Funded by the Erasmus+ Programme of the European Union

Minutes of LTT – Volos / Greece

"HOW TO MAKE SCHOOLS MORE ATTRACTIVE AND CREATIVE" (S.M.A.C.)

28th March – 2nd April 2022

Participants:

- **Greece**
  Teachers: Nikolaos LOANNIDIS, Vicky MANTZOROU, Evaggelia TEGOPOULOU
  Students: Nikos BINDIVINOS, Eleftheria MAVRIA, Alexia KOKOSI, Katerina AMYGDALOPOULOU, Zafeiris STAVRIDIS, Anastasia KLADI, Eleftheria POLYZOI, Eleni KAKALI, Elpida ANASTASIOU

- **Poland**
  Teachers: Grażyna STRZĄDAŁA, Monika ROSIEWICZ
  Students: Natalia PIOTRAK, Dominika KURDZIEL, Malgorzata ZUR

- **Spain**
  Teachers: Maria Jose CABEZAS CABELLO, Esther MATA
  Students: Maria Guirado DOMINGUEZ, Triana Heredia BERMEJO, Marta Barranquero ORTIGOSA, Daniel Ruiz CUENCA

- **Romania**
  Teachers: Bogdan Lucian VIZITEU
  Students: Robert-Cadrut ZIMERMAN, Cristian-Alin VIZITEU, Marian BUCHE

- **Turkey**
  Teachers: Esenn DEMIRBAS, Yesim DEMIRORS, Evrim YALCINKAYA
  Students: Nilay OZCELIK, Sila BURCU, Irem ERDOGAN

Mobility timetable:

Date	Plan of the day
28th March	• **9.00 – Welcome meeting in 4th High School** • **9.30 Meeting local authorities in Volos's info point** • **10.00 – 12.00Visiting Volos ancient monuments** • **12.30 – 13.00 Visiting a Collection of paintings by a local artist** • **13.00 – 15.00 Excursion in Volos old city. Culture and history of Volos area. Volos's city Museum.** • **15.00 – 17.00 Lunch in old city Restaurant**
29th March	• **8.45 Meeting in front of the hotel** • **9.00 Departure for a study visit to Olive and Oil Museum of Pelion** • **11.30 Study visit to public Library in Milies Pelion** • **14.00 Lunch in Pelion coast line (K. Gatzea)** • **15.30 Discovering the coastal ecosystem of Pagasiticos Gulf** • **18.00 Return to the hotel**
30th March	• **7.45 Meeting in front of the hotel** • **8.00- Departure for an excursion to Thessaloniki** • **11.30 Visit to Atatürk Museum** • **13.00 Visit to the Archaeological Museum of Thessaloniki**

	• **15.30 Excursion to the Thessaloniki old city monuments** • **20.00**
31st March	• **8.45 Meeting in theatre of "Palia Ilektriki" Volos** • **9.00- Workshop on dramatic art** • **11.00 Presentations of the theatrical plays from participating teams** • **14.00 Lunch in a transitional Restaurant.** • **15.00 Departure to traditional village of Makrinitsa Pelion** • **16.00 Visit to the Byzantine Museum of Makrinitsa.** • **18:00 Return to Volos**
1st April	• **8.30 Meeting in 4th High School** • **9.00 – Teachers management meeting. Evaluation report.** • **Coordinator's meeting – dissemination, evaluation of the mobility, constructing a questionnaire** • **Dancing activities for the students in the school** • **13.00 Final evaluation of the project activities** • **14.00 Farewell ceremony in Cultural Centre with folk dancing presentations**
2nd April	• **10.00 Final evaluation of the project activities** • **14.00 Farewell ceremony in Cultural Centre with folk dancing presentations** • **Farewell meeting and dinning**

1. **Objectives**
   - Meeting and presentation of project partners
   - Visiting the school (comparing educational system and work organisation at school, participation in the lessons and social clubs)
   - Discovering common cultural aspects and developing team spirit
   - Performance of theatrical plays that participating teams prepared

2. Preparations

Preparations for the C3 LTT of the „How to make schools more attractive and creative" – S.M.A.C. Erasmus+ project, took place at the end of March 2022, the coordinating school made all the practical arrangements, such as booking the hotel, preparing the programmed activities, providing information on how to arrive to school etc. Participants made travel arrangements: booking flights, buying insurance, prepared all the necessary information for the meeting.

