

Reflecting on war could help shape the future

The centenary of the First World War was the inspiration for a project called "1914: never again!", designed to get young people thinking about war

The French saying, "Comme en 14!", coined at the start of the Second World War, loosely translates as "1914 all over again!". It was supposed to serve as a reminder of the horrors of war; of the many young men who had gone to war in 1914 without fully understanding how terrible it would be.

"Plus Jamais Comme en 14!", or "1914: never again!" takes the saying a step further, with a project designed to get young people reflecting on war. Project Co-ordinator Yvan Pozuelo says,

Coming together to organise a project with six different nationalities, three different religions and six different education systems is a fabulous and rewarding experience in every sense... We have realised that cultural exchanges and education provide the perfect defence against wars!"

More than 300 young people travelled abroad on exchange visits as part of the project, with hundreds more participating from their home countries. They took part in a huge number of activities, including plays, debates and even film-making, where they attempted to answer questions like: "Is war ever 'just'?" "Is war a solution to economic crisis?" "Who benefits from war?" and even, "What would it have been like to live through the First World War?"

"1914: never again!" was a big success – and has continued to motivate the people who took part. Many of the schools have gone on to work together in other projects, or to take the principles they learned from "1914..." and use them to work with other schools.

More information

Project website: plusjamaiscommeen14.com

The Erasmus+ Project Results Platform: http://ec.europa.eu/programmes/erasmus-plus/projects



Erasmus+

Field: School Education **Action:** Strategic

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Key facts and figures

Participants: 300



Countries:

€ :

EU grant: €125,000



Project duration: 2012-2014

Project title

Partnerships

Plus jamais comme en 14!



Lead organisation

Name: IES Universidad Laboral Location: Gijón, Spain Website: www.iesulgijon.es/

Partners

Lycée Galilée, **France**; 1st High school of Igoumenitsa, **Greece**; Ist. Istr. Sup. A. Rosmini, **Italy**; Associação Raul Dória, **Portugal**; Emin Ali Yaşın İlkokulu, **Turkey**