



CHINESE EXPANSIONISM IN THE STANS

Chinese military equipment is dominating the markets of Central Asia. It is no secret that China has looming projects all around Africa. But what many are not aware of is China's—relatively—recently-developed interest over the countries of Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan —aka the Stans. Even though the emergence of China as a superpower can be (partially) attributed to the recent technological and the financial booming, its sustainable development comes from its lucrative efforts to expose regions that score low in the Human Development Index in their sphere of influence. China has achieved this by forming interdependent oil and arms trades with post-Soviet states, as seen by the recent attempts within the “Stans”. As of today, Chinese military equipment has been sighted in the armed forces of Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, while in recent military exercises Turkmenistan has also acquired Chinese military equipment. China's actions haven't gone unnoticed by the other “superpowers” of US and Russia. Nevertheless, neighboring Russia has done little to compete with Chinese military assertiveness.

Throughout history, Asia was overwhelmed by military expansionist efforts. Today, though to not such an acute extent, this is still the case. China is and

has been for a while now, the one with the upper hand in the military sector. China's leverage can be attributed to two reasons; the nature of its authoritarian regime, which focuses on the advancement in the research department and Russia's gradual subsidence of the military industry, as seen in recent declarations by the Chinese government. The combination of the decrease in military expenditure along with Russia's increasing debt in the sector has proven to be of significance for the Chinese. The debt cannot be paid off due to the accrued interest, tarnishing Russia's image among the countries of Central Asia. Subsequently, the price of Russian military equipment is increasing so as to combat the increasing debt, propelling the more affordable opti-



<https://jamestown.org/program/china-to-increase-central-asian-gas-imports-through-multiple-pipelines/>

on of purchasing Chinese guns. Until recently, China was considered Asia's “underdog” regarding national security. Russian-made arms were the most common deterrent in the region, whereas China opted for promoting financial development. Due to the unstable situation in the region —sanctions imposed on Iran and the US-Russian conflicts over Syria— China was perceived as the least unreliable “supplier” of all. Such circumstances have helped China develop its “top dog” prominence in the region of Central Asia. Through attempts to infiltrate deeper into their economies, China has initiated economic diversification. Until recently, the only means to promote cooperation between the Turkmen and Kazakh markets with China

was proliferation of the oil market. This was the precedent of what today is military cooperation.

The already established network of gas pipelines between the “Stans” and China has contributed to further business ventures. The gas transfers act as constructive leverage between the Sino-Turkmen and Sino-Kazakh relations.

Apart from the obvious advantage of interdependence that resulted from the convenient diplomatic relationships, this has proven to be an important tool for the Chinese military suppliers that have diversified their operations ever since. On top of that, the domestic fiscal crisis that Stans have been suffering from since the fall of the USSR, is being decreased by the oil exports to China and the future gas pipelines that are being built by Chinese companies.

In the event of this article, China is continuing to expand its foreign ventures. Even though development in the Stans isn't the primary goal of the Chinese government, they have embarked on the difficult task of fiscal reinvigoration. Since Russia is not standing in the way of Chinese expansion, the use of smart power has definitely helped maintain its presence in the region. The subsequent outcome on the Stans improved their position in international markets, and solidified their ties with China. For what the future holds, it is quite possible that this will be a good opportunity for consolidating interdependence — possibly — by expanding the already increasing number of Chinese military bases within the countries' borders.

EMMANUELA EVGENIOU

A SHIFT IN BRAZIL'S DEMOCRACY

Jair Bolsonaro has recently replaced four out of seven members of the Commission of Political Dead and Missing (CEMDP), Brazilian newspaper *Folha de S.Paulo* reports. The new members are either from Bolsonaro's political party or the military, both of which have sympathy toward Bolsonaro's political opinions.

CEMDP, which was established in 1995, actively investigates and reports on the deaths and abuses that happened during the military dictatorship in the years 1964 to 1985. Among the new appointees for this institution is former military colonel Wesley Maretti, who, as well as Bolsonaro, expresses nostalgia towards the past military rule. It seems that some people

interpret this as Bolsonaro's effort to change what the public hears about the past dictatorship.

This is not the first time that Bolsonaro would be returning to Brazil's dictatorship while advocating authoritarian practices. In May, *Boston Review* reported that Bolsonaro tried to disrupt Brazil's structure of participatory democracy by trying to abolish 55 out of about 90 councils. However, Bolsonaro's attempts were ended by the Supreme Court a month later.

Councils in Brazil are addressing issues related to “the elderly, disabilities, cities, youth, culture, environment, LGBT issues, and AIDS, among many others” and are there for citizens to take part in the decision-making process according to *Boston Review*. Although Bolsonaro was defeated in the Supreme Court, the future of councils remains unclear according to *Vox*. It is however suspected that Bolsonaro will soon make another attempt to reduce the number of councils.

Bolsonaro apparently has held similar opinions for ma-

ny years. In an interview from 1999, Bolsonaro said that he would shut down Congress as it “doesn't work.” He then continued in the same interview that “the Congress today is useless ... let's do the coup already. Let's go straight to the dictatorship.” However, more recently, Bolsonaro stated at a rally in October 2018 that his political opponents will either “stay out [of office] or they will go to jail.”

While Bolsonaro has the support of some citizens, others fear the changes that might come with his government. Nevertheless, he is viewed as an example of an alternative to the democratic system.

FABIAN ROTT



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https://m-dw-com.cdn.ampproject.org/i/s/m.dw.com/image/47832828_101.jpg

RUSSIAN RIOTS

Russia has just experienced its greatest protests in the last eight years. Over the summer, nearly fifty thousand Moscow inhabitants took to the streets opposing what they perceived was an unjust treatment of opposition candidates in the city Duma elections. Even though unprecedented numbers of attendees gathered, neither side resorted to violence. Many demonstrations were allowed to peacefully proceed, although a total of around 1,500 were detained.

A majority of the independent opposition candidates were rejected from participating on the grounds that the signatures required to enter the elections were forged. It was in their support and often under their leadership, that protests took place. One of the rejected candidates, Sergey Mitrokhin, was allowed to participate, as a result of the pressure.

The previous protests of 2011, the largest in the country's history, were directed against the ruling party, United Russia, and in many ways resembled those that took place eight years later. United Russia won all state, presidential and Muscovite elections since its creation. It upholds no core ideology, but rather embraces specific politicians and policies.

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This "catch-all" model used to appeal to the un-ideological voter, coupled with the party's endorsement of Russia's president Vladimir Putin, its former leader, prompted many to classify it as the "party of power". However, its popularity in the Moscow elections has been on a steady decline - a third of its seats were lost compared to the last term. This development can be attributed to the increasingly mobilized opposition.

Following the unsuccessful appeals of the opposition candidates, activist Alexey Navalny launched the so-called "smart voting" tactics. A list of most likely candidates to beat United Russia representatives in their district was created and opposition-minded people encouraged to support them with their vote. In short, its aim was to weaken the party. Outside factors helped influence the elections to the point that all of the "smart voting" candidates either won in their districts or came second. The 2019 protests symbolize the possible symbiotic relationship between political and non-system opposition in Russia.

VIKTOR ŘÍHA



<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/vladimir-putin-s-united-russia-party-suffers-record-losses-in-moscow-elections-dqhtskncp>

STATUS QUO OF NORTH KOREA

Have you heard about it too? Reading the news means getting at least one article about the protests in Hong Kong or other parts of Asia under the authoritarian rule. It is unclear whether something similar is not happening in North Korea too, as it is regarded by the United Nations (UN) as "perhaps the most rigidly controlled and repressive society in the world."

Kim Jong-un, the present leader, is the third member of the Kim dynasty to lead North Korea from the Kim generation since the founding in 1948. The official state ideology of "Juche" or "national self-reliance," according to the Central Intelligence Agency, serves "as a check against outside influence." "The regime relies on numerous tools of authoritarian control to stay in power" as stated by the Harvard Kennedy School.



