



OPENING DOORS:

CHANGING THE STRANGE AND THE FOREIGN
INTO THE KNOWN AND FAMILIAR



X0620014 Grundtvig 2 (2005 - 2006)



EOI Ferrol
Project Coordinators
Spain



Lernia
Östersund
Sweden



Public Education Center
Samsun
Turkey

OBJECTIVES:

- To promote integration and inclusion
- To provide learning opportunities
- To raise awareness about migration problems
- To learn to value cultural diversity



RESULTS:

- Magazine '*I want to tell*'
- Higher diversity awareness
- Learning about other realities



Education and Culture

Socrates
Grundtvig



Project partners welcomed at the Ferrol town hall

SUMMARY

It has been a long time since the first traveller crossed the world in order to reach better lands, and this has not changed. Migration is still happening everywhere and at any time. We have all once in our life met someone who has gone through the experience of leaving their homeland behind for any reason it may be. Either refugees who flee for political reasons or those who migrate for love, returned emigrants in search of their origins, cultural minority groups who we share the same city with, those who need to migrate in search of work or for personal reasons or those who need to go away to help their own families... we are all living together under the shelter of the same world.

Opening Doors: changing the Strange and the Foreign into the Known and Familiar was born as a European project between three partners from Sweden, Turkey and Spain. Three different countries, far away from each other both geographically and culturally, but which are in touch with migration likewise. The different realities we live in have shown us that citizens do not always give help and foster a feeling of belonging in these groups, and sometimes even tend to promote a sense of otherness and social exclusion in them instead. With our Grundtvig 2 project, we would like to make them feel not strange or foreign anymore.

If we are really under the shelter of the same world, we must be all known and familiar to the rest, no matter what our origins are. This should be a project then in which both sides share and share alike, and this means we cannot make any culture disappear into the mainstream. We are involved in a project in which we would like to show we can be different and keep our cultural background, without bringing about a cultural gap or clash, even loss of identity or assimilation. This is the reason why ***I want to tell...*** is coming out: promoting social awareness and acceptance of difference in citizenship through cultural manifestations that belong to different cultural patterns. Coexisting is a very easy task to accomplish and we think sharing different cultural backgrounds in the same diary shows it.

It is just a good start to learn from each other.