

EUROSCOLA NEWSLETTER

EVERYONE'S EUROPE



European Parliament

A breakthrough in the European Parliament

BY MATILDE SILVA

My school, located in the district of Aveiro in Portugal, won a Euroscola challenge that consisted on the importance of the European Elections. The result was a trip to the European Parliament in Strasbourg.

THE VOICE OF THE YOUNGEST:

On November 7th, our school Centro de Educação Integral went to represent our country in a debate involving various topics, like: The Environment and Renewable Energies, Security and Human Rights, Young People, Alcohol and Drugs, The Future of Europe, Migration & Integration and Youth Employment.

This European Parliament initiative has helped to promote citizenship and active participation in issues of major importance to all European citizens.



Inside the European Parliament



The Portuguese students in the European Parliament: António Pimenta, Beatriz Bastos, Beatriz Costa, Miguel Rocha, Rafaela Santos, Mariana Bizarro, Maria Beatriz, Tiago Silva, Matilde Silva, Mafalda Santos, Karla Parra, Marcelo Marques, Pedro Gomes, João Rodrigues, Maria João Paiva, Joaquim Almeida, Manuel Ferreira, Miguel Barros, Daniel Lima, Guilherme Costa, Rita Freitas, Anita Soares, Mariana Ferreira, Inês Amorim, Leonor Gomes, Diogo Soares and Carlota Tavares.

The story of our experiences

RAFAELA SANTOS, 15

In the European Parliament, we felt really important while voting for different situations. We also learnt that our English really allows us to communicate well with other people. The theme that I liked the most was alcohol and drugs among young people, because the debate was very passionate. Although it was sometimes a little bit boring because it took too much time, I thought it was worth it in the end.

So, I really enjoyed the opportunity to discuss different ideas and see how difficult it was to reach a common sense.

LEONOR GOMES, 17

What I enjoyed the most about the European Parliament were the debates in small groups, because I had the opportunity to share ideas with different people.

I found all the subjects very important to discuss. However, I identify myself more with the one about human rights, as I believe that the only way to achieve a prosper society is by ensuring respect among all the people.

MAFALDA SANTOS, 15

What I highlight from this visit, was the opportunity that I had to visit some of the most important European institutions as it allowed us to better understand what a debate is like and the voting system. I also had the chance to improve my confidence while speaking in English, as I had to speak for a public of 522 people from all over the EU.

MARCO PINHO, TEACHER

This experience allowed us to better understand how the different institutions of the EU influence our lives.

The fact that our school had the opportunity to represent Portugal, was the highest moment. It was very gratifying to see our students exchange experiences with other European students. Opportunities like this are very important for our academic and personal self-training and growth. I think I speak for everyone when I say that we would love to repeat it. Who knows, maybe someday.