<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/asia/dprk-north-korea-south-prison-camp-guard-reveals-what-life-like-punishment-execution-a7710696.html>

There is no evidence available of any open dissent against the regime. Being a part of "any semblance of political protest," according to The Economist, can lead to confinement in a prison camp, execution or other form of penalty potentially for the whole family. As one North Korean defector Kim Young-il told the International Business Times, North Koreans realize the government "lies to them and feeds them propaganda," but "few understand the true discrepancy between their country and the outside world." North Korea has a deeply problematic human rights record and the UN says that the citizens live under "systematic, widespread and gross human rights violations."

The state, as claimed by the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC), "controls everything" from the media to the nuclear and missile programme. News, entertainment and information is from the state media and just a few have access to the internet. The "right to faith" promised by the constitution is in the opinion of Arnold Fang, the researcher for Amnesty International, just a mere pretence, for all are indoctrinated to "worship the Kim family". According to a report by the US State Department, there are between 80, 000 and 120, 000 people in prison. People can be jailed for "almost anything," says the



<https://www.thejournal.ie/propaganda-nation-how-north-korea-spreads-its-message-309343-Dec2011/>

BBC, from watching a South Korean DVD to trying to defect." As claimed by Amnesty International, the conditions in prison camps are "harsh beyond endurance" and the prisoners face torture, beatings and women are especially vulnerable to sexual abuse. Even though leaving a city or the country without the regime's permission is illegal, thousands of Koreans do so every year.

North Koreans think about human rights in a different way, which impacts the society's understanding of the world and its behaviour. Still, unless there is more information available in the future, the true state of affairs stays as something we can only speculate about.

KATEŘINA ROUŠAROVÁ

HONGKONGERS PROTESTING CHINESE AUTHORITY

The history of Hong Kong and China after the year 1997 has always been rocky. Since this year, when Great Britain returned Hong Kong to China after many years of colonizing it, to 2019 with its protests against extraditions bill. This year's protest against the bill is different. Many influential people such as lawyers and politicians also protest.

In 1997, Hong Kong was returned to China under an agreement "one country, two systems". The Hand over agreement meant that Hong Kong would be a part of China, but be its own separate entity with full democracy, right to vote, freedom of speech, press and assembly. With the ensuing circumstances of Hongkongers fearing the empowerment over them and different political systems, this agreement has created many problems.

Due to 50 years of degree of autonomy, Hong Kong is expected to be united as one with China in 2047 when the agreement comes to an end. The dispute starts with China not wanting to wait until 2047. China is thought to take control of Hong Kong and further resist democracy through parliament. It happened several times that people of Hong Kong and China could see the unwillingness to wait, such as the arresting of pro-democracy activists in 2017 or the book-seller gone missing in 2018. This made people wonder and push against this authority.

Hongkongers want to prevent this from happening. There have been several movements that have resisted legislation permitting punishment for speaking against China in 2003, or in 2014 specifically resisting China's influence on the Hong Kong elections. This shows that Hongkongers are aware of the effects and the possible intentions of China with Hong Kong.

The most recent protest in Hong Kong have continued on a weekly basis since May against extraditions bill. This bill is a cooperative law between two jurisdictions transferring a person that is accused of crime to the other jurisdiction. This bill has been seen as another step for China to get Hong Kong by one of the protesting Hongkongers: "If the bill passes, that means Hongkong has fallen." (Vox) Even though thousands of people are protesting, legislature will get the last word on this bill. For now, it is suspended, which is not enough for the Hongkongers. They have protested for more demands, such as an independent inquiry into alleged police brutality or an amnesty for arrested protestors and finally for the bill to be destroyed.



<https://ipolitics.ca/2019/07/03/hong-kong-a-front-line-in-contest-between-authoritarian-states-and-liberal-democracies/>

Democracy in Hong Kong is complex and is still controlled by China. For instance people in the city do not vote for their Chief Executive. A small committee approved by China gets to select this position. Nowadays Chief, Carrie Lam is in charge of nominating principal officials or leading the foreign relations etc, but she is not allowed to make laws in Hong Kong even though she is the head of government. That is the "Legislative Council complex" job.

China is still majorly included in the Hong Kong's government, for example the Legislature has democratically elected representatives. It has many political parties in it but most of the time they are either pro-democracy or pro-China parties. In every popular vote election pro-democracy party won. On the other hand,

pro-democracy party has less than half of the 70 seats. Almost 2/3 is pro-China. When there are elections, people can vote only for 40 of those 70 seats. The other 30 seats are reserved for businesses communities which are still reliant on China, such as healthcare, finance industry etc. These 30 seats are voted on by corporations which are thought to be in an agreement with China.

In 1997 when Hong Kong was returned to China, an agreement was made that with upcoming elections, all of the members will be elected by the people. That, still to this day, has never happened. Because of pro-China having the majority of legislature and being continuously elected, after the election, pro-China still controls Hong Kong even though they never had more than 50 percent of the popular vote.

People are not only protesting against this bill, but they're trying to spread a much more important message about the fight for their future. They want their already given rights to remain and to push back China that is thought to be trying to get Hong Kong under its control and for it to become an authoritarian region like China.

The Hongkongers are mainly teenagers and young adults who are aware of the difficulties that they are facing and are trying collectively to make a change for their future and relieve the fear that they have of the year 2047.

ALŽBĚTA ŠMIDBERSKÁ

MORE THAN HALFWAY THROUGH

Welcome back, my fellow wanderers! Hope you gained a lot of energy throughout the summer, as you will certainly need it now. Last year-long segment of our IB journey has just arisen from beneath the ground and we need to give it our best, not to sink back with it before we reach our destination. In order to prevent that, you need to remain cool headed and with bright mind.

The IB course represents a lot of heaviness which you have to respect and anticipate, but not get overwhelmed by. Therefore, you need to remain light and with a bright mind by relieving the stress accumulated in you. The best way of doing so is by participating in an activity you like. This will not only make you feel better, but you will also come up with new ideas and get inspired by your surroundings. Not only that, but it also helps you to keep on track with your CAS activities, by providing you with evidence! Trust me, that is really worth it.

Another thing I have lately found out is to always make a plan, both short term and long term by making notes or keeping your own daily timetable. As assignments start to stack up, you will not feel overwhelmed by

them and you will have a clear idea of what to do.

However, if something doesn't work out quite as planned, don't dwell upon it. Rather seek a solution and rearrange your plan. But not too much, as the path is quite narrow and you obviously don't tangle your legs with your plans.

Therefore, make a plan, follow your path and keep yourself light, wanderer, as your destiny is just beyond the horizon.

PETR BARTOŠ

**“Without a plan
you’re going to stay
where you are. It’s
time to make a
move.”**

<https://everydaypower.com/inspirational-quotes-with-pictures/>

HOW TO TRAVEL CHEAPER?

Most of us love traveling and exploring new places. Traveling is quite possibly the healthiest addiction out there. But while it is not, unlike many other addictions, harmful for us, it usually isn't even remotely healthy for our wallet. In fact, traveling can, especially for students, be very expensive. Thankfully, there are several ways to make traveling cheaper and more affordable.

Be smart with transport

If you are only traveling across Europe and not across the ocean to some distant location, it is not necessary to spend money on plane tickets. For example, plane tickets from Prague to Paris cost about 80€ while by train it would usually cost you a third of that. It is also more eco-friendly since a plane produces almost three times more carbon dioxide emissions per passenger per kilometer than a train. Furthermore, you can save a lot of money if you take the time to figure out local public transport instead of using a taxi or Uber to move around. It would be a pity to spend all your cash on transport, especially when it is completely unnecessary.

Planning is the key

Make sure to plan your trip beforehand. It will help you avoid unexpected costs, and travel and accommodation booked in advance are often cheaper. Another reason to choose your accommodation early is that more options will be

available, and you can choose the one that by both cost and services appeals to you the most. With planning you will also know what you will do there and what will be the weather, so it will be easier for you to take all you need and not have to buy anything extra while you are there. Generally, the more you think your trip through, the less pricey it becomes.

