

COMENIUS 2010-2012

SEJOUR EN POLOGNE

Varsovie / Warsaw

22 - 27 mars 2011



***Lycée Etienne Oehmichen
Châlons-en-Champagne***

SOMMAIRE

1. *LA POLOGNE*
2. *VARSOVIE*
3. *INFORMATIONS PRATIQUES*
4. *LEXIQUE FRANCO-POLONAIS*
5. *GASTRONOMIE*
6. *PROGRAMME DU SEJOUR*
7. *IMPRESSIONS PERSONNELLES*
 - *Hugo BAUDIER*
 - *Mélanie HEMONET*
 - *Mickael HOUZET*
 - *Camille KROLAK*
 - *Wanis MAHJOR*
 - *Amandine PAYET*
 - *Quentin RISSE*

1. LA POLOGNE

Pologne (1831, repris en 1919).

Les couleurs du drapeau polonais proviennent des armes d'État qui, dès le XIII^e siècle, portaient un aigle blanc sur un fond rouge garance. Très aimé des Polonaïs, cet aigle traditionnel éprouvé orne toujours, avec couronne, les pavillons diplomatiques, d'État et navals.



Survol historique rapide

La Pologne a été pendant des siècles une terre de migrations, et, un champ de bataille.

L'histoire tourmentée de la Pologne a donc rendu ses frontières instables. ...

Au XVIII^e siècle, la Pologne a parfois disparu, « avalée » par ses puissants voisins prussien, russe ou autrichien. Au XIX^e, elle a été placée sous tutelle russe....

La Seconde Guerre mondiale commença en Europe, en 1939, par la double agression contre la Pologne, de l'Allemagne nazie, le 1^{er} septembre, et de l'U.R.S.S., le 17. Démantelé et annexé, son territoire est devenu un des théâtres de la barbarie nazie, notamment de la destruction des Juifs d'Europe (dont 3 millions de Polonaïs) dans six centres d'extermination.

Les frontières polonaises ont été bouleversées par les traités de 1945/46. Elle a subi une translation d'est en ouest.

Placée dans l'orbite soviétique par la conférence de Yalta (février 1945), littéralement occupée par l'Armée rouge, elle n'accepta le nouveau régime communiste que contrainte, et après des élections truquées (1947).

La Pologne est le pays de Czesław Miłosz, de Jean-Paul II et de Lech Wałęsa. Elle est un des acteurs majeurs de la chute du bloc de l'Est.

Ces frontières, notamment celle avec l'Allemagne, n'ont été reconnues par un traité international qu'en 1990.

Après quarante-cinq années passées sous domination soviétique, les nouveaux dirigeants du pays ont tous présenté l'adhésion à l'Union européenne en 2004, comme un « retour » à l'Europe, une « réunification ».



Un peu de géographie

La Pologne est une vaste plaine septentrionale irriguée par la Vistule et l'Oder, deux fleuves qui descendent des Tatras pour se jeter dans la mer Baltique.

Un plat pays.

Le terme « pole », d'où vient le nom de Pologne, signifie le champ et le plat pays en polonais. Plus des neuf dixièmes du territoire s'étendent à moins de 300 mètres d'altitude sur des espaces plats et monotones parcourus par les grands fleuves de la Vistule et de l'Oder, entre Carpates et massif de Bohême au sud, littoral de la Baltique au nord.

Le climat présente des traits océaniques dégradés par une altération continentale croissante vers l'est, marquée par des amplitudes thermiques plus fortes, des hivers plus froids et plus enneigés, des précipitations estivales plus abondantes..

C'est le plus grand (312 685 km²) des pays d'Europe centrale et le plus peuplé (40 millions d'habitants).

Source majeure Universalis



2. VARSOVIE



*Dans le sens des aiguilles d'une montre :
Centre historique, Palais de Wilanów,
Palais présidentiel et Palais royal.*

Warszawa, le nom polonais de Varsovie, (issu des formes anciennes *Warszewa* et *Warszowa*), signifie "appartenant à Warsz", une forme abrégée du prénom masculin *Warcisław*.

L'étymologie populaire attribue le nom de la ville à un pêcheur nommé Wars et à sa femme Sawa. Selon la légende, Sawa était une sirène vivant dans la Vistule dont Wars est tombé amoureux. En réalité, Warsz était un aristocrate des XII^e et XIII^e siècles qui possédait un village situé sur l'actuel site du quartier de Mariensztat.



Le nom officiel complet de la ville est *ville capitale de Varsovie* (en polonais : *stolica Polski Warszawa*). Les habitants de Varsovie sont appelés *Varsoviens* et *Varsovianes*.

Varsovie est depuis 1596, la capitale de la Pologne et est située sur la Vistule à 370 km de la mer Baltique et des Carpates.



riv Jones

Elle compte environ 1.704 000 habitants.

Rappelons simplement que Varsovie fut détruite à 84% (ville martyre), pendant la Seconde guerre mondiale et que certains quartiers furent reconstruits à l'identique après guerre notamment la place du marché et le « vieux Varsovie »



Rappel: musée de l'insurrection de Varsovie.(août octobre 1944)

Rappelons également le ghetto de Varsovie...puis pendant la Guerre froide, le pacte de Varsovie de 1955.

Aujourd'hui, c'est une capitale industrielle, universitaire et culturelle.

Sources : Universalis et Wikipédia pour le blason et l'étymologie

3. INFORMATIONS PRATIQUES

DECALAGE HORAIRE

Il y a aucun décalage horaire entre la Pologne et la France, l'heure d'été et d'hiver sont donc les mêmes.

ELECTRICITÉ

Le courant est de 220 V, 50 Hz. Les prises sont identiques aux prises françaises.

TELEPHONE

Pologne vers France

00 + 33 + numéro du correspondant (sans le « 0 » initial du numéro à 10 chiffres).

France vers Pologne

00 + 48 + indicatif de la ville (précédé du 0) + numéro du correspondant.

En cas d'urgence

- Aide médicale d'urgence : 999 ou 112 (à partir d'un portable)

- Pompiers : 998

AMBASSADE

Tél : (00-48) 22 529 3000 et Fax : (00-48) 22.529.3004

MONNAIE

Monnaie : zloti (PLN) - 1 EUR = 4,08 PLN

FORMALITÉS

Pour un séjour de moins de 90 jours, passeport ou carte d'identité en cours de validité pour les ressortissants Français.



4. DÉROULEMENT DU SEJOUR

Mardi 22 mars : Châlons-en-Champagne > Varsovie

Départ de la gare de Châlons-en-Champagne - direction Paris-Est
Gare de l'Est - Roissy CDG par le RER B



Vol AF

Arrivée à Varsovie : accueil par les familles d'accueil et la proviseure du lycée polonais.

Mercredi 23 mars

Accueil très chaleureux au Gimnazjum Nr 164





Cérémonie d'accueil avec chorale et spectacle.





Visite dans les cours de français, anglais et chimie.





Match de volley-ball au gymnase



Jeudi 24 mars

Conférence sur la pauvreté au Palais de la Culture et des Sciences.



Conférence animée par une professeure et une étudiante de l'université Collégium Civitas.



Présentation des travaux par les élèves.



Délégation française



Délégation polonaise



Délégation allemande



Délégation roumaine

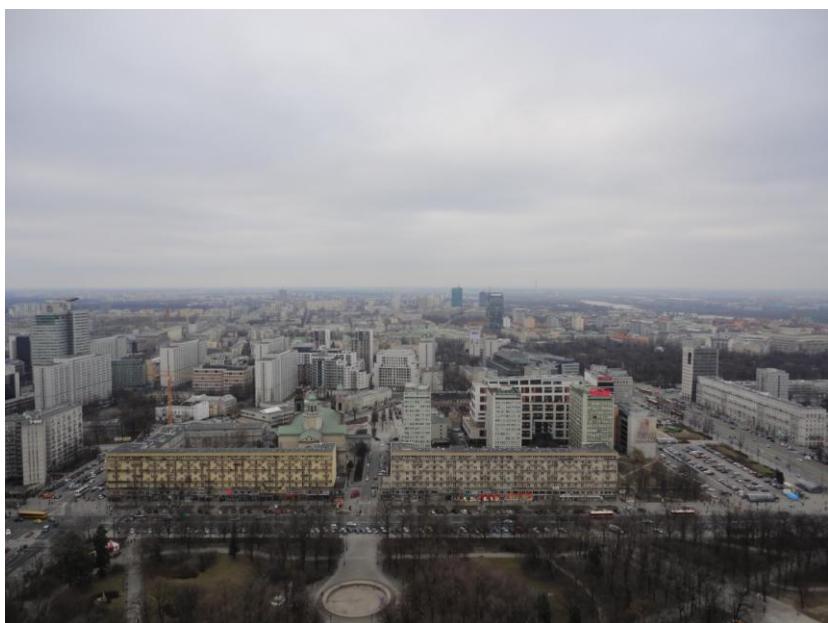


Délégation catalane



Délégation turque

Vue imprenable sur Varsovie





Les corres. polonaises



Tired?



