



WE ARE TOMORROW'S EUROPE

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Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
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- 3 years Erasmus+ project
- Students age 13-15 years old
- Participating schools:
 - Hultdalsskolan, Åby, Sweden
 - FEP - Bon Pastor, Barcelona, Spain
 - Budaörsi 1. Számú Általános Iskola, Budaörs, Hungary
- Aim: discuss and see how teenagers see the future of Europe.
- Topics:
 - Cultural heritage
 - Environment
 - Democracy and EU awareness
 - Social inclusion



CULTURAL HERITAGE



Around Europe there are many wonderful cultural heritage sites - monuments, buildings , towns, etc. Europe is very rich in traditions too. We must protect our cultural heritage because it is a legacy of our ancestors. It is the fruit of our history, our beliefs, our experiences ... it teaches us where we come from and gives us identity.

During the first term of the school year 2020-2021 we discussed about the importance of cultural heritage in our towns and countries. We shared our traditions and presented our most important cultural heritage sites.

Suggestions for maintaining and protecting cultural heritage:

- Introduce a European week within the EU once a year and launch a digital platform, where EU countries share parts of their cultural heritage. Schools should be urged to take part in this, for example by serving school lunches influenced by other EU countries' food traditions or by letting their students research traditions in another European country.
- Cultural heritage studies should be in the school curriculum, giving students a better knowledge of the traditions and the cultural heritage sites of their own regions and country.



Suggestions for maintaining and protecting cultural heritage:

- Give support to and emphasise the importance of letting students experience their cultural heritage, through field trips at school and having visits at school from organizations representing different aspects of cultural heritage.
- Around Europe there are many wonderful cultural heritage sites - monuments, buildings etc. The EU should take a greater economic responsibility in taking care of these when it comes to financing maintenance and restoration.



Suggestions for maintaining and protecting cultural heritage:

- Enable every citizen to experience their cultural heritage by lowering entrance fees. Sometimes many people from a particular place don't know their own cultural heritage, and visiting cultural sites tends to become more and more expensive as prices are thought for tourists rather than for local citizens. We ask for cheaper fees for neighbours and local citizens so that we have more access to culture and we can get to know our own cities and regions.



ENVIRONMENT

We are from the environment. All human beings, animals, trees and plants, weather... we are all contained within the environment.

It not only works to maintain balance in the climate, but also provides all the things necessary for life.

However, it is being damaged by human beings.



ENVIRONMENT



Furthermore, due to global warming, modernization, industrialization and the increased useage of technology, the environment has been negatively affected threatening the global human health.



ENVIRONMENT

During the second term of the school year 2020-21 we analyzed the current situation and challenges of environment in our countries. We also shared good practises about how we work about environment in our schools.

We agreed that as young European citizens we need to cooperate to save our environment and our future.



Suggestions on a European level on how to improve the environment:

- EU regulations are needed to make sure that environmental studies is included in the national curriculum of each EU country. Every pupil/student in the EU needs to be well educated in the area of environment and environmental challenges. We suggest that environmental studies should be a subject of its own even in young ages, rather than being included a little bit here and there in other subjects.
- In order to improve air quality, especially in big towns and cities, we propose European local councils to reduce motorised traffic, promote public transport, cycling, and pedestrian traffic. Cheaper fees are essential in public transportation.



Suggestions on a European level on how to improve the environment:

- The EU should encourage and challenge nations to increase the amount of green areas in cities. For example by setting a goal that a certain percentage of the city area or a certain number of square meters per inhabitant should be green. This should also apply to the countryside in order to prevent deforestation.
- The EU should encourage governments to promote the purchase and use of electrical cars by reducing the prices and providing more charging stations in every city and town.
- All European governments should give even more support to renewable energies promoting more solar stations and wind farms everywhere.



DEMOCRACY AND EU AWARENESS

Democracy as a form of government originated from ancient Greece and it is the current political system of most of the countries in Europe. The forming of the European Union was an act to ensure peace in Europe.