Travel out of season

When you travel out of season, the accommodation, entrances, plane tickets and so on are nearly always discounted. The plane tickets at Christmas Eve or the New Year are very low-priced in particular. It is true that for some people these times are inconvenient, but then again, it is an off-season for a reason. On the other hand, off-season comes with lesser tourists which at least partly compensates for that.

Eat a lot and enjoy it

I should probably advise you to not eat away your cash, but I will not do that. Tasting the local food and eating in general is, at least for me, half of the experience. In fact, do not ever try to save money at the experiences themselves. While you're already there, enjoy it as much as you can and make the trip worth it. Discover new places and cultures, and make wonderful memories that will last a lifetime because that is the reason you're traveling in the first place.

ŠÁRKA NEUMANNOVÁ

HALLOWEEN

When it comes to Halloween, every child imagines going Trick or Treating in their neighbourhood, and getting tons and tons of candies. But where did the famous holiday originate? Is there some shady story behind it?

Halloween is very similar to the ancient Celtic festival of Samhain when it was believed that the souls of the dead returned to earth. Back then people thought that it was easier for the Druids to predict the future with the presence of the dead. At this time of the year people dressed in costumes as angels or devils, threw bonfires and huge parades. In approximately the 8th century when Pope Gregory III designated the November 1st as the day to honor all saints. The evening before was known as All Hallows Eve, later named Halloween. Halloween eventually spread to America too and children started going around the houses for money or food. Women believed that they could find their future husbands by going around.

Now you know the story behind Halloween, and as you can see, it was nothing but a natural evolution of one festival that led to the children's most favorite time of the year, and also the best time for shopping centers, because as you may know, around the time of Halloween around 600 million pounds of sweets are sold! And that sure is a huge number. So, remember this story the next time you go Trick or treating, and don't eat too much candy.

VIKTORIE HLOŽKOVÁ

BREAKING FREE

My heart now is not present on the place, it used to be. It's caused by one small event, you call breaking free

I am free from your love
and free from your smile,
thus alone on the path
to the very last trial.

But the thing that you don't know, is that the smile of yours forced my blood to flow and don't change its course

Because with your love
you also took my heart.
Now you are showing off
that you took only part.

ELIŠKA STRÁNSKÁ



<https://medium.com/@NSallakAnderson/dying-from-a-broken-heart-the-communal-pain-of-suicide-500d9f2dc653>

DRIVING STARTS

The time has come, you are turning eighteen and thinking about all the freedom that comes with it including all the excuse to school that you can write, all the bars they will let you in, but there is one thing people usually wait for; it is the driving school and getting the driving license. Most of the people our age want to just get into their car and go for a trip. They may also be tired of taking the MHD, and they want to feel more like an adult, because having a driving license, means gaining a lot of responsibility.



<https://i.pinimg.com/originals/fa/13/cb/fa13cb8968a5465ac40dd76bc26f1318.jpg>

1, **Decide** – Decide where you want to do your driving school. I had to do it every weekend instead of being with my family, so it might be better for students who are at the dorms, to choose driving schools near by Babice. Most of the OG students did their driving license in Babice, so go ahead and ask.

2, **Don't be scared and stressed out** – It is easy to say, I know, but even if you keep on making a mistake, you will learn from them. Believe in yourself and remember, it is a „school“ where people learn things.

3, **Wear comfortable clothes.**

4, **Communicate with your teacher** – It is important because you can ask about things that are not clear to you.

5, **Be focused** – You have to be focused and keep your eyes open to see all the signs on the road.

6, **Time management** – Prepare yourself for exams, during the practical driving school, so you don't have to learn it all from laptop seven days before your exams, like I need to do now.

KATEŘINA VAŇKOVÁ



<https://mcdaniel.hu/get-drivers-license-hungary/>

THE ETHICS OF MANAGING POPULATION GROWTH

The fact that the human population is enormously and rapidly growing is incontestable. The global population has risen from 1 billion in 1800 to 7.616 billion in 2018, and it is generally estimated that the number of people living on our planet will reach 11.2 billion by 2100. Thus, it is no surprise that this particular phenomenon has become a major global issue and a widely discussed topic on the ground of international organizations and national assemblies. The question of how to manage growth has been asked with such urgency that it has led to one particular reality. Many political representatives have turned themselves into messiahs who have come to redeem the world from overpopulation, rather than globally-aware thinkers with no side interests but the good of the population. However, have these 'prominences' forgotten we, the people, are something more than just sightlessly believing followers? Have they forgotten about our guaranteed human rights and civil liberties?

State representatives have been trying to manage population growth on their own and primarily through direct policies – limiting the number of newborns. Nevertheless, their solutions appeared to be considered radically in-human by many human rights activist groups which pointed out the fact that these policies violate the internationally recognized Universal Declaration of Human Rights, issued by the United Nations in 1948.

Specifically, Article 16 deals with the right of an individual to enter a marriage and to establish a family, as it refers to it as a “natural and fundamental group unit of society and state”. This “fundamental group unit” might include not only the traditional marriage, but also a single person. The following examples will further illustrate how managing population growth contradicts this central human right.

Discussed for a number of decades and observed by many proponents of human rights, China has become an infamous leader in this issue, setting the trend in fighting the threat of overpopulation through the use of government policy. In the late 1970s, the state introduced the globally criticized “one-child” policy, replaced by a “two-child” policy in October 2015, in order to make sure that “the fruits of economic growth are not devoured by population growth”, as the Economic Times newspapers claims. Citizens who did not follow this regulation were penalized and many women were forced to undergo abortions, which all, penalizations and enforced abortions, attracted criticism of the government that the policies infract the stated human rights.

To expand on this, Iran also underwent a dramatic period of changing policies intending to manage population growth. Firstly, the citizens were encouraged to have more kids after the 1979 revolution, but in 1988, after a war, the government

discouraged them from having more than two children. Both imposing restrictions on the number of children and forcing families to have more of them is still an act contradicting the principle of an individual's free will to have a family of their own, because no other subject can command you crucial decisions, such as how many children you want to bear.

The reality of nowadays which disquiets many; however, remains far distant from which seems a free choice of your future. Even more economically developed countries, such as South Korea, Singapore, Japan or France, evolve a certain pressure on parents to sustain the existing population. It may seem that this issue does not involve us directly right now, but it certainly does to some extent indirectly since we are part of the global population. And if not now, it may come sooner or later. While keeping this in mind, we just have to distinguish between what is right, acceptable and what is required or even forced.

JASMÍNA ŠVARCOVÁ



<https://signal.supchina.com/why-chinese-people-dont-hate-their-government/>

EDITOR'S NOTE

Dear readers,
As the weather turns cold and the sunlight goes hither and withers, one cannot be blamed for seeking the last colourful vestiges of the summer. One great way to do this is to sit down with your older family members and reminisce with them about what once was. Talking about the past leads us to think about people, which is just what the writers of the Social Commentary section have done in this edition of the OG Chronicle. Specifically, they focused on the theme of demographics and the aging population.

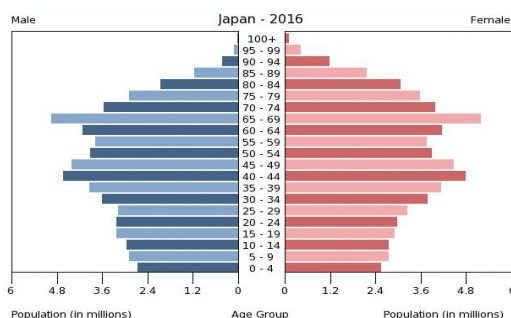
If you wish to learn how this issue is present in other countries all around the world, Adela, Calista and Julie have got you covered, looking at the situation in Japan, Singapore and the US. Each shares some similarities, yet also a lot of differences, making it interesting to compare these three radically different states. For something more familiar, Ondra compares the predicted populations of several European countries, Josefína focuses her article on several downsides of the demographic trends on our planet, whilst Jasmína examines the ethical and political implications of managing the growth of a country's population.

