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**A SHORT REPORT ON THE 2nd STUDENT'S EXCHANGE MEETING
IN ARDESEN/TURKEY, 24–28 April, 2023**

TOPIC: RELEASING A MOBILE APPLICATION

PARTNERS: CZECH REPUBLIC – TURKEY – ROMANIA

The meeting was hosted by Ardeşen Şehit Ömer Halisdemir, Science High School in **Ardeşen**, It is a town and district of Rize Province in the Black Sea region of Turkey, 48 km along the coast road from the city of Rize. The province is home to Laz, Hemshin, Turkish people and Georgian communities. All schools before the start of the meeting organized various activities at their schools and prepared their students well for the meeting. The main theme of the conference was "Releasing a Mobile Application".

3 teachers and 8 students from the Czech Republic, 4 teachers and 6 students from Romania and 4 teachers plus 11 students from Turkey participated in the meeting.

The following points were the **main objectives**:

- > to raise awareness of the importance of dialogue and communication in order to understand each other and be able to work together without distinction because of race, social status, educational levels or any other disadvantage;
- > to strengthen self-confidence and self-awareness of young European citizens;
- > to incorporate digital skills into teaching and learning activities and to be able to use them in learning foreign languages;
- >The students worked in teams. Each team presented PPTs and videos on the themes, worked in pairs and teams, exchanged ideas, participated in getting to know each other activity and did Kahoot quizzes on Digital technology as well as on General information. All the teams presented various presentations on:
 - What technology is used to develop Mobile Apps? How to Launch or Release a Mobile App? What steps /things to do before you publish or release an App? What applications do you consider to be the best and the most useful?
 - What is Mobile Communication? What are the Benefits and Advantages of the Use of Mobile Application for Learning a Foreign Language? Use of Smartphone Applications in English Language Learning. What are the Best Language Learning Apps?
 - What is Intercultural Communication and Understanding? How is it important to Education? How can it help to increase more knowledge about other European countries? What impact has it on Erasmus projects?

All the presentations were very well prepared by the students. There was a very nice presentation delivered by a former student of the school on Mobile application, technology and how to release mobile applications.

Students and teachers had a tour round the school. They met a few Turkish teachers, learnt more about the Turkish educational system and met the School Principal. There was a video shooting of the student about "What does Erasmus+ mean for them and a short folkloric dance facilities with students and teachers together.

The coordinators and teachers had a meeting too, where they agreed mutually to the dissemination of the project (Facebook, WhatsApp, Website implementation and updating; Social media updates and network building), sending all the presentations and videos to the Czech Coordinator and writing reports about the meeting.

The extra activities and trips were very well organized by the Turkish team. We had the opportunity to visit two Historical Mosques in Rize province on Monday and then on Tuesday we made a trip to the International AYDER Valley. Ayder Valley lies between Rize and Artvin and is located at the point where the Firtina (Storm)

River meets the Black Sea. It is one of Turkey's most beautiful tourist places, featuring natural beauty, charm, green mountains with snow on peaks, where tourists can enjoy unforgettable times.

On Wednesday we had a whole day trip to Black Lake in Artvin Province 100 km away from Ardeşen. KARAGÖL (black lake) is a landslide embankment lake located 25 kilometres north of the Şavşat district of Artvin in the Black Sea region of Turkey. It was formed by the accumulation of water in a bowl as a result of the landslide mass breaking off the slope and blocking the valley. It is a lake over 1540 meter above sea level. The

nature is awesome, lake is surrounded by trees, mountains are in behind. We walked around the lake for more than an hour and the experience was priceless. On Thursday we visited ÇEÇEVA which is a sample of tea farm and also visited the Rize CASTLE which is a ruined medieval castle and consists of a citadel and the lower castle. It is believed that the citadel was built during the reign of Byzantine emperor Justinian I between 527-565 AD, and the lower castle dates back to the 13th century AD. The view from the castle is fantastic and worth seeing.

The Exchange mobility was useful and beneficial to the students. The activities helped them to enrich their knowledge and competence as well as to raise awareness about using ICT, Releasing Mobile Apps and there use in Education. The meeting also enhance student's presentation and communication skills and team work. They also got to know something from each other's culture, languages of the partners and learnt about the importance of mobile apps in each country and their place in the core curriculum. They also made new friendships during their project activities.

Many thanks to the host school for organizing a very well-planned meeting. They did everything to make all the partners feel at home. We all appreciate their warmth, kindness and particularly the hospitality. The whole week was a great experience and passed away smoothly. The next meeting will take place in Prague, Czech Republic in October, 2023.

*Written by: Ing. Haseeb Khan
ŠMVV Praha, CZ*





