

Euroscola

Day

A report by Barnabás Kozár

On December 12th twenty-four students and two teachers from our school (Europe 2000) took part in the Euroscola Day in the European Parliament in Strasbourg.

Everyone was excited for this trip, not only because we visited the gorgeous city of Strasbourg, but also because we had the unique opportunity to represent our beloved country during this highly esteemed event. We had to divide the 24 students into separate groups that represented a main problem of the EU, these topics included such as the future of Europe, the drug and alcohol consumption of the youth, immigration and security against human rights. Everyone worked hard and researched the topics thoroughly. When we arrived at the building of the Parliament all of us were in awe at how enormous it was. After the group was given the instructions for the day we had some breakfast during which we could talk with other students from different countries of Europe.



After breakfast we went to the Chamber of the Louise Weiss building where we were seated in the MEP's seats, we listened to the welcoming speeches and the schools' presentations. In the Chamber we could also try out the voting system in a poll. After these students and officials of the EU (including Luis Mat3nez-Guill3n, the head of the European Parliament Liaison Office in Strasbourg) exchanged questions and ideas about the development of Europe. At lunchtime we took part in the Eurogame quiz which included various questions in different languages, sadly my group did not get into the best four. The

young reporters also had a special press conference with an EU representative where we were free to ask any questions about the EU. The young reporters voted for the best Instagram picture taken in the Photocall Area, which is a corner where students could take photos of themselves with various signs and props in connection with Europe and Euroscola. During the day students from all around Europe were categorized by their chosen issue and they had to discuss how they would tackle them. As a young reporter I had the chance to visit various committee rooms where my fellow students were bumping heads about the solutions. I also had the opportunity to interview and discuss the EU, and our

home countries with my fellow young reporters. It was really interesting to see how close our ideas were about the future of our continent and our generation. Later that day, after the groups had chosen a representative executive to present their conclusion everyone gathered back to the Chamber and held a plenary session. Out of the six ideas, five were accepted and one was rejected, which is a perfect example of democracy. After this it was time to go back to more fun topics, so the Final of the Eurogame was held. The Photocall competition's prize was also given out to a group of Slovakian girls who wore their country's traditional clothing. After these the EU anthem was played and the school representative's came into the chamber holding flags of European countries.

This was an amazing experience that we all will remember very fondly, I would like to thank Euroscola for having us and thank Szilvia Ujlaki-Fekete for accompanying and taking care of us on this trip and encouraging us when in doubt. Hope to see you again next year!