Each of these articles provides a unique point of view on their chosen issue and I am confident that you will learn as much from them as I did when reading them. Treasure the colourful days and have a great read!

NICOLAS WICHERT

JAPANESE ARE NOT FAMILY TYPES

What most people know is that Japan's population is rapidly getting older. Fewer people know that there are more issues connected to this such as low fertility rates. But what most people don't know is exactly why Japan is the country with the most rapidly aging population.



https://www.indexmundi.com/japan/age_structure.html

Beginning with the issue of the aging population itself, in Japan right now, more than a fourth of the population is aged over 65 years old. Moreover, fewer and fewer babies are born every year, which causes this number to look even more frightening. This together means that Japan is aging and there is no new sufficient generation capable of stopping the problem. We may all now infer that Japan's population is coming to an end because in not even a century, its population will become much smaller and in the worst-case apocalyptic scenario become completely extinct. Yet why is the population suddenly aging so fast and why particularly in Japan?

Average people as well as scientists hold many opinions on the reasons for the rapidly aging population that Japan has. There are theories about modern young people who do not want marriage, children or even love. But what I think is that people in the era we know are changing their lifestyles, and the Japanese are the first ones to prove it. Young people have new priorities as they are ambitious and are pushed by society to study at college, get a well-paid job and lastly start a family when they are backed up by money.

Moreover, women want to provide the best care possible for their children, as well as be able to get back to work as soon after birth as possible. Due to this, women often have just one child to continually raise it and build up their career at the same time. All this together then causes the phenomenon of an aging population, as women have their first child at the age of 30 or even later, so that there is a gap being created as children who were previously born about 10 years earlier are not there anymore.

To sum up, Japan is in a huge crisis that will not be solved easily because people change and cannot reverse this change. So now, the Japanese government must find a solution that will increase the fertility rates enormously or come close to extinction in the upcoming centuries.

ADÉLA ARCHALOUSOVÁ

THE DIFFERENCE OF 100 YEARS

When I was thinking about the topic of this article I found a page called Eurostat where there was interesting information which I want to talk about. The data about the projection of population in the year 2100 caught my attention. Of course I wanted to see numbers about the Czech Republic, but for interest I searched for facts about other countries that have the same number of people like us. So I included Sweden and Portugal as well.

First we are going to talk about the state in Scandinavia, Sweden. The projection says that in 2100 there will be about 15 million people in Sweden. That is 50% more than today. How will it affect ice hockey, for example? After all this country has won the World Championship two times in a row! If there will still be cars for transport, the sales of Volvo will definitely grow.

Let us go to another state that currently has the same population as us – Portugal. If you asked me how many Portuguese there will be in 2100, my answer would certainly be wrong before I started studying the data. To my and maybe even your surprise 82 years from now there will be only 6 million Portuguese, that means half as many as today. So, the

number of football players will surely go down and finding a new Ronaldo will be very hard. On the other hand, this will be a big chance for somebody who wants to spend his life in the sunny parts of Europe, because of course there will probably be many houses and apartments for sale.

And finally, what will be the Czech population in 2100? Based on statistics there is no dramatic change. Our population will decrease by about half a million.

As you can see, statistics or demographic data provide us with a lot of important information that will surprise you. They are used by governments or corporations but can also be presented in an interesting way.

ONDRA GALYÁŠ



<https://www.stuff.co.nz/life-style/parenting/88692828/older-mothers-the-birth-of-the-retirement-baby>

SINGAPORE'S DEMOGRAPHICS

In the last decade, Singapore was and still is facing a significant problem: the big growth of the elderly percentage of the population. Specifically, it has grown over 5% since 2008. This number might seem like nothing, but it can become a massive problem. The same problem also faces other countries, including Czech Republic. As of 2018, research has shown that the number of senior citizens is increasing in a short period of time. Right now, there are more senior citizens than people under the age of 18. What does this mean though?

It can affect the economic growth of Singapore. When more seniors retire, the country spends more on their living expenses. With every moment we improve our world, in this case, medical care. Thanks to this life expectancy is going to be increasing in the future.

modern world though we would miss some historic events etc. That is why the numbers should be equal, with some possible differences, meaning that we would have bits of everything needed.

Also, I think that countries should increase the age of retirement. Then the elderly will retire later, meaning that the country will earn more money, so they will have enough to pay their living expenses. A small problem can occur due to elderly health issues, etc. but there could be possible jobs that could fit their needs.

In conclusion, this problem can be solved in a few years time depending on how we choose to do it. Either increase working experience or in other possible ways.

CALISTA MAŘÍKOVÁ



<https://www.businessinsider.com.sg/government-economy/singapores-ageing-population-a-ticking-time-bomb>

According to ASEAN news asean-today.com, 47% of Singapore's population are going to be seniors in the year 2050.

On the other hand in the Czech Republic, this has become a problem recently. We are facing the same problems as Singapore does and yet, neither of us came up with a solution.

I think that Singapore's situation is worse than in the Czech Republic. Since Singapore's population is twice as smaller as ours, the number of seniors is more considerable. If the amount of older citizens keeps increasing in the same speed as now, in 2050, 47% of Singapore's population will be seniors. In Czech Republic the numbers may be twice as smaller as theirs but that doesn't mean we can't solve it. It may affect us later.



<https://www.todayonline.com/singapore/elderly-make-almost-half-spore-population-2050-untied-nations>

In my opinion, the idea seems odd. I always love listening to senior's stories. But if their growth keeps increasing, we will all be stuck at the 'old times' world. On the other side, if our (younger) generations take the lead, we will be in the

TOO FEW PEOPLE CAPABLE OF WORKING

Lately, ageing population has become the favourite phrase of a lot of population experts, and rightfully so. This seemingly abstract concept has some very real consequences: States have to tackle this problem as there are more and more people each year who have the right to draw pension. Cities have to deal with it because there need to be more affordable housing options for retired people, and regular citizens have to take it into account for a higher number of pensioners may very well lead to higher taxes. Yet still, the increasing average age of the population brings one more issue that covers all the others. It is the general question of the economical sustainability of this situation.

The percentage of elderly people in the world has been increasing since 1960. Elderly in this context means people over 65 years, who are no longer included in the 'productive age' category. According to the UN's Department of Economic and Social Affairs report for 2019, there had been a greater annual growth in numbers of productive age people than in numbers of elders, until

BABY BOOM, A THREAT FOR AMERICA?

When I think about the issues of an aging population, what immediately comes to my mind are American Baby Boomers - a generation closely connected to this global problem which has been getting more and more serious over the past few decades.

After the challenging times of The Great Depression and World War II, Americans viewed the post-war period as an opportunity to start a family since the world was now a safer place. Unsurprisingly, there were a lot of babies being born then. In fact, there were so many that it left me pondering about whether the negative consequences of this 'explosion' actually outnumber the positives.

In my opinion, they surely do. As Baby Boomers are in the age of retirement by now, they are in a difficult situation for the U.S. economy to handle, as it needs to invest money into pensions and healthcare for the elderly. What this means is that economic growth is slowing down with the increasing number of retirees, since money that would have been put into infrastructure improvement or education is spent on the Baby Boom generation.

A solution for this, you may ask? Well, experts agree that increasing the age of retirement might, as bizarre as it may sound, help to create a more stable economy. But, one may be wondering about how elderly people are able to improve this. They're old; therefore, they aren't capable of working as much. This is not

not wrong, yet there is also a brighter side to all of this.

