**Project title "Discovering Europe"**

We are a Polish junior secondary school seeking their partner school to participate in a bilateral language exchange programme LLP Comenius. Our school is located in a small town of Kalety, Silesian province, next to  Tarnowskie Góry. Our students are aged 14-16. We have a complete project entitled "Discovering Europe", which was highly rated by the Polish NA last year (it received 89 points), but could not be implemented due to the lack of funds of the NA of the partner school from Canary Islands. Thus there are big chances of its implementation this year. English is the working language of the project. If interested please contact in English with our school project coordinator at this address: mkrystkiewicz@hotmail.com

By the bilateral project we would like to enable our students to develop their interests in other European countries in such areas as language, culture, history, geography and others. A vital element of cooperation between schools would be motivation to learn foreign languages, improve the ability to use them in everyday situations, all of which constitute a chance to gain education and understanding of many facts from the history of Europe. Creation of a multimedia tourist guide as a final product of the project will enable participants to familiarize with school, culture, history and tourist attractions of the partner country.

Moreover, students will be obliged to work in groups, share information on regionalisms, and, furthermore, will start a process of turning into a real, open European. The tourist guide, made in English, ... and Polish, will include information such as local accommodation, regional gastronomy, regional tourism and monuments. Photographs taken during visits in both countries will be presented in a calendar.

For many students the project is the only chance to see more than the local town, and for some, it is a chance to go abroad and visit another country for the first time in their lives.

School and local communities will be informed on all current steps of the project, and students, parents, local authorities will participate in such events as The European Day, The Polish/... Culture Day.

On accomplishment of the project, students, coordinating teachers and school headmasters will keep contact with the partner school.

We decided to take part in the project as we want our participants to be aware citizens of the united Europe. We also want them to see and compare different regions, traditions and cultures inside Europe. Both partner countries vary entirely, they comprise poles apart of the European Union. Poland is a country of Slav origin, with rich natural environment and moderate climate. ... is a country of rich history and culture, beautiful nature and climate. The variety makes both countries extremely interesting for each other.

For Polish school the project means increasing motivation to learn foreign languages, better educational effects and life opportunities. Basic knowledge of the partner country may be a good reason for studying abroad. It is a great chance for youths from less wealthy families to go to another European country and see the diverse regions of the same continent. Participants of the project benefit from personal self-development, learn to be open and tolerant toward other nations. For the school is it an opportunity to promote within local community, and also a good example for other institutions to take similar actions. Finally, the project is a continuation of aims and strategies of international cooperation of the school.

The main aim of the project is a chance to know different regions of Europe, cultural diversities within the continent, other traditions, mentality, as much as openness and tolerance toward these diversities. It also means perceiving Europe as a whole despite varieties and differences, shaping attitude of an open, broad-minded European, fighting a feeling of insularity, and finally, often the first visit abroad.