

Martian Chronicles

Magazine for becoming an active European citizen



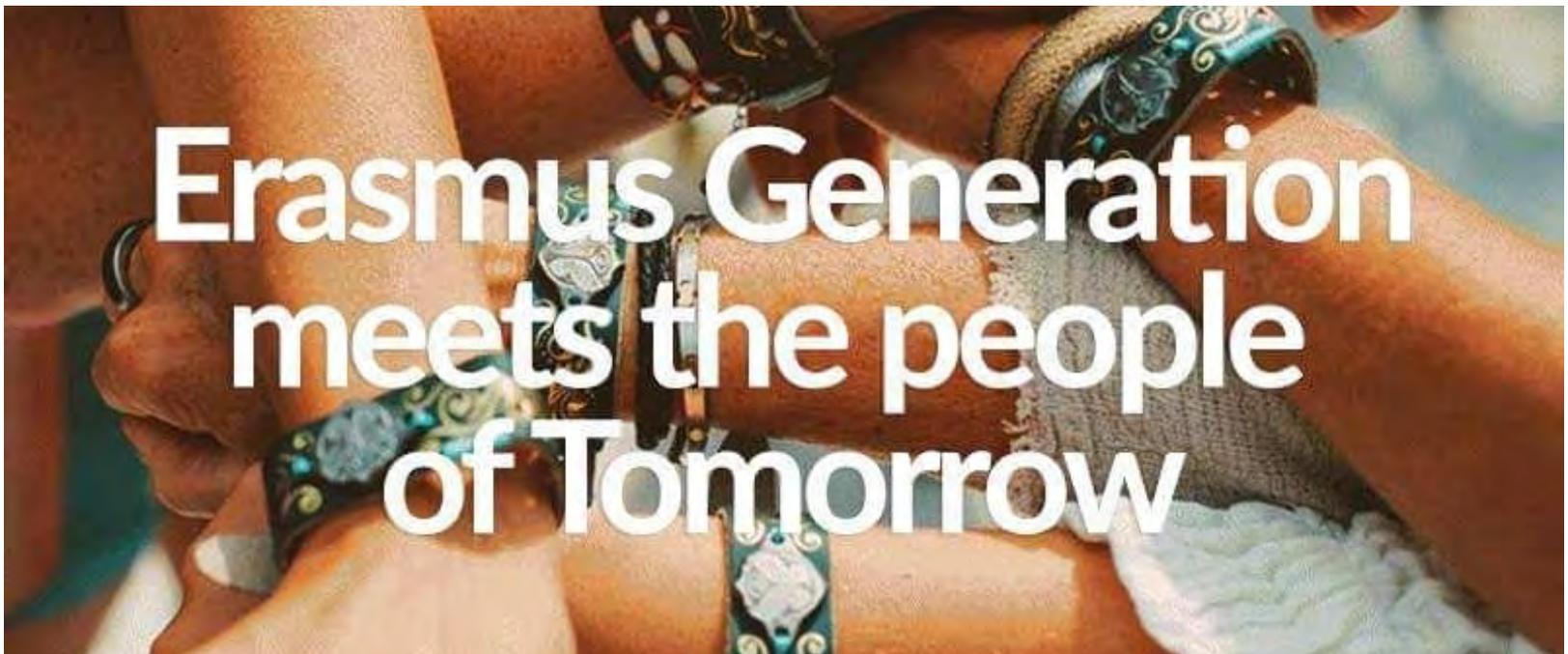
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Creating a European feeling in the youth

22nd January 2020

What better than Erasmus+ program could unify the E.U?



Erasmus Generation
meets the people
of Tomorrow

The importance of Erasmus+ program for a new European Generation

This year people born in 2002 are turning 18, entering the university and job market world. And they have been growing up in countries where our political parties are continually saying that their country situation will probably be better if they get out of Europe. These young people have lived in E.U. for most or all of their life, but sometimes they don't even really know what the European Union is doing for them. They may think Germans are rude and picky, Spanish only sleep siesta and party all the time, French eating crepes and Lithuanians are cold.

