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THIRD EDITION

YEUROPE TIMES

A EUROPEAN STUDENT MAGAZINE

MIGRANTS AND
REFUGEES

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DESIGNED AND PROJECTED IN ROME

Editorial

These days migration has been put in the spotlight by the governments of various countries, even though it is an extremely old phenomena and ever since the birth of the first civilization it has affected our society.

In this edition of the magazine, students together with their teachers coming from the project partner schools -Tallinna 21. Kool (Tallinn), XI Liceum Ogólnokształcące (Krakow), Carl-Zeiss Oberschule (Berlin) and Institut Joan Brossa (Barcelona)- met in Rome, in Liceo Scientifico Cavour, to discuss about this crucial theme and to understand the different and common ways in which the migration concern is perceived in these countries.

Is European community politics approaching the migration crisis properly? It seems that countries are concentrating too much on just some aspects of this issue: facts and numbers. Politicians and media are always talking about them, instead of understanding that this is a much more complex problem. Datas are fundamental for framing the general question and to comprehend the situation of migration flows in different countries. But this is secondary: rather than numbers, countries should primarily analyse the reasons why migration occurs and the various forms in which it develops. This is the conclusion that students came to in the production of the magazine. Through meetings, brainstorming and round table discussions they examined the theme in all its different aspects, such as the segregation and the lack of integration of the immigrants, coming out with articles about their understandings of the problem.

This edition of Yeurope Times gives a brief overview on how students understand migration and other countries' perspective about it, and in a way this phenomenon may be connected with other subtopics. Enjoy your reading!

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Migrants and Refugees

Immigration has become an increasingly discussed topic since European countries have been dealing with an intensified level of immigration during the last few years. That is why we have decided to focus on this extremely important issue and how it affects our lives.

Is immigration the real problem?

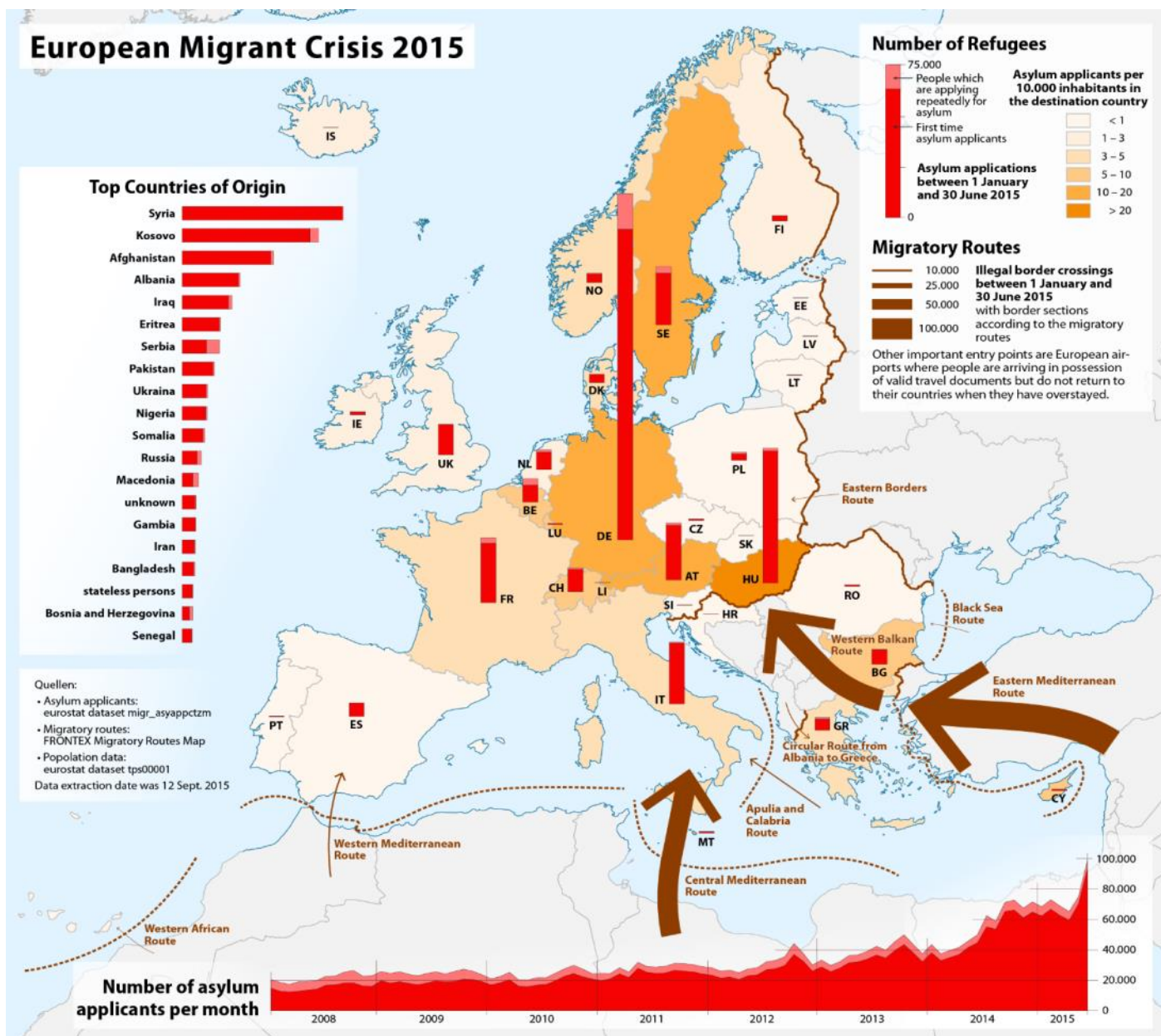
Ludovico Journo, Ludovico Valentini, Claudia Carbonari (Rome)

Over the last years in Europe immigration has become one of the most discussed topics by the media and by politicians. The extreme right parties misused it creating an anti-immigrant campaign, making them become the scapegoat of all the problems in Europe and in their nations. These parties talked about

an invasion of African and Middle Eastern population stating that this phenomenon would bring a decrease in the national security and these people would take away the jobs from the European citizens. One of their most important propoganda tool is fear: this is used to make the citizens uncomfortable

when they meet a person that is different in terms of culture or physical aspect.

Austria, Germany, Italy and Sweden are among the European countries that have received the most asylum applications in the last 4 years. It's precisely there that the



right-wing parties, promoting a campaign against immigrants and immigration, recorded the greatest growth in votes. For instance, “Lega Nord”, the main Italian party against the acceptance of immigrants, obtained around four times the number of votes in the last national election (2018) compared to the previous one (2013), and now it has the most consent in Italy. A similar process took place in Sweden, where the Sweden Democrats, completely anti-immigration, obtained the 18% in the last election, so different from their previous result of almost 13%.