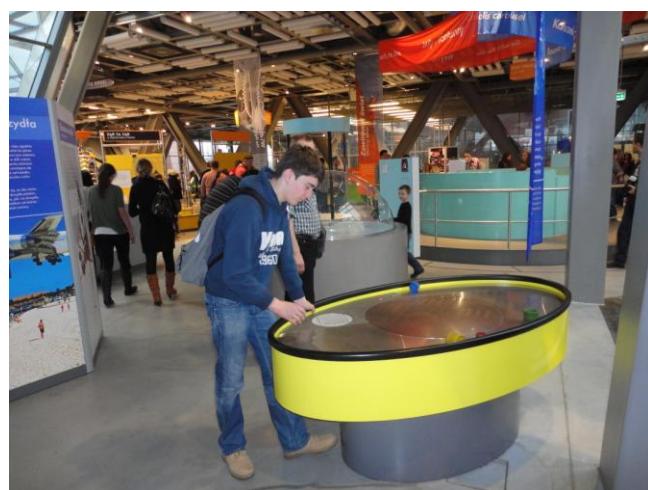
Hugo et Mickaël admirant le paysage

Vendredi 25 mars

Accueil à la mairie du nouveau district de Biololeka.



*Séance de travail au lycée.
Visite de la Cité des Sciences Copernicus*



Samedi 26 mars



Nos hôtes polonais



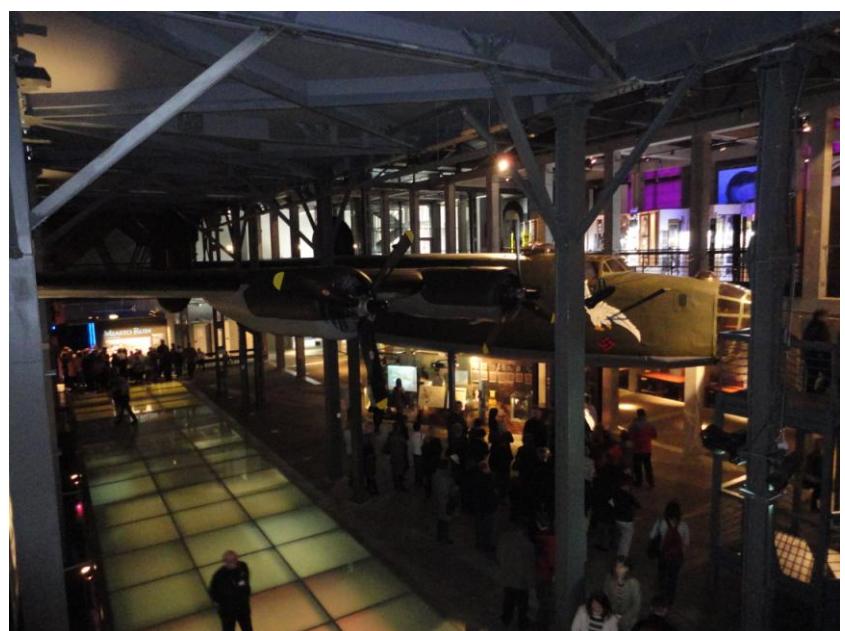
Délégation catalane

Délégation allemande



Délégation turque

Musée de la reconstruction de Varsovie



Visite guidée du stade du Legia - équipe de football de Varsovie



Repas au Restaurant Wilanow

<http://www.lyc-oehmichen.ac-reims.fr/>







<http://www.lyc-oehmichen.ac-reims.fr/>

Balade à pied dans la vieille ville



Entrée de la vieille ville



Sur les remparts



Quentin et Amandine



Hugo et les jeunes catalans



Dimanche 27 mars : Varsovie > Châlons-en-Champagne

Un dernier repas dans la vieille ville.



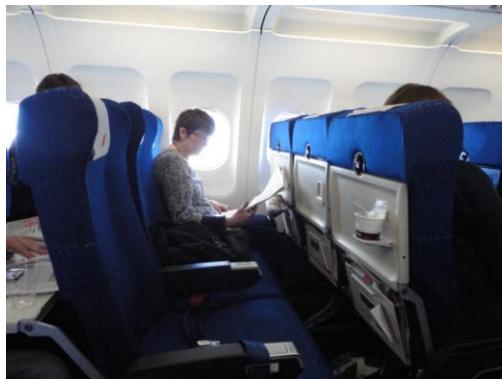
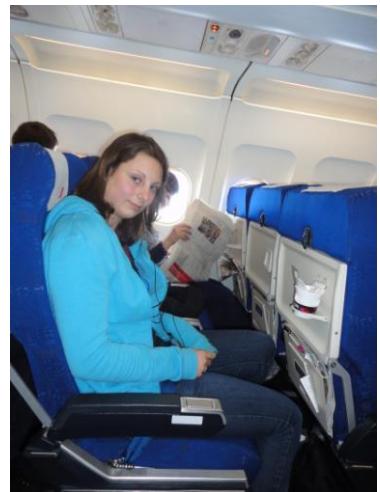
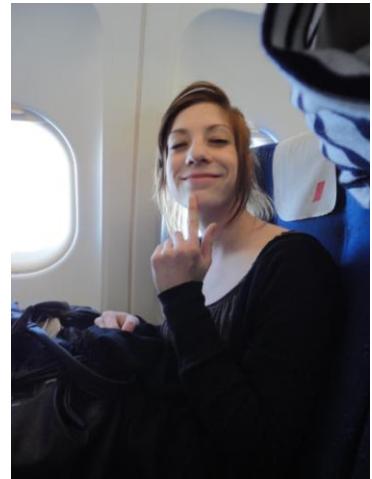
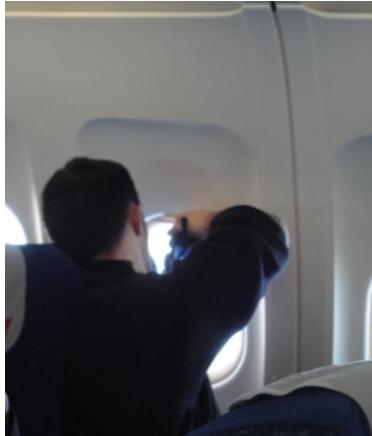
Adieu à la Pologne et retour en France



Oups, plus de place !!!



Who is this ?



5. GASTRONOMIE



Zurek

Soupe très copieuse avec des œufs, de la saucisse blanche et du bouillon à base de farine de seigle fermenté



Rupnik (soupe à l'orge)



Zupa pomidorowa (soupe aux tomates)



Pierogi (raviolis en forme de demi-lune)



Zrazy zawijane z chrzanem (paupiettes au raifort)



Golabki (chou farci)

Pyzy ziemniaczane



(boulettes de pomme de terre)



Mokowiec (gâteau au pavot)



Pierniczki (biscuits au pain d'épices)



SZARLOTKA (tourte aux pommes)

6. LEXIQUE FRANCO-POLONAIS

VOCABULAIRE DE BASE			
Bonjour	<i>Dziendobry</i>	Demain	<i>Jutro</i>
Bonsoir	<i>Dobry wieczór</i>	Ouvert	<i>Otwarte</i>
Oui	<i>Tak</i>	Fermé	<i>Zamknie,te</i>
Non	<i>Nie</i>	<i>la carte postale</i>	<i>Kartka pocztowa</i>
<i>S'il vous plaît</i>	<i>Proszę</i>	<i>des timbres</i>	<i>Znaczki pocztowe</i>
Merci	<i>Dziękuję</i>	<i>un peu</i>	<i>Trochę</i>
De rien	<i>Proszę</i>	<i>beaucoup</i>	<i>Duz.o</i>
<i>pardon</i>	<i>Przepraszam</i>	<i>à gauche</i>	<i>Lewo</i>
Bonne nuit	<i>Dobranoc</i>	<i>à droite</i>	<i>Prawo</i>
<i>la fille</i>	<i>Córka</i>	<i>un(e)</i>	<i>jeden</i>
<i>le fils</i>	<i>Syn</i>	<i>Deux</i>	<i>dwa</i>
<i>la mère</i>	<i>Matka</i>	<i>Trois</i>	<i>trzy</i>
<i>le père</i>	<i>Ojciec</i>	<i>quatre</i>	<i>cztery</i>
<i>Aujourd'hui</i>	<i>Dzisiaj</i>	<i>cinq</i>	<i>pięc</i>
<i>Hier</i>	<i>Wczoraj</i>	<i>Le train</i>	<i>Pociąg</i>

