

ERASMUS + MAGAZINE

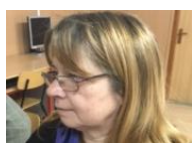
Romania, 6th to 12th of March 2016



What people think about the Erasmus + project



“Erasmus + is the best one in the world.”
Adrian Magdas- coordinator headmaster from Romania



“It is a great opportunity for students and teachers to learn.” Ariana Văcărețu - teacher from Romania

I ♥
CLUJ

#NATURE

#NATURE



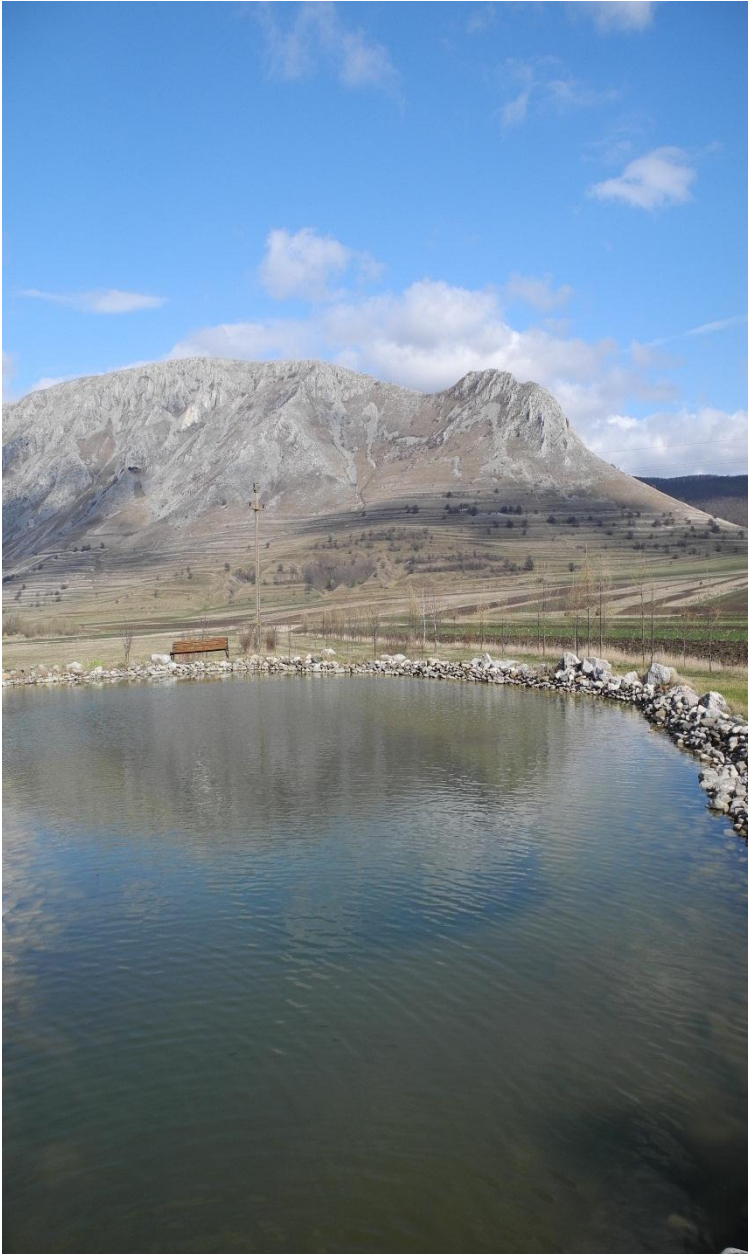
Prejudices & Reality

Before coming to Romania we thought the weather is horrible, always snowy and rainy. That on the mountains wild animals live. That the landscapes are green, as mountains, full of woods and forests...reaching Cluj and going around we had instead realized that mountains are rocky, the landscapes are not green but hills are very dry. Only near farms they cultivate their soil. We were lucky with the weather, as well....it was sunny and it was not cold. It rained just a bit, at night 😊

Nature

Romania has been very blessed from a geographical point of view, incorporating almost every type of landform, from mountains to plains, hills and even deltas. A percentage of 98 of the rivers of Romania spring from the Carpathian mountains, many of them offering quite a spectacular sight, with caves, gorges and precipices. Even though we can not compare the size of the Carpathians to that of the Alps, for example, they are one of the things the country praises most. Stretching like an arch across the country, the mountains are divided into three major ranges and feature different types of terrain.

