

Content and Methodology

The Fair Trade Erasmus week was organised with Class Nine students. The group contributed to the week's timetable by offering content and activity ideas.

They organised a fair trade survey for the pupils in classes 5-11 and also requested that our partners share it in their own schools.

Students investigated Fair Trade food available and contributed to designing a menu for the week's catering. They investigated where the food should be purchased in terms of accessibility, budget and ethics.

The purpose of the survey was to investigate attitudes, knowledge and beliefs about Fair Trade and analysed the results to help inform them about what content for the week would be relevant. This was a crucial part of the planning process.

The students contacted local and national businesses involved with fair trade to ask if they could contribute to the week.

This resulted in a local coffee distributor agreeing to come to speak about his work in terms of Fair trade and sustainability.

A proprietor of a refillables and zero waste shop came to speak about his work and relationship with the Fair Trade town where he is located.

The CEO of Lush also agreed to speak about the sourcing of ingredients, fair trade and social responsibility.

Presentations were made to the whole group about the production and trade of common products including the journey from farm to supermarket and consumer

Our visiting students prepared presentations on the 'Journey of your Jeans' and 'Veränderung durch Fair Trade'

The groups explored the effect of Fair trade on sustainability in communities in terms of;

Education

Health

Sustainability and the sustainability goals

Consumer power and making informed choices

Human rights

Gender

Equality

Role of the supermarkets

Climate change

The Erasmus group looked at case studies of crafts people around the world who are part of Fair Trade. The case studies compared life with and without fair trade and the impact fair trade has had. To gain further insight the students participated in craft workshops to experience the production of fair trade craft products to gain a better and practical understanding of production and process involved.

The Group visited a small local market town with a high number of independent shops. They investigated and surveyed the fair trade products available. They focused on food and drinks available in cafes and restaurants. The students had to engage with staff and proprietors.

They also visited a larger town with a high number of 'chain' shops to investigate and survey the fair trade products available. They focused on Fair Trade cotton and clothing, again the students were required to engage with staff.

The students shared their experiences, activities and thoughts on Fair trade in a whole school community assembly and worked towards participating in Fair Trade week and gaining Fair trade schools award. The students participating created posters and other visual material to support their presentations.

Result

A week organised by class 9 students

A fair trade survey

Presentations by students

Presentations by local and international business people

Engagement with businesses

Topical discussions and problem solving

Posters

Craft

Dissemination to whole school community

Accruing to go towards fair trade schools award

Increased awareness and use of fair trade products in the school .