



## Diary to the mobility to Telsiai, Lithuania from 6<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> Mai 2010

Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> Mai 2010

Flight from Vienna to Vilnius - I was astonished that the flight takes just under 2 hours, how near this country is to us. It seems farer away to me as we hardly hear anything in Austria about Lithuania in our news. First my college Angelika Brechelmacher and me where impressed by the small and picturesque airport in Vilnius, the entrance looked for us more like a train station with its beautiful historical facade. Unfortunately in was raining when we arrived. Then we took the train from Vilnius to Telsiai where we passed a wonderful landscape, endless forests and a lot of water, lakes and ponds, and from time to time a single house or a little village – unusual for us the low population density. Arriving in Telsiai, we where picked up from our lovely partner Mrs Ausra Vilkaite, she drove us with her private car to our hotel and then to the restaurant, where we met the other members of the project team from the other countries and also several women, teachers from the Lithuanian adult school. They welcomed us very warm-hearted and even prepared a little paper with some important words in Lithuanian language and tried to teach them to us – honestly the only word we still remember is “I sveikata” which means “cheers”. Then again we had our “private taxi” to our hotels – so many thanks to the Lithuanian team!

Friday 7<sup>th</sup> Mai 2010

Welcome by the director of the Telsiai adult secondary school. We held our meeting in a comfortable classroom of the school, which was pretty cold, because there was no more heat on. They stop generally heating End of April (it was very cold in our hotel too), even when it's still cold outside. After seeing an informative promotional film about Lithuania we started to work on the content of the project. Very interesting was the presentation of the Yale College about teaching methods by using media like film and videos from pop songs to make the issue of the lessons more attractive to young pupils. Then we developed together a questionnaire to interview the learners concerning their reading and writing processes. After that we enjoyed a guided tour in the center of Telsiai and after our lunch we met again in the school, where we could admire the marvelous products of handcraft work, which were made from women participating a course in the adult school and we even listened to a life performance of folk music. Then we continued with a workshop on traditional folk art ourselves. It was much fun to create our own live tree and to paint it with glass painting colors on a plate. In the restaurant where we had our dinner, we were surprised by a music performance from pupils from the local music school of Telsiai.

Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> Mai 2010

In the morning we met again in the adult school and started with a workshop about a method of biographical interview, leaded by Angelika Brechelmacher, from the Austrian partner. This method can be used to get more detailed information from a learner. In the workshop we were doing interviews ourselves in groups of 3 people, in which one was the interviewer, one the interviewee and one an observer, so we learned on what you have to

pay attention as interviewer and found out how it feels to be the interviewed person...we felt quite important. Finally we discussed our further work plans for the project and especially for the next meeting. For lunch we were in a restaurant in Plateliai, next to a big lake which must be wonderful in summertime. In the afternoon we enjoyed a guided tour in Sanogifia Nationalpark. Unfortunately it was cold and raining again, so we walked around only for a short time in the wonderful landscape. For dinner we were in a traditional restaurant at the homestead in Plateliai. The landlady was really fancy and explained us a lot about traditional food and drinks - and we tasted a lot of both. With the accompaniment of Ausra's accordion we learned Folksongs from Lithuania and then spontaneously everybody started with a typical song from his country. We sang and laughed a lot this evening and the bus brought us safely home to our hotels.

Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> Mai 2011

Return to Vilnius, where we had some time to visit the grandiose center of the capital city of Lithuania, and to buy some typical souvenirs: linen scarves and an amber necklace. And this last day, we even saw a blue sky and it became warmer in this beautiful country. On our flight home, we still spoke about the successful meeting and the enormous engagement of the Lithuanian team to make our stay perfect – Many thanks!!!

by Silvia Edtinger  
Learner from the Austrian partner