Every year in Europe 800,000 to 1.000.000 people request refugee status. This could seem like an enormous number but comparing it to the European population (508 million people) the percentage of refugees entering every year is that of 0.2 %. Immigration is distracting the European states from real issues and it is weakening the relationships between the members of the EU. By observing economic data on immigration calculated by Philippe Legrain - the ex-president of the European commission - we can notice that contrarily to what right-wing parties say, immigrants are not ‘stealing our jobs’, instead they’re helping to create them. The cost of immigration to the European union by 2020 will be 69 billion euro but at the same time the refugees who entered Europe will make GDP grow by 126,6 billion euros. These data demonstrate how immigration doesn’t influence negatively in the economy, on the contrary it helps the growth of it.

In these last years immigration has been seen as an emergency, however, this phenomenon has always occurred and it will continue in the future. Not long ago, starting from the fall of the Berlin wall in 1989, a

sort of fear towards immigration spread through Europe since a great number of immigrants from the Eastern countries started to enter the EU. The greatest concern of the European population was the loss of their jobs, caused by cheap labor of the eastern immigrants, the same fear that nowadays the European citizens have towards middle eastern population and African immigrants.

The immigration of the Eastern European populations helped to develop the economy of their countries of origin, which are now eco-

change is forcing these populations to migrate and find another way of living. If we don’t fight climate change, the numbers of migrants will increase in the future and this will become the main cause of instability in the world. The real enemy is not immigration, that is only a consequence of a bigger problem, but it is the politics of the western world, that slowly created a great disparity between rich and poor. Migration from Africa and the Middle East are partly caused by western governments, which have exploited the African lands and still today control their governments to



nomically stronger. Currently their governments are fighting immigration by closing borders and carrying out an anti-immigration campaign in the same way in the past the European countries did to them.

Various studies demonstrated how climate change is connected to conflicts that then lead to migration. The temperature of the earth is increasing and this is causing a change in the different ecosystems of the earth. 60% of the population in the world bases their living on agriculture, in spite of this, climate

regulate the extraction of raw materials, such as uranium and petrol. If the economical leaders of the world don’t decide to change their economy politics, migration will increase and whatever wall they will build to keep out immigrants will not stop them. This will just bring conflict and extreme right parties will grow in popularity consequently an increased level of racism. If nothing changes the basic principles of modern democracy, even the European Union, will be threatened.

Is it really a vicious circle?

Oliwia Czerniak, Ewelina Markowska (Cracow)

Allport's Scale shows us how various kinds of negative behaviour neglected by us turn into more and more extreme attacks of aggression against another person. The sequence of these behaviours loops again and leads to other, higher acts of violence. Not reacting and doing nothing with aggression at the beginning and treating these behaviours as trivial, we eventually regret their effects, then we react when it is too late. Why can't we react when the pyramid has its beginning?

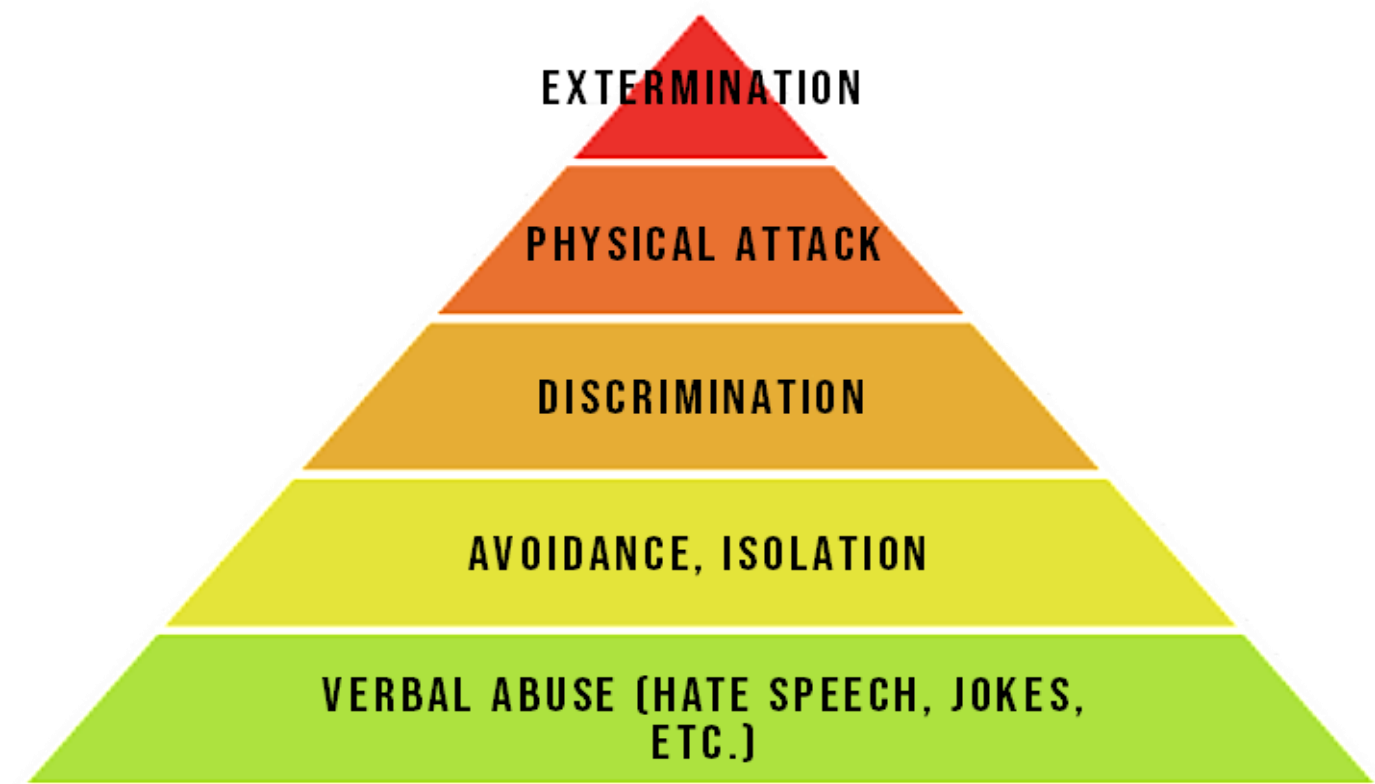
During the over 1000 years of Polish history there have been many acts of extreme hatred that we learn at school, some of them take place these days but not everything is told us by our teachers. In schools they don't tell us about some tragic, but important incidents. Because of that, we concentrate our attention on our own his-

tory beginning almost 80 years ago. Not knowing that something equally tragic affects people even nowadays, we just lack empathy for others.

An example of this comparison can be people's history from year 1940 and conflict in Darfur. This conflict has continued to this day and the current number of victims is over 2 million people. This is living history for these people which is still taking place there. Situations like that are our grandparents' stories and the past for us, but in this country our peers are experiencing tragedy every day losing their loved ones and in the worst case - their parents. That's why lots of these people are forced to leave their country and save their lives.