#NATURE



The Danube river, which makes its way through Europe for almost 2000 miles, ends its lengthy journey in Romania. That is how the Danube Delta came to be. It is now a natural reservation, recognized by UNESCO, and it is home to a large variety of species of plants and animals. Despite the popularity of the Delta, an even greater touristic attraction is the Romanian Black Sea. Its sandy beaches and the clear water, that stretches for a little over 150 miles, bring in both Romanians and foreigners.

It is safe to say that Romania can offer a great deal of wonderful, breathtaking landscapes, whether you are looking out to the sea or scaling our highest peaks, you just have to want to discover Romania and the nature it prides itself with.

#CULTURE

#CULTURE



Happy Womens Day

8th of March- International Women's Day

Every year, the appreciation, respect and love to women is shown everywhere. Children from every region thank their mothers, while lovers give each other roses or snowdrops. Often people give flowers on the street to the women walking by. It is a simple gesture, which reminds us of the importance of women in the world.

1st of March – Mărțișor

When the spring comes, the Romanians celebrate its arrival by wearing little white and red strings usually tied up together in a ribbon. This symbolizes good luck and a prosper and healthy year for whoever gets one. It is believed that the Mărțișor celebration was an old Dacian tradition, tracing back its history more than 8.000 years ago. One of the customs is that boys give mărțișoare to girls, while on a leap year the tradition is supposed to be reversed.

#CULTURE

- What do you think about the way people dress in Romania?
- What do you think about folk music and the music people listen to in Romania?
- What do you like about the Romanian architectural style of the buildings?



Marianna Lorenti, Italy

- Each person dresses in a different way. I think they are not interested in fashion.
- I don't like folk music. I don't think all the Romanians like folk music.
- I like them. They are huge buildings and monuments that fully respect all the canons of the various artistic currents.



Melene Barata, Portugal

- The way people dress in Romania is the same like in Portugal
- I don't like folk music, but Romanians like almost the same music Portuguese people listen to, like pop music.
- I like the way churches are built.



Urte Gureckyte, Lithuania

- I think they wear jeans and some girls wear traditional skirts. I really like traditional shirts.
- Some girls listen to rock music, but I prefer pop music. I like folk music, it's beautiful.
- Their churches are big and beautiful. I especially like orthodox ones and the Catholic sculptures.



Ronja Essing, Germany

- They dress in a very nice way and they often wear scarves.
- I don't really like folk music.
- I like the old style of the houses.



Kotryna Kuskyte, Lithuania

- They wear casual clothes. They use lots of sweaters.
- The folk music is beautiful, and Romanians listen to rock music as well.
- They are old and big. The buildings have the same style as the Northern European style.

#CULTURE

Recipe for Papanasi



Ingredients:

For doughnuts

2-½ tbsp granulated sugar
1 cup warm water
4½ tsp yeast
1 egg, beaten
½ cup butter, melted
1 tsp ground cinnamon
1 tsp ground nutmeg
½ vanilla bean, seeds scraped out
½ tsp salt

3-½ cups all-purpose flour
Canola oil for frying
Icing sugar for garnish

For blueberry jelly

2 tbsp cornstarch
2 tbsp water
2 cups fresh blueberries
⅓ cup granulated sugar
1 tsp lemon juice

Directions

1 For the blueberry filling, mix the cornstarch and water together in a small bowl until fully combined. In a heavy saucepan over medium heat, bring the blueberries, sugar and lemon juice to a boil, stirring constantly. Add the cornstarch mixture and stir continuously until the filling thickens. Remove from heat; set aside.

2 To make the doughnuts, combine the sugar and warm water in a large bowl. Sprinkle the yeast on top and stir gently. Let the mixture sit for 5 minutes to allow the yeast to activate. Add the egg, butter, cinnamon, nutmeg, vanilla seeds and salt; mix until well combined.

