity C3, the second transnational activity of learning for students, in Carsamba – Turkey, in Erasmus + K229 strategic partnership "Tolerance and equality promote kindness« (2020-1-RO01-KA229-080207), **funded by the European Community.**

The partnership brought together five European schools from **Romania** (coordinator), **Italy**, **Turkey**, **Lithuania** and **Bulgaria**.

The theme of the project meeting, "**Say NO to Stereotypical Thinking**," offered students multiple opportunities to share universal values of respect, tolerance, and empathy with those around them, even if they are different from each other.



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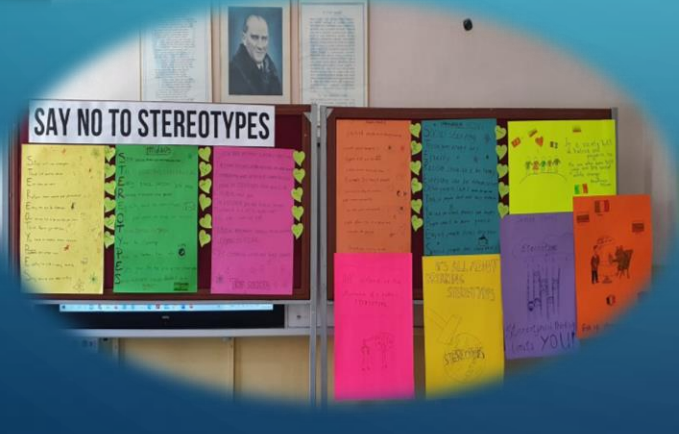
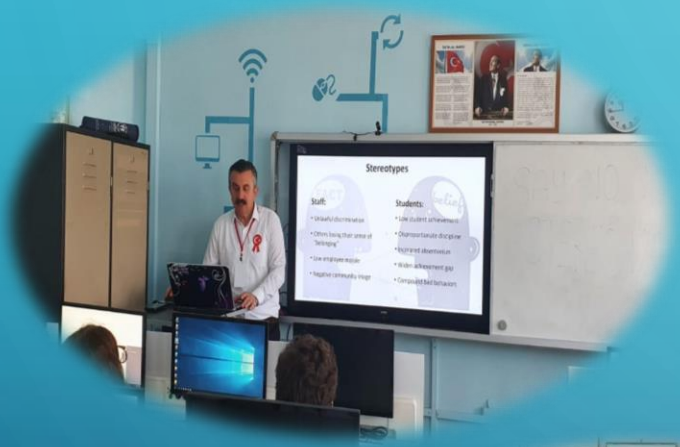
- The first day started with a visit to the host school, where the Turkish education system was presented, and the students were involved in activities of ice breaking. Afterwards, the students presented their own schools and their city.





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On the second day (17 May), the students participated in a workshop entitled "**Stereotypical Thinking and its Labels**", in which students, through role play and experiments, deduced and defined stereotypical thinking. To highlight the labeling, the students, divided into teams, created a short film (1-2 min) about thinking stereotypically and labels.





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On the third day (18 May), the **Turkish Cultural Festival** was organized - a presentation of traditional food and tasting. The students were again organized into mixed groups, with different names, and made a specific Turkish meal, and then were awarded prizes and medals to all.

After that followed **outdoor sports competition** between international teams including students from the target group.





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On the last day of mobility, the students organized a poster exhibition and briefly presented the films they had made in the previous days. As a sign of appreciation, they received participation **diplomas** and **Europass certificates**.

The diversity of activities, the broadening of the horizon of knowledge, the collaborative spirit and the cultural interaction are special learning experiences for the participants. They also enriched their language and digital communication skills. They realized that they all needed to be accepted, to be tolerant and empathetic, to work as a team and to help each other when needed.





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In this issue, we have interviewed with two students from Turkish team on the keywords of our Project like **tolerance**, **bullying**, **aggression** and **equality**



Leyla from Turkey

INTERVIEW 1

1. What does tolerance mean to you?

Without thinking about his/her religion, nationality, skin color, financial situation, political thought etc. if you are able to respect and love someone that means tolerance for me.

(Leyla/Turkey)

2. What helps us to be tolerant?

Learning about each other and our differences helps us to be tolerant.

(Leyla/Turkey)

3. What does bullying have to do with tolerance?

In my opinion "At the point where tolerance ends, bullying begins." (Leyla/Turkey)

4. What do you think about school bullying?

I think it is the one of the most dangerous kind of bullying. Because children are so emotional and their brains work more differently than adults. Just a word can affect a kid's life and how a kid looks at himself/herself. At that age children tend to believe everything others say. Because the children are so sensitive, a word or any kind of violence or bullying can damage their emotions deeply. And unfortunately this damage is not always reversible. So any kind of bullying is unacceptable. (Leyla/Turkey)

5. Why are some children not accepted by others?

There can be a lot of reasons but I think children are having trouble dealing with differences if they weren't raised in a respectful environment. For an example if a child never met with another child who has autism it will be hard to accept the difference. But I also think that there is nothing wrong with the child who is not accepted, the problem is the raising styles of the children who are having trouble with accepting. I believe that this problem is fixable with the help of education. Teachers and parents should help to kids to see the beauty of differences. (Leyla/Turkey)

6. Why do you think some children are mean with the little ones?

As human beings we tend to harm others when we take the power in our hands. When we think about children they are stronger than the little ones but they aren't stronger than adults. So they can't be mean to adults because they are not strong enough but their strengths are enough for the little ones. (Leyla/Turkey)