PETITE CONVERSATION

Comment allez-vous?	<i>Jak się masz?</i>
Comment vous appelez-vous ?	<i>Jak masz na imię?</i>
Je ne comprends pas	<i>Nie rozumiem</i>
Je voudrais acheter ...	<i>Ja bym poprosił</i>
Combien ça coute?	<i>Ile to kosztuje?</i>
Quel est le prix?	<i>Co to jest?</i>
Avez-vous ...	<i>Czy pan ma ...</i>
Je le prends.	<i>Kupię, to.</i>
Quelle heure est-il?	<i>Która godzina?</i>
Où sont les toilettes?	<i>Gdzie jest toaleta?</i>
Où est ...?	<i>Gdzie jest...?</i>
À votre santé!	<i>Na zdrowie!</i>
A bientôt	<i>Na razie</i>
Au revoir	<i>do widzenia</i>

A TABLE

<i>le petit déjeuner</i>	<i>S'niadanie</i>
<i>le déjeuner</i>	<i>Drugie sniadanie</i>
<i>Dîner</i>	<i>Kolacja</i>
<i>le pain</i>	<i>Chleb</i>
<i>la boisson</i>	<i>Napój</i>
<i>le café</i>	<i>Kawa</i>
<i>le thé</i>	<i>Herbata</i>
<i>le jus</i>	<i>Sok</i>
<i>de l'eau</i>	<i>Woda</i>
<i>le sel</i>	<i>Sól</i>
<i>le poivre</i>	<i>Pieprz</i>
<i>la viande</i>	<i>Mieso</i>
<i>le bœuf</i>	<i>Wół/owina</i>
<i>le porc</i>	<i>Wieprzowina</i>
<i>le poisson</i>	<i>Ryby</i>
<i>la volaille</i>	<i>Drób</i>
<i>le légume</i>	<i>Warzywa</i>
<i>le fruit</i>	<i>Owoc</i>
<i>la pomme de terre</i>	<i>Ziemniak</i>
<i>la salade</i>	<i>Surówka</i>
<i>le dessert</i>	<i>Deser</i>
<i>une glace</i>	<i>Lody</i>

7. IMPRESSIONS DE VOYAGE

• Hugo BAUDIER



Before the travel

We prepared for the travel. We met in France each Tuesday to prepare the presentation on poverty.

We had three presentations: our school, poverty in France and the work of a charity, « Les Restos du Coeur ». I think it was interesting and important for the travel.

Our trip to Warsaw

First day :

I arrived in the train station to meet the other members of the group and to go to Paris. We took the RER to go to the airport « Charles de Gaulle ». We checked our luggage and we had one hour of free time before boarding. I think the timing was perfect because we didn't wait and weren't bored. I think the flight was short.

When we arrived, a host was waiting for us and drove Amandine, Quentin and me to the school and finally Mickel's father brought me to their house. At six o'clock, it was dark.

The pupil who hosted me is called Mickel. When I arrived in the family in the evening, the grandmother cooked Polish food for me. Now, I know I don't like Polish food but the grandmother was a good cook. There was soup with potatoes, carrots, mushrooms, and some pork. We ate at half past six and then I talked with Mickel and his father. We talked about France, Poland and the programme of the week. I took a shower and, I finally went to sleep.



Second day :

I had two surprises in the morning :

Polish houses do not have any shutters and the sun woke me up at quarter past six.

For breakfast they had some pork and drank milk or coffee but there wasn't neither toast nor bread nor cocoa. So I ate like them, of course.

At eight, I went to the school by car with my host.



When we arrived at the school, the Polish students gave us a rose. Thanks to them! At the school, a very nice show was waiting for us. The Polish pupils sang the Ode to Joy (the European anthem) and other songs. Next, we visited the school : we went to French, English, Chemistry and German lessons. I think the English lessons are harder than in France but the other lessons are easier than in France. The teacher explained that the primary school and the secondary school were in the same building. Next, all the groups (German, French, Spanish, Romanian and Turkish) introduced their country. At the end of the morning, we went to eat breaded turkey, mashed potatoes and broccoli at the school canteen.



After lunch, there was a show about Japanese culture. It was about Japan because Poles like this country. I think the songs and the show were very nice.

We played volley-ball with the other countries against the school team. I don't know who won but it isn't important.

Finally, Mickel's father drove me back to the house.

We had a hot snack, and next, we went bowling with Yan who was hosting a German. I won the first game and Yan won the second game. It was in a very big room with a dance floor, arcade games, music...

We came back home at eight o'clock. I ate with the family.

Finally, I prepared the presentation about "Restos du cœur" before having a shower and going to bed.

Third day :

I woke up at half past six : the sun woke me up again. I had the same breakfast as the day before, but there were some soft-boiled eggs too.

We took a bus from the school to the Palace of culture and science in Warsaw. It is a very big, tall and impressive building. A scientist made a lecture about poverty. It was a bit long. We then presented our work about poverty. I think the presentation of the German group was the best because they did a film in which they interviewed people about the definition of poverty.

We ate and after lunch we heard the last presentation and a lecture from a sociology student.

After we went shopping. I bought some socks for my father.



In the tower, there was an exhibition about Darwin and the species evolution. At the top of the tower, the view of Warsaw was wonderful.



At the end of the day, we went shopping with Yan and the German boy. I didn't buy anything but I bought Mickel an ice-cream and he offered me a glass of juice. It was very good.

We walked in the town center and went to play with an i-pad tablet.

Mickel's father brought us back to the house.

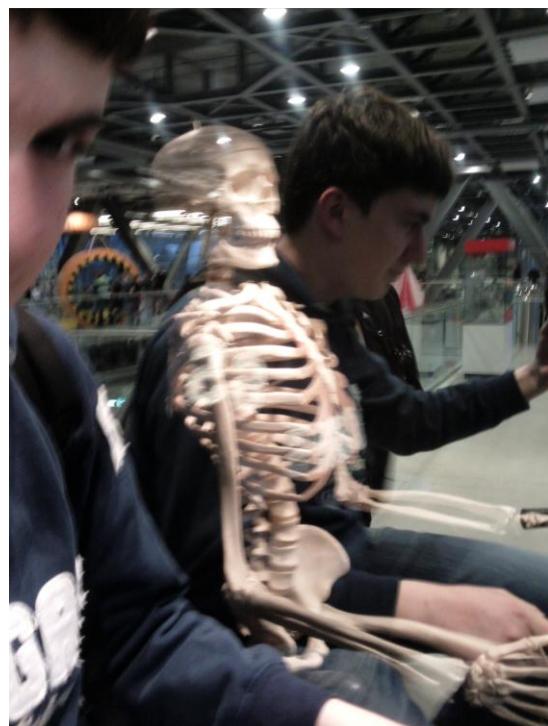
I sent an email to my family, I took a shower and went to bed. It was half past ten.

Fourth day :

I woke up early. I read and had the same breakfast and there was some tuna salad. We went to school at 8:45. We waited for the teachers to go to the town council of a district of Warsaw. The mayor delivered a speech presenting his district. He explained that his district was the most modern in Warsaw because the majority of the people in this district were less than twenty-five years old and there were many children so they built many schools and activities centers.

We then went back to school for the last part of the work session. The groups showed snapshots of poverty in their countries. We concluded that poor people relied very much on charities and NGOs.

We ate and we went to "Cité des sciences Copernicus". There were many experiences to do there. It was very interesting but we didn't have enough time to see everything and I think the explanations were incomplete.



In the evening, Yan and the German boy came over to play table tennis. We did a rotating table tennis. It was funny. They left at 9:30. I took a shower, I read and went to sleep at 11:00.

Fifth day :

I woke up at 6:00 and I saw some snow on the windows. I got used to eating pork in the morning so I ate it without difficulty. We went to school and at 8:30 we took the bus to the Museum of the reconstruction of Warsaw. We saw pictures of Warsaw during the World War II and it had been totally destroyed by the Germans.

In the afternoon, we visited the Legia Stadium. It can receive 31000 people. It is a big stadium but the Poles are building a new stadium to host the European football Cup.

We had lunch at a restaurant called the Wilanow. The food was good and at the end of the meal, we went to the Wilanow Palace but when we arrived, the castle was closed because we were late. We just visited the gardens but there was some construction work.



At the end of the day, we visited the old town. It is beautiful and it looks old but it was rebuilt after World War II. We didn't go far because we didn't have much time. On our way back to the bus we met Mrs Cabartier who bought us a waffle. Thanks to her!!! We were very late, so we ran to the bus and we had to eat our waffle while running. I think the old town isn't very big but we didn't see much of it.

When I arrived home, all the family played table tennis. After an hour, we had dinner and played playstation 3 with Mickel and his father. It was fun.

