Transport Technological Highschool Razlog, Bulgaria

Prof. Petrila Claudia Ana

ERASMUS+ may be just a word for some, but for others it is an unforgettable experience. This is how I could sum up my participation in the *Students Actively Learning Entrepreneurial Skills* training programme held from 25th - 29th October 2021 in Razlog, Bulgaria. It is a first mobility with students and teachers from four other countries: Bulgaria – the host country, Czech Republic, Turkey and Belgium.

The theme of this programme was *Economy of Bulgaria and beginners in agriculture*. The five exchanges planned over a period of two years contribute to the professional and personal training of all participants, to the development of entrepreneurial mentality, creativity and critical thinking in new cultural and educational contexts.





The activities of this first mobility took place mostly at the host school *Transport Technological Highschool* and consisted of the welcome ceremony, introduction of all participants, school tour, and presentation of partner schools, mixed group workshops. On the other hand, there were cultural visits to Razlog, Bansko, Sofia and study visits to a local trout farm and an agri-pension.





All these activities were loved by the pupils and involvement in such projects is extremely beneficial for both pupils and teachers, and the community in general.

Transport Technological Highschool Razlog



It is a Bulgarian state school located in the town of Razlog. It is located in a valley between three mountains (Pirin, Rila, and Rhodope) in south-western Bulgaria. The school has the capacity to educate 500 pupils, but this year there are 250. The pupils are between 14 and 18 years old. In addition to the regular students, there are also part-time students who work and study at the same time. It is a multicultural and multi-religious society. There are sports clubs, language clubs and cultural heritage clubs at the school.



There is also a students' council and a parents' council. Some students come from low-income families with a low level of parental education. Some of the students commute daily by school bus. The teaching staff works closely with students' families, various organizations, NGOs and business sectors. Most students are motivated, hardworking and participate in regional, national and international events and competitions. Final year students do internships outside the school in business companies. Graduates receive the third professional level out of the four existing in Bulgaria. They can start their work immediately or continue their studies at any college or university in Bulgaria or abroad. Some of the students enter the labour market abroad; others work for foreign companies in Bulgaria. That is why studying subjects like English and Russian for the technical profile is very important for them. In the final year, they study technical English.