# COMENIUS WORDCROSSING – 5<sup>th</sup> MEETING IN SLUPIA, POLAND OUR TRAVELOG

#### by Beatrice Dallasta, Samuele Meli, Virginia Rallo, students of Liceo Ulivi, Parma, Italy.

We are going to write about this great experience with the Comenius Wordcrossing Project.

## DAY 1 (Monday 24<sup>th</sup> Feb 2014)

I left with other three students and three teachers of my school to Poland. We met at 7-30 a.m. in front of my school and we went to Bergamo airport by bus. Our flight was at 10.50 a.m., we took off on time and flew to Poland. We landed at 12 a.m. at Krakow airport and then we went to Slupia. It took us two hours by bus.

When we got there my partner Michal was waiting for me with his parents. We got home at 3 o'clock and I settled in my room and I relaxed for a bit. Then they gave me something to eat. They call it " first dinner" and I really liked it. Then we had a chat in order to get to know each other. This family was really nice and friendly. At six o'clock we met my Italian friends with their partners and we went to have a pizza all together. After dinner we went back home and I went to bed immediately because I was very tired. (Samuele)

#### DAY 2 (Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> Feb 2014)

Today I woke up at 6'clock and we went to the school at 7 o'clock, where we met the other international students. Two Polish students showed us a presentation about the region of Poland where Slupia is situated and there was an exhibition of local handicraft. Then we visited the town hall of Slupia: it was an old building , and we were welcomed by the mayor who told us about a beautiful legend on a treasure in the lake of Slupia. After that we visited the church of Slupia. It was really cold!

In the afternoon me and my partner with my Italian friends had a tour of the village. Later on same Polish students joined us. We spent a very good time all together. It was very cold so we decided to get into a bar and our partners offered us some fries and something to drink. Then we went home, we had a dinner and I went to bed because I was very tired. (Samuele)

#### DAY 3 (Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> Feb 2014)

Today we have done a lot of things . Some were interesting and in general , I liked them .

This morning after breakfast Magda and me went to school where we met the other guys. This is the day when all the delegations have had to perform their plays in front of the others. Our group was after Spain, Turkey and Greece. Before starting we were a bit nervous but everything was fine. Everybody agreed that all countries did great work. We congratulated with each other!

Soon after the shows we got on the bus to go and visit some places not far from Slupia. We went into the beautiful house of a college professor, to the exhibition of a landscape painter and inside a church. The house of the professor, now a history museum, was huge, with lots of books. The owner was a nobleman or an important person of the past because all was luxurious. The exhibition of paintings didn't impress me too much : the pictures were simple, nothing original. In the evening we came home early and I and Magda went out with my Italian friends, finally someone who understood me ! (Beatrice)

### DAY 4 (Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> Feb 2014)

#### Dear diary,

today we went to Auschwitz and it was so interesting and sad, but let me tell you about all the day. First we left the school by bus at about 8:00 a.m. I really liked travelling by bus because I could talk with the guys from other countries and find out new things about all the different cultures. After about three hours we arrived in Auschwitz and a really good guide showed and explained us all the things and details about the concentration camp. We visited Auschwitz 1 and Birkenau, the extermination camp. It was really interesting and shocking because we saw the real way the prisoners lived in these camps and I understood that they didn't live like humans but like animals. It was a strong experience and I think I'll never forget it and I'll never forget what humans can do.

After leaving the camp we went to Krakow to have a lunch, we ate and then we came back to Slupia at about 7:00 p.m. My host-family and I had dinner with Polish soup and meat with vegetables. Then I had a shower. Finally I can sleep so goodnight diary, I'm going to write you next days! (Virginia)

### DAY 5 (Friday 28<sup>th</sup> Feb. 2014)

Today we have been to the salt mine! I could never have imagined it was so beautiful. At first I was a bit scared because we had to descend 120 meters underground and I am claustrophobic, but when we were down I was quiet and I enjoyed the visit. It was all made of salt, including the floor and ceiling, there were statues of big dimensions that were really beautiful. The thing that struck me the most were the sculptures of the seven dwarves, they were really fabulous.

After the tour we had lunch in the restaurant of the mine and it was an exciting experience , we were eating at 120 meters underground! I must say that we ate well, but Italian food is always the best...

I have really enjoyed the trip today. After the visit to the mine, we went to Krakow, a major city in Poland. It is very nice. Unfortunately we stayed there just an hour and we could only visit the city center. In the evening we went to school because the guys had organized a party with music. It was fun to see how the guys in other countries dance. We all enjoyed it very much! (Beatrice)

DAY 6 (1<sup>st</sup> March 2014)

Dear diary,

I'm in Parma now, I've just arrived back. This morning I woke up at five a.m., I had breakfast with wustel and tea and then at six a.m. we met outside the hotel where all the teachers had stayed for the week. The bus driver took us to Cracow's airport and we came back to Italy by airplane. I'm so sad about leaving Poland because I met special people as my partner and I lived for a week as a Polish girl. I really liked this experience and I wish I could try it again. Bye bye! (Virginia)