The word "immigrant" sounds negative to some of us, but it can also be associated in a positive

way because these people can have a great influence on the country they have chosen. Have you ever thought about the nationality of your doctor or teacher? Yes, also immigrants can be well educated and they can make our society better. They are willing to work and they perfectly fill the lack in our labour market. Maybe your classmate or your neighbour is of a foreign nationality? The possibility to learn a new language can make the world your oyster! Learning a new language when you could talk to a native speaker of this language might be even better. In addition, trying lots of foreign products or cuisine at reasonable prices is possible thanks to shops and restaurants with foreign products, whose owners are usually from those countries and for whom this is part of their culture.



Allport's Scale is a measure of the manifestation of prejudice in a society

Risking your own life to save others

Francesca Zennaro (Rome), Mireia Mestres (Barcelona)

The Global Compact for migration is a treaty created by the United Nations that attempts to address the important issue of immigration and its problematics.

In 2016, during the General Assembly of the United Nations held in New York, the treaty had been signed by over 190 countries. It has later been confirmed during the General Assembly held last September, but the stands on this document and its implications have changed for many countries.

Even though the Global Compact's central principles are those of humanitarian assistance and frontier procedures respecting international rights, also Italy has decided not to sign this document.

With the election of Matteo Salvini as the Minister of Interior during the last government elections, Italy has in fact taken a harder stand on immigration .



An example of Salvini's anti-immigration policy is what happened on the 22nd of December 2018. On that night 311 refugees were rescued off the coasts of Lib-

ya by the NGO "Open Arms" , but were unable to land on the coasts of Malta, the nearest secure seaport, which had denied the ship's landing and supplying because Salvini had declared the Italian seaports "closed" to all rescue ships.



Proactiva Open Arms is a non-profit organisation that is dedicated to rescuing refugees off the coasts of northern Africa. On the 22nd January Mireia Mestres, a participant of Yeurope project, went to visit their sailboat Astral and met the people who took part in some rescue missions. They told her how they work and some problems they have faced: in fact the Spanish Maritime Authorities have blocked the departure of their rescue boats preventing this non-profit organization from doing their humanitarian task in the Mediterranean.

She met the captain of the boat: his name is Savvas and he has responsibility over many lives. He told us how during his missions you can feel very charged with adrenaline,

but you still feel under pressure because you are accountable for many peoples' lives and their futures.

We also met Ane, the former captain of the Astral. In Italy she is

accused of human trafficking, as an excuse to close the seaports. Ane is very young, but she was very emotional when she told us about the problems she has been having with these regulations.

Fortunately enough, the refugees on board of the Open Arms were finally able to get on land, but on Spanish soil, in the seaport of Crinavis.

What happened, and the stories that Savvas and Ane told us, tell us a lot: they are in fact an indicator on how hostility towards immigration still exists, and how it completely disregards the attention that should be given to saving human lives, no matter what their nationality or skin color is.

It doesn't matter where you come from

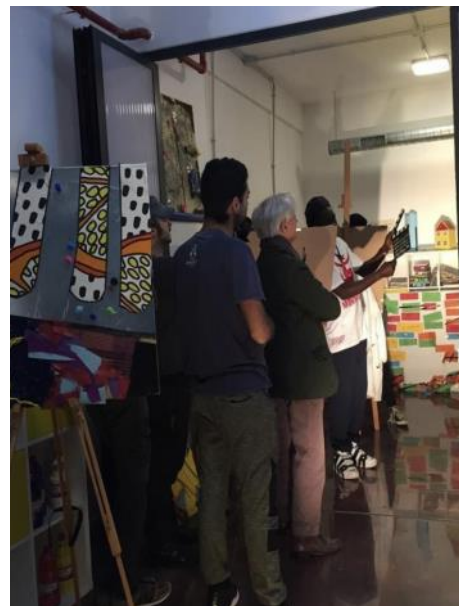
Marta Rando (Rome)

Imagine a special place, a place where everyone is welcome and no one feels alone. A flamboyant place full of life and colours where you can meet people from all over the world and where all different languages and cultures get mixed up. Wouldn't it be awesome if a place such as that really existed ?

As a matter of fact in the heart of Rome, only few kilometers away from the Colosseum, there is just the place you were hoping for: Civico Zero which is a daytime center for unaccompanied migrants who need help and assistance. It was first set up in 2009 as a consequence of an outreach made by Save The Children in order to sup-

port all the minors in need. Indeed the majority of people who frequent the center is between 16 and 17 years of age.

Acting, singing, writing, filming and many other activities can be done at Civico Zero and everyone is welcome to try anything and to attend different courses. There are also assistants who teach Italian to all the ones who can't yet speak the language well. In fact the staff is made up of trained members who make sure that everyone is treated the right way and feels comfortable and safe in the center. Frequenting Civico Zero not only means that whenever you need help and support you will find people ready to



give it to you but it also means being part of a group, making new friends and learning how to work in a team and to cooperate with others. Moreover it means that as soon as you cross the doorway you'll find a new home where people are friendly and unwilling to judge you because of your origins, language, religion or any other thing. Civico Zero gives great opportunities to every single person who comes to a new country without knowing anyone but with a bag full of hopes and expectations for the future.

Being able to be part of Civico Zero is one of the best things that can ever happen to you, whether you're a young person who has just arrived in Italy or you've always lived here, because it gives you the chance of understanding the real value of people all around you and to work with them in order to create something special.



@ZeroCalcare

A new chance

Miquel Juan Garcia (Barcelona)

-Good morning Virginia.
Good morning.

-Can you introduce yourself?
Well, my name is Virginia Rodriguez and I am 16. I am from Venezuela and I now live in Spain. I'm studying at Institut Joan Brossa, in Barcelona.



-How long have you been living in Spain?

I have been living here for two years. This is my second year in Barcelona.

-You lived in Venezuela for 14 years, so why did you move out?
Venezuela is not a safe country. Robberies and kidnappings are very common.

Another reason is that we used to travel twice a year, but the currency is becoming increasingly devalued and we could not travel anymore. Two years ago with the minimum wage you couldn't afford three

meals a day but it is not like this anymore. This is very serious because we are talking about a very basic right: the right to eat.

-You said that robberies and kidnappings were common, have you ever been mugged?
No, I have never been mugged but

I have to say that I was really lucky that this never happened to me. But it happens to everyone: my whole family has been mugged and I have one friend that was kidnapped until the family paid the ransom. And when we lived there you had to avoid crowded areas because they are full of thieves. My family was threatened, and criminals told us that they would have stolen our cars. Police steals too. You don't have anybody who can protect you.

-And the government didn't do anything?
The Venezuelan government is called the "narcovern" because the

president of the country is also the president of a very extensive drug trafficking network, so you cannot trust the government.

-When you came here, two years ago, did you have papers to live legally in Spain?
Yes, when we arrived in Barcelona, we became asylum seekers and this gave us the right to stay, study and work here.

-As an asylum seeker, do you have the same rights as a Spanish person?
No, we can't leave Spain. It's completely impossible for us. Sometimes I feel restricted to do a lot of things. For example, I'm taking part in the Erasmus Plus project and I could host visiting students from other countries when we had a meeting in Barcelona last November, but I can't travel and take part in a transnational meeting because the government doesn't allow me to leave the country.

