

REDiC Newsletter



Erasmus+



A few words about REDiC

In general, a newsletter is a printed or electronic document containing information about the recent activities of an organization, sent regularly to the organization's members. In this case, the "organization" is an Erasmus+ strategic partnership between schools. In particular, the schools are from six countries: Austria, Greece, Lithuania, Portugal, Romania, and the Republic of Turkey. The

*project's title is **Responsible European Digital Citizens** and it is about the rational use of the Internet.*

Most people take many things for granted and they refrain from having second thoughts about them. In the case of the Internet, people consider that the Internet is just a communication medium when in fact it is much more. People do business over the Internet. Others use the Internet for their shopping and other people use the Internet for socializing with people both on-line and physically. And these are just some of the uses of the Internet. However, there are many bad uses. For instance, cyber-bullying is about the use of the Internet to remotely bully people. The aim of this project is to teach pupils how to behave when using the Internet and how to avoid things that may cause harm to them. It is an ambitious aim, nevertheless, one worth working for.

Each school has an Erasmus+ team and members of each team will participate in the 6 scheduled meetings. After each meeting, a newsletter will be published. This is the result of the first meeting that took place in Istanbul, 19–21 October, 2015. The meeting was hosted by "Ahmet Cuhadaroglu Ortaokulu" which is a school located in the Kağıthane area.

The first meeting was a teachers-only meeting. Teachers had the chance to better get to know each other. In addition, they selected the official logo of the project. The winning logo was designed by Ceyhun Garan, a pupil of "Ahmet Cuhadaroglu Ortaokulu". The next meeting will take place in Xanthi, Greece, 11–15 January, 2016.

— Apostolos Syropoulos

An Overview of the First Meeting

by AYLIN KIRIŞCI SARIKAYA

The first meeting of the Erasmus+ project “Responsible European Digital Citizen” took place in Istanbul, Turkey at October 18-22, 2015. Ahmet Çuhadaroğlu Middle School hosted teachers’ teams from Austria (Brigitte Nechansky and Renate Wachter), Greece (Ioannis Kontovos and Apostolos Syropoulos), Lithuania (Lilija Dailidaitė and Rima Tarasevičienė), Portugal (Susana Martins and Esmeralda Cruz) and Romania (Sorina Persinaru and Corina Ionescu).

The meeting started on Monday, 19th of October 2015 with the welcome ceremony. Mehteran (Historic Janisary Band) Band performed a nice

