

Plana's Report :

Edison Project is an enlightening experiment, for both the trainees and the students in every school. The project is about cultural exchange, and allow the students to discover priceless knowledge about different countries and ethnic backgrounds. It is normal and very common that every project, in any field or domain has some stumbling stones, difficulties, or simply up and downs that every stakeholder encounters and should overpass, Plana's school was the most dreadful week in team C journey.

It all started with the gathering point in Tabor in 9 October. As every week in each school, we had to meet the supervisor, or a person everyone called the 'teacher'. The first inconvenient thing about this week, is that we had to meet the teacher at 3pm on Sunday, knowing that in every week it was at 6pm ( AIESEC local committee takes in consideration that some trainees could be travelling, sometimes to another country, to comeback in early afternoon could be ill-timed for them ) Anyways, only one girl in the team could be in Tabor train station at 3pm. When I met the teachers at 6pm there was a little tension, the teachers were unhappy about this situation and the welcome was cold. I thought that everything will be fine when we'll be fine the next day, when we will be in the school but what happened that day was a timed bomb. Our previous host families were waiting for us there, and the teachers asked them to drop us in the dormitories. It was obvious that this was totally out of their duties, we know that Sunday is a family day. Once in the car, my host family parents were already complaining about the bad organization.

Let's move to the school now, we were not expecting something luxurious but the meeting room was really shabby. The principle couldn't speak English, but I don't think it's a reason to never meet us or just say hi to us, since the first day we've never seen her again, unless if it's accidentally in the corridors. Well the principle of our previous school in Sezimovo Ústí could hardly speak English, but with Mr.Peroutka we had a great time with him, he is charismatic and he always asked anyone around to translate what he wants to say to us, in the goodbye day he spoke an overwhelming speech. The first day in the school was quite normal, everybody had a problem with the presentations, it was the first school without Power Point in the computers, but this was not a major problem with the equipment there, the problem is that not all the classes has a slide projector, we had to move to another classroom, which was causing a precious waste of 5 to 10 min of time.

The next day, two of my teammates and I were late for the school, we were there at 8:05 am. We didn't have a timetable for the buses going to Plana's school from Tabor. The teacher was in the main entrance of the school and was very furious, she started yelling and arguing with us, she slammed the door after leaving the room. Our class was cancelled because of being 5min late, and we had to present in the 45min break. Personally, I thought it was fair enough, I know that Europeans are very punctual, the problem is in my next class I waited exactly 12min to find a class with a slide projector, at this very moment I was very upset.

On Thursday something really chocking happened. One of our teammates brought with him to the school his girlfriend and everybody's friend since the first week in Czech, to attend our

presentation and maybe share something about her culture too since she was Turkish, which is one more nationality in our eight members team. We were peacefully sitting in our room, when the same teacher who disrespectfully reacted on Tuesday came, and directly asked our friend to leave as soon as possible, watching our friend getting kicked out from the school made everybody irritated and we started thinking about leaving the school. I've made a phone call to the AIESEC committee to explain the situation, Jana told me asked me to think about the kids who are expecting us, for that reason we buried what just happened and went to finish what we were there for, Eduardo Couldn't stand it and left after his first presentation. Thursday was the last day with presentations, Friday was only planned for activities, but nobody was tempted by that after what we experienced. I talked with a teacher and explained why we don't want to attend on Friday's morning, I was straight in my arguments and explained why we didn't feel comfortable in this school. I knew from her, that one of the reasons it didn't work out was because of the story of Sunday, the presentations were professional but it was not why they were expecting, she mentioned something about communication and English lessons. This is not a part of the EDISON Project, and if the school wanted something like that, they should have notified this before, and we'll be glad to do so.

Finally only two girls of our team went to school on Friday, the rest of the group didn't want to see Plana's school again.