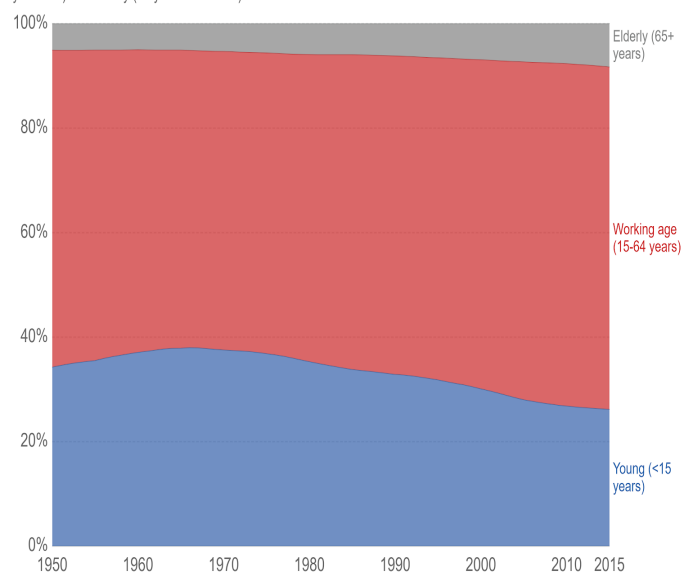
Older people usually have more experience and knowledge; meaning that they play a huge role in the efficiency of work not by their actions, but through their knowledge. Moreover, by increasing the age of retirement, older people will provide more taxes to the government, only improving the stability of the economy.

I believe that the core of this issue is not the amount of retiring Baby Boomers, but rather the acceptance of society towards this generation as such. What I strongly believe is that if a younger workforce would be willing to learn from the elderly with respect, and if the elderly would be willing to pass on their knowledge, many of the economic consequences would be much less devastating, since society would contribute to a much more sustainable economy by working together, without judgment and prejudice. To be honest, what else can you do besides working with what you have got? Complaining about the past is not the solution, so keep in mind that living in the present is key to having a brighter future.

JULIE SEDLÁKOVÁ

Size of young, working age and elderly populations, World

The number of people aggregated across three broad age groups: young (under 15 years old); working age (15-64 years old) and elderly (65 years and older).



Source: UN Population Division (2017 Revision)

OurWorldInData.org/world-population-growth • CC BY

<https://population.un.org/wpp/Download/Standard/Population/>

pressed by the number of people who cannot support themselves per 100 productive people. The UN 2019 report states that in 2015, the world dependency ratio was 52.4 %, meaning that one average working person had to pay for roughly one half of the living expenses of another non-productive individual. With the increase of the percentage of elders in the society, this ratio is also predicted to rise in 2020, after over fifty years of decrease.

So what do all these numbers mean? They mean the world is slowly shifting to having more old people than young, more economically dependent than independent. If the predicted changes will indeed take place, the simultaneous shortage of workforce and high economic demands on working people may go as far as to cause another major economic crisis, even though this theory is a bit far-fetched. Nevertheless, ageing population is not an issue to be taken lightly, as a careless approach to the unequal factors within the economics with not enough focus on finding new solutions could in the long term lead to an utter economic catastrophe.

JOSEFÍNA DUŠKOVÁ



ANALOG PHOTOGRAPHY

Nowadays, about 72% of people have access to a digital camera. Whether they have it on their phones, tablets, or they just own a normal camera, they are constantly able to take hundreds of photos. But imagine if each picture would cost you about six Czech crowns, and you are limited to a specific amount of pictures you can take. As a result, it would be very different; you wouldn't take a picture of every meal you ate, and you wouldn't take a ton of selfies everyday.

I've always been interested in photography, and about four months ago, I found an old Pentax camera in our attic. It is not a regular digital camera however; it uses a film, instead of a card. It's a camera with which my parents used to take almost all of our family pictures. The film is then rolled and developed and on each film, either black and white or in color, there are only about 35 shots per film.

The magic about pictures taken with an analog is that they usually have grain on them, or some sort of colourful flashes (depending on the type of the camera you use.) They are authentic, and since you can't see the pictures right away, you may also forget what is it that you took pictures of. It's a sort of a surprise. It's possible to develop your pictures at home, but it's quite difficult and you need a lot of equipment for the development, which costs some money. I would like to try it out sometimes, but for now, I have been going to specialised shops, which develop the negatives for you.

The first time I decided to start taking

pictures with my analogue, I put the loaded film inside the camera incorrectly, and I didn't notice. For almost a month, I was taking pictures (or as I thought), and as I walked excitedly into the shop, where the films are developed, to pick up my film, they told me the sad news. So I basically wasted about 200,- Czech crowns. It was a fail, but it didn't stop me from trying again.

The next film turned out better, and the one after that is probably the one I'm the most proud of. I took pictures of the demonstration on Letná in Prague and I think the shots turned out great.

In summer, I bought another film camera, which had only a 35mm lens and includes a flashlight. Pictures with this type of camera are quite trendy now, so I was excited to try it out. I must say that I really enjoy using film cameras, probably more than digital ones. I love the authenticity and the surprise (although I'm a little bit disappointed sometimes). Overall, I think that film photography should be appreciated a little more.

JULIE SCHOLZOVÁ



Photo by Julie Scholzová

THOSE MAGNIFICENT MEN IN THE SKY

If you are one of our loyal readers and have read the previous publications of the OG Chronicle, you may have noticed a similar interview as this one is in the last edition. In that article, I have presented to you a few of my aviation idols that have inspired me throughout my childhood up to my teenage years and now, I would like to add two more.

It might not be so obvious, but my biggest passion and more of a lifestyle than a hobby is gliding, an air sport performed on unpowered aircraft. I have grown up on an airfield and my life has mostly revolved around aviation. These men I interviewed may not be famous for those not familiar with flying; however, are outstanding in the pilot's world. I am so grateful for their responses and would love to share them with you...

1. Firstly, could you introduce yourselves, please? What type of flying do you perform?

I am Tomas Rendla, Míša's father, flying instructor and coach :-). I fly gliders (and powered planes luckily only as a hobby). I was several times a Czech gliding champion, however; my biggest success was 4th place on world gliding championship.

My name is Martin Šonka. I used to be a military pilot and nowadays, I professionally participate in air sports, to be concrete I mean the Red Bull Air Race and aerobatics. In the 2018 Red Bull Air Race World Championship, I won and

gained the title of world champion in aerobatics.

2. How did your pilot career start? And how many hours in total have you flown since then?

Tomas: My father was a good glider pilot so I spent a lot of time from my early years on an airfield, later in the planes. I started with gliding at the age of 14 and I have flown about 6000 hrs recently, which counted into days means 250 days or almost 3/4 of the year.

Martin: Since I was a small boy I dreamed of becoming a jet fighter pilot and when, at the age of 17, I flew for the first time with Vivat, the motorized glider, I completely fell for flying. I knew there was nothing more satisfying to me than the feeling of being airborne. Since then I flew more or less 3 000 hours on engine powered aircraft and over 600 hours in gliders.

3. What do you like the most about flying? How does it make you feel to move in the air?

Tomas: Freedom, the movement in 3D, flying with the eagles and using the invisible power of air to fly long distances without using an engine. Flying is addictive so once you get up you'd like to stay there. I try to be up there anytime I can.

Martin: Flying gives me a marvelous feeling of happiness and freedom at the same time. Hence, I am also utterly fascinated by aircraft as machines; therefore, I

THE ORIGINS AND SUCCESS OF KFC

Did you know that KFC opens a new restaurant every day? Or that 914 million pieces of their chicken are eaten per year? From the humble beginnings as a small café in Kentucky, it grew to become one of the most recognizable fast foods and brands on the planet. So, what is the backstory of our beloved fried chicken? Let's go back in time, to the year 1930, when a middle-aged man called Harland Sanders (later known as Colonel Sanders) started cooking steaks and ham in North Corbin, Kentucky.

Harland owned a Shell gas station and cooked for travellers passing by. His business wasn't doing badly, so four years later, he made enough to buy a gas station on the other side of the road and started frying chicken. He improved his cooking skills and as time flew by, he was titled the colonel of Kentucky, the highest title in Kentucky. In 1937 he had enough money to buy a motel next to the station and named the network of buildings Sander Court & Café.

