

YOUTH ENGAGEMENT FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE & INCLUSIVE CITIZENSHIP IN EUROPE

ERASMUS+ YOUTH MOBILITY
2024-1-FR02-KA151-YOU-000214174

2 - 8 DECEMBER 2024, ARGOS (GREECE)

REPORT



Co-funded by
the European Union



RÉGION
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PROJECT

ORGANISATION

[Ligue de l'Enseignement \(France\)](#) is a secular movement for popular education, offering educational, cultural, sporting and leisure activities. It aims to guarantee access to education for everyone and further promotes a secular society, solidarity among citizens and active citizenship, secularism. The movement defends an idea, based on equality of rights; facing transformation of French society into a multicultural society.



The NGO [Ligue de l'Enseignement Nouvelle-Aquitaine \(France\)](#) – LENA - is the regional union of 12 federations. It is affiliated/member to the confederal centre Ligue de l'Enseignement and shares the same aims:

- Training responsible citizens,
- Fighting against all inequalities,
- Building a fairer and more independent society.

LENA is involved in the many fields of permanent education that allow democratic progress and the full exercise of citizenship. The NGO is composed by 4 departments:

- Professional Training,
- Cultural actions,
- Holidays camps & Leaders training,
- Development of regional activities (Fields : Education, Youth, Digital, European programmes KA1 and KA2)

LENA has an initial and historical vocation, youth, whether or not they are in a school environment and at all stages of its development. It seeks to promote the civic education of young people, their ability to live together and to take responsibility, to get involved in their area of life. It is therefore involved in:

- The field of popular education,
- The local development framework,
- The domain of citizenship and engagement,
- The field of animation of its network to develop and promote measures in favour of young people.

Its action aims to:

- Propose and pool tools to facilitate the implementation of projects;
- Facilitate meetings between young people and youth public policy actors;
- Set up spaces for exchanges between young people on their practices and their projects;
- Stimulate a regional dynamic and pool resources both between committed young people and between the various partners;
- Mobilise young people around social commitment from a dynamic system that involves young people in its implementation.

The NGO wishes to give all young people the same opportunities to build themselves, succeed in their educational path and personal, to integrate socially and professionally, to emancipate, to be autonomous and to become citizens.



CONTEXT

Accredited Erasmus+ in the youth field since 2022, LENA develops European mobility for the young people in its network. In [2022](#) and [2023](#), mobility for young Europeans has been integrated into "[Les Jeunes Néo-Aquitains s'Engagent](#)" meeting, an annual event that LENA organises since 2017.

In 2024, in order to develop the partnership between the European youth structures that worked together in 2022 and 2023, LENA proposed to [Learning Seeds \(Greece\)](#) to host the youth exchange. So, Learning Seed organised logistics (local travel, accommodation and meals) and co-constructed the programme of the youth exchange in collaboration with LENA.



YOUTH EXCHANGE

The project was

- supported by [Erasmus+ programme Youth and Sport \(France\)](#) and [Nouvelle-Aquitaine Region](#)
- implemented by [Ligue de l'Enseignement Nouvelle-Aquitaine \(France\)](#) and [Learning Seed \(Greece\)](#)
- developed in partnership with [Lunaria. \(Italy\)](#) and [Associação Recreativa e Cultural Juventude de Vila Fonche \(Portugal\)](#)

PARTNERSHIP

The 4 partners are involved in the organisation and development of Erasmus+ European youth programmes. For this 3rd collaboration, the partners wanted to develop their partnership in order to revitalise it and ensure its continuity, but also to improve their professional practices in youth work and diversify the local, regional and national issues. The main aims were to :

- Strengthen partnerships and collaborate on projects and exchanges of practice
- Promote intercultural education to strengthen mutual understanding and cooperation between young people from different social and cultural backgrounds
- Improve the quality of educational programmes, training and activities offered to young people
- Innovate pedagogical approaches, learning methods and project design by combining ideas and perspectives from different countries
- Maximise the impact of mobility projects on the local communities of young participants by sharing results and good practice more widely.