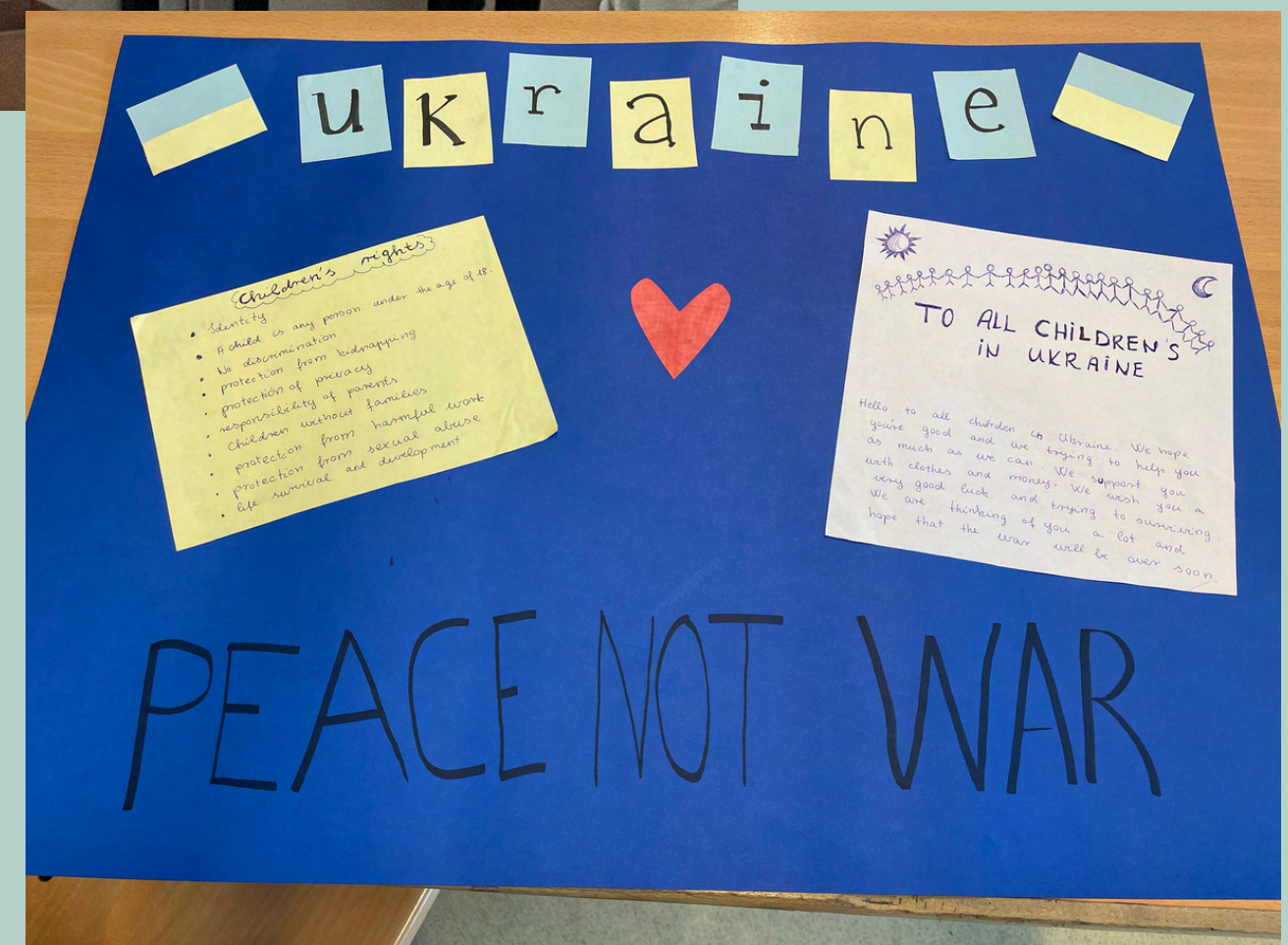
Therefore, the European Union plays an important role in supporting and mediating in conflicts all over the world being tolerance and acceptance its main values.