3. Activities

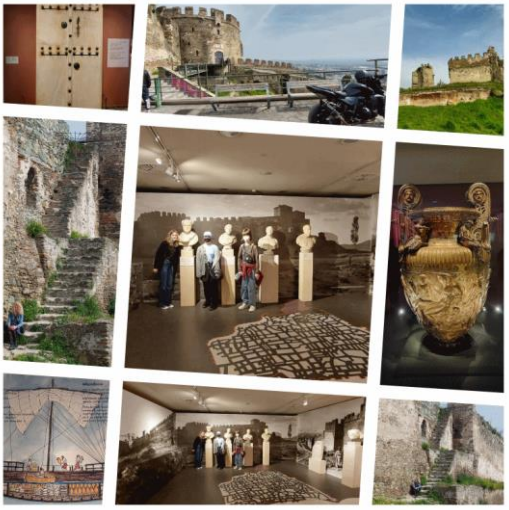
On **Monday, 28th March 2022**, the participants went to 4th General Lyceum of Volos partner school in the ERASMUS -S.M.A.C. project. Towards a short welcome from the principal of the school the teams walked till the nearby Municipality's Info center. They were informed for the history of Volos, the ancient civilization and the famous Argonauts and the myth of Jason and his fellow Argonauts has enthralled the world. Jason's quest to get the fabled Golden Fleece and bring it back to his homeland. Our hosts also share presents to all teams, maps, and information material about the area. Next step the palace of the ancient city of Demetrias, in a short distance by bus. On a low hill overlooking the modern city of Volos and Mount Pelion stand the remains of the Macedonian palace and city founded in 294 BC by Demetrius Poliorcetes. The ancient city of Demetrias occupied an area of 440 hectares and was fortified with a wall 11km long and 180 towers. At the end of the ancient site there is an ancient theatre of Demetrias. At the current situation of the theatre, stripped of its stone seats, was created after the final abandonment of the building in the mid-4th c. AD, while the stage building belongs to the Roman period. In between students and teachers had the opportunity to get familiar with a famous local painter collection near the old harbor. Finally, the excursion ended to

old city of Volos, when after lunch teams were walked in the small roads.

On **Tuesday, 29th March 2022**, activities moved outside of the city. First stop in a modern oil mill to the village Kato Gatzea, where participants informed about the history of olive cultivation, the significance of the olive tree in ancient Greece, techniques of cultivation, and the different olive varieties. They learn about the oil extraction process and how factors such as weather, time of harvest and pressing temperature ("cold pressed") influence the quality of the final product. At the end, they had the opportunity to sample Pelion green olive oil and organic extra-virgin olive oil. The bus climbed Pelion Mountain towards to the Public Library of Milies, which is situated in the village of Milies on Mount Pelion, 26 km from the city of Volos. It is housed in a building erected in 1928 near the village square and the historical church of Aghii Taxiarches. The library is historically tied to the famous School of Milies, inaugurated in 1815. There are today 3.355 books of old print, as well as 116 manuscripts, 1000 loose documents and objects of particular interest belonging to the Milies School. Students and teachers had the opportunity to walk the pathway and meet Milies Railway Station. It is the terminus of the narrow gauge (60 cm) Pelion Railway, built between 1895 and 1903 by the Italian engineer, Evaristo de Chirico, father of the famous artist Giorgio de Chirico. As Pelion is the legendary mountain that is, according to Greek mythology, the summer residence of the Olympian Gods and the land of the Centaurs, the excursion ended with a tour of the coastline.

