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Meeting sustainability implies losing nations' cultural identity

Climate and nature need to be fully protected. This can only be achieved if we open ourselves to a sustainable life. Sustainability means meeting our own needs without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. The participating student in the CiELO Erasmus+ project, held in V. Gimnazija of Zagreb, took part in a debate about how meeting sustainability could or couldn't imply losing nations' cultural identity. Both sides of the debate brought really strong arguments supported by great examples and data.

The proposition side was presented by Anja Vicković, Giuseppe Zucco, Lorenzo Sansone. All three speakers talked about politics and how by not having a good political foundation, the state cannot thrive and the people cannot prosper. They have also brought up how, on holidays, people tend to cook a lot of food and leave Christmas lights on all day long, that spends too much electricity and other notable examples. However, they believe that, by putting a stop to these traditions we are killing a significant part of our future.

Vivien Olah, Laura Oniga, and Jagor Jurekovi, representing the opposition, argued against the proposition's claims, stating that cultural identity does not always imply conforming to the same laws and beliefs as everyone else. Being a part of a culture does not exclude you from having an own viewpoint. There will always be individuals who do not share society's main viewpoint. The speakers highlighted lent, which is a popular Romanian tradition in which people refrain from eating meat for a period of time. Despite its importance, it is not followed by everyone since not everyone is religious.

After hearing all sides of the debate, our team of interviewers were blown away by the kids' debating abilities and initiative to collaborate and come up with solid arguments. Because the future of the planet is in the hands of the younger generations, this debate provided an excellent opportunity to practice language and debating skills.