-Was this change easy or hard for your family?
Although it was a difficult change, my parents managed to find a job, my sister started a degree at university and I am attending high school: little by little I'm adjusting to the new situation and not feeling so bad about it.

-Comparing Spain with Venezuela, is it more secure?
Yes, of course, with no doubts.

-Thank you, Virginia, for telling us your story with such sincerity and kindness. It has been a pleasure.
Thank you.

“There are many more steps that have to be taken”

Sylvia Paet (Tallinn)

Urmas Paet is an Estonian politician and Member of the European Parliament (MEP) from Estonia. He is a member of the Reform Party, part of the Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe. He served as Minister of Foreign Affairs from 2005 to 2014 and Minister of Culture from 2003 to 2005. He was a member of the Estonian Parliament from 2003 to 2014.

-What is migration?

Migration is human movement from one region to another, when people must find a new home: it might be because of persecution or economic reasons.

-What are the main reasons for the current crisis?

Three years ago, the immigration to Europe increased significantly due to military conflicts near Europe. For instance, the Syrian Civil War has been and will be a major cause of the migration: a huge number of refugees are looking for a safe environment, where they could live their lives peacefully. There are also conflicts in Central Africa and in many other regions that cause migration. Another reason is that three years ago Europe was not prepared to accept that a tremendous amount of people that came in a matter of a very short time period. Although this year or even the year before that we would not call it a crisis anymore, because the that in a short matter of time number of people migrating to the EU has dropped. For example, last year five times fewer people came to Europe than three years ago.

-Where do the biggest difficulties lie?

We are dealing with people here and as it happens, every one of



them, be it a refugee or an immigrant, has their own perception of the future, their own experiences and motivation. We mustn't forget that they are people like all of us. Another problem I'd like to point out is that behind the borders of Europe - both, in the east and in the south - there is a lot of poverty and conflict, and since Europe is clearly the most peaceful and economically developed area on this side of the globe, people in less prosperous areas, recognize it as a place to lead a better life. So, in conclusion, as long as there are tremendous differences between poor and wealthy countries and between peaceful countries and countries in war, people will travel with hopes of finding a place to stay, where they could survive and move on with their life.

-What is the EU policy regarding the issues?

There are multiple aspects to consider here: giving refuge to the immigrants according to the UN Human Rights convention. These are primarily people fleeing from a

war or conflict zone or from political persecution. The rest apply for a residence permit or they are sent back from their country of origin. The second aspect is strengthening European border control so countries can control who can enter and who can't.

There are two major tasks outside of Europe: to decrease the amount of poverty in the world and to prevent conflicts. This means there are fewer reasons for people to migrate and it will be easier to supply humanitarian aid to those who need it: this way the refugees would continue living their lives there.

-Why is it important for all the members to work together?

Cooperation between EU Member States is necessary because this problem does not concern 1, 2 or 3 European countries, but it concerns each and every one of them. There is free movement within the EU, which also means that migrants or refugees coming here can move freely in Europe. When we look at the crisis, which happened three years ago, most of the people came to Greece or Italy, but most of them wanted to go to Germany, so this problem affects most European countries in one way or another. The migration routes can change because this problem is international. For example, some time ago the main route was from Turkey to Greece, when that was closed, they moved from Libya to Italy, it is moving closer towards Spain and onwards. This means all countries are affected and that the solutions to this problem, within Europe and outside of it, are the most effective, when they are reached together.

"We were not prepared for it at that time"

Leilani Sunaruk, Renée Pielenz, Mila Lüdicke (Berlin)



Here at the Carl-Zeiss-Oberschule we have so-called "welcome classes", i.e. classes in which students from abroad learn German and are integrated into a German school. We decided we wanted to get to know these students better, and to interview the Deputy Headmistress Ms. Braun. She had been very committed to this first "welcome class" at our school and has also coached the class for a long time.

-How was the first welcome class for you and your colleagues? Did you and the students get along well?

In the school year 2016/2017, when there was the first welcome class, we didn't know what teaching to war refugees was like. There were a number of pupils who were tortured in the Syrian civil war, and almost all of them fled across the sea and suffered, for example, from post-traumatic stress.

-How did the children initially behave?

In our first welcome class, nearly all children were traumatized or injured because they had to experi-

ence terrible things during the war.

All children have one thing in common: no matter why they came, they have lost their homes. They have had to leave their familiar surroundings, they have given up everything and now they live here in a foreign land and barely understand the language.

And then there are the recalls of the children. They should not be motivated to go deeper into their memories. These memories - flashbacks - are always with the children, also triggered by small everyday moments and they are extremely stressful and upsetting. Here, however, the children need more therapeutic support.

-What is going on well in the welcome classes?

Our school must offer a structure to the students which gives them a high level of security. The kids need to feel safe.

Thanks to our two class leaders, the organization is going well. One teacher takes over the beginners,

the other the advanced ones. The groups also have some hours together, which they enjoy very much. There is a good confraternity among them. We have also weekly performed projects for the integration and career choice and there is an external language teaching. The preparation for the German language diploma is going extremely well. Every Wednesday the advanced students go to regular classes and attend lessons there.

-What could be better?

I really hope that one day everyone will know the existence of such classrooms.

These special children should be more integrated into school life. Especially during the breaks because they tend to stay among themselves, feeling excluded. But I'm happy how everything is working. However, if there was more integration, all the students would feel more part of the school.

Countries and Politics

No matter how big the countries are by territory or population, the migration issue is still ongoing. The following articles cover a wide range of topics about the relocation process happening in different European countries. The section of “Countries and Politics” provides information about the historical background of Estonia and Poland, political safety and security in Italy and also methods used in Spain to promote the investigation of particular diseases. Last but not least, you can read how German educational system helps children from foreign countries to adapt with a new culture.

The World in a Class

Sarah Suliman (Berlin)

Since about 2015/2016, in Germany we have had a “welcome-class” or “international class” at our school, which is meant for the children of families who apply for asylum in Germany. Also children who come from the EU attend this “welcome-class”.

To show you the student’s point of view I visited this class and talked to them: I found out that most of them came from Syria, Palestine and many other countries. The reasons why they came to Germany were all very different. I talked a little more in detail with four teenagers from this class who were aged between 13 and 15.

Julia is 14 years old, from Latvia and has been living in Berlin for one year and a half. She moved here because she could not have graduated in her home country - as

she said. Her parents stayed in Latvia - she lives with her uncle and her aunt. Julia has settled in easily. She dreams to stay in Germany and become a teacher.

Mohammed is also 14 years old. He comes from Palestine. Almost four years ago, he and his family had fled from the wars in his country, and came to Germany via Italy. Here in Berlin, he is doing very well. He lives in an apartment and his parents learn German in classes. He likes the school, has many friends and finds the language easy. He misses nothing from his old home. Later he wants to become a car-dealer and remain here.

