



# Erasmus+

"Water and Its Magical Power"

"Problems of Water in Europe" – Course in Iași, Romania, 18<sup>th</sup>–22<sup>nd</sup> March 2016

## Day 1 – Leaving home

On Thursday 17 March we met at the bus station in Brno at 6 a.m. Our team went to Romania to take part in the fifth of the meetings within the international Erasmus + project entitled "Water and Its Magical Power". The members of the project team were the teachers: Pavlína Trnková and Jiří Stibor, the students: Šárka Máčalová, Iva Obdrlíková, Matěj Lešek a Ladislav Řezáč. We travelled by bus to the Austrian capital Vienna and



our small plane left for Iași at 1.35 p.m. During our trip to Moldavia we saw the river Danube and the Carpatian mountains. We safely arrived to Iași airport at around 4 p.m., where the Romanian hosts were waiting to take us to their homes. Our course and friendship began. Iași is located in Moldavia region, it is the fourth biggest city in Romania.

## Day 2 – Meeting, Workshop at school



At 9.30 a.m. we met in the community center in park Copou. We started with presentations of our countries. They (Romanian team) gave us some presents (diaries, pens, booklets and other things). After the presentations we went to school. The students were showing us their school and told us about the school's history. Then we went for lunch. After the lunch we went to the classrooms where we had workshops. We were listening to songs and

we were guessing their names (these songs were about water, for example our Vltava by B. Smetana). After the Music lesson we went to the Chemistry class. They showed us which water is the best for drinking. Then we went to the community center again. The kids and Romanian students were doing a show there. They were playing the violin, dancing and singing.

### Day 3 – Carpatian trip – day 1

After awakening, getting up early and subsequent preparations we went for the next, two-day trip. It was quite cold, so we came to the meeting point all dressed up in warm clothes. When we were all there, we have noticed that only us, the Czech delegation, had hiking boots. This made us laugh and we went on a kind of a strange trip.

The word „trip“ can mean different things. And it does. Certainly for some Czechs. The principle of this trip was to get on a bus and go all the way, stop occasionally, take some pictures and then proceed further. Although we saw many beautiful places, many of them just from the bus or when we got out. It was sometimes really amazing and scary to see so many rocks and mountains around us.



When we finally arrived to the hotel in the center Durău we felt very tired. Fortunately, we had the whole evening off, so we took the cameras and walked around to make more photos. I must admit that the landscape there is really impressive.

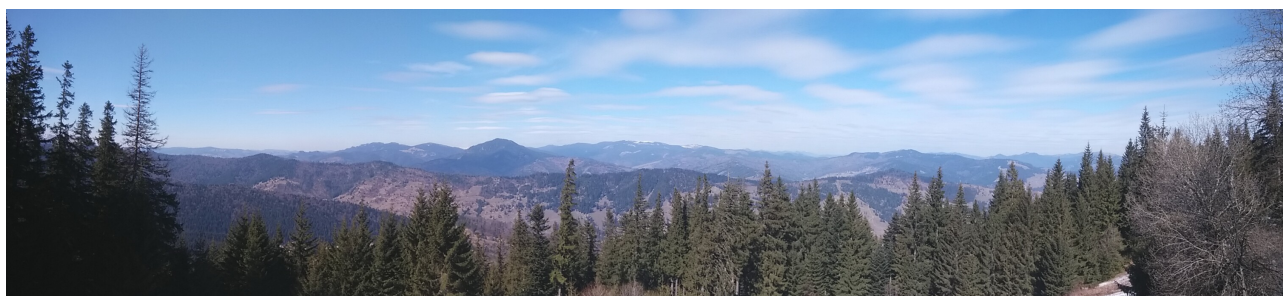
There was a big party after dinner with a great atmosphere, karaoke and billiards. We were singing some songs together. I and Matej were very sad, because we are boys and we don't like singing. Well, we finally got a good song „Don't Worry, Be Happy“. We finally enjoyed it especially because of the unusual style of our classmates. At the end there also was a Czech song „Toulavá“, which we sang very enthusiastically.

Then we played billiards. Many matches were held there, whether among us Czechs, or against other nations. The last game played Matej and me against a boy from Bulgaria and Andrea that is my friend's host. Unfortunately, we lost the game, our teacher Stibor missed the last hit. The rest of the day and the following day we were angry.

### Day 4 – Carpatians mountain day two

Our party at the hotel finished only a few minutes after midnight, but we didn't go to bed until we stopped watching videos on YouTube. Unfortunately we could sleep only for a few hours, because at eight-thirty there was breakfast.

Breakfast was a cold buffet where we could find various kinds of cold meat, cheese, vegetables and bread which is popular in Romania, and could not miss any table.



After breakfast we set off for a two-hour trip to the national park Cehlău. All the way to the national park, we were walking through the woods. At the end of our journey we were waiting for the rest of the group in a cottage. Some of us bought something to eat there, because we were very exhausted after climbing such a high mountain. Everyone made a few thousand photos and selfies and then we headed back down the same path. It was a little dangerous way – with a few falls and bruised arms.

After returning to the hotel, we had about 15 minutes to pack all things. There was lunch after this quick package. Once we finished our meals we boarded the bus and began the journey back to Iași. On the way back there was a short stop at a male Orthodox monastery.

We returned to Iași at around five-thirty, and some of us even went shopping to the city.

### Day 5 – Botanical garden



On Monday, the 21 March we had a meeting in a botanical garden at 9.00 a.m. I with my host came late. When we came we realized that the students had been divided into two groups. So we joined one of the groups. In botanical garden we were two hours. They showed us some flowers and plants. Then we went to a building where we used microscopes to see microorganisms in water. It was interesting. When we finished, we went for lunch.

After the lunch we visited the oldest university in Romania which is named "Al Ioan Cuza". After a short excursion at the university we went to research laboratory where they studied water. We spent 45 minutes there. Then the program finished and I with my friends went to the shopping center. In the shopping center I spent the whole afternoon.

### Day 6 – World Water Day 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2016

Our last day we met in the school again. We went to a gym and we were doing some poster for the water day. After that we were learning the water song and the water dance. The song was redesigned by the students. After the choreography lesson we went to a park. We were doing the water dance and we were singing the water song many times there. The parents and kids were watching us dancing. Some students (for example- Matěj) wasn't dancing. He was recording everything. Then we went home or to the city for a lunch.



After the lunch we went to school again, because the students had prepared a party for us. The party was great. We were dancing, singing and many students were crying in the end. It was our last day and it was the saddest day for everybody. The last day we asked

Stephania (our Romanian host) to write few words about the last day:

*Tuesday*

*A beautiful day, but sad one, because it was the last day when we could see our new friends, with whom we became closer. This last day had an emotional impact on us, because at the beginning of the day, we had a flashmob; we sang about water's importance and we danced, on a song of pop music king, Michael Jackson, the rest of the day was the decisive moment of all these 5 days. At the party, we had fun together, we danced, we learnt a lot of dances from every partner country, we ate, and at the end, some people cried... Thanks to this course, and the others, we made a lot of friends, and these friendships will last.*

### **Day 7 – Coming home**



The last day we left Iasi in the afternoon. We met in the airport hall at 2 p.m. We said good bye to all our hosts and the families. Our journey to Vienna was a smooth and cloudy one. We were back in Brno in the evening. Thank you all Romanian friends for a wonderful week. Your country is really beautiful! Hope to see you again.