3 Slowly stir in the flour until a dough is formed that isn't sticky to the touch. You may need a little less or a little more flour, depending on the size of the egg.

4 Remove the dough from the bowl and knead it on a floured surface for about 2 minutes. Roll out the dough to about ½" thick and cut out circular shapes with a biscuit cutter. Lay the shapes on a baking sheet; let rise for 30 minutes.

5 Heat the canola oil in a large saucepan to 360°F. Fry the doughnuts, turning once so that both sides cook evenly. Drain the doughnuts on a paper towel.

6 Pipe the blueberry jelly into the middle of each doughnut using a pastry bag fitted with a large metal tip. Roll in icing sugar and serve immediately.

#CULTURE



Socată



Salată de vinete



Sarmale



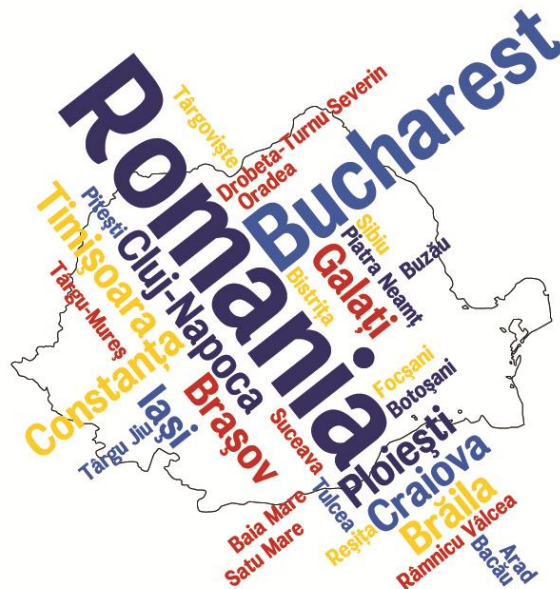
Mămăligă



Mici



Țuică



#PEOPLE

#PEOPLE

Before leaving we had thought the inhabitants of Romania were gypsies, poor people, thieves.....all very bad attributes that were soon cancelled being here.

On the contrary we met people with a lot of culture. Cluj is full of universities, a lot of them are very old ones, founded even centuries ago. During the week the city is full of students. There are a lot of book shops.

Everybody knows the history of their nation and are very proud of their traditions, culture and customs.

We had the possibility to visit Alba Iulia and the guide explained everything about the fortress that has been restored in the best way, showing either the Roman area or the Austro-Hungarian one.

Even the visit to the salt mine in Turda was very interesting and showed us how Romanian miners worked in very harsh conditions in the deepest caves of the mine, extracting one of the most important products of the ancient past.

Travelling by bus we could see the Romanian countryside and its inhabitants: farmers who work their land with patience, without any modern technology, with their carts and horses.....it seemed we had come back to past times, when life followed the time of the sun and of seasons. It was very romantic, to be totally immersed in a time we had lost, but still exists, here.....



#PEOPLE



Emil Racoviță

- He is considered to be one of the founders of biospeology;
- He was the first researcher to collect botanical and zoological samples from areas beyond the Antarctic Circle;
- The Romanian school is named after him.

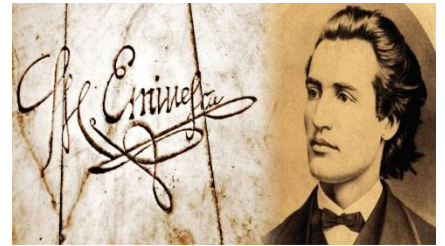
-One of the themes that fascinated him was that of the kiss:

- He is best known for Coloana Infinitului (Endless Column); Poarta Sărutului (The Gate of the kiss) and Cuminența pământului (Wisdom of the Earth).



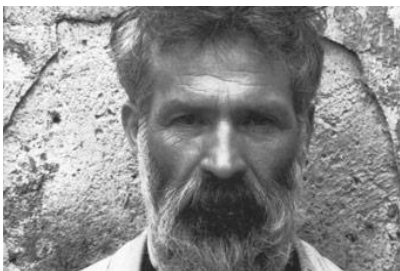
George Enescu

- is Romania's most important musician and composer
- Queen Maria of Romania said that Enescu was "pure gold"
- Among his orchestral works are three symphonies, two Romanian rhapsodies, and an overture on Romanian folk themes.