Lorena is 13 years old and comes from Croatia. She moved to Germany about a year and a half ago to flee from poverty. She has been living in Berlin for five months



now. She misses Croatia because her friends live there, but she is still in contact with them. She also found new friends at our school and she is already partially participating in regular classes in one of the eighth-grade classes. Her family is settled now. Her parents work and her little brother goes to school as well. After school, she wants to become a detective superintendent and probably stay in Germany.

Behnam is also 13 years old and fled two and a half years ago to Germany because of the war in Afghanistan. Today he lives in a refugee home. He came here through several stations and through different countries: Iran, Turkey and Greece. He has settled in well, but his parents are still looking for a job. His dream job is to be a forester. He wants to stay in Berlin for a while even if later, he wants to move back to Afghanistan.



Polish or not Polish? That is the question

Małgorzata Chmielowska, Patryk Chmielewski, Aleksandra Chruściel (Cracow)



Numerous famous immigrants have been creating the culture of Poland and developing our state for hundreds of years. They have shown us different ways of perceiving art, creating inventions and importing new products. Despite the cultural differences, we accepted them and they became members of our society, sharing their knowledge with us using it to the benefit of our country. Here are three people who are outstanding examples of such immigrants: Jadwiga of Anjou, Bona Sforza and Jan Matejko.

Jadwiga of Anjou came from Hungary. When her father, Luis the Great died in 1384, she became the first female monarch of Poland. A few years later she married Władysław Jagiełło and together they ruled the state. Among the most important achievements of Jadwiga were the construction, development and maintenance of the Jagiellonian University in Kraków; setting up hospitals and helping the poor. Jadwiga also helped in relieving the conflict with the Teutonic Knights.

Bona Sforza was the third of the four children of Gian Galeazzo Sforza and his wife Isabella of Naples - the Italian family of the dukes of Milan - Sforza. She became the wife of the king Sigismund I the Old. As the queen of Poland, she contributed to the development of Polish youth by sending kids to study abroad. She played an important part in importing a lot of different products: vegetables, spices, Italian pasta and wine to the 16th century Poland. She supported the development of cities, villages, the construction of new bridges and strongholds. Thanks to her persistence and determination, the Polish nation began to flourish.

Jan Matejko was born in 1838 in Kraków. His father was Czech and his mother came from a Polish-German family. In 1838 Poland didn't exist as a country, so he was born on the territory of Austria. Firstly, he wanted to make religious paintings but the fights for freedom of Poland inspired him to start making historical paintings. Matejko was interested in history

and his country, he was a great patriot. Therefore, many of his works are dedicated to famous events in Polish history. We can see it in his most well known paintings like Battle of Grunwald, *Constitution of 3 May 1791* and *Stańczyk*.

Jan Matejko contributed in protecting, reconstructing and upkeeping various historical monuments in the city of Kraków. In addition to this, for many years, he was the rector of the Academy of Fine Arts in Kraków.

With these examples, we want to show that immigrants do not have to be seen as harmful people, instead they can do a lot for our country. We should open our arms to new people and contacts because it can enrich our history, improve our living conditions and help creating a new society.

TV against Cancer

Àlex Errando, Jan Núñez (Barcelona)

The “marathon” of TV3 and Catalunya Ràdio (the public television and radio of Catalonia) consists of a TV show that lasts one day and whose objective is to increase public awareness and to raise as much money as possible to promote the investigation of particular diseases. The first edition of this event took place in 1992 and collected €1,230,128 for the research of leukaemia and this last 2018 edition raised €10,715,430 to investigate cancer. Anyway, this figure is still provisional and is still growing as this 2018 edition donation period will definitely end the 31st of March.



The big TV show is all made thanks to external donations and volunteers. About 3,400 people are involved in carrying on the event on this day. They work for 15 hours and make possible to collect thousands of donations and attend all the calls from the telephone lines.

Besides the main TV programme there are lots of different fundraising activities organized by dif-

ferent organizations throughout Catalonia. We can find workshops, sport events, plays, informative talks, concerts... There are also some international events in Amsterdam, Rome, Florence, New York or even in New Zealand. Another typical thing that is made is a solidarity music album which features different singers and musicians singing in Catalan. A book is also published in a fully altruistic

collaboration with writers and artists, containing many different testimonies of people who experienced the disease, as well as contributions by journalists and doctors. During the rest of the year the project is still active and tries to somehow compensate citizens' collaboration with master classes in universities, the participation of professionals in the scientific and biomedical world, and also guided visits to research centers to show the progress made thanks to the donors' contributions.



Another important point in “La Marató” foundation is the transparency and rigour involved in the project management. To achieve that, when the research project ends, a public convention is organized and investigators show their results.

The Roller Coaster of Immigration

Laura Maria Haukanõmm, Mirt Jääger (Tallinn)

The History of Migration in Estonia

The current Estonian population was drastically influenced by the post-World War II intensive immigration, due to the opening of borders.

After World War II, Estonia suffered intensive immigration from other regions of the Soviet Union. Already in 1990, before the restoration of independence, an immigration act was passed, which established an immigration quota of 0.1% of the permanent population. The period between 1945 and 1989 was characterised by extreme immigration into Estonia. In the following years, the number of immigrants decreased, whereas the number of emigrants still remained high. When the immigration quota was established in 1990, the migration balance became negative. The year 1992 witnessed an especially active emigration. The reason for the abrupt increase was the departure of alien military forces from Estonia, which ended in 1994. People also left because they felt insecure about the new language, citizenship and foreigners' act. People linked with the Soviet army mainly moved eastwards, whereas others moved towards the west. There may have been even more people moving west without the restrictions set by these countries. In the final years of the 20th century, emigration somewhat diminished, but increased again after Estonia joined the European Union in 2004, when movement between countries became easier.

The main target countries are Finland, Russia, Germany, the USA, Sweden, Great Britain and Ukraine. The process is often seen as an em-



igration of university-educated people.

In Estonia the views about arrivals from poorer countries are not seen very well because the threats from immigrants are perceived to be both social – alcoholism, drug addiction, AIDS and crime – and economic.

“Russian ghettos” - Lasnamägi and Narva

Both inside the capital of the country as well as on the eastern border with Russia there are two major centres of Russian-speaking population. They are Lasnamäe in Tallinn and one of the biggest towns – Narva – right on the border.

The construction of Lasnamäe, also known as a "Russian ghetto", started in the 1970s and it is still ongoing. It is a peaceful district that is home to 118,000 people, and covers one-fifth of the territory of Tallinn. In Lasnamäe the residents speak mostly Russian, and it was built as a residential district for a

lot of workers and their families who had been relocated by the authorities.

In comparison with other “Russian ghettos”, Narva has a colourful history. Captured by the Russians during the Livonian War in 1558, for a short period Narva became an important port and trading city for Russia. Russian rule ended At the end of the 19th century, Narva was the leading industrial town in Estonia. The status of Narva was finally resolved in a July 1917 referendum, when the district population, now roughly equally divided between ethnic Russians and Estonians, voted to attach itself to the newly autonomous and soon to be independent republic of Estonia. When Estonia regained its independence in 1991, Narva again became a border city.

