



---

# E-YOUTH MAGAZINE COMPANY

---

EYOUman Rights Erasmus+ Project

David Xuereb (Malta)

Gary Cauchi (Malta)

Rebeca Toader (Romania)

Buğra Duman (Turkey)

FEBRUARY 12, 2016

MOAT MOUNT OPEN, LONDON, ENGLAND

# Themes

1. Customs and traditions. How strong are they?
2. Living in another country. Tips and Guidelines
3. Religion through time. Maintaining religious beliefs in another country.
4. Impact on our lives, joining or leaving the EU.



**FROM EU  
TO U**

---

**Your Erasmus Companion**

# Marketing Plan

**Target Group :** EU Youths ( 16 – 25 )

**Price :** Free

**Revenue :** Generated from adverts

**Adverts Categories :** Customs and traditions –Festivals & Feasts

Living in another country – Travel agencies & Airlines

Religion trough time – Publicise source of stats and facts

Impact on our lives from joining/ leaving the EU – product placing / company mentioning

**Magazine Format :** e- format

**Distribution :** Collaboration with Erasmus & Erasmus + programmes. Database of students who go on Erasmus are sent an e-mail containing the link of the magazine. The website and other hosting costs are to be covered trough revenue generated from google ads. Local Erasmus officials are also to remind participating students about the magazine. As to act as an incentive for increased magazine reading, some adverts can be printed.

# Living abroad?

## Interview with a 20 countries traveller

*You are not only taking, you are also giving. That is a basic principle of community.*

Rebeca: Mario, can you tell us a few words about yourself in terms of the countries you lived and worked in?

Mario: OK, I was born in UK, I was raised in Cyprus, when I was 5 years old I went to Cyprus and was raised there. Twenty five years later, I came back to UK and since then I have been working and traveling in 20 countries: Spain, Italy, Latvia, Poland, Germany, of course UK, Greece, Egypt etc.

Rebeca: Can you tell us in how many countries did you worked?

Mario: I worked in UK and Cyprus, but I travel because of work, that means I worked in almost any country where I traveled.

Rebeca: So you decided to come in UK at the age of thirty. Why was that?

Mario: It was easier for me. I have a British passport and I have family members in here.

Rebeca: You have a lot of experience in travelling to another countries, working in another countries. Can you tell which would be the first thing that a person who decides to live in another country should think of?

Mario: They should take into account the costs first and foremost. What you earn and what will you be spending. The buying power of euro is different in each country of Europe. You have to estimate if you can afford the same standards of life you had in your country.

Rebeca: Mario, if you think about the biggest mistake that you did soon after moving in another country, which would be that?

Mario: I usually plan everything before going in another place. When you go somewhere, either you have a digital map of where you go and always have extra money – you never know what could happen to you. Also, you must know the basic numbers where you can call for an emergency – 112 for European Union for example. Also, be very careful to keep your

personal belongings close to you. Also learn the language before moving in another country – at least some basic directional phrases.

Rebeca: Can you tell us about the adaption process to another country – did felt disconnected in the first months after moving to another country?

Mario: If you decide to go abroad, then you must be willing to learn new things, to assume a risk and calculate it. You have to want to understand others, not to be understood because you are giving up what you were doing before and you are trying something new. You have to be in the community, not to feel a minority, an individual that just exists.

Rebeca: Can you tell us a positive experience that you had in living abroad?

Mario: Because of my job we do youth projects all the time. Each project is unique. This diversity is what makes us colorful and in the same time the ideal unity of Europe. It is a way of overcoming fears - for example if a person is willing to overcome a fear, then she can go to the next level and it's fulfilling to be part of that.

Rebeca: What advice would you give to someone who decided to living abroad?

Mario: You have to stand up to what you believe, but at the same time listen to others, not just hear them. If you listen, it means you understand, if you understand, it means you show respect. You are not only taking, you are also giving and that means that co-existence is easy and peacefulness is more effective. It is a basic principle of community. The advice nevertheless is to take advantage of European Union opportunities and develop yourself.

Thank you Mario!

# Maintaining your religion in other country

It all starts by yourself if you are not strong believer or if you have some doubts about your religion at all, you will definitely face some big problems. Being religious and travelling in Europe is very tough if you belong to minority group such as Muslims in Europe, you may face hard times to find a place to perform yours prays, but there are some exceptions for capitals you can find lots of mosques across capitals.

If you want to live just like at your home country and perform your religion very well then you may want to be close to where your fellows live, which means you have to live in the Turkish Indian, Chinese street and work in that area otherwise you can distract by others very quickly in terms of religion. However, if you are going to live with your same nationalities and work for them there is not any reason to live in other country, you have to find the equilibrium which makes you feel better at the end of each day. Moreover, you have to prepare yourself to the endless question from others, so you have to know very well your performing rules or details about your religion.