[Learning Seed \(Argos, Greece\)](#) is a non- formal education organisation established in 2021. The organisation implements non-formal education and lifelong learning approaches in youth education, vocational education and adult education.





[Lunaria \(Roma, Italy\)](#) is a non-profit, secular, independent and autonomous association for social promotion, founded in 1992. International mobility and volunteering, youth policies, migration and the fight against racism, sustainable development and the fight against inequality are at the heart of its social commitment.



[Associação Social Recreativa Juventude de Vila Fonche \(Portugal\)](#) is a youth association founded in 1976. Its main goal is to occupy young people's free time with non-formal education projects to enable them to develop personal and social skills and thus help them to integrate more easily into society.

DURATION

The youth exchange took place from [Sunday 2 to Saturday 8 December 2024](#) in Argos, Greece. It included 2 days of travel and 5 days of activities.

The youth exchange activities took place :

- outdoors (Castle of Argos, Argos town centre, Mycenae archaeological site, town of Nafplio),
- at the Argos labour centre,
- in the Argos town hall.

Participants were accommodated in a hotel in the centre of Argos: the Morpheas hotel.

TOPIC

The theme of the youth mobility was: [Youth Engagement for social Justice and inclusive citizenship in Europe](#). This topic was chosen in connection with the [french event JNAE 2024](#), whose theme was social justice.

OBJECTIVES

[The youth exchange was composed of workshops, non-formal activities, visits and intercultural exchanges. Activities were based on youth participation.](#)

The objectives were to :

- Encourage exchanges between young Europeans and intercultural encounters,
- Encourage commitment, participation and citizenship among participants by raising awareness of societal issues,
- Give young people the means to become active agents of positive change in their local area and beyond,
- Encourage young people to debate and become actively involved in finding and contributing to solutions.

[Through workshops, informal and intercultural activities, visits, encounters, the aim of the youth exchange was to encourage young people's civic commitment to social change: to encourage their involvement and active participation in projects and initiatives that promote social justice, inclusion and human rights.](#)



PARTICIPANTS

The youth exchange involved :

- one young facilitator : Olivia, (Greece),
- one youth worker / facilitator : Dimitra (Greece),
- one group leader / youth worker / facilitator : Sophie (France)
- 24 young people from 4 European countries (students, employees, civic services, job seekers) : 16 female and 8 male aged between 18 to 26 y/o (average age of 21,5 y/o).



FRANCE

5 young people : Alexis, Emilie, Emma, Helena, Kevin
3 female and 2 male aged between 18 and 26 y/o



GREECE

8 young people including 1 youth leader : Nikos (youth leader), Athina, Christina, Foteini, Giannis, Marilena, Paola, Aggelos Ioannis
5 female and 3 male aged between 18 and 25 y/o