Slaves of fear

Alejandro De Angelis (Rome)

There are countless definitions that have been given to "liberty" over the centuries, because there are different levels in which the idea of freedom can be imagined.

Moreover, being absolutely free is an utopia, in fact, in every aspect of our life there are rules, duties and bonds, more or less felt. It's easier to define "safety", since its field is more strictly concrete. For the human being the concept of security means not having to worry about their own safety. For this reason humans become eager to cede part of their rights to a governing body. We reduce our natural freedom to obtain security.

So it is not wrong to consider the safety of the individual as the main objective of a State. At this point, it is appropriate to mention the "four freedoms" that President Roosevelt has indicated as the main objectives of the politics: "Freedom of opinion, of religion, from needs, from fear", it's indeed the last one that makes the coexistence of freedom and security of the citizen difficult. In the actual world has

emerged the creeping slavery into fear, rather than the freedom from it. Creeping because it's indissolubly linked to the deceiver information that dominates the mass media and in general the whole political and social world.

It is the protection of the State that has ended to create fear and, to protect the citizens, it has been allowed to suspend our rights and to stand above the law. So just to accomplish its purpose in the best way, the State can easily bring the individual to a situation in which he finds his own freedoms not recognized.

So the problem must be tackled on a contrary perspective. The more the society is afraid, the more the rights must put themselves on top of everything, also over the laws when these break them. The security needs cannot prevaricate human rights. Here the horizon of rights is in common with the concepts of freedom and justice, their defence must oppose the claim of civic security. The protection of the citizen makes him otherwise a slave of

fear.

So the State can be identified as the entity which the individual relies on, in order to be able to live in convenient conditions, but the rights ceded to it must be limited. If any of the human rights is not respected, then the State's function would be violated, and so the individual has the duty to rebel.

So actually the main obstacle for a functional coexistence in the State between freedom and security of citizens is fear, or rather, terror. In fact, it is not a coincidence that the most disconcerting opposition between security and rights has historically been highlighted in the revolutionary "French terror", which is, not only lexically, the origin of the current terrorism. Fear, security, freedom are then confused in an uncertain imbalance, where the prevarication becomes confused political, legal and civil mediation. This is how fear justifies wars and rights violations. In front of the fear the horizon of rights darkens, until it totally eclipses.



Culture and Science

Culture is what distinguishes a country from another, it is a way of life. The clothes you wear, the food you eat, the language you speak in, they all are aspects of culture. We can state that culture affects people's way of thinking and doing things. It's an identity we have inherited as members of society from our birth. It's all the progress made as members of social groups. Art, music, literature, architecture, sculpture, philosophy, religion and science they are all part of what we call culture. Moreover it is also includes the customs, traditions, festivals and ways of living.

Arvo Pärt - the history of Estonian music

Hanna-Liisa Hussar and Yvet Maxine Kopti (Tallinn)



If you are making a survey in big countries about “who is the most famous person in your country” then most of the citizens of those countries will tell you some famous athletes or politicians. 90% of Estonians would answer without hesitation that the most famous Estonian is Arvo Pärt.

Arvo Pärt is an Estonian composer of classical and religious music. He has worked in a minimalist style that employs his self-invented compositional technique tintinnabuli. Arvo Pärt is one of those composers in the world, whose creative output has significantly changed the way we understand the nature of music. In 1976, he created a unique musical language called tintinnabuli, that has reached a vast audience of various listeners and that has defined his work right up

to today. There is no compositional school that follows Pärt, nor does he teach, nevertheless, a large part of the contemporary music has been influenced by his tintinnabuli compositions. Tintinnabuli was influenced by the composer's mystical experiences with chant music. It was introduced for the first time in his *Für Alina* (1976), and used again in *“Spiegel im Spiegel”* (1978). Musically, Pärt's tintinnabular music is characterized by two types of voice, the first of which (dubbed the "tintinnabular voice") arpeggiates the tonic triad, and the second of which moves diatonically in stepwise motion. The works often have a slow and meditative tempo, and a minimalist approach to both notation and performance. Pärt's compositional approach has expanded somewhat in the years since 1970, but the over-

all effect remains largely the same.

Arvo Pärt has emigrated quite a bit. In the 1970s, the religious nature of the works produced led to contradictory criticism, leading to increasingly sharp confrontations with the authorities. In January 1980, Arvo Pärt and his wife Nora and their two sons were forced to emigrate to Vienna. A year later, with a scholarship from the International Academic Exchange Agency, he moved to Berlin, where he stayed for nearly 30 years. In fact, he speaks fluent German and has German citizenship as a result of living in Germany since 1981. After Estonia regained its independence in 1991, Arvo and Nora Pärt reconnected with Estonia and its local music scene. From 2010, Pärt lives permanently in Estonia.

Some words, some cities and some boys...

Kinga Płonka, Wiktoria Rybotycka (Cracow)

We interviewed Professor Katarzyna Gibek, a Polish language teacher at our school, and we learned a lot about our native language.

-Our first question is where did the borrowings in Polish come from?

Almost all European languages have been mixed up since ancient times, and borrowing foreign words was very common over the centuries. The first borrowings in Polish culture can be observed already in the first years of the formation of our country. When Mieszko I adopted Christianity, we took religious vocabulary from the Czech language. Examples include Bogurodzica, bless, angel, devil, gospel, baptism, church. Before these words reached Poland, they came a long way: Greek- Latin- German- Czech- Polish. The first direct loanwords in Latin concern words related to education, for example school, ink; and other categories such as crystal, balsam or beet-root and onions. In the Middle Ages, Northern part of Poland was under German colonization, so some Polish cities owe their names to that culture. For example, Malbork, Toruń or Gdańsk. Many professions such as a furrier, bricklayer, soldier or mayor are also Germanisms. During the Renaissance, more and more Poles studied at Italian universities, and Italian artists lived in Polish cities. These borrowings mainly concern court life or fine arts: a banquet, a bank, a bomb, a fountain, a trifle that you know very well and events you often go to. French borrowings from the

sixteenth century refer primarily to beauty, such as perfume, corset, wig, hairdresser. During the Russification of Polish territories we adopted words such as noise, breeding, hair, cottage, and even large. In the 16th century, oriental Turkish words were also found, such as the hero, bag, pack, as well as bazaar. You're probably also familiar with words often seen in Polish streets ... kebabs or shisha. The latest borrowings are from English. Music genres: pop, rock, jazz, blues. We read *best-sellers*, we eat *crisps*, we watch movies with dubbing. Today we all wear *jeans*, we talk about *fashion trends*, some boys are *play-boys*. But above all, we all like to *relax*.

-Any examples of borrowings from Polish into foreign languages?

There are Polish borrowings used every day in other countries. English people use Polish words such as: Czech (Czech), horde (horda) and spruce (świerk). In German:

dalli (dalej), grenze (granica), and gurke (ogórek).