With 38 international borders, it is no surprise that the European Union still has difficulties to create an European feeling. Erasmus+ program was born exactly with the aim to “build a stronger and more united continent” by strengthening the relationships between regions, to improve and reinforce knowledge of one another’s culture, heritage, and language and in turn to increase the mobility and employability of young people.

Critics could say Erasmus project is only about having fun, partying and drinking. And well, it cannot be denied it is part of it. But just because this part of young people life everyday. But what Erasmus really creating is an explosive mixture of different cultures that learn to respect each other, live together, have fun together, sharing their living style, their food traditions and eventually ending up loving each other or meeting their best friends.

Erasmus is a moment in young life, when they find out that maybe they more similar to other European than they would ever expect. Italian may discover that Portuguese are as proud as them in defending their cuisine.

What started as a student exchange programme in 1987, has grown into something bigger and enriched the lives of more than 9 million direct participants. Each year, more than 300,000 students now study or train under the Erasmus+ umbrella.

Recent studies have shown Erasmus+ enhances students’ quality of life and career prospects — both during their course abroad, and long after it finishes. The programme has been shown to drive innovation and social inclusion in higher education.

But Erasmus program doesn't influence people life only at professional level, but mostly at personal level.

Former Erasmus students are more likely to have transnational relationships: 33% of former Erasmus students have a partner of a different nationality, compared with 13% of those who stay home during their studies; 27% of Erasmus students meet their long-term partner while on Erasmus.

This is the reason why we need to keep investing on Erasmus program in order to make it possible for every young people turning 18 to participate at least in one project from the Erasmus program, whether it is Erasmus+ study, traineeship or Youth Exchange.

I dream of E.U. where being on Erasmus look like as common as going to a concert, not something that still many people have not possibilities to do it or still do not even know how they can participate.

Importance of youth engagement

Youth engagement is a central principle of youth development. It is utterly important to understand that youth are more than just “follow the flow” typical part of the society, instead they tend to explore things by socializing, researching and communicating with people. Besides the opportunities, that are created for them, help them to broaden their world-outlines and sophisticate their imagination. Youth engagement offers community leaders the expertise and partnership of young people, helping adults fully understand what it is like to grow up in a rapidly changing world. Besides it is just a basic right for young people to be able to have their own interests and opinions and represent them in a free environment. Youth civic engagement is also critically important to prepare young people to be active citizens in a democracy. There can be several reasons why youth engagement could be good for the society - Young people benefit by gaining skills, knowledge and self-esteem. It means that youth are establishing the background on which they can build their knowledge, perception and beliefs for the better future. Besides, they benefit by developing their own competencies, understanding values and cultural differences and increasing their commitment to the organizations and communities. This co-operation is like a Symbiosis as **Communities** benefit by improving quality of life, coordinating youth services, and authentically embracing diversity by representing young people.

But sometimes the question is how young people can find the opportunities to start their activism, meet people and become more active citizens. Well, in that terms, there are a lot of projects and opportunities they can apply for. First of all, there is Erasmus+ Youth Mobility projects, which are the most common way to participate in international events to meet people from different countries. Erasmus+ also offers a great number of exchange programs for university students in different universities all around the Europe. Rather than that, there are number of international organization's agencies which organize different events about specific topics to raise awareness about them, motivate young people and increase the participation.

What you should know when traveling abroad?

Whether you are planning a holiday in another country or if you are moving abroad for work or study, you need to prepare yourself and make some research on this new country before leaving.

Understanding a new culture is not easy or immediate and you do need some information in order to avoid unpleasant situations.

Firstly, you should look for the requirements to enter the country of your interest. You can easily find these informations online and understand if you need a visa, a passport or just an ID. However, this can

not be enough, knowing about some local regulations can save you from troubles too. In some countries, exceeding the speed limits or taking a picture of a religious monument or military area, can really put you into big troubles and you could even end up in jail.

Secondly, understanding something about the new culture or some words in the other language is really important. Getting to know the locals or being able to ask questions and have little conversations can make a big difference.

Thirdly, make a list of the things you will need for your trip. Take your time for this step and consider all the details your itinerary to avoid mistakes.

