



RAISING AWARENESS OF DEMOCRACY IN OUR SCHOOLS AND THE MEDIA

**Erasmus+ Project – LIFT of Democracy
Cefalù, Italy – 10–15 November 2024**

Introduction

The mobility in Cefalù, Italy, hosted by *IISS “Jacopo del Duca – Diego Bianca Amato”*, focused on raising students’ awareness of democracy, legality, and media literacy. Participants from partner schools explored how democratic values are reflected in everyday life, education, and culture.

Main Objectives

- To promote understanding of democratic principles and civic responsibility.
- To connect the concepts of democracy, legality, and media literacy.
- To foster intercultural dialogue and cooperation between European students.
- To experience democracy through active participation and teamwork.



Main Goals

- To raise students' awareness of democratic principles and participation.
- To develop communication, critical thinking, and teamwork skills.
- To encourage respect for diversity, tolerance, and intercultural understanding.
- To strengthen cooperation between schools and local communities.

Activities

- Workshops and debates about democracy, equality, and freedom.
- Role-playing and simulation games to practice democratic decision-making.
- Meetings with representatives of local governments and NGOs.
- International exchanges and school visits to learn about democracy in other European countries.
- Creative projects – videos, posters, and presentations prepared by students.



Programme Highlights

Monday, 11 November – Democracy and Legality

- Official welcome and meeting with the school director.
- Workshops: “*The Value of Democracy – Problems and Challenges*” and “*Men Who Were Examples of Legality*” (Judges Falcone, Borsellino, and Padre Puglisi).
- Meeting with the Mayor of Cefalù.



Tuesday, 12 November – Discovering Cultural Heritage

- Educational visit to *La Rocca Park* – “Where the past meets the present.”
- Visit to the *Mandralisca Museum* and meeting the figure of Baron Enrico Pirajno Mandralisca.
- Guided city tour led by Italian students.





Wednesday, 13 November – Learning Through Travel

- Full-day cultural trip to *Segesta*, *Trapani*, and *Erice* to explore the historical roots of democracy and civilization.



Thursday, 14 November – Learning About the Italian State

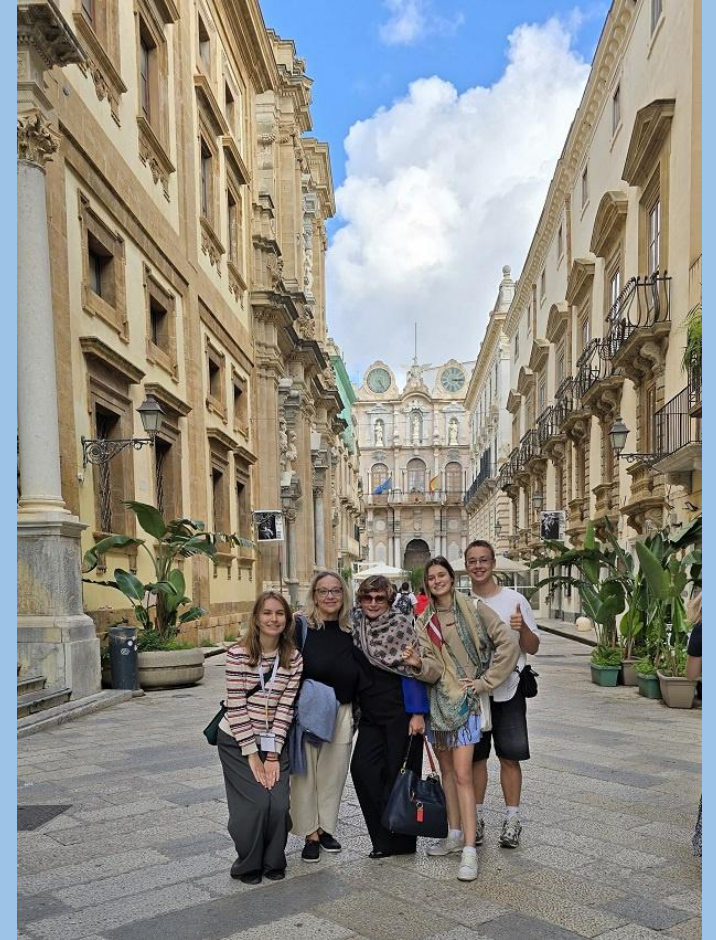
- CLIL civic education workshops on:
 1. The Italian Constitution
 2. The Italian Parliament
 3. The Italian Regions and Local Governments
- Foreign language lessons and certificate ceremony.





Friday, 15 November – The Capital Experience

- Educational trip to *Palermo*, the capital of Sicily – exploring art, history, and the spirit of civic engagement.



Results and Impact

- Students deepened their knowledge of democracy, civic education, and legality.
- They improved intercultural communication and teamwork skills.
- Teachers and students shared innovative practices in teaching democratic values.
- The project strengthened European cooperation and mutual understanding.



Conclusion

The Italian mobility of the *LIFT of Democracy* project proved that learning about democracy can happen anywhere — in workshops, cultural sites, and daily interactions.

Together, we learned that **democracy is not only taught — it is lived.**

Through the *LIFT of Democracy* project, we have learned that democracy begins in everyday school life – in listening, respecting, and working together.

Our schools have become places where young people can experience and practice democracy in action.

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