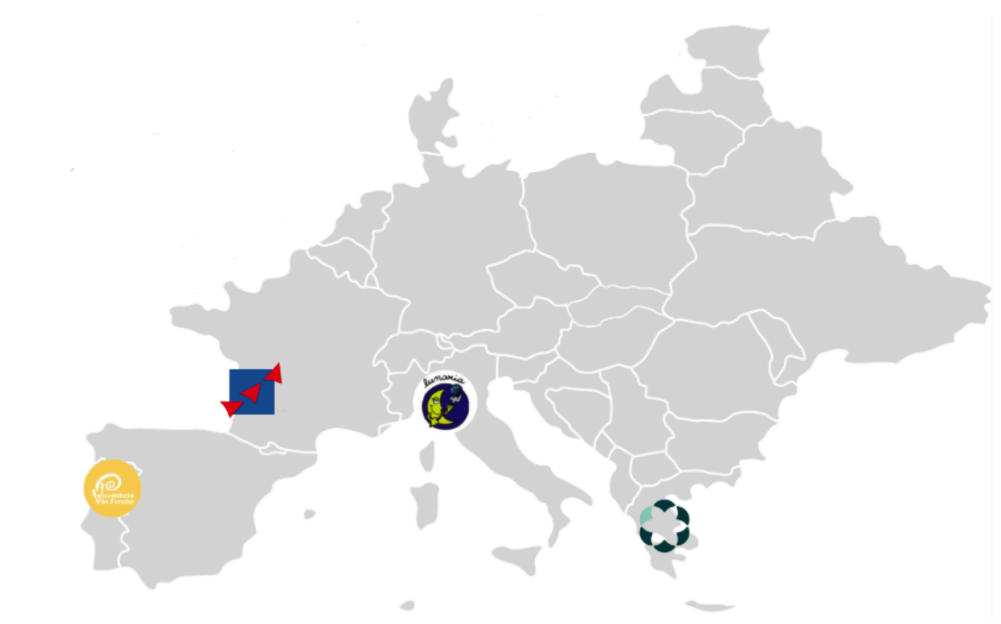
ITALY

5 young people including 1 youth leader :
Caterina (youth leader), Daniele, Greta, Irene, Lorenza
4 female and 1 male aged 19 and 24 y/o



PORTUGAL

6 young people including 1 youth leader :
Joao Pedro (youth leader), Francisca, Angela, Francisco, Leonor, Sara
4 female and 2 male aged between 18 and 25 y/o



YOUTH EXCHANGE PROGRAMME

SCHEDULE

Day 1 02/12/2024	Arrival of participants Welcome and installation of participants Dinner & convivial evening
Day 2 03/12/2024	<p>Morning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction Presentation of Erasmus+ youth programmes to inform and encourage engagement in international youth mobility Presentation of Youthpass Presentation of the programme (schedule of activities and workshops, objectives and expected results) • Workshop <i>Understanding Social Justice and Inclusion</i> Brainstorming and discussions on social justice and inclusion "Step Forward" role-playing game to highlight inequalities Definition of key concepts <p>Afternoon</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workshop <i>Social Justice Manifesto</i> Group discussions on social justice and creation of an art banner to represent desired changes • Activity <i>Clicks for a cause</i> Formation of teams to manage the project's TikTok and Instagram accounts, to promote and document the youth exchange <p>Evening</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dinner & Greek welcome evening
Day 3 04/12/2024	<p>Morning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Activity <i>Step into my path - Castle of Argos and town center of Argos</i> (Outdoor activity) Experiment accessibility challenges by documenting social, physical, economic, ecological, geographical barriers <p>Afternoon</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workshop <i>Step into my path - Reporting experiences</i> Create original presentations of the morning's results, discuss the concepts and relate them to practical experience Share the creative results and discuss them as a group <p>Evening</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dinner
Day 4 05/12/2024	<p>Morning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visit of the archaeological site of Mycenae (inscribed on UNESCO World Heritage List since 1999) with a professional guide <p>Afternoon</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workshop <i>The power of we!</i> Brainstorm to develop creative solutions to the problems identified the previous day, present and discuss them • Workshop <i>Hands Up! The Governor Goes Live Tonight!</i> Adopt the persona of a negative leader and performing a monologue offering positive solutions for social justice <p>Evening</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dinner and intercultural event Present country's culture through traditional dishes and drinks, and creative presentations



ACTIVITY DIARY

DAY 1 - MONDAY 02/12/2024

On Monday 2 December, the participants arrived during the day and in the evening. They were welcomed by the Greek youth leader Nikos and the Greek facilitator Olivia, from the host organisation Learning Seed.

DAY 2 - TUESDAY 03/12/2024

INTRODUCTION

After some games to get to know each other, the youth exchange began.

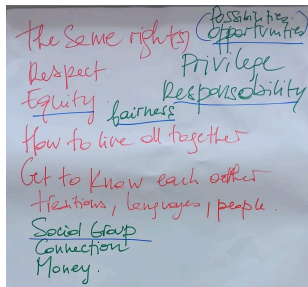
Participants were introduced to the Erasmus+ programmes for young people, and Youthpass, using slides, videos and testimonials from former participants.