During the school year 2021-22 we studied the origin and meaning of democracy and all together in Hungary we performed a role play on the process of democratic elections.

We also discussed about the importance of civic engagement sharing good practises and examples of social participation in our schools , regions and countries.

Moreover, we sympathized with the Ukranian children through different activities in favor of peace.



Suggestions on democracy and civic engagement:

- Education is necessary to raise the knowledge about EU among young people. It should therefore be included in the national curriculums from an early start, to help children and teens understand the benefits and possibilities that comes with being a European.
- To reach teenagers one needs to be seen where teenagers are. It is therefore important with campaigns in social media to inform and encourage young people to engage in society and to promote those who do.





- Civic engagement in society is of great importance. The EU and national governments must do much more to promote and help companies, entities, organisations and volunteers who work for equality in society.
- Create school programs with projects including civic engagement and volunteer work and create networks where schools can share their projects and work with each other.
- Enable teenagers to take greater part in political decisions. If teenagers and young people are given bigger mandate in issues regarding for example their neighbourhood, it will most likely inspire them to engage in society.

SOCIAL INCLUSION AND EUROPEAN CITIZENSHIP

As individuals we are all alike in some aspects, but different in many others. Living as human beings on planet Earth, we should all appreciate our differences and see the potential in learning from each other rather than fearing and discriminating human beings based on their gender, sexual preferences, religious beliefs or disabilities.

We want the world, and Europe in particular, to be a place where everyone is welcome and where every individual makes their best effort in making others feeling welcome.

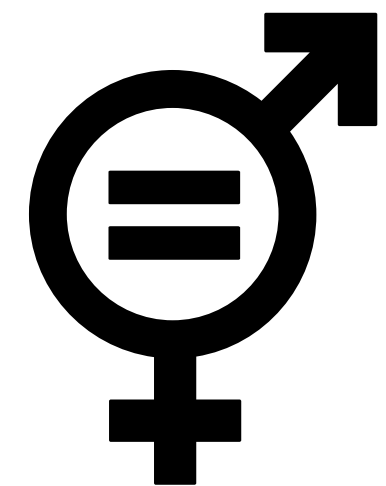


SOCIAL INCLUSION AND EUROPEAN CITIZENSHIP

During this school year 2022-23 we have worked about social inclusion. We have mainly focused on the following topics: immigration, equality, disabilities and LGBTI.



We have discussed and shared what is the current situation in our countries and wrote some proposals for a more welcome and tolerant Europe.



Suggestions on creating a Europe where everyone is welcome:

- Encourage cultural exchanges, language learning and intercultural training to increase mutual understanding between citizens of different countries and in this way promote respect and tolerance.
- Develop educational programmes that highlight Europe's common history, values and cultural heritage to promote a sense of collective identity. We claim for a EU identity mainly based on the values of democracy, equality and human rights.



Suggestions on creating a Europe where everyone is welcome:

- Develop community programs that promote social inclusion, such as community centers and youth clubs. Organize more entertainment possibilities such as concerts, theatre plays, exhibitions that enlightens diversity and its positive effects.



Suggestions on creating a Europe where everyone is welcome:



- **Develop wide range of policies to fight poverty and social exclusion, giving educational, housing and working opportunities to promote the social inclusion of specific groups, including children, women, immigrants, people with disabilities and the homeless.**

Suggestions on creating a Europe where everyone is welcome:

- **Creating a Europe where everyone is welcome requires a society where civic engagement exists. It is therefore a necessity to create a positive attitude within the population where we appreciate everyone's uniqueness and see possibilities rather than obstacles. EU parliamentarians and national politicians must lead the way and set good examples in this.**



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FEP BON PASTOR



Budaörsi 1. Számú
Általános Iskola



NORRKÖPING

Hultdalsskolan



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