Finally, I took a shower, I packed my bag and I read for an hour before sleeping.

Sixth day :

It was already the last day. I woke up at 8:30 for the first time in Poland. At 10:00, after breakfast... we went to visit the old town.



I was surprised because there was a Marathon.

I saw the President's residence (in the background) and the monument of the victims of World War II.

For lunch, the father invited us in a well-known typical Polish restaurant. I was definitely sure I didn't like Polish food.

At 2:00 we were at the airport and we said goodbye. I was unhappy to leave them but at the same time I wanted to go back to France.

The plane was late and when we arrived in France, we had to walk very fast not to miss the train. We arrived just on time at the train station.

I enjoyed the travel and I think it was well organized. And I want to thank my teachers for having prepared this travel.

• **Mélanie HEMONET**

22/03

The day of our departure.

In the train, no problem : I slept. In the RER, I was really enthusiastic. I took lots of pictures.

As expected, I rang in the metal detector at the airport. So, I was entitled to a body search. It was pretty funny.

We ate some macaroons bought by Camille !!! So so delicious ! But, since we had thrown away our bottle of water, we were thirsty and macaroons are very sweet.

My first take-off !!! Amusing, and scary at the same time, but I was impatient to be Sunday to do it again. However, I didn't like the moment when the pressure changed. Then, we were finally served sandwiches, and our drink by Air France flight attendants!

At the landing, I discovered that Air France had kindly broke my suitcase ...

Then, I met my host family : Great ! I love them. The parents are very nice and welcoming.

I thought I was the only person in Europe unable to speak English, but I was wrong. Olcia and I have a poor knowledge of the English language. So, to understand one another we improvised.

Their house is very beautiful and big !!!! I didn't expect to see such a developed country.

I met Ola's friends and we went to McDonalds and we had soda and hamburger. Then we went to a clothes shop. I was shocked to how attracted they were by Justin Bieber's clothes style. I wanted to buy a very beautiful dress, and they said that it was a grandmother's style. They were very young : 13 and 14!

23/03

The sun rose very very early ! There weren't shutters in my bedroom so I had to wake up at five o'clock ... great ... At seven o'clock, I had breakfast : a horrible mix ! Meat, cheese, sugar bread, salt bread, scrambled eggs.

After that, we went to school. I joined the French group at last!!!

We received a rose and saw a very beautiful choral.

Then, we went to a French, English and science class. In the French class we listened to a Jacques Prevert poem : "Le Petit-déjeuner". This poem seems to be very famous in Poland, but not in France.

I didn't understand anything during the English and Science classes. It was interesting and boring at the same time. During the work session all the partners presented a powerpoint on their country. Wanis and Quentin presented France. With the Turkish presentation I learnt that Eurasia and Africa were joined up by a road.

The students acted a musical comedy on Japan in Polish. They had beautiful clothes and make-up. The youngest girl had a lovely voice.

After this show, we played volleyball. I had never played, so I was bad. But I enjoyed it! To reward the players we were offered a lollipop.

After school I went to the supermarket with Ola's mother and Ola. Her father didn't seem happy to see us coming back with a pizza.

After dinner, they offered me some green tea, ok, why not? It was strange but tasted good. Then we went for a ride with Ola's cousins. I didn't like them at all. They were so young, yet so .. so .. so pest. They spent the evening making fun of me. Our means of communication made them laugh, ok, but they burst out laughing of our problem of understanding, I didn't accept that.

24/03

I woke up at six o'clock and a half. Luckily there wasn't the sunlight in my room at five o'clock. After a big and good breakfast, we went to school. then to the Palace of culture and science with the Poles. Meantime, I learned that almost everybody in the group had spent the evening together at the bowling, except me. Ola didn't want to go out with the other students.

During the poverty conference I really didn't understand anything, apart from some words such as education, dream, situation, life, hope, picture...

At half past eleven, the students' presentation started at last. First the Poles, then the French (a little movie is available on Facebook) and the German. It was a very good idea to make a movie montage.

For lunch at the restaurant we had soup and turkey.... again, and three or four chips. oh ! and strawberry juice... I spent my last zloty in a sandwich...

We went back to the lecture room to listen to other powerpoint presentations before our free shopping time. Too expensive for me, I had no money left. Back to the palace Mrs Cabartier bought us a drink, great ! Thank you very much ! Cappuccino for Amandine and Camille, a Sprite for me.

Then, we visited the top of the building : thirty-third floor ! Beautiful photos !!! The theme of the visit was the evolution of men. We saw iguana, insect, and the better, the skeleton of Lucie !!! I always wanted to see it, but only on tv.

Back on the ground floor, we planned our evening. I begged Ola to go bowling with the others. Finally, we didn't go out but instead, we talked for more than an hour in Polish, English, and French.

I found boring the conference, because I didn't understand anything. I was angry : I find intolerable that people volunteer as host family without organizing any visits for their host. It was really boring.

In 2008, more than one out of four children and one out of five persons of 16 to 24 years lived in poor households (25% and 23%, respectively). The proportion of children, particularly of many children, represents a greater change on households. The household income of poor or near poor households with one or more children "without children" is lower than of households with one or more dependent children. Thus, many children associate with low-income, a male, take market position and low income of parents, and with neither not completed or completed education. Thus poverty is more spread among households with dependent children than among the others, with a poverty rate of 23% (in 2008) as against 14% for households without children. The poverty rate of households with one or more children with adult children is higher than the rate of households with one or more children without adult children (poverty rates of 31% and 47%, respectively in 2008), much higher than in 2004 (25% and 34%).

25/03

Gathering at school was at nine o'clock. Then, departure to the City Hall to listen a Warsaw district mayor. He presented the district which is the more developed in Warsaw. We saw a video presentation of the district showing its landscape, river, architecture, activities, nursery schools, swimming-pools, sport teams...

He gave us gifts and we ate tasty biscuits.

Back to school for the last work session I had to present our pictures on poverty. I was stressed, my legs were shaking, and I had sweaty palms ... I spoke very badly but I did it. I even forgot one of the first English lessons I had : read a date - two thousand and seven, murder !

For lunch we had the same thing as everyday. Oh ! And their strawberry syrup AGAIN.

The Science Center was very interesting with many experiences such as tornado, or robots...

A little hungry? Direction the bar! More than twenty eight zloti... Then we returned to school to join our host family. I hoped we would go to the cinema that evening. I was tired, I missed France, but I was happy to be there.



26/03/11

Nine o'clock, departure for the museum of the reconstruction of Warsaw. It was very interesting!! I wanted to take photos but the memory card of my camera was full. No problem, I had a lot to tell my parents. There was a 3D movie showing the destruction of Warsaw during World War II. It was sad. The number of inhabitants dramatically fell down with the bombings and deportations. The decor of the museum was very realistic. There were tombs, I wonder if they were real or just a decor.



Then, we visited the LEGIA stadium... no comment. We ate at the Wilanow restaurant. I was half asleep on the table but I could see what we were eating : I'll let you guess.

The guided tour of the Imperial Palace didn't take, because we were more than one hour late. But we made some nice pictures.

After a small sleeping in the bus, we arrived in the Old town, at last. It's big! And the architecture is beautiful! We wandered into souvenir shops where I got a big ☺ Chopin cup ☺.

Thanks to Mrs Cabartier for the hotdog.

This journey was very good and very well organized. The only thing to change is the choice of my host family.

- *Mickael HOUZET*

TRAVAIL NON RENDU

• *Camille KROLAK*

My Travel to Poland



Introduction:

In this summary of my trip to Poland, I will present my daily activities, my host family and my feelings. I went to Poland from Tuesday 22 to Sunday 27 March with six students and two teachers. We stayed in Warsaw even in host families. This travel was part of a project, the Comenius project, which aims at bringing together various European countries (Germany, France, Poland, Spain and Romania) and a neighbour country (Turkey). The countries participating in this project work on a common theme. For the meeting in Poland, the theme was Poverty, and during the five days we had work sessions related to this theme.

My first day:

I arrived at the train station in Châlons at 7:00 am, and then I took the train towards Paris-Est at 7:15. I like taking the train.

Mélanie and me →

We arrived at 8:45 am in Paris. We had a great walk and climbed stairs to catch the RER. My suitcase was so heavy Quentin had to help me carry it. We finally arrived at Gare du Nord to take our RER. Since the beginning of the journey I took pictures because it is worthy of a true tourist. So we pursued our way towards Roissy Charles de Gaulle airport.