The breaking point came two years later when pressure cookers were introduced. Harland was annoyed that chicken took 35 minutes to fry, so he converted the pressure cooker that he bought and modified it to a pressure fryer. The cooking time decreased to deep-frying cooking time, surprisingly the chicken maintained its quality as if it was prepared on a frying pan. And finally, in 1940, Colonel finished his *Original recipe* that consists of 11 secret herbs and

spices. He cooked for people passing by, but when the Interstate 75 highway was built, the number of customers decreased quickly. Sanders was forced to sell his property. (In 1990 it was re-opened as a museum of KFC and if you visit it as I did, make sure to look into the historic kitchen where your favourite chicken was made originally.) After he sold the café, Sanders travelled the whole United States to advertise his concept. He franchised his chicken recipe to a restaurant in Salt Lake City, Utah in 1952. That's where KFC got its name. The name distinguished his chicken from the 'southern fried chicken, which was deep-fried.

KFC made chicken popular in the fast food industry. In 1960, KFC had 200 franchises, but by 1963 the restaurant grew three times bigger. The company grew so big that Sanders decided that he isn't the best man to rule such a brand. He sold it in 1964 for 2 million dollars (approx. 16 million nowadays). Harland stayed KFC's quality controller and trademark until his death in 1980. Although he died almost 40 years ago, he will forever stay the symbol of Kentucky Fried Chicken.

ADAM CHÁRA



<https://1000logos.net/kfc-logo/>

am passionate also about deepening my knowledge of all the airplane types and getting the promotion and skill to fly each of them.

4. We know that all of you do various types of flying, so what type of air sport do you enjoy the most and why?

Tomas: My personal preference is gliding as it is basic flying for the beginners and the most complex for competition flying. Gliding is called "managers sport" because you have to consider plenty of factors and make many consecutive decisions to be the best.

Martin: I absolutely loved jet fighting. Now the ones I love are the ones that I do for a living. Aerobatics is extremely difficult as well as demanding and for me, it's the peak of classical pilotage. Nevertheless, the cream on the top is Red Bull Air Race, which is for me the most awesome air sport and that's not only from the pilot's point of view but also on the technical side and all that includes the preparations. However, when I return from a competition, the first thing I'm excited to do is to go to the airfield and have a flight with a glider.

5. What influence does aviation play in your everyday life? Is it more of a lifestyle than just a hobby?

Tomas: Definitely LIFESTYLE ... sometimes when good gliding weather comes unexpectedly it changes my daily plans :-)

Martin: Aviation is actually all my life. When I'm not sitting in an aircraft at the moment, I think about flying as soon as possible or I work on anything revolving around aviation. Even at home, our conversations are mostly about aviation and nothing else and our kids are literally growing up at the airfield. Aviation is simply everything to me.

In conclusion, I hope you enjoyed the interview and somehow I hope you are a little curious about this amazing world of pilots. If so, I highly recommend you to read the prequel to this interview and enjoy the fascination of air sports.

MICHAELA RENDLOVÁ



Photo by Michaela Rendlová



STUDY HOSPITALITY

So, what do you want to do in life? Ever since I was 12 years old, my dad has been asking me the same question. Whenever I felt it coming up again, it was the thing I dread the most, since all I could say was, "I don't know yet." In fact, this happened whenever anyone asked me. It changed, however, about a little over a year ago, when I discovered the field of hospitality through a friend, and former Open Gate student. From that moment, I can confidently answer anyone that hospitality is the path I would like to pursue in life.

Hospitality currently provides 1/10 jobs worldwide and it is one of the fastest growing industries in the world. A broad category of fields fits into hospitality; from the service industry, which includes: lodging, food and drinks services, event planning, transportation, and traveling.., through luxury brand retail, to banking. Considering the fact of how extensive this industry is, I continuously wonder how it took me almost 17 years to discover hospitality. This is the reason why I'm writing this article; to inform some of you about the possibility of working in the hospitality industry and its perks.

Here are some of the things that I learned within a year of actively taking interest in hospitality; If you are a people person and good at communicating, you are very likely to succeed in this

field. You will get countless opportunities to travel the world and visit places you could have only dreamed of. In fact, you have opportunities to start traveling already during your studies. A standard university education at a hospitality school lasts 3,5 years, 1 whole year of which are internships in any country in the world that you choose. Also, if you aim for the top hospitality schools, such as Les Roches or Glion, they have campuses around the world and you can transfer to a different one each semester.

Hospitality education also tends to be just a bit more fun than the normal one that you might associate with university. During your first semester you have hands-on experience classes such as pastry classes, kitchen, reception desk, waitressing, housekeeping...etc. Not to even mention, how cool would it be to basically be staying at a hotel throughout your university studies? Les Roches, Glion and EHL basically function as a student-run hotel, where through, practical, hands-on training you provide service for your classmates, and vice versa. I hope this article caught your attention and maybe inspired some of you to look further into this exciting career in hospitality!

VALERIE PYTJUK

BEST NETFLIX DOCUMENTARIES

If you know me personally, then you might be aware of my slight obsession with well-produced Netflix documentaries. If you have a subscription as well and share the same passion, then you should definitely check these bad boys out. So, without further delay, here are some of my absolute favorites.

Amanda Knox

This one-and-a-half-hour movie amazingly illustrates the story of Amanda Knox, an American woman, who, at the age of twenty, was convicted of murder. She was an exchange student in Italy, and one day came back to her apartment, only to see her roommate laying dead on the floor. Her roommate, Meredith Kercher, was reportedly raped and then stabbed to death. Amanda was then convicted by the Italian legal system and spent four years in prison until released, due to an error in the evidence. We can see interviews with Amanda herself, and in the end, you are left wondering whether she is actually innocent or not.

Trump: An American Dream

Even if you hate Donald Trump, you will definitely love this four-part series that focuses mostly on his life before his presidency, which is the part I found truly fascinating. It talks about his real estate business, his investments, and his family. The narration also has a relatively neutral view, not offering favor towards or against him. I've seen this about three times already, mostly because of the real-

ly cool aesthetic and editing.

Conversations with a Killer: The Ted Bundy Tapes

If you're weirdly fascinated with serial killers and enjoy anything to do with true crime, then you should certainly check this limited series out. Ted Bundy was a serial killer active in the United States during the seventies. The documentary is a recount of everything about his childhood, the murders, the trial, and vastly, his execution. The reason I find it so interesting is that there are also audio clips of the interviews with Ted Bundy himself when he was on death row. There are some parts which are pretty scary, so I wouldn't recommend watching this alone at night.

The Confession Tapes

Also related to the true crime genre, this two-season series offers a true story of different crimes and a confession from the perpetrator. However, the basis of the show is that some of the confessions are believed to be false, which are believed to be given due to pressure or even psychological manipulation of the police. You yourself will then have to decide for yourself who you think is guilty or not.

So these were all of my favorites, I hope you enjoyed reading my reviews and recommendations and make sure to check these out!

SOFIA JELIČIČ

THE TRAVEL TOWARDS ICE CREAM

Have you ever tasted the delicious ice cream from Opočno, and wondered where Opočno is, how big is it, and what other 'cool' things there are? If yes, read more! If no, read more!

I am going to tell you some facts about Opočno. It is located in a small town in Hradec Králové region, and it has approximately 3 100 residents. The oldest archaeological finds in Opočno are from the Bronze Age, but the first ever written evidence of is in the Cosmas's chronicle in 1068. The biggest attraction (after the ice cream, of course) is the Opočno Castle, built in the 14th century as a Gothic castle, protecting the trade road, and in the 60's of the 16th century it was rebuilt as a renaissance chateau by the house of Trčka von Lípa. During the Thirty Years' War, it was confiscated from Trčka von Lípa, and then it came into ownership to the house of Colloredo (later known as Colloredo-Mansfelds). During the Second World War, the castle was stolen by the Nazis because Colloredo-Mansfelds did not collaborate with them. Today it is owned by the country due to Beneš decrees, but there is a trial between the country and Kristina Colloredo-Mansfeld, who wants the restitution of the castle. The castle is opened to the public, so one can go for an excursion, and find out more about the history of Opočno. Next to the castle is quite a nice park, including a game reserve, these are tranquill places, and people go ,like myself ,to sit there and just relax If you are

more into sports, Opočno will not disappoint you. There is a football field, a hockey stadium (I would say that local football and hockey leagues are more exciting than the Champions league or NHL), a bowling alley, tennis courts, and a swimming pool, which is right next to a large pond called Broumar, where you can rent a canoe or a pedal boat.