-What's your opinion on borrowings?

Language is constantly changing. It is undeniably positive the contact with world cultures and interaction between nations. An example is the Erasmus+ project which you are currently taking part in. Unfortunately, I also know the negative side of borrowings. I often come across incorrect use of words from foreign languages. Young people often use foreign words, but they should be comfortable with their own language and should not forget their native tongue. Nevertheless borrowing is an unusually beautiful precedent and for the world, undoubtedly the right one.

-Thank you very much for your time and your precious knowledge. We were very pleased.

Me too and I hope I helped you.



What does it mean to be forgotten?

Libera Elisa Totaro, Francesco Contarino (Rome) , Jessica Schimmelpfennig (Berlin)

Often, in the wonderful Roman history, we forget to talk about the story of the Jewish community. They never had the chance to live in Rome with the other citizens without being discriminated or with the same rights as the Catholic Romans. In fact, since 1555 the pope Paolo IV forced them to live in a limited area where they could profess their religion. This area is called "ghetto", situated between Marcel's Theater and the Tiber. Besides the obligation to reside in the ghetto, the Jews had to wear a sign that made them always recognizable: a cap for men and another sign of easy recognition for women. They were also imposed to attend weekly sermons on the Sabbath, which had the aim to convert them to the Catholic religion. The worst thing that can happen to a man is to be expropriated from his home. This is exactly what Roman Jews laid. This is an important topic in Berlin and generally in Germany because the contemporary witnesses had to endure on the 16th October 1943. German soldiers broke into their lives and took them away from there to send them to concentration camps. This fact was especially absurd and devastating because it was about 100 years since they had been living with Romans in peace. Now someone is trying to give justice to these people and started making stumbling blocks with their names to put on the ground, so everyone, every day, can face the truth. In Berlin the artist Gunter Demnig started his project "Stolpersteine" in 1996. With his project he wanted to remind everyone about people who had been murdered, persecuted, deported in the National Socialism (1933 - 1945). A "Stolperstein" is a concrete block in the ground. On the concrete blocks there are brass

plates mounted with the names and the fate of the people who were killed. A quote from Gunter Demnig: "A person is forgotten only when his name is forgotten." These stumbling blocks can be found where the persecuted had their last place of residence. Today, this idea might refer to Jews, Gypsies, people from political or religious resistance, homosexuals, Jehovah's Witnesses, the murdered ones, and people who were persecuted as allegedly anti-social. At the moment, more and more stumbling blocks are created. Witnesses of those events are dying out and the people who passed away might not be remembered any longer. A lot of young people have no idea what happened in the past and the transmission of the events at the time dies out be-

cause no one can transmit them any more. A big problem is that some of the stones have been stolen! The relatives grieve and are outraged by this disregard for history and, in a sense, a disregard for the sad destiny of the victims. Also in Rome, last December, these stumbling blocks were stolen. These two acts are considered an offensive attack based on fascism and anti-Semitism. This is happening under the government we have, which increases the hate for the different, legitimizing these acts. How would you feel if you and your family were ousted from your home without knowing the reason why?



February means Carnival!

Michela Viele (Rome)

When you see masks, confetti, colours and lights it means that the Carnival has arrived. This festivity has very old origin, dating back to the ancient Roman festival in honour of the god Saturn and Dionysian celebrations. The word Carnival, in Latin, means “remove meat”, in Christian tradition it indicates the day before the beginning of Lent.

The Carnival in Italy is characterized by floats and masks but it has different aspects in each region: the most famous takes place in Venice. The first evidence of it is a document of 1094 by the Doge, where for the first time it is used the term Carnival to indicate funny parties, balls and parades. The opening ritual of the Venice Carnival is the Flight of the Angel, that consists in a woman, the angel, who descends from St. Mark’s bell tower to the



crowded square of Venetians and visitors from all over the world.

In the North-West of Italy there is the historic Carnival of Ivrea. Here an old fun carnival experience is organized: the hilarious and fascinating "Battle of the Oranges", a traditional throwing of oranges between organized teams, *arceri*.

Another important carnival is the one in Viareggio, a Tuscan city.

It’s characterized by a parade of floats and masks, usually made of paper-pulp, representing caricatures of popular people.

These are only some of the spectacular ways Italians use to celebrate the Carnival, but as I said before, every region has their own traditions. So, what are you waiting for? Come to Italy at Carnival time!

Holding hands

Mario Casamitjana (Barcelona)

Sardana is an ancient and traditional dance that strengthens the sense of Catalan identity.



One of the most typical folkloric dances in Catalonia is called “sardana”. It is not only a dance, it is a musical genre that is danced forming a circle and following a set of steps. This dance originated in Empordà, which is a small region in the north-east of Catalonia. The

oldest reference of the word “sardana” is from 1552, but it started to become popular at the verge of 19th century all over the country.

The dance consists of holding hands, making a circle alternating men and women. The dancers make two or three steps sideways within the circle. The direction of those steps is alternated, and the hands must stay on the hip or shoulder level depending on the step. Dancers also have to jump following the music. Depending on the tempo it is danced more slowly or faster.

The participants are called “sardanistes”. They organise them-

selves in “colles” that are like a club or group. All the “colles” are united under the “Confederació de sardanistes” of Catalonia. Typically the orchestra that accompanies these dances plays wind instruments. Dancers wear special outfits. Each “colla” or club has their own colour and one key element of the outfit is the “espartdenya”, a traditional ankle laced shoe.

“Sardanes” is one of the most important traits of identity for Catalans although younger generations don’t feel so emotionally involved as their parents or grandparents used to.

Living as an exchange student

Petra Camilli, Michela Viele (Rome)

Getting an “international exchange program” doesn’t only mean learning a new language or having a gap. It means meeting new people, discovering places and habits, finding a different way to think; but it is, above all, learning about new culture.

When I go visiting a country, I usually spend my time with my family or friends, I never have the opportunity to get in touch with local people. During the day I usually go to museums and to the best-known places: I feel like a tourist, nothing else. I never go to the suburbs, I never visit a typical house, I never walk into a public school. I had the opportunity to do all these kinds of things, and I took it.

France

Do French people really carry the famous "baguette" under their arm-pit? Yes, it is actually true, moreover this typical bread is generally sold in a bag that doesn't cover all the baguette (nobody knows why).

Are French people more creative in their daily life clothes? Yes, this is also true. As I saw, they, especially teenagers, pay more attention to what they wear.



At least once in their lifetime, everybody has wondered if some stereotypes of foreign countries weren't lies. Obviously not everything has been perfect during my stay in France, for instance it was a shock for me, moving from a capital city to a 6,000 inhabitants town: nothing else than a school, a library, a swimming pool and a couple of houses.