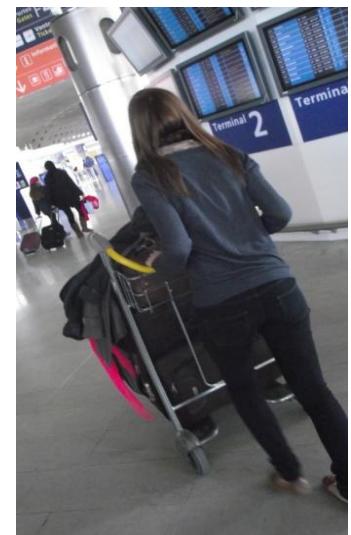
The girls in the RER.



I was quite excited at the idea of flying because I love it. After thirty minutes in the RER we arrived at the airport. I am always impressed by the size of airports. We had free time until 11:00 so we took a trolley for our luggage and we walked through the airport. There were many small shops, libraries, bars, restaurants and bakeries such as "Paul". We ate our sandwiches at 10:30 am figuring we were going to have a nice little meal on the plane.

I found it nice, we were all seven and we got along well, the trip promised to be good.

Me with the trolley



Wanis and me with our trolleys.



Quentin, Mélanie, Hugo and Mickaël

At 11:00 we returned to the meeting point, then we went together to zone 3 for the check-in of our suitcases. After that, we went through security check. I was impressed by the fact that we had to take off our belts and shoes. I wondered if they wanted us to take off our trousers too. In the duty-free part of the airport the stores sell products that are not taxed. So I bought for the girls and I a macaroon "Ladurée".

The macaroon "Ladurée"



As we weren't allowed to keep our bottles of water after security check we decided to buy a bottle of water but when you saw the price our thirst disappeared. The boarding was at 12:00 at gate F24.

From there we were driven by bus to the Air France plane which flew us to Poland. I loved the take-off.



Everybody in the bus

We arrived in Poland at 14:55. We changed our money at the airport and we went for our bags. We then headed towards the exit where some Polish families were there to greet us. There was among them, the father of my host family who drove Amanda, Quentin and Hugo to the high school before taking me to their apartment where I met Kinga. I visited their apartment and then we ate at 17:15. They lend me a computer. When her father came back, he tried to speak to me in Polish, but I did not understand anything. He made a plate of cakes and orange juice. I thought that was nice. Kinga was playing Xbox, so I took my computer and went with her to talk a little. Then I went in my room and called my parents. It relieved me to have my cell phone. I talked a little with my friends on Facebook and went to bed at 23:00.

It was a tiring day because we walked all day. A quite stressful day too because I did not know what host family I was going to have. But at first I thought that they were friendly.

The second day:

I woke up at 6:45, figuring I would have the bathroom directly, but Anna, Kinga's mother was still in the bathroom. I finished dressing up at 7:20 am. For breakfast I had tea and cereals. I then washed my teeth. We left at 7:45 for high school with Anna, when I arrived I found Amanda and Quentin. I saw the facilities, the big building but I prefer Oehmichen. You feel less confined.

The school



We went in a Maths lesson with Weronicka, Amanda's host, then after five minutes they came to pick us up for the official reception which was held in the lobby. To welcome the students in Poland they sang and acted a play. Kinga was part of the choral. I thought it was a warm welcome.



The show



The roses offered by the Polish students

We then went into a room to eat and drink. The teachers told us about the morning programme. We went in a French lesson, I found it interesting that we can see how foreigners learn our language. We also attended an English class where the teacher made us work with her students, which was nice of her. Then to finish, a Chemistry lesson. What was impressive was the small number of students per class. There are many sections in the school. It goes from kindergarten to a class of students of seventeen years old. As I told Melanie, I could not stay in the same school all that long, seeing the same people.

Then there was the powerpoint presentation of all the countries. It was the first working session and I found it interesting for general knowledge. It lasted a little more than an hour.

Quentin and Wanis during their presentation.



We then went to the canteen where we had lunch. The room was very small. We ate little balls of mashed potatoes with broccoli and fried turkey cutlet. We were not served water but a kind of grape juice. It was not very good. After eating we strolled outside. There was a bright sunshine. We then went to the gym and the boys played basketball and football with the Spanish students. I worked on my oral presentation on poverty. In the afternoon, we attended a German course. Then they took us to the hall to watch a show prepared by the Poles. It was a sort of musical in Polish so personally I did not understand much. After the show we went to the gym to play a volleyball match. It was fun, especially when I had to do the service, because I'm really zero. But we laughed a lot! After the game of volleyball we had a lollipop in return.

Kinga then called her dad to take us to a very large Arkadia shopping mall, as in Paris. We joined Amanda, Quentin, and Joanna Weronicka there. It was really great; I bought myself a bag and a pair of pants. All the shops in France that I love were there. I practically spent all the money I had. With Amanda, we realized that we had been "ripped off" at the airport when changing the currency. The rate was more interesting in Arkadia. We had dinner at the mall. It was Weronicka who paid for my meal at the KFC. I found it unusual since I was not staying at her place. It did not even bother Kinga that Weronicka paid. We then joined her father and brother in the mall to go home. On returning I called my parents.



It was a quiet day, a day when we became familiar with Poland, the high school and the families.

My third day:

I woke up as on Tuesday. I went into the bathroom and got ready. I then had breakfast. Kinga began classes at 10:00. It's her mother who brought me to school. I was happy because we have a nice chat. She said she was a doctor and that her husband was a pharmacist. She showed me his office and the place where she learned Spanish. She then asked me what was my parents' job and also about my sister.

I arrived at school and my friends were waiting for me in the hall. We then waited until the bus came to take us to the Palace of culture. So we took lots of photos, and everyone was friendly. The bus stopped to pick up the teachers at the hotel. When we arrived there we took group pictures. The building was impressive as it is the highest in Poland. It has 32 floors. The elevator took us to the twelfth floor to the conference room. When we arrived, we sat in the stands next to Mrs. Cabartier who gave us the powerpoint that Amanda and I were going to present. We then trained and I reviewed a few things with Mrs. Dalbergue. Before our presentations, we attended a conference with a professor. She spoke Polish but there was a translator. I did not really understand this conference; I was too focused on my presentation. After the departure of this teacher, we started the PowerPoint presentations. First, it was Poland who began then France was just after. I do not like to talk in front of an audience, especially in English, so I mostly read, but the teacher was happy with what we



did. And for me it was the most important. Then there were the Germans, who made a presentation mainly in the form of a survey, it was interesting. To finish before going to eat, the Romanians did theirs. We then went downstairs to the restaurant "Bistro" where we ate the breaded turkey escalope with fried potatoes and carrots. As a starter we ate soup with noodles. It was the third time I was eating the breaded steak, I started getting tired of it. In Poland, we didn't have cheese or dessert.

Then I went outside the building with Wanis and Mélanie before returning to the conference room for the final powerpoint presentations of Spain and Turkey. A student of the University made a lecture afterwards. We spoke during this lecture because it didn't seem interesting to us.

At the end of the work session we had an hour of free time. We became friends with the Spanish students; we proposed them to come with us. I bought a lighter for my father as a souvenir from Poland. We came back to the Palace ten minutes earlier and we found Mrs. Cabartier in a cafe located in the palace. She gave us a little something to drink. So we had a cappuccino and joined the group to see the exhibition in the palace with a guide. The guide spoke a little French. We climbed to the top of the palace. It was fun to have an overview of the city.

Then we went down to the 26th floor where I think we saw the skeleton of "Lucy" Australopithecus. At the end of the tour, we left by bus to school. Along the way, Weronicka did all she could for me to go bowling with them. Kinga did not answer. Someone was supposed to come and pick me up. Her father arrived and knew nothing of all this so we went shopping in Carrefour then ate at McDonalds. They bought me some sausage and pierogis for my parents. When we arrived there was nobody at the meeting point because we were late. We made a mistake in scheduling. And Kinga's father was too tired to take me to Bowling. I was disappointed and upset. So I went to bed. My parents called me, the only good thing in the evening. I missed them already.

The day was both interesting and a bit annoying because we sat most of the time. The end of the day was disappointing for me. I wanted to make the most of this trip, not to stay at home with my host.



The fourth day:

I woke up on Friday morning still a little disappointed by the day before. I prepared as usual and then we went to high school. I waited with Kinga and her friend because we arrived too early. She asked me to go bowling with her and her friends in the evening. I saw Wanis arriving and I was relieved. He told me about his evening. Then Amanda and Quentin came and told me about their evening too. I was already sad but when I heard that everyone had fun, it was even worse.

We took the bus and after a 25-30 minutes ride we arrived to the city hall to meet with the Mayor. We waited in the entrance hall and then we all went upstairs in a large room with tables filled with biscuits and drinks awaiting us. I started crying. Amanda came and held me in her arms. Mrs. Dalbergue asked me what was wrong, I told her it was nothing. Amanda then explained the situation to Mrs. Cabartier who asked Amanda if she could make an arrangement with Weronicka to stay in her house.