On Wednesday, 30th March 2022, the delegation of the S.M.A.C. project invited to

take part in an historical and cultural excursion to Thessaloniki. Sitting in the shadow of Mount Olympus, whose peak looms on the horizon beyond the shimmering harbour, Thessaloniki is steeped in Ancient Greek and Roman history. Add to that layer of Byzantine and Ottoman heritage, the legacy of Thessaloniki's Sephardic Jews (present here since the 3rd century BC) and the Balkan-like socialist apartment blocks that dominate downtown, and you have an intriguing mix of influences. Starting point for exploring the history of all Northern Greece, was the Archaeological Museum in Thessaloniki, one of the largest museums in Greece and the central museum of northern Greece. From the Final Neolithic / approximately 4500-3200 BC, to the Early Bronze Age (3rd millennium BC), the Macedonian era, the Roman, Byzantine and Ottoman periods unfolded into the visitors foots.



Passing from the open-air monuments such as The Palace and the Arch of Galerius and Rotonda and to the way of the castle in upper city, next stop was in Ataturk Museum. Mustafa Kemal Ataturk was born in this house in Apostolou Pavlou St in 1881. The house is converted into a museum dedicated to his life and achievements. Mustafa Kemal Ataturk was the founder and leader of the modern secular Turkish State. He is considered one of the most important and historic personalities of Turkey. Finally, after the lunch a walk along the waterfront, the teams met the most iconic building of Thessaloniki: The White Tower. The cylindrical fortification was erected by the Ottomans after they captured Thessaloniki in 1430. Before that, a different structure built by the Byzantines stood here to guard against invaders pressing against the city's eastern sea wall. Late at night the delegation returned to Volos.

On **Thursday, 31st March 2022**, carried out a theatre workshop in "Palia Hlektriki" Performance Art Theatre. All partners had prepared a theatre play and they present it to other teams. The host Greek team dedicated the performance to refugees of this world. Polish team prepared and presented a fairytales story and Turkish and Spanish team different options of the myth "The apple of Discord". The Romanian team send a strong message against social isolation of vulnerable students. At the end all the students express their support and will for social inclusion

especially in school activities and everyday life. After theatric presentations partners followed the road to Pelion and visited the transitional village of Makrinitsa. Makrinitsa is a traditional style village on the slopes of Pelion, 12 km from the city of Volos. It is known as the "balcony of Mount Pelion" because it is built on a high location and overlooκs the entire Pagasitikos gulf, its unique architectural features, its magnificent mansions and houses, its churches, water fountains and paths. Makrinitsa was built between 1204 and 1215 by the Byzantine family of Malliasinon. Perched immediately above the village square (and church) in a mansion that's been given a modern, air-conditioned makeover, Makrinitsa's 'showroom of ecclesiastical heirlooms' opened in 2019. The collection consists entirely of religious art and treasures from local churches and monasteries and includes three icons by roving artist Theophilos. That was the last stop of the day.

On Friday, 1st April 2022, activities transferred to the establishment of 4th General Lyceum of Volos. Here, the school principal had the pleasure to introduce to the partners the school's everyday life. The students took part the programmed activities, while teachers took in a project management meeting. Coordinating team members presented the plan of activities and their managers, data of the other five meetings with the partner schools, inviting each partner to tell their points of view. There were also settled the details of all activities, implementation methods and expected results, as well as evaluation, dissemination and questionnaires were made out and discussed. There were identified the principles, methods, and strategies for the development of the action plan for the last mobility of project implementation. In the afternoon a farewell event was organized in Cultural Center in N. Ionia, where Greek students and their parents prepared a celebration with music and dances. Snacks and refreshments were serviced. Icebreaking talks were done. In a highlight of the event, Greek and Turkish sang together a common song. All participating teams danced and renewed their meeting to Turkey.

On Saturday, 2nd April 2022, Final evaluation of the project activities were carried out.

Farewell ceremony in Cultural Centre with folk dancing presentations

4. Obtained results

- the activities with a practical nature, which were programmed within the LTT-Greece, were successfully carried out.

- Several workshops on traditional dances, theatrics performances, traditional way of life and traditional regional habits were made each partner country in the project presented a theatrical play demonstrating the active involvement of students
- the necessary materials were collected from each partner-
- the participants have acquired new skills in terms of how students can be valued in the activities of the Erasmus S.M.A.C. project
- the details of the future activities were established.
- -the participants gained knowledge about the culture, history and traditions of the Greek people.
- E-twinning cooperation was planned for further and massive dissemination of the project