Last but not least, leave with an open mind and enjoy all the little differences you might encounter. Being free from stereotypes can help you to discover more about the country and go beyond stereotypes.

So, go out, enjoy and let the world surprise you!

Racism

Racism is the belief that a particular race is superior or inferior to another, that a person's social and moral traits are predetermined by his or her inborn biological characteristics. Racial separatism is the belief, most of the time based on racism, that different races should remain segregated and apart from one another.

One of our journalists went to the USA street and asked people from different countries : what their countries think and treat the arabic muslim people... and these were the answers :

✓ Georgia GE: « we don't have a lot of muslim people in our country except some business men ... so we don't meet them in the real life but we have that bad stereotype ... and we feel that they are not acceptable and not open minded ... so people feel like that they should protect themselves and have a distance from them ... but for the new generation i think its OK »

✓ Italy IT : the people in Italy are racist but not because of religion or skin color ... it is more about economical issues... People feel that the countries give their money to foreign people

✓ Portugal PT : the people are kind of hypocrites.. because they may say that they have no problem with arab muslim people... but in the reality they act differently and if they met them in the real life ... they may treat them in the bad way

✓ Germany DE : the country is divided ... one side there is christian people and in the other side there is muslims who are from germany , from arab countries or refugees people ... the people from germany that don't have any contact with arabic muslim people may have a very bad idea about them

✓ Poland PL : our country not tolerant to other religions... they often may say bad words to muslim if they meet them in the street ...

✓ Turkey TR : there is no racism to arabic muslim people ... and because they are muslim we treat them better and we do respect them a lot , because we know that meqqa and medina is in their country

✓ Ukraine UA is not tolerant to Arabs. Ukrainians sometimes afraid of them, they think Arabic people may be terrorists. But at the same time Crimian tatars are muslims, and others can also not be tolerant to them. But it really depends

Solution :

✓ Georgia GE : try to know them and meet them so you can know them better

✓ Italy IT : the gouvernement should give help to refugees not the immigrants

✓ Poland PL : muslim people should express them selves more ... and make a relations with others so they will know them and stop stereotypes

✓ UkraineUA there are not many muslims and Arabs in Ukraine. The main source we get information of them is media and personal experience of Ukrainians. So media should probably change how they present Arabs and muslims

Help make a difference in our community

You have the power to decide on the quality of life you want for yourself and future generations. Voting is your chance to stand up for the issues you care about like public transportation, raising minimum wage, or funding local schools. This is your life: take the time to help decide what's best.