Mihai Eminescu

- The most influential Romanian poet
- A Romantic poet, novelist and journalist
- Eminescu was only 20 when Titu Maiorescu, the top literary critic in Romania called him "a real poet"
- He was the last romantic poet in Europe.



Constantin Brâncuși

- Probably the most known sculptor in the world:
- His work is on display in Târgu-Jiu:



Nadia Comăneci

- She was the first gymnast ever to receive a perfect score during the Olympic Games;
- She is now a member of numerous foundations that help support gymnastic excellence.

#PEOPLE

Romania Population clock

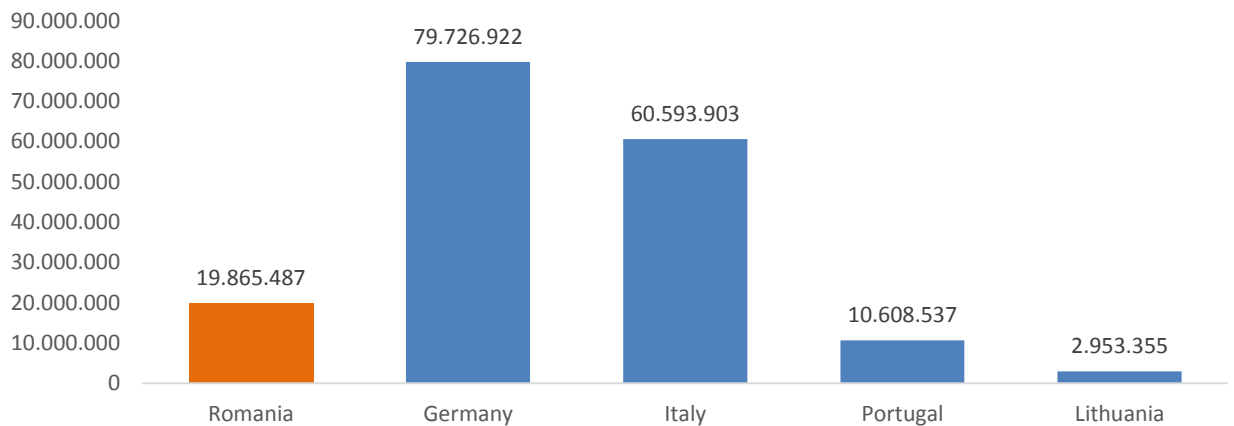
09-03-2016 11:33:40

19 865 625	Current population
9 637 106	Current male population (48.5%)
10 228 519	Current female population (51.5%)
35 973	Births this year
253	Births today
44 486	Deaths this year
313	Deaths today
-979	Net migration this year
-7	Net migration today
-9 492	Population growth this year
-67	Population growth today