The mayor arrived and spoke in Polish for a while, his words were translated into English, but I did not try to understand. We viewed a video report on the city of Warsaw I think. Then we could eat before going back to school to complete the third work session. It was the presentation of photos about poverty. It was interesting to see the different pictures.

In the end I wanted to take fresh air, but the Polish teacher wanted us to stay in the corridor. We went out in secret. We then went back to eat fried fish. We went to the gym, to watch people play, and play with them.

Weronicka came to tell me that a girl was willing to welcome me in her house. So I met her. She looked nice. Weronicka then called Kinga. Kinga was not doing very well apparently. So I wanted to talk, to explain why I was sad, and why I wanted to change family. I wanted her to understand that I was away from my family; I had to see my friends. She understood and I decided to stay with her, but that we had to do other things than stay home every night. She agreed to that.

In the afternoon we went to Science Center. It was an interesting visit. There were many things to see, we had fun, the duration of the visit was about 3 hours. We then bought ourselves something to eat. It was impressive to see that the Poles could eat at 17:00, they eat a real meal: main course. At 18:30 we went back to school. I was happy because at night we went to the cinema with Weronicka, Amanda, Joanna and Quentin. It was a film about Justin Bieber. Well the movie was not top top, but the important thing was that I was with my friends. I spent a good evening!



Jordi and I at the Copernicus center.

I began the day in a bad mood, but as the day wore on, several happy things brightened me up. So it was a rather eventful day.

The fifth day:

On Saturday morning we went to school at 8:15. Then we went by bus to the Museum of the Reconstruction of Warsaw.



The French Group

We had to wait until it opened so we took group photos in the cold. After thirty-minutes of visit, we sat at a table with the French and Spanish students. We had a good laugh, they said Wanis looked like Usher when he put my sunglasses on, it was fun.

When we left for the Legia Stadium, I began to get sick, I was cold, I did not want to go but I followed the group. It was not the visit I enjoyed the most. We went at the eat late at the restaurant Wilanow. I'll let you guess what we ate. After lunch we had to visit the palace but it closed at 13:00. So we just took a group photo in front of the palace and visited the garden. We then went to old town where we said goodbye to one of the Spanish students. It was sad as we felt the end of the trip coming. We followed our teachers to visit the old town ... Mrs. Cabartier bought me a waffle, which was delicious. We took the bus to return to school. When I arrived at school, Kinga was waiting with her girlfriends and I could not remember that she wanted to go bowling. I then explained to her that I was tired and I preferred to go home to prepare my things and get some rest for Sunday.

The last day in Poland was a good day, although it was not warm and I began to get sick.

My last day:

I woke up on Sunday morning to be at the teachers' hotel at 10:00. Kinga's mother said goodbye and they offered me a bottle of vodka. I was super happy because I wanted to bring it to my parents. When we prepared to leave I realized that Kinga was not coming with us, I was disappointed once again. On arriving, we saw Mrs. Cabartier, I said goodbye to my family and I joined Amanda and Weronicka. Everyone arrived one by one, it was fun. We then wrote little notes for Joanna and Weronicka.

Then they left the hotel. We went to the Old Town to buy the last souvenirs and eat in a restaurant for lunch. I ate Pierogi but I didn't find it very good. We then went for a tour with Wanis and he bought a T-shirt.

We all headed back to the hotel to get our luggage and take a taxi that took us to the airport. There we met Mick and Hugo, and then we headed for the check-in area. Our plane was fifteen minutes late. So we strolled through the airport which is much smaller than Roissy. We boarded the plane. I was happy to take the plane as I love it and I knew I would see my parents in a short time, which made me even happier.

As we were late when we arrived in Paris, we had to hurry not to miss our train to Châlons. No luck, the RER was closed, so we had to take a long ride in a bus and another RER to Gare du Nord. We had to run with our bags, which were heavy. But we managed to catch the train, just on time. It was a commando mission. When we arrived in Châlons, I was pleased to see my parents and I look forward to the next day to see my friends, but first I slept well after this tiring day.

A very tiring day. An exciting day because we also said goodbye to Poland. And it was a great trip; we met nice people and visited interesting places. Despite the fact that we ate fried meat the whole week, the trip to Poland I had imagined closely resembled what we experienced.



- *Wanis MAHJOR*

2011

POLAND

Travel in Poland

The summary of my travel in Poland

Mahjor Wanis
22/03/2011



Tuesday, March 22nd

We arrived at Warsaw airport at 4 p.m. After retrieving my luggage, I was greeted by my host family, his name is Maciek. It was a really nice and kind welcome. When we arrived home, I had the right to visit the neighborhood and especially a nice visit of the beautiful home of my Maciek. They asked me to eat and then we played a basketball game. After playing, Maciek showed me how to play poker because then we had a poker game. When we finished, Maciek gave me a computer and a phone to contact my family and relatives. The parents respected my diet and were very careful about it. Then we laughed with his brother. At dinner, the mother offered me Maciek, a Polish specialty. Her dishes were very good and different from French food. After dinner we quietly settled around a table to play poker. After all this, I could finally take a shower and go to my room to sleep.



Wednesday, March 23rd

The sun had already risen since 5 am, so although it was early, I woke up pretty easily. For breakfast, I had pancakes and tea. It was a full English breakfast, and the family loves it. Then we prepared our bags for the day.

At 7:22 we took the bus to the Gymnasium (the school hosting us). There, the Polish students had organized a very warm welcome. They sang several songs starting with the European anthem. After all this, we gathered in a room to discuss the day's programme. We began by visiting the Gymnasium. Then we



followed three courses : French, English and Chemistry. A presentation of the country was included in the project, so we did it. After all this, we went to eat with all the representatives of different the countries in the project. After lunch, we had a little break and we could get some fresh air. We then had the chance to attend on "Japan." The students must have had many hours of training and rehearsal because the show was perfect.



Right after we played a volleyball match, it was very fun. I joined my host with whom I went to a basketball game while waiting for the bus. At home we ate a crumble that the mother had prepared. We then rested before going to the pool. On returning from the pool we ate a delicious pizza and I went to sleep.

Thursday, March 24th

Like the previous days we woke up at 6:30. As I said before, my family loves English breakfast. So I had tea and pancakes. When we arrived to school, my Polish comrades asked me to play a basketball game. After this match we took the bus to the highest building in Poland. We had the chance to attend a conference on poverty in Polish, a translator translated it into English. After all this, it was the turn of the students to present poverty in their country. Then we had the chance to have free time after eating in a beautiful restaurant. After lunch we returned to attend the presentation of poverty in Poland but this time it was made by a Polish student. This presentation was very complete and well and truly said. Then we visited an exhibition of strange species. Personally I have always dreamed of seeing a carnivorous plants and there I had the chance to see a few! Finally my host and I got back home. We played poker and basketball. We played poker and basketball. It was a great night, we really had a good laugh.



Friday, March 25th

After waking up, we took our breakfast (bread with cheese and tea, there was also ham but I'm not allowed to eat pork) and we took the bus to the gymnasium. When

we got there, I went to join my French comrades. We went to a German lesson. Later every country presented a charity.



We went to the Center of science and discovery! It was amazing, I loved it! I could discover many things and I enjoyed it. I even participated in a lot of experiences! After all this we went back with my host and we ate very quickly because we were invited to a friend of Maciek's. We played table tennis and finally with the console.

Saturday, March 26th

We took the bus to go to a museum on World War II. We could see a film about the destruction of Warsaw during the war.

After this visit we had the chance to visit the stadium of the local football team.



After all these visits we went to eat.

My host picked me up at the restaurant to watch a great game of first league volleyball. I had the chance to pick the ball.

It was a great and fun experience.

Finally we returned home by metro, tram and bus, all this allowed me to see a little bit more of the city.

• **Amandine PAYET**

*From 22nd March to 27th March,
Comenius Project
Poland*

Day 1



I woke up à 5:45 am, I didn't stay in my bed because I was excited to leave France. We met at 7:00am at the train station, we were together, and we didn't know how it would be

what it would happen ... We said goodbye to our parents, and for once, I was little sad to leave them. Then we went in the train, and we left Châlons at 7:15am. I took photos, and I couldn't stay motionless. I had to keep busy. In Paris we took the RER, and in reality, I apprehended it, but finally, it was really quiet, and there weren't a lot of people.

When we arrived at the airport, we had some free time. We went outside, because it was a very good weather, and the sun was shining, so we ate our snacks, or for some, their meal. I ate my salad, and it was very tasty. In the airport, we saw Asians wearing a mask on their nose, so we supposed, they came from Japan. They were funny, they followed us in a shop, and they laughed so we left. After, we decided to store our luggage, and we went in a shop 'Ladurée' where we ate for the first time these so famous macaroons, and I didn't expect that, it was very good, and if it wasn't so expensive, maybe I would buy a lot of them. After the macaroon experience, we were thirsty, but when we saw the price of the water, we were good, and refreshed. Then, we joined the teachers and we waited for the opening of the boarding, and we were the first to board.