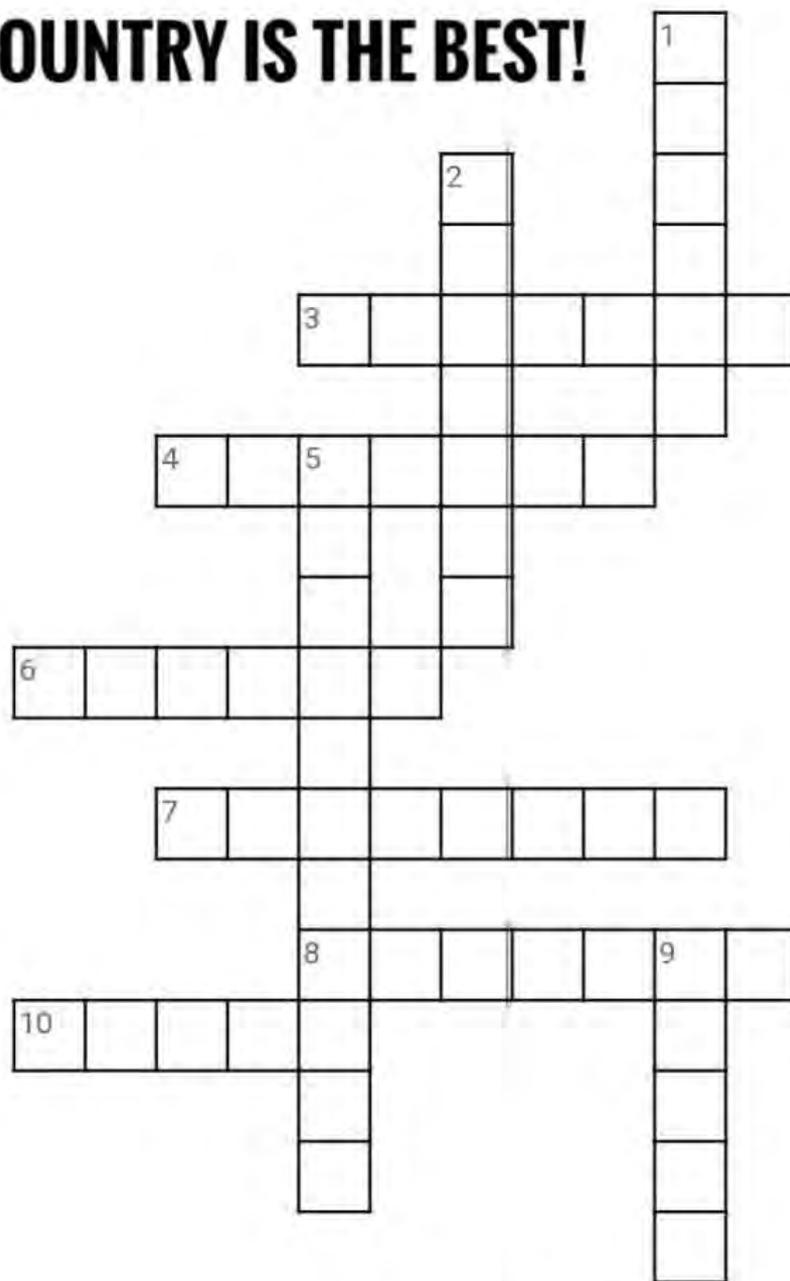
Elections are decided by the people who go out and vote. Take some time and learn about the measures and the candidates. If you don't vote, someone else will make the decision for you. Your power is in your vote.

Also You pay taxes, but do you know how that money is being used? Most people don't. Voting is your chance to choose how your tax dollars are spent – such as funding for health care and social services.

If we want to make positive impact Voting gives you that chance! Support the candidates and ballot measures that can help your community, state, and even the nation for the greater good. Make your voice heard in these elections.

At the end Our communities are made up of friends, loved ones, neighbors, and children. Some may not know how important voting is, while others don't have the privilege. Make the decision to vote for yourself and those around you. Make sure your voice is heard

MY COUNTRY IS THE BEST!



Across

- 3 People are easygoing and have strong family relationship
- 4 Santa Claus Village is there
- 6 They have the best beers
- 7 Have the largest archipelago of E.U in the Atlantic Sea
- 8 Nice mountains
- 10 They're are living the good life, fiesta & siesta

Down

- 1 They actually think they are the best
- 2 The highest GDP in E.U.
- 5 Amazing tulips
- 9 Have the best pizza and pasta

How do geopolitical alliances affect our day to day life?

People have always had tendencies to create alliances to gain an advantage. What started as a survival strategy evolved into something that rules the world. There's many alliances and cartels but some of the most well known and most powerful are alliances such as : EU, NATO, UN, NAFTA and OPEC.

Informations and examples provided within this article will therefore mainly focus on these. Most people are aware of these alliances but don't know what exactly they do. For example OPEC is a cartel controlling more than 70% of global oil reserve and producing 40% of all oil output. This gives them a great power because most things we produce rely on oil at some point in their production, which means the prices of oil directly influence the prices of many other products (if not all). The whole power lays in the hands of 14 countries (Algeria, Angola, Congo Ecuador, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Iran, Iraq, Kuwait, Libya, Nigeria, Saudi Arabia, UAE and Venezuela). All of these alliances affect our day to day life to a high degree and we do not even realize it.

Why EU is good?

The Eu is great because it creates a more influential economic block, travel becomes easier, it creates harmony on the continent. It has helped to modernized countries and also the European Union has helped to improve local environment. Last but not least job creation occurs because of the existence of the European Union.



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