One and the biggest problem you may confront is feeling unsafe about your religion or feeling alone from religion part, as if you were at your home country not everybody but you would see big amount of people around just like you and feel safe. Day by day other people's

respect will increase towards you and your religion, as you will be following your rule it is an undeniable fact that sometimes you need some motivation and this situation motivates and encourages you a lot.

## Insight into the Maltese Culture and Tradition

Malta, a small island in the heart of the Mediterranean, has a very rich history which consequently has led to a very rich culture and a large number of traditions. After achieving independence, Malta has undergone to develop itself in a very drastic manner, where it managed to develop very strong industries such as financial services, IT and others. However, it is of utmost importance to underline that such a progress has in no way jeopardized or harmed any of its customs or traditions and are still strongly present till nowadays.

Maltese customs are clearly visible in the daily routine of the locals, especially during the village feast, which in Maltese is referred to 'Festa'. This celebration of the local village's patron saint started around in the 15<sup>th</sup> Century during the reign of the Order of St. John and it is still strongly present today where almost all locals participate in a manner or another. Another event full of tradition and customs is the feast known as 'Mnarja' where it is celebrated in Buskett, which is a wooded area and features animal and agriculture displays, traditionally cooked rabbit, and Ghana (a traditional type of Maltese music).

In Malta, tradition commences as soon as one is born since the vast majority of babies are still baptised into the Roman Catholic faith, where it involves a big celebration amongst family members, friends. Another very common tradition following baptism is known as 'quccija' where as soon as the baby is one-year-old, family members and friends gather and the baby is surrounded by a number of objects. Here the baby is encouraged to pick an object which will represent his future career. Objects typically include rosary beads, indicating an ecclesiastical calling, a hardboiled egg, symbolising prosperity, as well as more modern inclusions such as a calculator symbolising a career in finance. Other very common religious traditions are: First Holy Communion and the sacrament of Confirmation, which are quite similar to each other.



Weddings are a big affair in Malta. In fact, the Island has recently started including wedding tourism as part of its offering to visitors. However, the traditional Maltese wedding is still alive and kicking. Although there have been some modifications throughout the years, the core concepts are still practised: ceremonies are almost always held in a church while celebrations are held afterwards, usually in wedding halls or one of the Islands' many gardens. The bride and groom distribute small trinkets or presents as a sign of thanks and as a small memento for their guests. Food is a major part of the celebrations, and in particular, sweets. Maltese weddings almost always feature perlini – a candy coated almond sweet of Sicilian origin.

Without any doubt, Malta's long standing history has contributed to such a rich culture and traditions and undoubtedly even the language itself is a clear evidence of such richness.

# Impact on our lives, joining or leaving the EU

For a country to join the European Union, a set of guidelines and criteria are given and the country must follow them in order to be in line with other EU countries. These bring along lots of change within the country and one's life. These changes are present again, sometimes even more influential and big, should a country for a reason or another leave the EU.

Being an EU member, provides the European court. This is the highest court that one can turn to. However, the local highest court is now in reality no longer the highest institution because of this. Also, in the case of a contrast between the local law and the EU law, the EU law always prevails.

Joining the European Union improves geographic and occupational mobility.

Crossing borders between EU countries is much more practical, and in most cases the use of an identification card is enough. You are permitted to find jobs in other European member countries, thus increasing your chances of finding a job. This might on the other hand counter argue itself, since more foreigners are prone to enter the country, fuelling issues such as discrimination and inequalities.

Some even feel that joining the EU bring with it a loss of culture. This is mostly because of globalisation, standardisation and the implication of many rules and standards which might eradicate some of the traditional practises.

Should a country leave the EU, it would no longer be entitled to certain benefits. For example, if a country needs financial help, the EU is not obliged to help a non - European country. The country can no longer be part of the Schengen treaty, which facilitate trade and mobility. Another aspect of utmost importance is that the country will no longer receive the help and funds from the union. Due to economic, military and cultural ties with other European allies, it can be proven that it is extremely hard to leave the EU.

A country would lose its trade benefits, market opportunities, military help, right of say in European laws, etc. The European Central Bank, which supports local national banks, would no longer be of access. Leaving the EU would demolish current immigration control

procedure, therefore in turn a country can have more control or otherwise change the way in which the country accepts immigrants within it's land.

Although can bring many arguments and valid points in favour or against of being a member of the European Union, ultimately the favourable points outweigh the negative ones. Even if the union obviously has room for improvement, it's aims and ambitions is to improve life for all EU members.