New Zealand

I've been an exchange student in halfway across the world: in New Zealand. It's a country as big as Italy but people say that it has more sheep than humans. It has been one of the most relaxing and

wonderful experiences of my whole life, even though I went to school for three months. I had the opportunity to see another kind of school different from mine and I met wonderful people with different cultures and traditions as Maori which are the indigenous Polynesians of New Zealand. I was surrounded by nature even though I lived in a city. These are the reasons why I suggest this experience, it will change the way you see the world, you'll leave a piece of your heart there and it would become your second home.



This section is going to be about the various different ways in which entertainment surrounds us every day. You will have the opportunity to read articles concerning the 2019's Oscars ceremony, gastronomy in Poland, the youngest Nobel Prize winner, and Tibidabo, one of the most famous sites to visit in Barcelona.

2019's Oscar ceremony: what's new?

Giorgio Ricciardi, Marco Durante (Rome)

Every year, between the last weeks of February and the first weeks of March, an important ceremony takes place in Los Angeles: the Oscars. Best movie, best actor in a leading role and best director are just few of the categories that can be nominated for.

This year's presentation will bring a radical change into the traditional progress of the night. After 30 years there will not be an official announcer, but why? The Academy, which has the role to set up the entire Oscar night, originally decided to call as announcer, Kevin Hart, a famous American comedian. Unexpected-

ly the next days, due to some old posts on twitter on the comedian's profile considered homophobic, the Academy asked him to apologize publicly. He said he had already apologized for those old posts, and he finally decided to refuse the role of announcer offered him by the Academy.

Each Oscar category and the respective winner will be announced by a different showman (such as actors or directors), in the same way as 30 years ago, during 1989's Oscars night.

There could have been also another

shake-up of the night: the Academy originally decided, for this year's ceremony, to deliver some of the less important statuettes during television advertising, in order to streamline the entire prize-giving course. Nevertheless, this decision immediately met the opposition of public opinion, which generally considered this idea unfair and discrediting against those categories considered less important.

Anyway, apart from the main change concerning the missing announcer, this year's Oscar ceremony will be surely characterized by its typical atmosphere full of magic, entertainment and love for the seventh art.



Delicious foreign cuisine to be tasted in Kraków

Ewelina Markowska, Julia Konieczna (Cracow)

In 2019 Kraków was named the European capital of gastronomic culture, so visiting restaurants is a big opportunity to taste dishes from different countries without leaving Poland!

Japanese cuisine

Here, apart from enjoying fresh sushi, you can learn how the whole process of making Sake looks and how to drink it - without going to Japan.

French cuisine

The decoration of this place is wonderful and unique. It is really beautiful here. If you have ever been to France, you will return to that moment with memories. If not, you will feel as if you were there. In the menu, in addition to many dishes, there is an even larg-

er selection of wines, of course for adults.

Indian, Thai cuisine

This restaurant specializes in curry dishes from different regions of the world. All the dishes served on the spot come from recipes brought from Asia by the owners of the restaurant.

Georgian cuisine

The decor of the restaurant may not give a good impression, but it is definitely worth trying something from the menu. People who have visited Georgia claim that the food served in the restaurant tastes the same as in Georgia.

Polish Cuisine

By entering you can immediately see an original decor reminiscent



of Poland and its customs as you can see in old Polish movies. On Thursday and Friday you can listen to live music, which is no longer that popular in our times. The menu includes many traditional Polish dishes.

Tibidabo: Where Barcelona tries to reach the sky

Marina Cabrera (Barcelona)

Tibidabo is one of the sites with the most spectacular view of Barcelona. This place is located at the ridge of Collserola. At the top of the mountain where the amusement park is located, there are villages, restaurants, a church and a telecommunications tower you can climb. To get to this fantastic place, you must take a funicular or a bus.

One of the things that stands out the most in Tibidabo is the Temple Expiatori del Sagrat Cor.

The building is a Roman Catholic Church that was built by Enric Sagnier, between 1902 and 1911. The exterior aspect of the complex is a fortified walled enclosure made of stone from Montjuïc, presided by a monumental neo-gothic tem-

ple with a double stairway. The complex consists of an inner crypt and the upper church, with a central dome with eight columns.

Also, at the top of Tibidabo we can find the Tibidabo Amusement Park that occupies an area of approximately 70,000 m².

At the park we can find many attractions for all audiences. One of the most popular is the Airplane ride, a single-vehicle carousel that gives you the impression of flying above the city. Riders board a replica of the aircraft that first flew from Barcelona to Madrid.

But the park's most popular attraction is the Wheel, known for its bright colours and night-lighting. A

perfect romantic place.



Young people inspire young people

Julia Kirsch (Berlin)



“I am Malala” - A book everyone should read

One of the most inspiring young people in the world is the youngest Nobel Prize Winner Malala Yousafzai.

The fifteen years old girl was shot in the head on Tuesday, October 9, 2012, by a Taliban gunman while she was on her way home from school, just because she was campaigning for female education in the Swat Valley (Pakistan). Here, girls are not allowed to go to school and receive education. For the Taliban, an Islamic armed group that oppresses the people,

Malala was a problem and had to be eliminated. But this didn't work: the strong girl survived and never lost her voice. She is still a women's education activist and this



stroke of fate gave her an incredible strength for what she has to say.

To reach many people, Malala Yousafzai wrote the book: “I am Malala”.

When I read the book I realized how much I take for granted every day. For example my freedom and the ability to get education regardless of gender. The book solves the wish to make a difference and shows how the words of such a young person inspire the world.

Laura's family overseas

Elisabeth Perk (Tallin)

Do people leave Estonia with a wish of never coming back or are they just longing to experience the world before settling down in their native country?

Introduction

Laura Volmer (age 18) is the daughter of Märt Volmer (age 52), the ambassador of Estonia in Denmark. The Volmer family is currently living in Copenhagen, with the exception of Laura's sister Helena, who is studying at The University of Edinburgh. I first became friends with Laura when we studied together in Rahumäe School. I have known her my whole life as a witty, successful, outgoing, beautiful and down to earth kind of person.

Characteristics

It takes quite a lot of courage for a family to take a leap of faith and make the choice of spending most of your life living in several different countries. However, knowing their family, I can say that they managed really well and that the environment change has worked out great for them. Their strengths as a family are optimism, kind-heartedness and determination of achieving goals.

Life abroad

Living abroad has definitely helped them to develop as person. Although there are always difficulties when moving. They all had their own personal obstacles to overcome when adapting to the new environment. Laura and Helena needed to create a totally new network of people who to socialize with, Märt needed to adapt to new assignments at work and Laura's mother Aave was even

running a company overseas. The thing that they all had in common was homesickness. The deprivation of fresh warm-baked black bread, Estonian language and leaving families behind were sometimes too difficult to bear. But they leaned on each other and made things work.

The future

Their stay in Denmark is almost

over, as Märt will be moving back to Tallinn in the September of 2019. Aave and Laura will extend their stay in order to Laura's graduation at Copenhagen International School and start applying to universities. Estonia is still a big part of their family's lives as they all agree.



Games Corner

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This edition's editorial board

***In memory of Antonio Megalizzi and
Barto Pedro Orent-Niedzielski***