For fans of culture, Opočno has a theatre, a library, a gallery and holds several interesting events throughout the year. For example the Opočno fair, called "Porcinkule", a parade of falconry, and a celebration of Saint Nicholas. Some famous people were born in Opočno, like Taťána Kuchařová Gregorová, Miss World 2006, František Kupka, an abstract and cubist painter, Luboš Sluka, a musical composer, there is an asteroid named after him, and Daniel Trubač, a football player.

And now, I will finally tell you something about the ice cream!. It is made in a dairy called Bohemilk, which was founded in 1936 and the dairy started to produce the Opočno ice cream in 1960. There are four places in Opočno, where you can buy the renoun ice-cream, moreover you can also buy the brand almost anywhere in Czechia.

I hope I have properly introduced Opočno to you. It is a small town, however, it has a lot of things to offer, and I strongly recommend you to see it.

VÁCLAV VOSTOUPAL

DOES LEGO PREVENT ALZHEIMER'S?

Are you playing well? This is a translation of a Danish phrase "leg godt" which inspires one of the most famous short cut names in the toy industry. Yes, you have probably guessed what I am talking about. That well-known company is called LEGO. Even if you think this brand must be another boom of recent 10 years, this corporation has a great tradition that goes far deeper in history than you may suppose.

From the early beginnings one of the most profitable firms with an annual profit of about 12.2 billion DKK, we must go back as far as 1932, when a poor and previously unsuccessful Hewer Ole Kirk Christiansen from Denmark decided to resign from his job and began to make wooden toys. In 1947 Kirk used an invention of a British psychologist H. H. Fisher Page who created a wooden kit. Christiansen improved this kit even more and was the first to use revolutionary features in the construction of his new.blocks Firstly, he did not use classic materials such as wood, instead he used celluloid, which represented only a small step towards the usage of plastic. And secondly, his bricks were held together with the help of small studs on the top of each Lego block. This was very practical because you could put your models together and also disassemble them whenever you wished. With this improvement, he became a very successful and popular businessman all around the world.

This is why I think so many children still today and ever more increasing, who play with this famous kit. The reason why

they (and also many adults) still like it, is that it helps to improve their creativity, searching skills and even their memory.

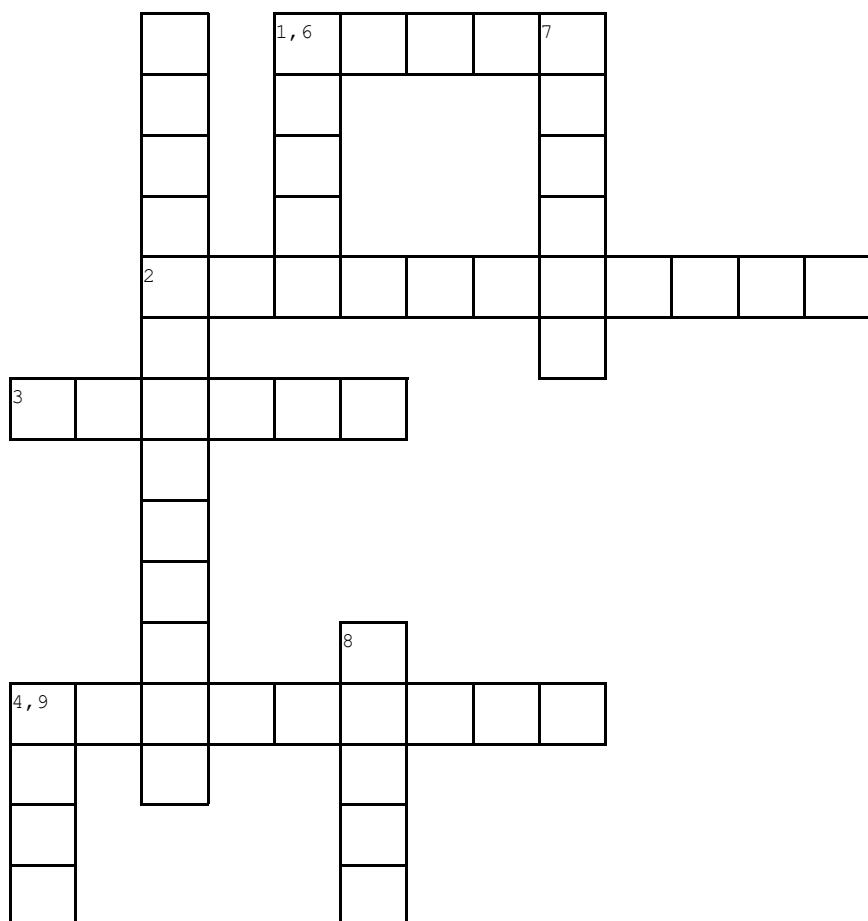


<https://worldbuilding.stackexchange.com/questions/137109/building-a-full-sized-lego-earth-what-would-it-look-like-at-various-levels>

When I was seven, I got my first Lego kit. It may sound like another cliché (which it is) but that moment was a turning point in my life. Since then I spent hours and hours just designing new models and using their special components. In the beginning, it was very difficult to decipher which parts I should use. But after some time I became more confident about what I was doing and where each brick should be placed. So not only is building Lego a very relaxing activity, it helps children solve many life problems, because the whole world is just one huge kit, which requires its specific bricks to put together. You are probably asking yourselves why did I mention Alzheimer's in the title and not in the text? wel... forgive me, I probably forgot. That happens, when you are not building LEGO often enough...

NATAN KRATOCHVÍLA

ZÁBAVA



DEUTSCH

Across

3. tabule
5. školní taška
6. štětec
8. tužka

Down

1. křída
2. třída
3. stůl
4. pravítko
7. židle
8. knížka

Español: Across: Puerto, stůl, instituto Down: mapa, papel, lección, cuaderno

Deutsch: Across: Tafel, Schulranzen, Pinsel, Bleistift Down: Buch, Klassenzimmer, Tisch, Lineal, Stuhl, Reide

Français: Across: classe, cahier Down: sac, crayon, stylo

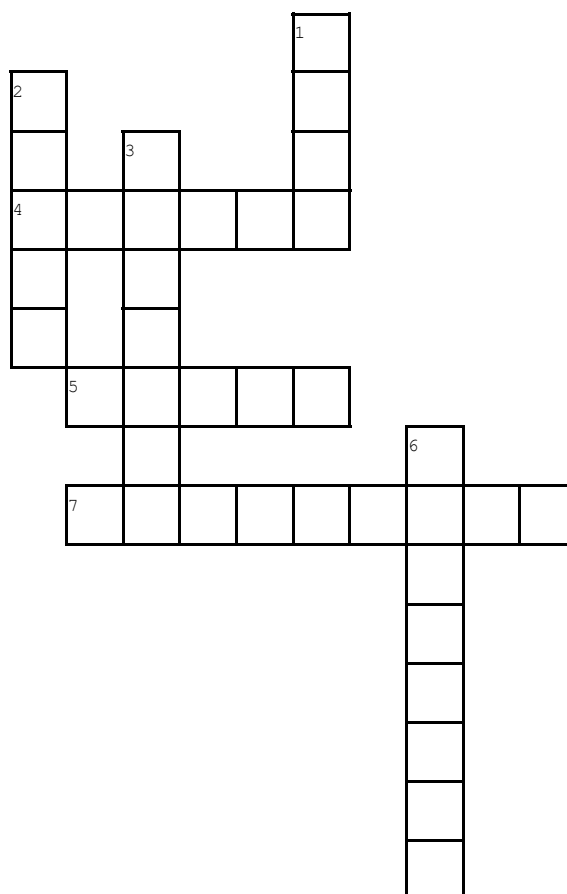
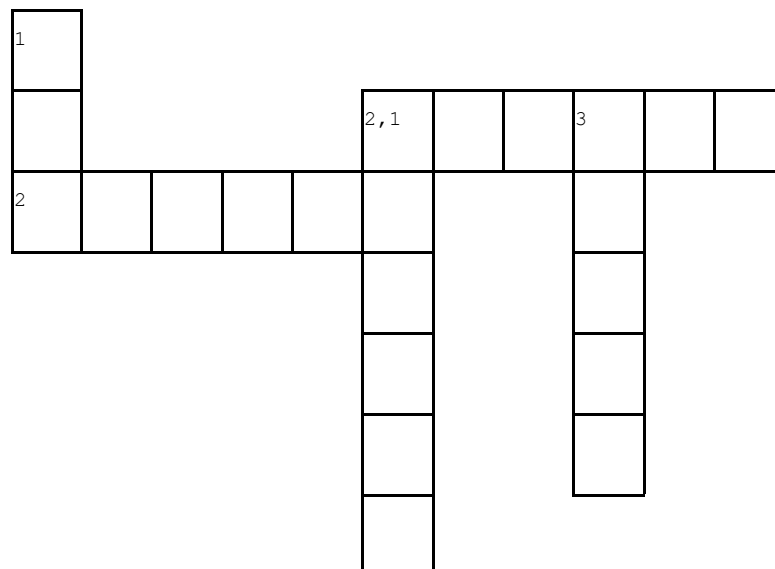
FRANÇAIS