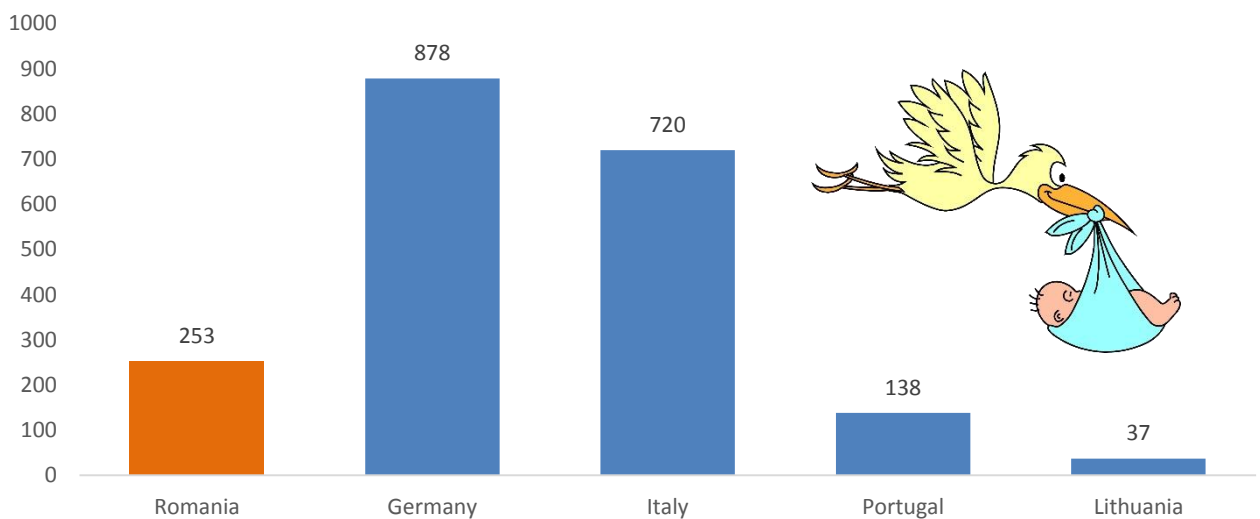
#PEOPLE

Current population



Births today

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#PEOPLE

Romanians & their appearance-----



Black eyes vs. Blue eyes



Dark-haired vs. Blonde

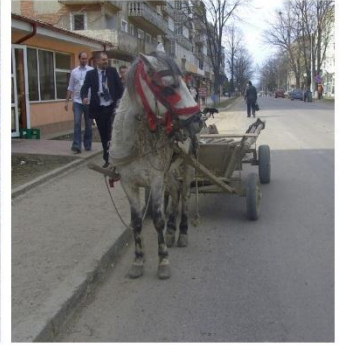


Straight hair vs. Curly hair

All of our foreign friends had a relatively distorted view on the appearance of Romanians. They thought that Romanians would be dark-skinned, black-eyed people. They weren't entirely wrong, as some Romanians do match this profile. However, they soon discovered that the population is a multicultural one, thus making it impossible to affirm that there is a standard Romanian look.



#PEOPLE



Tolerant
Friendly
Physical
Body
Population
Walking
Appearance
Brown
Skinner
Eyes
Hair

#HISTORY

#HISTORY



When we studied the **history of Romania** it seemed so confusing because of the many peoples that invaded the several parts of the country and because of the several times they tried to join each other!

Following the tourist guides and visiting the country we could understand everything and really enjoy the history of this wonderful country.

The first invaders of the area came from Eastern Asia and the first real setting was created by Dacians, who founded their country, **Dacia**.

When **the Romans** arrived and conquered the territory they settled in Dacia, destroyed everything and founded their own town in what is now called **Alba Iulia** or Alba Carolina. It was destroyed in the Middle Ages and rebuilt....but it was during



#HISTORY



the **Austro-Hungarian empire** that this town, protected by a huge fortress, reached its maximum splendour.

The first attempt to reunite **Transylvania, Moldavia and Wallachia** had been made by **Michael the Brave**... but it was only for a few years because he was killed, in Turda.

Years passed and another reunification of the three countries into one land was made in 1859, but it didn't work, as well.

The last reunification, that presents Romania as it is at present, happened in 1918, after a great manifestation of about 100.000 inhabitants in Alba Iulia. Here the document that attests this very important moment for the nation is kept.

Romania suffered the occupation of the **Red Army** and the Russian communist dictatorship as well.....and has lived its own dictatorship, under the figure of **Ceaușescu**, a really sad and oppressive period, from which Romanians are now free!

#OUR TRIPS

#OUR TRIPS



Alba Iulia

Our trip to the centre of Transylvania took us to Alba Iulia, a former capital of the region. In 1600, this was the place where Michael the Brave first came to proclaim the unification of Romania. And although his project only lasted for less than a year, the city remained a symbol of national emancipation and unity.

Today, it hosts the fortress of Alba Carolina, whose defensive gates and walls still separate the old city from the modern and industrial one. Inside the fortifications lie two old churches – the Roman-Catholic one, resting place of numerous Transylvanian bishops, and the Orthodox one.

The fortress is also a touristic spot. Sculptures of soldiers and laypeople alike can be found along the wide alleys, and tourists often take pictures of them or even next to them.

#OUR TRIPS

Colțești

The Colțești fortress dates back to the 13th century. Its original purpose was a defensive one, as the area was prone to attacks from the tatars. But now, only two towers and the side walls remain.