We were so excited to take the plane, we made fun of Wanis, because he was a little scared because he had never taken it before, but, when we took off, everybody was a little anxious, and me, I was near the porthole, and saw the movement of the wing of the aircraft it was more frightening, and I was relieved when we landed. But I was disappointed about the 'meal' they served us, it wasn't very good, and happily we ate before, or else I would be very angry and hungry, because when I don't eat I'm angry. But the flight attendants were very nice, and one of them asked us about our travel.

When we arrived at the airport of Warsaw, I expected to have a bad weather, but actually it was warm, and I was agreeably surprised. So, we changed our money, at that time we didn't know the taxes were more expensive at the airport than in the city of Warsaw.

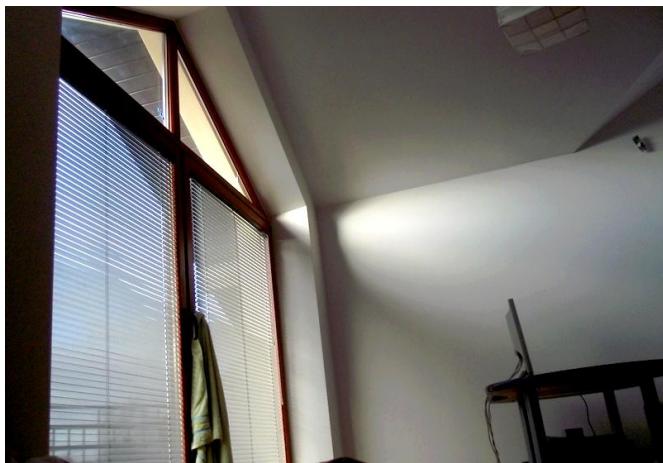
The Polish families made us feel welcome; they looked really cheerful to see us. Kinga's father drove us to the school where Weronika and Johanna were waiting for Quentin and me. Then Johanna's mother drove us to the house of our host families. I met Weronika's family, her father didn't look happy to see me in his house, but it was just my first impression, then he spoke with me about his job, which he seemed very proud of, and I appreciated he welcomed me like he did.



Then he made me visit his wonderful house, and I could see he was very proud of it as well. Dinner time was earlier than in France, it was around 6:00pm. Just before dinner, I gave my present to the family, and the mother of Weronika seemed to really appreciate the cup I gave her. After dinner, with Quentin, Johanna and Weronika, we went shopping in a big commercial centre. In Poland, shops close very later in comparison to France. So we stayed there until 9:30pm. Back home, I showed my new clothes to Weronika's mother, and she really took interest in them, and that made me happy. But I found it too bad she didn't speak English. After a little snack, I went to bed too late in my opinion.

Day 2

There, the sun rose at 5:00am so I woke up early, because I didn't have shutters in my room, just blinds. The first morning, I thought I was late, but when I saw the time on my phone, I was shocked, it was 5:15am! But I could go to sleep again. So I woke up at 6:40am, I got ready and I had breakfast with Weronika, I ate Chocapic cereals, eggs, toast, cheese for hamburger, and I liked everything. I thought it could be good to try everything, to live during some days with their lifestyle. Her mother took really good care of me. She asked me all the time, thanks to Weronika for translation, if I needed of anything.



Then Quentin and Johanna met us and at 7:40am, we left to go to school. When we arrived at school, all the students were looking at us, like we were freaks. We went to a mathematics lesson with Weronika, I found the lesson really noisy, it didn't look like a real classroom, where you can work quietly. Maybe was it because we were there? I don't know. We didn't stay long since in the hall of the school, a chorale was waiting and started singing the European anthem, then other songs with a guitar and a piano.

At the end, they invited us to join up with the people of the other countries in a room, too small for everybody. There were cakes and drinks, unfortunately for me, I ate too much! Every partner made a presentation of his country; I found the French presentation a little disappointing, but they tried to speak spontaneously and some countries, just read, and when they did that, it was really boring. I really appreciated the Turkish teacher because, he had a very good PPT, and he explained the good points to explain, he went to the essential, and it was clear, and understandable, maybe because he was a teacher and not a student. I had a lot of respect for the Spanish boys, because they were just two boys, and they carried out all of their PPT, and it was good.

Then we visited the school. They were rebuilding the first school, so they had to share, the rest of the school with the primary school. We were able to assist at some lessons, we saw the French lesson, where the French teacher spoke French very well, the chemistry lesson, where we saw an experience, and an English lesson where the teacher involved us in her lesson and I found that was a good idea, which allowed us to socialize together, then, a pretty cool German lesson. I found all of these lessons, really noisy, and short with few students. At 1:00 pm, we could go to eat, for the second time ... fried turkey! I didn't appreciate the drink, not fresh and all the time with strawberry, for once, I'd rather have water!

After the meal, we saw a Japanese show presented by Polish students of the school. I found it a shame it was too babyish, maybe I had this impression because we were the oldest, but I found it very long, and little boring, and they spoke Polish, so we didn't understand. But I noticed the efforts for the make-up and costumes.

Then we made a match of volley ball, with the Poles, and I really liked it. Sport is a universal language!



The second work session was cancelled so with Weronika, Johanna, Kinga, Camille and Quentin, we went in an enormous Carrefour, we shopped and we ate KFC. Weronika paid for me, Johanna for Quentin, only Kinga didn't pay for Camille, so Weronika paid for her. I thought that was a kind of shame for her because every Polish host paid for their French student, but only Kinga didn't. Then Kinga and Camille left and with Quentin, Johanna and Weronika, we stayed longer because Weronika wanted to go to the cinema to ask for a poster of Justin Bieber, because she's a big big fan! But there was a big line-up so we gave up. Back at home, I helped Weronika for her French homework and then really tired, I went to bed for a good night.

Day 3



Thursday, I woke up believing it there was a big sun outside, but it was just an impression. Like everyday, I ate my breakfast with Weronika, served by her sister, Jagoda. Then, like everyday again, we went to school, with Quentin, Johanna and Weronika. At school, we met the French group and talked about our evening.

Then we left from school to the Palace of Culture and Sciences (Palac Kultury i Nauki), which is the biggest building of Poland. We attended a conference by a professor and I was really impressed by her interpreter who spoke perfectly English with a spectacular ease. I found the conference too complicated, and as we were the oldest, I could imagine for the younger students. Maybe they should have reserved this conference only for teachers. After, it was students who presented their project. Again, the Romanians were not really ready, and they read and read again without spontaneity, and I had the impression they had never seen the PPT before, but I really appreciated the German PPT, as vox pop, interesting. And we could see the little Turkish got out, I found it really rude. They should have waited like everybody else.

We went in a restaurant and we drank the not fresh liquid with strawberry again and the famous fried turkey! I didn't like the meal, but still I ate the meat. Then we came back in the conference room of the presentation of Turkey and Spain. I enjoyed the Turkish performance, and I was respectful of the Spanish students who made their presentation.

After all the conferences, we joined our guide to visit the last floor of the building. From there, we could see the town, and it was impressive to be there, but I didn't find the town really beautiful, there were just buildings and everything was grey. After we went in an exhibition of bones, and we saw the bones of Lucy, I was shocked, I couldn't believe it! I asked to be sure, and yes, it was really the bones of Lucy. I was wondering why they were here. And the guide told me they were there for the exhibition and after, her bones would go in another country. I really liked it, I found it very interesting, I think it was the visit I liked the most and I was very proud of myself because I understood the guide very well. Like everything I like, I found it too short.

We went back to school, and after back home. It was the evening of the bowling! We went to the bowling, with Johanna, Quentin, Weronika and, her little brother Jacob.

He was really funny. It was a really good evening, and Weronika took photos, and with them, she made us a big surprise (to see on Saturday). We made three parties and then, we went back home. Each night was more tiring than the other.

Day 4

When I woke up, I coughed once and Weronika's mother gave me a honey tea, a cough syrup and some vitamins. I found that really cute, she took care of me. Then, we went to school, after to city hall of the district of Bialoleka. We attended a speech of the Mayor of the district. He said he had a lot of projects for the district, to build more schools because, the young population was increasing. Then we came back to school, and we had to present our work, for France it was Mélanie. She did not speak loud, and we were there to represent our country, and to present our presentation, to be "proud" of it. I could understand she was shy, but she looked to be unhappy to do it...



Afterwards we had some free time because the teachers had to prepare the next Comenius meeting in Germany. Then we went to eat but in the canteen, it was the famous fried turkey, and I ate the mashed potatoes. But it wasn't really very good...

