

## 5<sup>th</sup> INTERNATIONAL PROJECT MEETING IN DARMSTADT

10-14 December 2018

Project "Motivating young Europeans",  
number 2017-1-DE02-KA202-004129

The fifth meeting of the project partners was held from 10<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> December 2018 in Darmstadt. The coordinating institution of the project is vocational school HEMS (Heinrich-Emanuel-Merck Schule) in Darmstadt.

The meeting was organised by: HEMS (Heinrich-Emanuel-Merck Schule), IHK (Chamber of Industry and Commerce) and Merck KGaA (multinational chemical, pharmaceutical and life sciences company). Participants of the meeting included representatives of the following vocational schools:

- Istituto di Istruzione Superiore di Stato - Brescia, Italy
- PIKC Liepajas Valsts Tehnikums - Liepaja, Latvia
- Zespół Szkół Technicznych - Plock, Poland

Zespół Szkół Technicznych was represented by:

- Agnieszka Stanczyk-Jablonska – project coordinator
- Malgorzata Szczepanska – English teacher
- Aleksandra Jaskula – English teacher
- Tomasz Kicinski – deputy and VET teacher
- Jaroslaw Zoltowski – VET teacher.

The aim of the meeting was to discuss and test “Guideline for the company explorations” and to attend a two-day intercultural training.

On the first day there was a short workshop during which the participants discussed “Guideline for the company explorations” and prepared some questions to the companies that organise training for students. Later together with the students there was a meeting with the deputy mayor of Darmstadt. In the afternoon the teachers had a guided tour of Darmstadt. The guide was Bernd Schafer a former employees of the town hall in Darmstadt. Unfortunately the tour was stopped by heavy rain.

On the second day the participants visited the Technical University where they saw different departments and learnt how trainings are organised there because the university is like a company and organises training for vocational schools students. After the visit there was a meeting with 2 people responsible for vocational education and training at the University. There was a discussion about the dual system of VET education in Germany.

Project participants had also an opportunity to attend a 2-day intercultural training during which they had a simulation game which showed how we welcome and treat guests. There was a discussion what culture is and about concepts connected with it: intercultural communication, tolerance.

To get to know the culture and traditions on one evening we had dinner in a hut at the Christmas Market. We tasted traditional “Wurst” and hot “Rotwein”.

In one evening there was a huge dinner party in the Auerbach Castle. We climbed the tower and admired the panoramic view by night. Before the dinner there was a knights competition in which one of our students took part. Later there was a knights banquet with 7 dishes served in the same way as in the Middle Ages.

On the last day of the project meeting all the participants went to Merck KGaA to evaluate the meeting, discuss about the next meeting and a learning stay in Plock in April 2019. Project coordinators discussed the project budget, tasks and responsibilities of each partner country for the next meeting. At the end they filled in online meeting evaluation form. The results revealed that the meeting had been organized perfectly and had met everybody’s expectations.