**Exchange of Good Practices on Talent management in VET, Romania**

Open Europe joined the first study visit of the Project 'Exchange of good practices in talent management in VET’ on March 14-18, 2022. It was hosted by our Romanian partners and held in the picturesque Transylvanian city of Brasov, Romania.

During this week, we visited educational centres in accordance with the theme of the project, which is the identification of talent management in VET students and the sharing of good practices among partners in order to implement them across European educational centres and institutions as a tool for improvement.

**Introductions and getting to know each other**

On the first day we were welcomed and introduced to the Hungarian project coordinator and our Slovenian and Romanian partners. During this first meeting we were given an overview of the project and the Romanian team presented their Vocational School, followed by the presentation of our organization to all of the partners. Some financial and transport aspects of the project were also discussed.

After lunch we had the opportunity to take a city tour and visit a History Museum to learn about Brasov.

**Study visits**

On the second day we had our first actual study visit to Colegiul Tehnic Energetic Remus Radulet, (CTERR) the school and organization of our Romanian partners. It is a boarding school consisting of a primary and a secondary school, a VET centre and sports facilities, all in the same premises, where education is provided in the three languages of the province: Romanian, Hungarian and German. The CTERR is the largest VET centre in the region, specialized in the electronics part of vehicles, so many students from distant villages and other cities come and stay at the boarding school to save on daily commuting.

We consider it to be a very convenient and practical solution that includes all three levels of education as a comprehensive educational system. Our insights of the school is that it has all the necessary facilities and equipment for teaching and training. Some of the students' creations are very well done, for example a team of 16 year old students created a small solar panel that is activated by heat and another team created lights that are activated by sunlight.

In the afternoon we had the opportunity to have our second study visit in VET at Ina Schaeffler. This company is a partner of CTERR and it is where students can undertake their internship in, as Schaeffler has got the qualified trainers and the right machinery and equipment to carry out the training. If the trainees meet all the required skills, both professionally and personally, and their overall performance throughout the internship is satisfactory, they will most likely be offered a job and join the company at the end of the internship.

Our perception of Ina Shaeffler is that it is a very well organized and structured organization. It is superbly equipped with mechanical and technological machinery to be used by the students and we feel that the health and safety conditions are also well considered. We noticed and later confirmed that there are not many female trainees in the centre due to the heavy machinery to be handled, it also has good food facilities and overall it seems a very professional training and working place and environment.

Later, our Romanian companions joined us to take the Tampa cable car which brought us to the top of the mountain and we were able to see the fantastic views of Brasov from Mount Tampa.

**Meeting with the Regional Representative of the Ministry of Education.**

On the third day we received the visit of Mr. Radu Gabriel, the regional representative of the Ministry of Education (CEDEFOP). He explained and presented in depth the Romanian VET educational system so that we could fully learn about the Romanian VET program, which is partly similar to our educational model.

After the meeting, we went with all the partners to the town of Bran where we had the opportunity to visit the Bran Castle, known as Dracula's Castle. And then our hosts invited us to have lunch and taste some typical Romanian dishes at the top of the snowy Carpathian Mountains.

On our return to the hotel, we discussed the final financial aspects of the project and concluded the meeting with a pleasant farewell evening.