



## Thematic Conference Learning, teaching, exchanging – school cooperations in the Danube Region



Am 14. und 15. Juni 2018 fand zum bereits siebten Mal die eTwinning-Donauraumkonferenz unter dem Titel „Learning, teaching, exchanging - school cooperations in the Danube Region“ in Wien statt. Die Veranstaltung entstand in Kooperation zwischen der Nationalagentur Erasmus+ Bildung, der österreichischen eTwinning-Kontaktstelle und dem Bundesministerium für Bildung, Wissenschaft und Forschung, welches den Prioritätsbereich 9 der EU-Strategie für den Donauraum koordiniert. Zum Thema der Konferenz passend wurde für den ersten Tag das auf der Donau liegende „Bertha von Suttner Schulschiff“ als Veranstaltungsort gewählt. Der zweite Tag fand in den Räumlichkeiten der OeAD-GmbH statt.



Insgesamt nahmen 50 Lehrer/innen aus 11 Ländern der Donauregion, die Schüler/innen zwischen 11 und 19 Jahren unterrichten, an der Veranstaltung teil. Durch eTwinning-Plus waren auch heuer wieder Lehrer/innen aus Moldawien und der Ukraine dabei.

Ursula Panuschka, die Leiterin von Erasmus+ Schulbildung und eTwinning Österreich, eröffnete die Konferenz und begrüßte die Teilnehmer/innen gemeinsam mit Harald Schwarz, dem Direktor des Schulschiffs. Im Anschluss erfolgte eine Keynote durch Jürgen Schick vom Bundesministerium für Bildung, Wissenschaft und Forschung, der über die EU-Strategie für den Donauraum, insbesondere im Kontext der Bildungscooperationen, referierte. Danach stellte Frederic Bayersburg von der Nationalagentur Erasmus+ Bildung die Grundzüge von Erasmus+ für Schulen, eTwinning und School Education Gateway vor. Nach anschließenden Aktivitäten zur Partnerfindung hatten die Teilnehmer/innen dann Gelegenheit, im Rahmen von Arbeitsgruppen mögliche Projektthemen zu definieren und in weiterer Folge zu konkretisieren. Der interkulturelle Austausch wurde beim Abendprogramm – einer Stadtführung und eines Heurigenbesuchs – erfolgreich weitergeführt.



Der zweite Konferenztag wurde von Stefan Zotti, dem Geschäftsführer der OeAD-GmbH, eröffnet und stand ganz im Zeichen der Finalisierung der Projektideen durch die Teilnehmer/innen. Nach der Präsentation eines Best-Practice Beispiels durch Elfriede Maier von der Don Bosco HLW in Vöcklabruck und den Schulungen zur eTwinning-Plattform für Anfänger/innen und Fortgeschrittene, hatten die Teilnehmer/innen ausreichend Zeit Ihre Projektideen zu finalisieren und auf der eTwinning-Plattform zu registrieren.

Die diesjährige Donauraumkonferenz war ein großer Erfolg. Insgesamt konnten 12 Projekte neu gegründet werden, wobei alle 50 Teilnehmer/innen in zumindest einem Projekt involviert sind.

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**Liste der neu gegründeten eTwinning-Projekte:**

#	Project title	Countries	Description
1	Save our place from plastic	Germany Ukraine Austria Bulgaria	The idea of the project is to enhance students' awareness about the plastic problem and to learn how different countries find solutions to it. There will be live conferences, questionnaires and at the end the students will organize a campaign for collecting plastic garbage.
2	My region-your adventure	Slovakia Slovenia Bulgaria Czech Republic Austria	The project focuses on presentation and comparison of cultural heritage in the participants' countries, especially their regions. Students will present, communicate, explore natural, tangible and intangible cultural heritage and discuss the meaning of its preservation.
3	Show me your CULTURE	Slovakia Czech Republic Germany Austria	Cooperation where students teach other students about their region also through practical activities (Mystery Skype; videos – how to make...; eBook; Quizzes...) and they at the same time learn about the region of the other country (region) – music (folk songs); dress (folk dress); national cuisine; hairstyle; buildings and interesting places. (how they did hairstyle in the past/how they combed their hair in the past)
4	Our plastic world	Austria Slovenia Germany	Raising awareness of the shocking importance of plastic in our lives. Is it even possible to live without (or a small amount) of it? Showing ways of how we can minimize our plastic waste. Doing research in our very specific subjects.
5	The First World War - different countries, different perspectives?	Austria Germany	In the end, students should be able recognize similarities and differences of everyday life experiences in different European countries during the First World War. The aim is to strengthen the historical competence of multiperspectivity.
6	Inclusion is not an illusion	Slovakia Austria	To show that integrated pupils can improve their skills through the support, special individual approach and good methods and strategies at school. Apply new teaching strategies, individually focused on integrated pupils to improve their learning skills, build their self-confidence and positive motivation for learning.
7	"Yes or no?" – strengthening democracy	Austria Hungary	By the end of the project students will preferably improve their social and political skills; also their reasoning techniques should develop.

<b>8</b>	European cooperation through competition	Austria Slovenia Czech Republic Slovakia	The project is based on improving basic knowledge of European countries. Students use fun online learning platform "Kahoot" and Twin space to learn, compete and communicate. They will improve their ICT skills through making their own Kahoot quizzes and practice their English language speaking and writing skills. By competing they will learn about Europe and its diverse culture and heritage. The general topics will include themes as: national flags, capital cities, famous sights and important personalities of all the European countries [including European departments e.g. Martinique].
<b>9</b>	Our garden, our world	Croatia Moldova Austria	The project is intended for schools that have their own garden or are near the park. The students will share information about the kinds of trees, shrubs and plants that exist in their school garden. Students through contact with nature will develop their ecological behaviour and raise their awareness of preserving nature
<b>10</b>	AHU Games	Austria Hungary Ukraine	To learn about the free time activities of pupils. To teach each other traditional games replacing the overuse of technological devices. To implement these activities into everyday life in and outside the school. To make school children aware how important these games are to keep up social contacts. To develop the pupils' ICT and language skills. To give pupils a new insight into different cultures.
<b>11</b>	Cultural Heritage Exchange	Serbia Moldova Croatia Hungary	Students will make presentations about their schools, their hometowns. They will also make a research about the country's cultural heritage and exchange the results with the partners, in a graphic organizer. This way they will be able to learn about each other's cultural heritage. The knowledge acquired will be reflected in the results of a quiz and presented in a closing ceremony on the European Day.
<b>12</b>	New learning and teaching methods supported by different learning spaces	Austria Slovakia Hungary	