The aim was to inform participants about the opportunities offered by Erasmus+, to present benefits of Youthpass : to promote youth mobility initiatives.

This was followed by a presentation of the youth exchange programme (activities, workshops, visits). The purpose was to explain to the participants the challenges and learning objectives of the exchange.



WORKSHOP “UNDERSTANDING SOCIAL JUSTICE AND INCLUSION”



The activity consisted of a discussion on the key concepts of social justice and inclusion, including the production of the ‘Step Forward’ game.

First, the young people brainstormed around the key words social justice and inclusion. The game was then proposed.

– Step forward game: Each participant is given information about a fictional character (first name, age, professional situation, marital status, etc.). The participants line up and, depending on the questions they are asked, move forwards or backwards –

The aim of the role-play was to raise awareness of inequality and injustice.

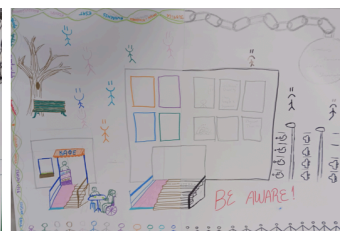
After a debrief on their experience of the game, the participants completed the initial definitions.

The aim was to develop an understanding of the concepts of social justice and inclusion.

WORKSHOP “SOCIAL JUSTICE MANIFESTO”

Divided into four groups, the young people discussed social justice and inclusion. The challenge was to identify key words and illustrate them by creating a banner (inspired by the work of the American [artist Milton Madison](#)).

The aim was to promote collaborative working and creative expression.



WORKSHOP “CLICKS FOR A CAUSE”

After the groups had presented their artistic banners, the participants were divided into two groups. One group was tasked with creating a TikTok account and the other with creating an Instagram account. The idea was to create social networks specific to the project to communicate their experiences. Each group was responsible for posting publications every day.

📱 [TikTok page](#) | 📷 [Instagram page](#)



DAY 3 - WEDNESDAY 04/12/2024

ACTIVITY "STEP INTO MY PATH" - CASTLE OF ARGOS & CITY OF ARGOS (PART. 1)

As part of the 'Step into My Path' activity, participants were randomly assigned roles: people with baby buggies, in wheelchairs, on crutches, blindfolded or wearing earplugs.

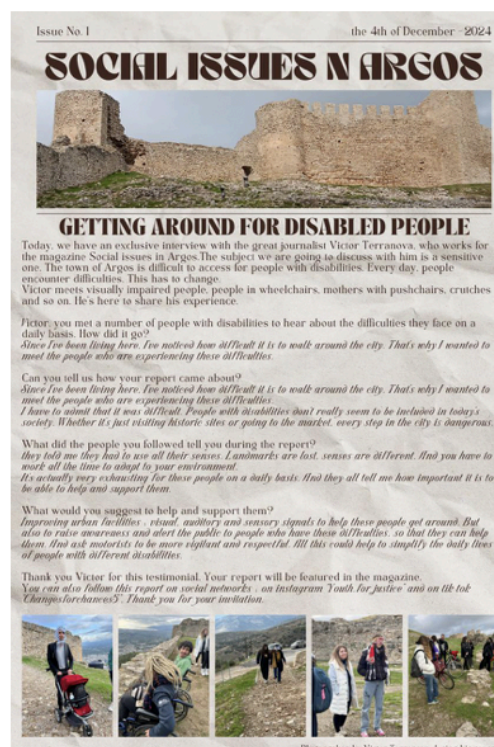
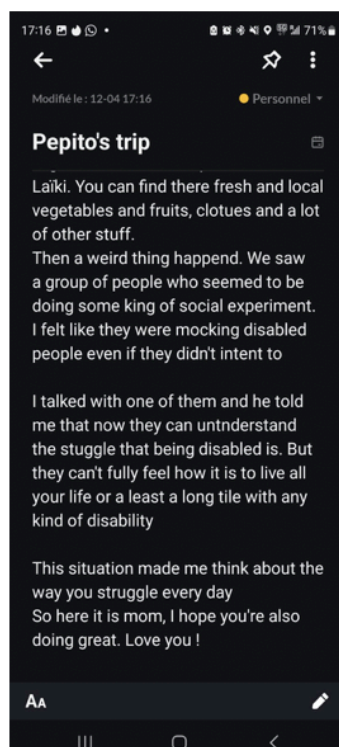
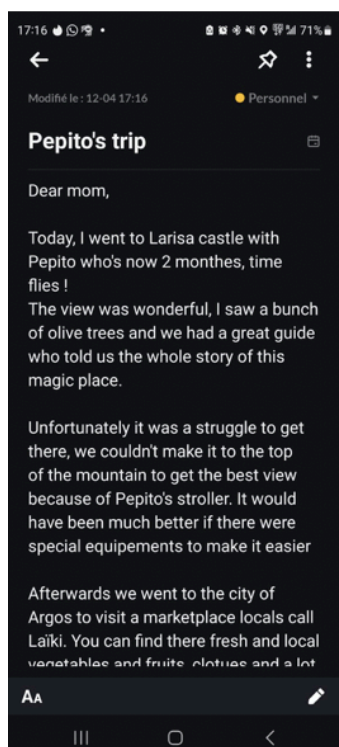
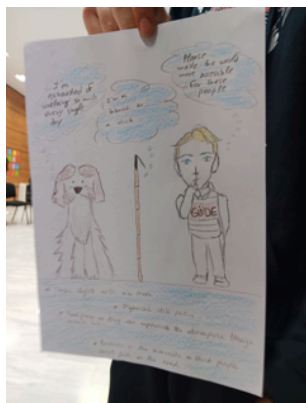
Other participants observed and documented social, physical, economic and ecological barriers using photos and videos. They visited Argos Castle, then went into Argos town centre, and experienced how to get around with the 'difficulty' assigned to them.

