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Comenius Project
MY -> OURS – Migration and Youth.
Towards an Open-Minded, Unprejudiced and Receptive School/Society

ESSAY
A new life for a better future

Migration can be divided into two different branches: Immigration and Emigration. A lot of people believe that these two words refer to the same concept, but if we deeply analyse them, we realize their meaning is similar.
The third edition of "Cambridge Advanced Learner's Dictionary" of 2008 explains the two meanings in this way: immigration is when someone comes to live in a different country and emigration is when someone leaves a country permanently and goes to live in another one. It is clear that both have the same meaning, but they are written in two different ways.

The point is that if someone isn't able to accept an immigrant and thinks he is not a good person or that he comes to our country to "steal" jobs to the natives, he hasn't understood the value of immigrants.

When we think about the past, each country has been populated by immigrants and a lot of nations, Italy too, knew the phenomenon of emigration. At school we had the privilege to listen to
Mr. Primo de Luca's experience, an important consul of Canada who was born in Friuli, in Italy. Nowadays in Canada there are a lot of politicians, managers and other important people that come from Italy and Canada is one of the most powerful economic country in the world.

The problem is that in Italy a lot of people forgot the past and the fact that we also were emigrants: they don't accept immigrants and this is unbelievable because everyone should have the same possibilities of a better life aside from coming from another country. Besides, we have to help them to integrate in the new country in a safe way because lot of them come from a country which is facing a war or are persecuted for religious or political reasons. That is an important point to consider because speaking again about Canada, this country gives the possibility to a foreign person to find a job, to study and to build a family.

Furthermore, speaking about the latest events, the new Pope, elected on March 13th, has Italian origins: his grandparents emigrated at the beginning of the 20th century to Argentina and this country gave them the possibility of having a job and of growing their children. That's the major point of what the world wants to become a safe place where to live and work and globalization helps this process. We are in 2013 and it is not possible to see a foreign person being discriminated or persecuted only because he is an immigrant: immigrants can be a precious resource for the host country.
Lately I have read the book "*Nel mare ci sono i coccodrilli*" of Fabio Geda and the main character Enaiatollah, an Afghan boy, comes from a country where there is a war and a lot of other problems,

such as religious persecution and violation of human rights. Facing a lot of difficulties finally he arrives in Italy: he wants to study and realize his dreams. He has a great intelligence and he can be a resource for the future of our country.

The first step for a better future is to accept immigrants because we don't have to forget that first of all our grandparents or our parents were emigrants: they are a great chance for us to compare cultures and knowledge, to learn new things and enrich our lives. This should be one of the global objectives. We must accept the new society where there are people coming from other countries and we must respect each other.

It is obvious that nobody likes to leave his country but life sometimes leads you to make a difficult choice in order to find better living conditions because everybody deserves to have hope in the future.

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