The Pietra Secuiului Peak (over 1000 metres high) is an isolated mountain peak that looks just like a giant lying on his back.

Rîmetea Village (Eisenburg) is known to be a monumental village since 1999 and is part of a project called “Our Europe”. It will soon be included in the UNESCO heritage.

The Turda Salt Mine

The Salt Mine in Turda used to be a functioning mine in medieval times. At the moment, it is ranked 22 amongst the most impressive touristic attractions in the world and said to be the most beautiful underground place on the whole globe.

The mine consists of numerous galleries, treatment facilities for respiratory problems, a museum that presents old mining instruments and an amusement park. What is most remarkable about Salina Turda is that the salt it contains is almost perfectly pure, not needing additional processing. Also, the amount of salt there is enough for the whole population of Europe, in the next 100 years.

This important destination has been recently modernised and, apart from its new elevator, the amusement park boasts an underground lake with rowing boats, a Ferris wheel and a mini-golf court.

#OUR TRIPS

Cluj-Napoca

Cluj-Napoca is an important educational, industrial and cultural centre of Transylvania. Medieval churches, a marvellous bothanic garden (considered to be the most beautiful in Romania), along with numerous univeristies and museums (arts, history, natural science, pharmacy and so on) make up the urban landscape of the city.

The Babeş-Bolyai Univeristy in Cluj-Napoca is a public univeristy with more than 41.000 students. The history of education in Cluj begins in the 16th century, with the creation of the Jesuit College. However, the Romanian University of Cluj (that used Romanian as the main language) was only founded in 1919.



#INTERVIEWS

#INTERVIEWS

Nature - Foreigners

If you were to pick one geographical feature that makes Romania stand out, what would it be?

The Carpathian Mountains (Urtė, Lithuania), Piatra Secuiului (Joana, Portugal)

Based on your impressions so far, how do you think the rest of Romania looks like?

Full of mountains, but also of polluted rivers (Ieva, Lithuania)

Pick one geographical feature of Romania that you would like to borrow for your country.

The Mountains (Kotryna, Lithuania), the Salt Mine (José)

Which is your favourite place in Cluj? Describe it to someone who has never been to Romania.

The Central Park (Alexa, Italy), Unirii Square (Marianna, Italy)

Nature – Romanians

You are working as a travel agent who desperately wants to persuade people to come to Transylvania. What are you going to tell your customers?

That the Romanian culture is a very interesting and unusual one, since it preserves so many traditions and incorporates them into every-day life. (Tudor, Romania))

#INTERVIEWS

Nature – Romanians

You have two free hours and the possibility to take a friend to any place in Romania (only one). Which will it be?

Peleş Castle (Sara, Romania)

Society & lifestyle – Foreigners

Is there a word in Romanian that you find particularly funny?

Călătorie (seen on a bus ticket by Ronja, Germany)

Is there a trait of character that seems to be common to all Romanian people?

Friendliness (Ema, Lithuania)

Is there a tradition that you have learnt about since you came to Romania?

The traditional cuisine (Meda, Lithuania)

Society & Lifestyle – Romanians

Choose 3 words to describe the Romanian society. Please avoid clichés.

Culture, joy, multiculturalism (Claudia, Romania)

#INTERVIEWS

Society & Lifestyle – Romanians

What is special about the people of Cluj?

Their perseverance and determination to complete all projects (Mara, Romania)

Which aspects of the cultural life of Romania are you familiar with?

The TIFF Festival (cinema), the Untold Festival (music), the museums (Ioana, Romania)

Culture & Personalities – Foreigners

Is there a Romanian personality that you knew about before coming to our country?

Carol I (Manuela, Germany)

If you could talk to one of our cultural figures that you know of, whom would you pick?

Matei Corvin (Carlotta, Italy)

Culture & Personalities – Romanians

Choose a female cultural figure that you'd like to meet?

Maria Tănase (Sonia, Romania)

#WORKSHOPS

#WORKSHOPS

Nature



Another play will be presented by an enthusiastic team, working in the festive hall of the high school. Their subject is nature, but they didn't want to spoil the surprise and only told us that the four seasons that can be found in Romania will play an essential role in the plot.