The aim was to raise awareness of accessibility issues and highlight the importance of inclusion for all.



WORKSHOP "STEP INTO MY PATH" - REPORTING AND PRESENTING EXPERIENCES - (PART. 2)

In the afternoon, participants (divided in groups) reported on the morning's experiences in creative forms (poem, letter, interview, etc.) Then, they presented their observations in plenary. The aim was to link theoretical concepts to the practical experiences of the day in order to encourage reflection and deeper understanding.



DAY 4 - THURSDAY 05/12/2024

VISIT TO MYCENAE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE

Participants visited the [archaeological site of Mycenae](#), led by a professional guide. The aim of the visit was to discover the cultural heritage and history of ancient sites.

– The Mycenae and Tiryns sites are the remains of two of the greatest cities of the Mycenaean civilization, which dominated the eastern Mediterranean from the 15th to the 12th century B.C. These cities are closely linked to the Homeric epics, the Iliad and the Odyssey, which have influenced European art and literature for over three millennia –



WORKSHOP "THE POWER OF WE!"

Participants were divided into groups and engaged in a brainstorming session to develop creative solutions to the issues they had identified the previous day. Each group worked on finding solutions to the problems they had pointed out. Afterward, all participants came together for an open, shared discussion to present their solutions and reflections.

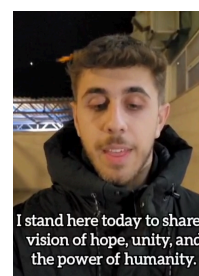
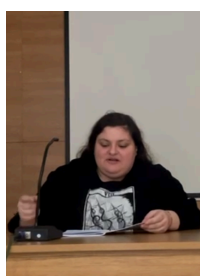
The objective was to develop critical problem-solving and collaboration skills through group discussions and collective action planning.



WORKSHOP "HANDS UP! THE GOVERNOR GOES LIVE TONIGHT!"

The participants watched Charlie Chaplin's monologue in *The Great Dictator*. The idea was to use it as inspiration to create the character of a historically negative leader. They then created and performed a positive monologue, focusing on social justice solutions. The monologues were filmed.

The aim was to foster creative expression and public speaking skills, encouraging the use of humour and storytelling as tools for social advocacy.