7. Why is it important to teach children to be tolerant?

Because being intolerant can affect the other's life deeply. And being tolerant helps us to look at life through new windows and learn about other's lives. It also helps us to understand each other and find the beauty of differences. So it's really important to start educating from young ages because it gets harder every day the child grows up. (Leyla/Turkey)

8. Does disagreeing with someone mean you're intolerant?

No, it doesn't. If you are expressing it without hurting the other's feelings there is nothing wrong with it. We don't have to agree on everything because we are all different. But we have to respect and to be tolerant. (Leyla/Turkey)

9. What is your opinion about bullying?

No matter what kind of bullying we are talking about it can affect a person's life deeply. It's a very important issue so measures should be taken about. (Leyla/Turkey)

10. What do you think about people who bully?

The people who bully are the ones who really need help in my opinion. Because when we look at the kids who bully we see that unfortunately most of them don't have a happy family environment. These kids don't learn how to love and they need to be loved. They choose to be bullies because that is what they saw and learned from their parents and it is not their fault. (Leyla/Turkey)

11. How many types of aggression are there?

I think there are two types of aggression: physical and emotional. (Leyla/Turkey)

12. How do you define aggression?

When you hurt someone physically that means you are aggressive but I think emotional aggression is the more dangerous one. And emotional aggression means "to hurt someone's feeling deeply and destroy someone's confidence" to me. (Leyla/Turkey)

13. What is your opinion on stereotypical thinking?

I actually know how it feels everyday and I also know how stereotypes can affect people's life. As a Muslim hijab girl, it's not always that easy to be a part of a social community. Not because of my religion or my thoughts because what others think about me. There is a stereotype about Muslim women like who always sits at the house, don't go outside without a man, an unsocial one who doesn't have any hobbies or interests, whose only job is to make house chores, who is oppressed to wear hijab by her dad or husband... If you know just a little about Islam you can understand how wrong this thought is. Yes, we all are different but it is not the thing that makes our lives harder that's the people with stereotypes in their minds makes it harder. And you can't imagine how hard it is to break stereotypes. (Leyla/Turkey)

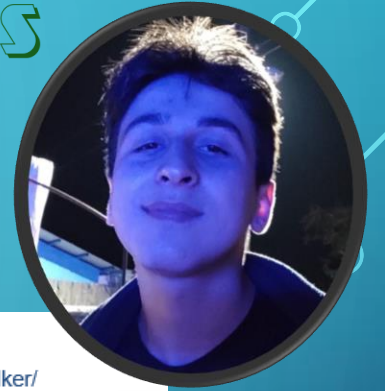
14. Do you think equality is a must?

I don't really think so because in my opinion equality is not always justice. When you are fair that means you are not looking from just one perspective and means thinking about all perspectives of a situation. I saw a photo in the internet about it and in that photo there were three kids who were trying to see the other part of the wall. One of the kids was tall, one was in the middle and the other one was short. In that case if you give the same chair to all kids to stand on that is equality but if you give the biggest chair to the shortest kid and the smallest chair to the tallest kid that is justice. That's why I believe to be fair is more important than to be equal. (Leyla/Turkey)



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İlker from Turkey

INTERVIEW 2

1.What does tolerance mean to you?

Tolerance means relationships between people to me. Thanks to tolerance, people treat each other with respect and get along well. (İlker/ Turkey)

2.What helps us to be tolerant?

Being tolerant helps us to be kind to all living things, not just humans. (İlker/ Turkey)

3. What does bullying have to do with tolerance?

Bullying spreads in environments where there is no tolerance, in fact, tolerance is the cure for bullying. (İlker/ Turkey)

4.What do you think about school bullying?

It is necessary to inform school bullying and those who do it because in schools the strong oppress the weak, which lowers people's self-confidence. (İlker/ Turkey)

5.Why are some children not accepted by others?

Unfortunately, in every society, there is competition between children, so children are in competition with each other even if they are not aware of it, which pushes them to bullying. In fact, all they need to learn is respect, equality and tolerance. (İlker/ Turkey)

6.Why do you think some children are mean with the little ones?

I think this is about families, when children can't find the self-confidence and respect they are looking for in the family, they try to get it by putting pressure on the weak. (İlker/ Turkey)

7. Why is it important to teach children to be tolerant?

Every child is easier to learn tolerance from childhood if every child learns to be tolerant stronger societies are formed. (İlker/ Turkey)

8. Does disagreeing with someone mean you're intolerant?

I think absolutely not, disagreeing with the other's opinion is not intolerance, not showing respect is intolerance. (İlker/ Turkey)

9.What is your opinion about bullying?

I think bullying is a very bad thing and every individual should be aware that it is bad. (İlker/ Turkey)

10. What do you think about people who bully?

I think bullies are bullies because of their own shortcomings, it may be a lack of tolerance, respect or love, if we correct this deficiency, there will be no bullying. (İlker/ Turkey)

11.How many types of aggression are there?

aggression; deliberately harm. Aggression can be verbal, physical or psychological. What matters is the intention. (İlker/ Turkey)

12.How do you define aggression?

Aggression includes intentionally harming, thinking about harming, ridiculing, ignoring, belittling, etc.(İlker/ Turkey)

13.What is your opinion on stereotypical thinking?

Stereotypes are stereotypes that have no scientific basis. (İlker/ Turkey)

14.Do you think equality is a must?

Yes, I think equality is a must, but equality alone doesn't always work. We must achieve equality with justice, if everyone is tolerant and equal in a fair way, our societies will develop and even people's inter-communal relations will improve. (İlker/ Turkey)