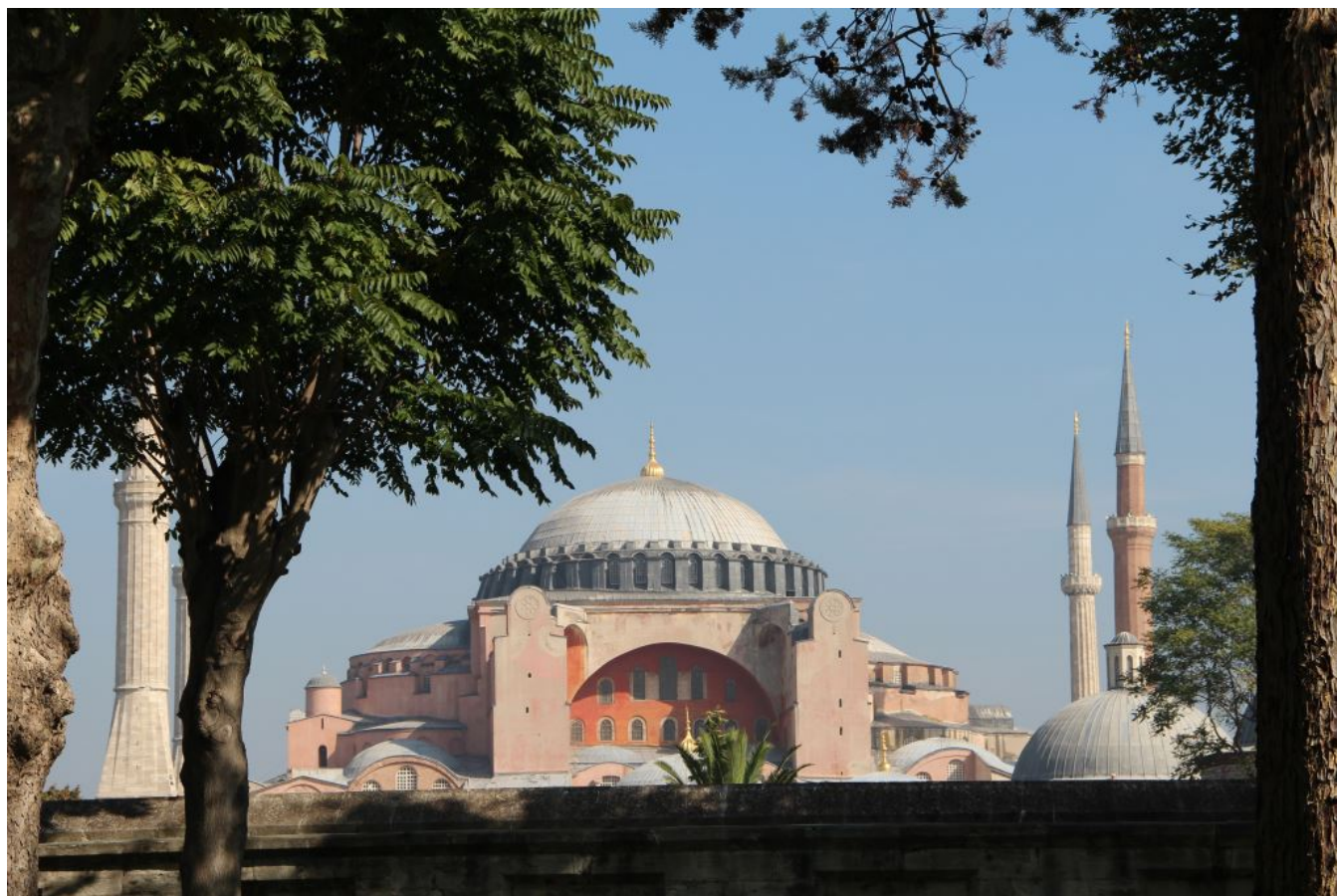
musical show. Guests watched the show in the school yard with the whole school, which has nearly 1600 pupils. The first day went on with introduction speeches and meetings about the first phase of the project.

In the afternoon, teachers visited the Mayor and the Education Directorate of Kağıthane district. The project, the objectives and the partners of the project were told and introduced to the local authorities.

The second and the third day were full of project meetings in the morning hours and visits to historical and cultural heritages of the city in the afternoons. The project logo was chosen among the participatory logo designs created by each partner countries’ students. The logo designed by Ceyhun Garan (a pupil from Turkey) has become the logo of the project. Partner countries visited different classes of the host school and had a chance to

get some information about the Turkish educational system and teaching methods. This class visits were also very helpful for the host teachers and the pupils, as they were provided with information about various European countries, education systems and teaching methods.

The farewell dinner was on the boat. Teachers went on a Bosphorus boat tour and had nice moments at the dinner time. A folk dance show and the fascinating night view of the Bosphorus shore enriched the last night. The first meeting was a nice start of this new Erasmus+ project. Partners met for the first time and got to know each other. They decided on the initial actions and activities; and the first newsletter of the two years long project was prepared in collaboration. Partners said farewell to each other with sincere wishes.



Hagia Sophia—The most significant monument of Istanbul.



Ceyhun Garan who designed the winning logo.



(a) After the welcome ceremony



(b) In the Blue Mosque



(c) In the school's library



(d) On the boat on Bosphorus

Figure 1: Photographs from our activities during the first meeting.