INTERCULTURAL EVENING

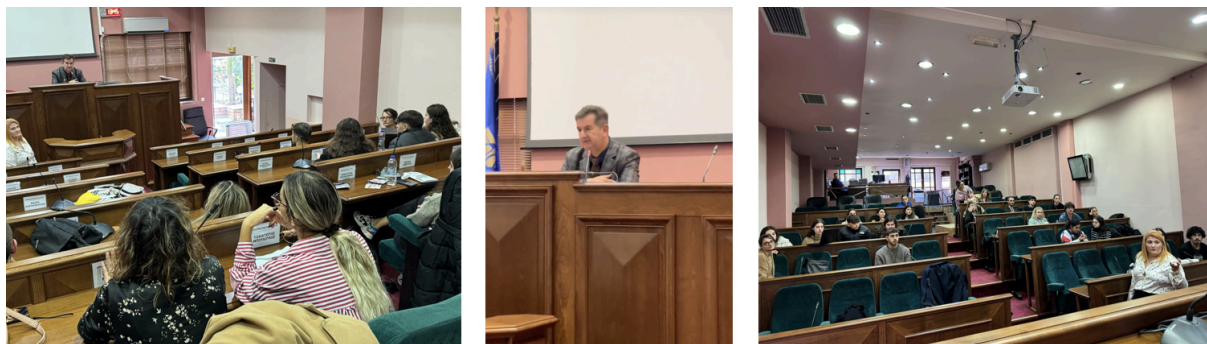
During the evening, participants proposed games and activities to present the specificities of their respective countries. They brought traditional dishes and drinks from their respective countries to share. The aim was to promote cultural exchanges and intercultural understanding, but also to have a good time together!



DAY 5 - FRIDAY 06/12/2024

WORKSHOP “YOUTH IN ACTION, A CIVIC SIMULATION”

The group was welcomed by the mayor of the town: Dimitris Maltezos. The mayor welcomed them to his city and thanked them for their participation and engagement.



Participants were then divided into three groups, each with a specific role within the group. They were given 15 minutes to prepare a presentation on social justice issues.

– Prior to the youth exchange, the young people were asked to choose real topics linked to current events in their country –

Each group chose a situation to deal with at the town council meeting, and each young person then worked on his or her role: citizen, mayor, financial manager, police authority, and so on. This was followed by a ‘council’ session, during which the various issues were presented (such as the situation of pregnant women in prison or access to medical care in rural areas). Participants were given 15 minutes to play their part.

The aim of the activity was to promote critical thinking and collaboration through role-playing and dynamic discussions, while learning how a town council works.



WORKSHOP “SOLUTION ADDRESSING AND DISCUSSION”

The participants, divided into 4 groups, analysed and reflected on different situations relating to social justice and inclusion. Each group had to analyse 3 different situations, making a total of 12 different situations.

They then had to propose solutions by devising rules and articles of law to combat the unfair or inequitable situations related to their subject.

Each group then presented its proposals at a plenary session.

The aim was to encourage exchange and discussion, but also to raise young people's awareness of social injustice by enabling them to propose actions to advocate a fair and inclusive society.



The case studies cover the following themes: unequal access to education, inclusion of people with disabilities, discrimination in sport, access to housing for refugees, discrimination in the labour market, inclusion of LGBTQ+ people in public spaces, access to healthcare, racism in the media, sexual violence, social exclusion, cultural barriers in schools, gender equality in the workplace.

Each case study describes a problematic situation. Questions relating to the situation were asked to initiate discussion among the participants. The aim was then to identify problems and propose solutions.

At the end of this work, the young people were asked to draft rules and articles of law to address unfair and unjust situations, which they then presented to the plenary session.



DAY 6 - SATURDAY 07/12/2024

VISIT TO THE TOWN OF NAFPLIO

The participants visited the town of Nafplio, a historic tourist city. Nafplio is the capital of the Argolid region and is situated by the sea, 10 km from the town of Argos. The participants visited the citadels, the old town and bought souvenirs.



