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The headmaster of the 1st EPAL of Drama, Greece

Honorable ladies and gentlemen,
Representatives of the schools of the five countries, Bulgaria, Portugal,
Romania and Turkey.

My name is **Salis Anastasios** and I am the headmaster of the 1st EPAL of
DRAMA.

We welcome you to the opening ceremony of the Erasmus + program
“OPEN MINDED GENERATION”,
of which we will have the honor to be coordinators until the end of the
program, at 31/08/2020.

We all know the benefits we redeem from the participation and the integration of an Erasmus+ Program.

It has unpredictable rewards both at personal and professional level, it “opens new roads”, “changes lives”, it combines nations and civilizations.

Erasmus+ faces each department, each citizen, that participates to the program, as an ambassador of the values for alive and valuable European culture.

"Open Minded Generation" has as a basic target the reduction of stereotypes and discrimination.

Through this, children will learn to recognize their identity, both personal and social, to develop critical thinking as well as empathy for heterogeneity. They will learn how to become familiar with anything different and face it as equal.

In school, stereotypes are often cultivated, so teachers are called to have a strong role in their weakening, to be the “connection bridge” among different cultures, to involve students in creative activities, such as poetry, music, theater, that provide opportunities of cooperation among people with different characteristics.

Students then will realize that all together they are members of a strong team with equal rights and obligations.

So when we create democratic principles, moral values and a spirit of cooperation and when we cultivate conflict management skills, students can face successfully difficult challenges.

Expecting the best cooperation, as far as possible, I wish and hope this program to achieve its purposes and to become creative and effective.

Finally, I would like to thank the host country, Turkey, from the bottom of my heart for the organization of the first meeting of the representatives from the five participating countries.



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I wish you a pleasant stay and success in this project meeting.

The headmaster of the 1st EPAL of Drama, Greece
Salis Anastasios