

Brno Meeting from the 02.04.-08.04.2017

Dr. Braun and Mrs. Braun went with 4 students (Catherine Kudrjavcev, Graziella Veit, Joanne Bott, Rosanna Schulze and Sophie-Marie Rieger) on a 7 hour' road trip to Brno. Michael Schlindwein went there 3 days earlier to educate the mentors. In the evening we could welcome all the other participants at an opening dinner. The official meeting started on Monday morning with an opening ceremony at the Biskupské gymnázium in Brno. The host school presented many nice performances like dancing and playing instruments for their guests. After this we heard a scientific presentation about ethics, which was held by Dr. Marek Vácha from the University of Prague. In the first step of our ethical discussion all the partner countries presented their current energy mixes. We learned about the use of a wide range of different energy sources. For example, France reported about 75% of nuclear power and 58 nuclear power plants. In comparison, Austria reported about 85% of hydro power and 0% of nuclear power. In the second step we discussed the advantages and disadvantages of the different energy sources. Therefore we heard presentations about those energy sources from our mentors. During the evening we did sight-seeing in Brno.

On Tuesday we visited the innovative company LIKO-S and the sustainable village Hostetin, which is completely independent.

On Wednesday we continued with the third step of our ethical discussion. In small international groups we evaluated the possible options of the pros and cons, ethical consequences and ethical values of the different energy sources. The mentors guided us through a rotating system of different work stations. In the fourth step all international groups made the decisions for their own energy mix and created a pie chart to explain their energy mix to the audience.



In the fifth step an average pie chart was made out of all groups. Finally we discussed this average pie chart and compared it with the current energy mix from Europe. Visit "<http://sustainable-bioenergy.de/?p=1235>" for the results.

Just to do something good for the environment, every partner school planted its own tree in the Wilson's Park which is close to the Bi.Gy.. With this activity we tried to reduce our carbon footprint.

After dinner we went to the brand new planetarium of Brno, where we watched the show "Closer to the stars".

On Thursday we went for a guided sight-seeing tour to Prague, the capital city of Czech Republic.

On Friday we went to the company PSI in Drasov, which produces photon system instruments. After this we visited the Mendel's museum in Brno where Johann G. Mendel (1856) figured out the three laws of genetics which are called the Mendel' laws. With his laws the foundation for modern genetics was made, which resulted a hundred of years later with the Nobel Prize for Watson and Crick for the structure of the DNA. After dinner and some performances by different groups, the successful meeting in Brno ended. We had to say goodbye and even sometimes with tears.