ACTIVITY *FUTURE LETTERS*

To close the week, the participants wrote letters to their future selves, detailing their learning and aspirations. These letters will be sent to participants a few months later to remind them of their progress and goals.

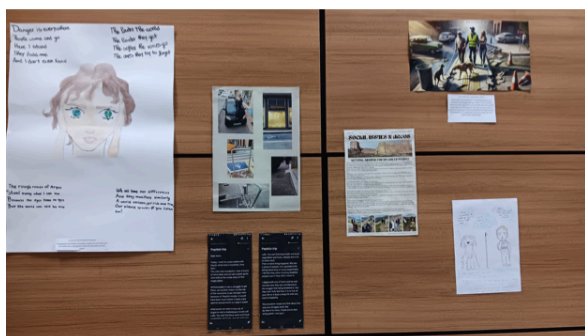
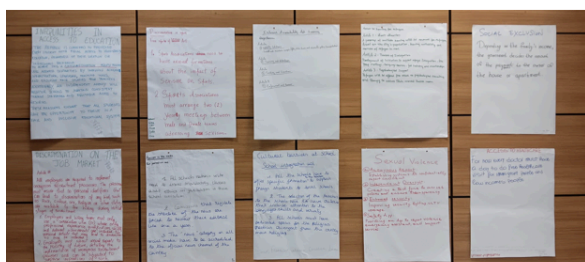
The aim was to assess what they had learned, but also to encourage them to set themselves personal and collective goals for a more caring, fair and equitable society.



EXHIBITION *ECHOES OF EQUALITY*

At the end of the afternoon, the participants prepared an exhibition on the work they had done during the week. They compiled the various results: videos, photos, presentations and flip charts produced during the week.

The aim of the exhibition was to highlight the need for young people to be heard and to advocate for change in terms of social justice and inclusion in society. It was also an opportunity for young people to strengthen their advocacy, communication and creative skills by creating an exhibition dedicated to promoting social change.



The young people presented their work to Maria Stathoyianni, a doctor of biology, secondary school teacher and director of the Argos - Mycenae Municipal Youth Library, and Dimitra Malahia, a member of the Association of Greek Friends Abroad and Philhellene. This was followed by a discussion between the young people and the guests.



EVALUATION

Finally, in order to evaluate their participation in the youth exchange, the participants took part in a group reflection activity in which they shared the main lessons they had learned from their experience.

This activity encouraged participants to reflect on their personal development, the skills they have acquired and the memories they have created during the programme.



The participants found the exchange programme to be an enriching experience. They immersed themselves in Greek culture, exploring the country's traditions, values, history and way of life.

Thanks to the programme, they have acquired new skills, new knowledge and, for some, a grounding in a new language. Travelling and meeting new people proved to be a source of personal and intellectual fulfilment.

For many, the visit to Greece was the fulfilment of a dream, the discovery of the country. For others, it was the first time they had had the opportunity to travel abroad and fly, making it a particularly memorable adventure.

The participants improved their English and applied the knowledge they gained during the exchange to their studies and activism.

They forged fruitful relationships with peers from diverse backgrounds, engaged in collaborative activities and exchanged ideas that fostered mutual understanding. Their motivation to contribute to dialogue and cooperation reinforced European solidarity and shared values.

Participants actively engaged in discussions on crucial issues such as social justice and inclusion. They explored Argos, seizing every opportunity to contribute to a more inclusive and equitable world.

The exchange programme was seen as a unique opportunity for cultural discovery, personal development and meaningful connections. Participants have broadened their horizons, contributed to collaborative projects and improved their language and intercultural skills.



YOUTHPASS CERTIFICATES

The final moment was the presentation of YouthPass certificates, celebrating the achievements, skills and learning experiences of each participant.

DAY 7 - SUNDAY 08/12/2024

All the participants left on Sunday, the 8th of December. They are now waiting to receive their letters!





REPORT

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ERASMUS+ YOUTH MOBILITY
2 - 8 MAY 2024, ARGOS (GREECE)

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