After lunch we went to the Copernicus Science Centre, with a lot of exhibits. I thought I would rather do it at the beginning of the trip because my legs... But it was really interesting! Mickael and Arnau, one of the Spanish boys, built together a kind of ladder for the mill, I guess ...



Back to school, Kinga and Camille, got along together better, and thanks to that, we went to the cinema together. Weronika paid for me and Kinga and Camille. Even if Kinga had to pay Weronika back I didn't understand why Kinga's father didn't pay for the girls. Once more, Weronika was amazing and Kinga should be grateful to Weronika. So we saw Justin Bieber's film, called "Never Say Never". It was a kind of joke for French people, because we don't like him, but I knew Weronika liked him so much, so with or without Camille and Quentin, I would have gone with her. She was completely crazy, she screamed when she saw him! I was glad to see her so cheerful! Just before seeing the movie, she asked at the cinema to have some posters of Justin Bieber, and she took many posters, one for each person of our group. But she forgot to give mine to me, she gave it to Camille who put it in the bin! We came back home tired, and I fell asleep fast!



Day 5



Weronika's mother gave me once more time, the honey tea, with the cough syrup and the vitamins, and I appreciated. Then we went to school, and to the Museum of the reconstruction of Warsaw. We made the visit by ourselves, and maybe if we had had a guide, it would have been more interesting, because it was completely dark. I didn't like the atmosphere. We saw the things in the museum, but we didn't know what they were, and a historical reminder would have helped us understand better. Then we visited the Legia Stadium, the worst visit of the trip, I was cold, and tired, and we had to walk on the wet field, and they showed us the concrete where the famous football players walked before us. It was useless and annoying. We didn't go

to the new stadium being built for 2012. Moreover I think it was the pride of the Polish people, to have such a big event in their country.

Completely hungry, we had to wait again, because we went to the restaurant with the coach. At the Wilanow restaurant, Wanis and Quentin bet on the fact that we would eat the fried turkey, and we thought it was impossible, because we ate that every day, but Quentin won and we ate chips and fried turkey! I noticed in Poland they never ate dessert. For me who likes French cheese, yoghurt and fruits for dessert, I was lacking those good things!

We were supposed to visit the Wilanow Palace, but we were late and it was closed! So the Polish teacher thought we were cheerful not to make the visit, but she was wrong, I would have liked to visit this Palace, from outside it looked good, with a lot of colours ... So, we went to the Old town, earlier, and we helped our teacher find some presents for her colleagues. I made a tour of the market, and I tried to help Jordi, one of the Spanish boys, to find a present for his girlfriend. I suggested jewelry but everything was ugly and we were in a hurry so he bought her a t-shirt "I love WARSAW". Then I joined the French group, and Mrs Cabartier offered us a waffle, thanks to it I stained my coat! But the waffle was so good. We ran back to the bus, and we said goodbye to the Spanish boy, It was really sad because I really appreciated them, especially Jordi who spoke French very well! Arnau kissed the German girl, and he was very proud of himself. After the goodbye, we went back home, and with Weronika, Johanna and Quentin, we went shopping! I wanted to change my last Euros in Zloty, so I changed with Quentin, and then, Weronika paid for my sausages. With Quentin we went in a shop to buy the last album of Justin Bieber!

Then we went in a photo shop, where she printed the photos made by her sister, a wonderful photomontage. It was the best present I have ever had by a foreign friend! At home, I packed my luggage and Weronika listened to her new CD! Weronika's father gave me some presents for my parents, a bottle of vodka and he went in my room, sat on the armchair and started speaking with me. We talked about a lot of subjects, his job, politics, the future of his children. I appreciated it. After a very long day, I went to bed, with sadness to leave my Polish family the next day.



Day 6

The time changed to the summer time! So I woke up one hour too early, like Quentin. I had a lot of time to prepare my suitcase. I took my breakfast, with a salad of lettuce, corn, tomatoes; I ate everything because we knew I was going to eat late.



Weronika's mother was staying at home, so I said goodbye to her before leaving home! She made me some big hugs, I was sad because she was so lovely with me! And I didn't say goodbye to Jagoda, because she wasn't there. With Jacob, Weronika and their father, we went to

the teachers' hotel near the stadium where Jacob had a match. I said goodbye to both and with Weronika, we walked to the hotel. We waited for Quentin and Johanna for a collective goodbye. I said goodbye to the mother of Johanna too, because she was lovely as well! Johanna and Weronika cried but not me. It was very difficult not to cry, because I was going to miss them, they became my friends, and, I really hoped I would go back one day ...

With Mrs Cabartier we walked to the Old Town where we found some presents, we visited the market again, and we met up with Mrs Dalbergue. We ate in a Polish restaurant, where I took some pierogi, a polish specialty. I liked it, so I bought it on the market to make my family discover it.

From the hotel we took a taxi to the airport. We needed to wait because our flight was delayed. The flight was the same as before; they gave us a cake and a drink. In France, we had to take a bus because the RER didn't operate that day. So we were late to the train station. We had to run very fast because we only had a few minutes catching the train for Châlons. Wanis and I were leading the group and we ran to platform 24! Wanis went to help the others carry their luggage. I waited for everyone in front of the train. We made it! I was good to be back home.



- **Quentin RISSE**

Introduction

I will present my description of WARSAW and the different activities I did with my host and my friend Amandine. After, I will give you my feelings and my impressions about this beautiful travel.

First day

We left in the morning and we arrived in Warsaw in the afternoon. The travel was really tiring and the plane was extremely painful for my ears. We were welcomed at the airport by the host families and everything went well despite the language barrier. We then went to the shopping center to go shopping with Assia my host, Amandine and her host. The shopping was really cool and very funny with my new friends.

Second day

I woke up at 5:15 am because the sun rises earlier than in France. It was very strange. We had breakfast and we walked to school. First, we visited the classrooms that are prettier than ours. It was really interesting. Being in a French lesson in Poland was wonderful and very funny because it was simpler. For lunch we ate fried turkey. You will be eating fried turkey every day. Me and my friend Wanis proposed to Spanish students to play football and basketball with us. At 3pm there was a show that was really wonderful. The volleyball tournament was very bad because I hate volleyball.



Volleyball tournament

ASSIA's mother drove us to the central place of WARSAW with Weronicka, Amandine, Assia, Kinga and Camille. The shopping center was very impressive because it was huge. The mother took us to eat in a fast food (KFC).



The big shopping centre

We returned home at 9:10 pm. I talked with her and her mother and I went to bed because the shopping was really tiring.

Third day

In the morning, we went to see Weronicka and Amandine. Weronicka's father made me visit his luxurious house. It was a really a beautiful house.

We went to the Palace of Cultural and Science to make the presentation of the work on poverty made by every country. This palace is very big and tall (the tallest tower of Warsaw). We ate in a restaurant in the palace. It was still fried turkey and their drink was really special (strawberry syrup with lots of sugar). During our free time, we went shopping near the palace and it was then that Mickaël made us really laugh too. Mickaël is unique! We visited an exhibition with strange animals and after we visited the last stage of the palace < The panoramic view was fabulous >.

At night, we went to the bowling with Assia, Weronicka, Amandine and Weronicka's brother. The bowling was fun and the tracks were different from those in France. Back in the car we spoke Polish with Weronicka's father - it was really funny. At home, I played video games with Assia's brother.



Fourth day

In the morning we went to the city hall, where the mayor presented us Warsaw district and his desires for this new area.

Back to school each country showed the images of poverty. After, we started playing football with our new Spanish friends. Their names are Arnau and Jordi.

The meal was always fried turkey with a strange strawberry syrup.

In the afternoon, we visited the Science Museum. This site was amazing and unforgettable.



Back on the bus, we sang songs with all the other students. It was a great moment.

At night, me, Assia, Weronicka, Amandine, Camille and Kinga went to see the film < Never say Never > in English at the cinema. An unbelievable late night spent with them.

Fifth day

We visited the museum of reconstruction, a very nice museum, then we saw the stadium of Legia and the beautiful stadium for the Euro 2012. Too bad we did not have enough time to visit the palace < Wila Dnow Palace >. We had free time in the old city and a farewell with the other students participating in this trip. It was one of the saddest moments of this travel. With of course my farewell the next day with the fabulous family that hosted me.

Conclusion

My conclusion is simple. I think that Warsaw...

- is a beautiful city full of history
- is a city with a lot of constructions
- will become a very big city
- a major European city.

This trip allowed me to see that Polish people are very attached to their country and I made a wonderful encounter with people from Spain, Germany and Poland.



Business district with tall buildings

Wilanow Palace.



*COLLEGIUMS CIVITAS of Warsaw
The Polish Empire State Building*