The members of the team are glad that they have chosen this particular workshop and they told us that everything is going on quite well. And before we could ask any more questions, they started working again, diligent as always.

#WORKSHOPS

Culture



Through a musical, the group in charge of culture bases their presentation on the opposition between traditions and modern lifestyle. The interaction between the two will help them demolish all of our stereotypes. They are working in a spacious classroom, combining movement and music.

The members of the team didn't know each other before the workshop, but they are now good friends and they are cooperating in order to obtain an impressive result.

#WORKSHOPS

People



The variations of appearance amongst Romanians will be presented through photographs. These have been taken around the school, in order to show that not all Romanians match the stereotypical profile they are usually associated with. The images will make up a slide show and will be preceded by a short presentation of the overall impressions of the members.

The students and teachers collaborated really well. They started by sharing their prejudices and by talking about their culture. Our foreign friends received explanations from their hosts and even found the time to discuss about the Romanian educational system.

#WORKSHOPS

History



With the aid of a time machine that they have just invented, this group will present a play about the most important events in Romanian history. Right now, they are working in a small, cozy classroom nestled on the upper floor of the school. When we visited them, they were working on their colorful machine and exchanging opinions.

They told us that the work had been carried out efficiently and that although at first there was a lot of information to take in, they know have a better understand-ning of Romanian history.

#WORKSHOPS

Radio

The Radio Programme will last for 5 minutes and will deal with nature, inhabitants, culture and history. The presentation will take different forms, ranging from games and quizzes to live music, calls from the listeners and interviews with famous Romanian people.

The team included several students who participated in the same workshop during other project meetings. They found the experience instructive and enriching, so here they are again, using their experience and skills for the Romanian programme. There are also new members, however, who quickly figured out how to collaborate efficiently. Of course, there is a lot of work involved, but the result will surely be worth it.



#WORKSHOPS

Magazine

The most important workshop, the one to produce the magazine, was very interesting and satisfying.

We started collecting photos of the town, of the excursion we did in Alba Iulia and Turda, of the school, the workshops, the food we tasted, the people we met.

Then we wrote the articles about the topics we had analyzed, prepared the interviews, we have organized the structure of the magazine.

