



With Erasmus+ to Latvia

As part of the Erasmus+ program, we traveled to Latvia in March 2025 and were accompanied and supported by Olga Tolmacova in Daugavpils.

During the week of March 3rd to 8th, we had the opportunity to visit various institutions. These included, for example, the city administration, the university, different schools and daycare centers with corresponding educational goals, as well as the Jauniba leisure center. In discussions, we got to know dedicated teachers, educators, staff from the leadership levels of schools and daycare centers, and those from the administration. We were able to overcome the language barrier with the help of Olga's excellent German skills, and in addition, we communicated in English. Through exchanges about our work, we found many commonalities, similarities, and also some differences.

The atmosphere in the meetings and discussions was characterized by friendliness, openness, and interest. Often, it seemed that the time for exchanging thoughts could have been longer because it was so interesting. Each of the participating educational or recreational institutions had its own individual positive characteristics.

Through these visits, we gained insights into the Latvian education system, which shares some similarities and also shows differences when compared to the German education system. One notable aspect is the early introduction of digital skills. In one of the visited schools, this starts as early as the 1st grade.

We found the use of multidisciplinary teams directly in the schools in Latvia to be advantageous, as it allows for quick, targeted support. After school, children and adolescents can choose from a variety of recreational activities, both at school and at the leisure center, finding options that suit them. Some of the students participate successfully in competitions, and the results of their work impressed us.

In addition to all the professional meetings, we also had the chance to explore some of the city's landmarks. The fortress and the Mark Rothko Art Center were a must-see during our stay.

After our time in Daugavpils, we can say that the goal of Erasmus+, namely exchanging experiences with others and learning from each other, was achieved.

The heartfelt encounters and inspiring impressions from the personal conversations made this time special for us.

We would like to thank Olga Tolmacova and Bianca Laukat for their efforts in preparing and organizing our stay. Last but not least, we are grateful to everyone involved who helped make our time in Latvia so enriching.