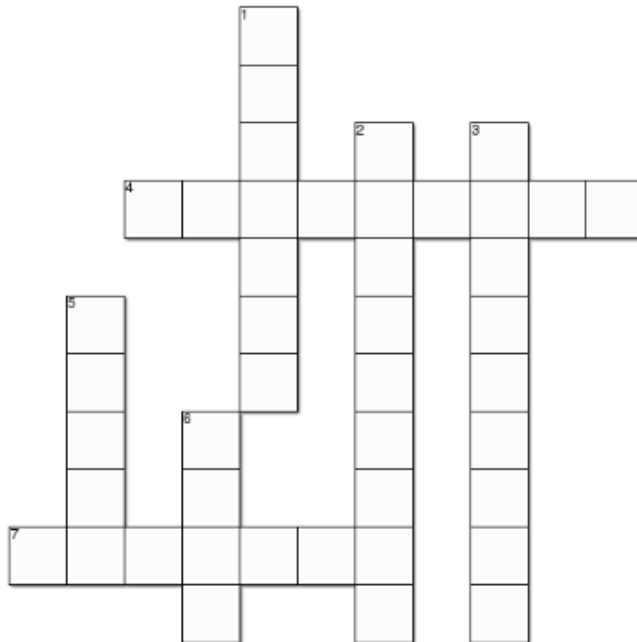


#GAMES

#CROSSWORD

ERASMUS

Complete the crossword below



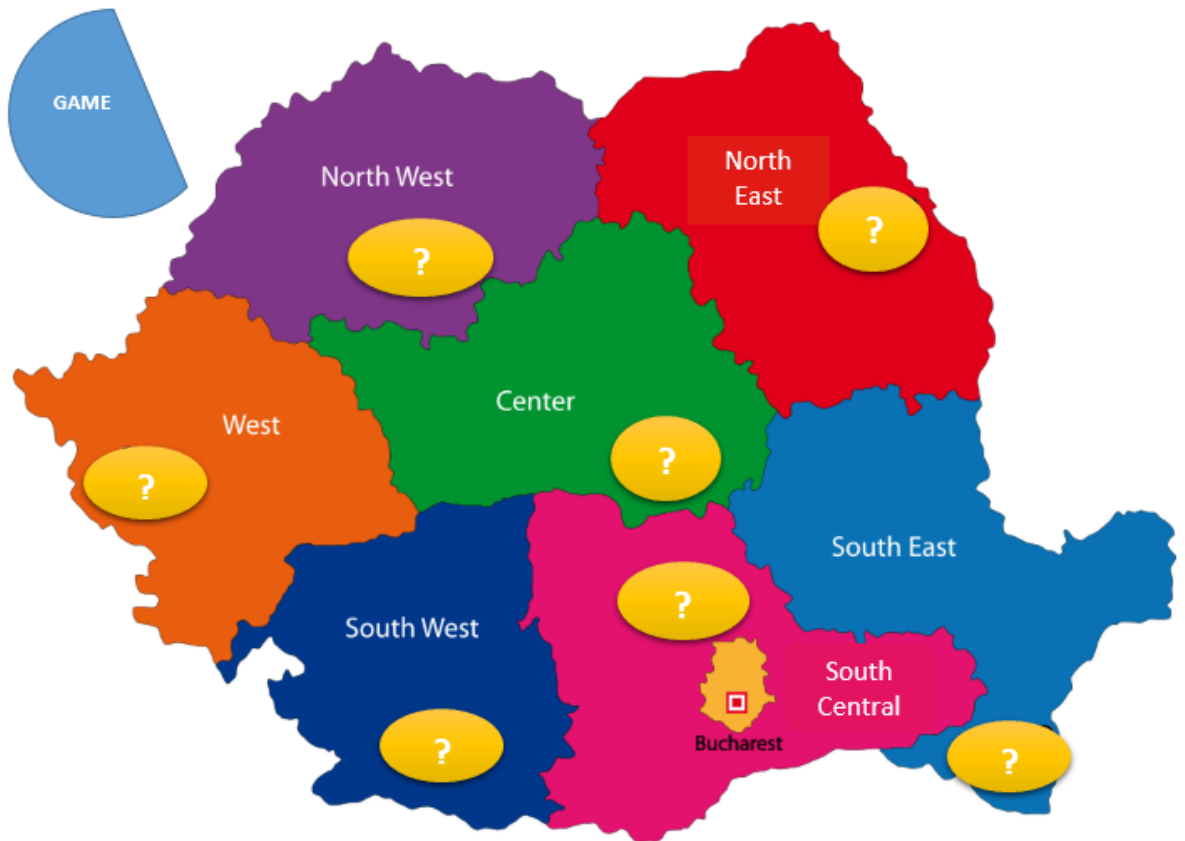
Across

4. The capital city of Romania
7. What did the Romanian doctor Nicolae Paulescu discover?

Down

1. Vlad Țepeș is known around the world for being the source of inspiration for Bram Stoker's famous character. What is the name of the book's protagonist?
2. What famous touristic attraction did you visit on Tuesday in the city of Turda?
3. Romania's most famous building, the Palace of Parliament, was built when Romania was ruled by a dictator. Who was that dictator?
5. Whom do Romanians celebrate on the 8th of March?
6. There is a color you can find on Romania's flag but not on Germany's. Which one is it?

#QUIZ



Place each city in its right spot:

- Cluj-Napoca
- Timișoara
- Iași
- Constanța
- Craiova
- Brașov
- Ploiești

#REPORTERS



Students:

RO Nona Pop

RO Ioana Iacob

RO Victor Cuciureanu

IT Alexa Guarascio

RO Maria Chiorean

RO Mihnea Ciceu

RO Ștefan Marin

Teachers:

Marina Nicoletta
ITALY

Cristela Bairrada
PORTUGAL

Alexandra Tomczyk
GERMANY

Monica Columban
ROMANIA

Ariana Văcărețu
ROMANIA

Lucian Ilea
ROMANIA