Across

2. Třída
4. Sešit

Down

1. Taška
2. Tužka
3. Pero



ESPAÑOL

Across

4. dveře
5. židle
7. instituce

Down

1. mapa
2. papír
3. lekce
6. sešit

LETICIA KOOPS, VARVARA ŽUKOVA

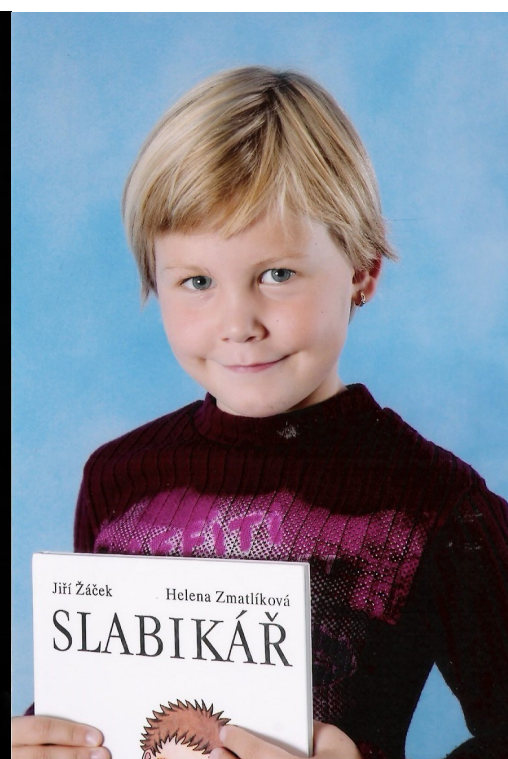
VÝHERCŮM HRNÍČKŮ BLAHOPŘEJEME!

FOTOSOUTĚŽ: PRVNÍ DEN VE ŠKOLE

1. MÍSTO — DANIELA PEREKOPSKÁ

2. MÍSTO — STANISLAV DVOŘÁK

3. MÍSTO — MARKÉTA MALCOVÁ



¿UNA UNIVERSIDAD AGUSTINIANA EN EUROPA CENTRAL? NO ES IMPOSIBLE

ENCUESTA

Entrevista con Juan Provecho, OSA, director de la escuela de san Agustín en Praga-Krč

Juan Provecho, sacerdote agustino y director de la escuela de San Agustín en Praga, nació en León, España. Desde 1997 vive en Chequia. En esta entrevista responde a las preguntas hechas por los alumnos de español de kvinta.

¿Por qué decidió fundar la escuela de san Agustín?

En Chequia en el s. XV había siete monasterios y en cada monasterio existía una escuela. Yo quería hacer lo mismo. Era mi deber interno.

¿En qué año abrió la escuela?

Primero hice un curso para poder ser director de escuela, en 2008. Luego empezamos a buscar un edificio. Encontra-

mos este antiguo convento de monjas, lo alquilamos y comenzamos a reconstruirlo. Y en 2010 abrimos.

¿Cuál es la diferencia entre una escuela checa y la escuela de san Agustín?

La diferencia no es tan grande. Nos enfocamos a la educación en valores cristianos, pero a nuestra escuela puede asistir cualquier persona. De nuestra población estudiantil solo el 75% son cristianos.

¿Qué es lo que más le gusta de ser director?

Estar y compartir con la gente. Las personas son siempre lo más importante.

¿Y lo que menos?

Regañar a los niños cuando se portan mal.



¿Enseña alguna asignatura? ¿Cuál?

Sí. Religión y también imparto un curso que se llama Trabajo y economía. En este intentamos exponer a los alumnos a diferentes profesiones para que las conozcan y sepan en qué consiste ser carpintero, mecánico o juez. En bachillerato doy clases de Ciencias Sociales, específicamente las partes de filosofía y sociología.

¿Qué planes o proyectos tiene en la escuela a corto y a largo plazo?

A corto plazo queremos trabajar con valores, como la paciencia, la comunidad o la observación. También deseo que el bachillerato, recién abierto este septiembre, se encamine y se asiente. A largo plazo quiero ver toda la escuela terminada y tenemos el proyecto de abrir una universidad.

¿Una universidad?

Sí. Los agustinos tienen algunas universidades en el mundo. Me gusta pensar que fundar una universidad agustiniana en Europa Central no es imposible.

Agradecemos enormemente al padre Juan por el tiempo que dedicó a los alumnos de kvinta de español durante la visita a su escuela el pasado mes de octubre. Le deseamos a él y a su equipo de profesores mucha suerte en sus proyectos.

MATTHEW NOVÁK

La experiencia más bonita que he tenido en la escuela.

Cada clase de checo. Es que en séptima, cuando ya tenemos IB, no nos vemos tan a menudo todos juntos. La clase de checo es casi la única oportunidad de ver a todos mis compañeros y hacer tonterías con ellos como en los años anteriores. Me encanta. Creo que los voy a echar mucho de menos cuando salgamos de Open Gate. Los amo.

JENIFER NĚMCOVÁ

Fue el año pasado en el show de Navidad. A mis amigas y a mí nos gusta cantar juntas. Ensayamos una canción de ABBA. Compramos nuestros disfraces y nos preparamos para nuestra actuación retro. Estábamos nerviosas, pero lo disfrutamos. A todos les gustó nuestra actuación y querían que volviéramos a cantar. Como estaba emocionada, me caí por las escaleras. Lo disfruté mucho y lo recordaré por siempre.

LAUREN MULDOON

Cuando volví a Open Gate este año. He reconocido a mis viejos amigos y a todos mis maestros favoritos, incluida la Sra. Caba. Todos han sido muy amables conmigo y el IB DP es un cambio agradable del aburrido sistema educativo de las escuelas estatales.

KRYŠTOF ORSÁG

A LA GUARDERÍA CUANDO TIENES UN AÑO

En España el sistema de educación funciona un poco diferente que aquí. Los españoles también tienen la educación primaria, secundaria y las universidades, pero la diferencia clave consiste en lo que precede la educación obligatoria, que en España es de 6 a 16 años. La distinción más importante es el sistema de las guarderías, que aceptan niños mucho más pequeños que en la República Checa.

Si vive usted en España y es mujer, es muy probable que después del nacimiento de su niño vaya a tener que volver a trabajar en el plazo de un año, más o menos. Esto puede ser un problema, porque alguien tiene que cuidar al niño y sus empleadores no le van a extender el permiso ni a usted, ni a su marido. Por eso, existen guarderías en España que aceptan niños desde un año de edad, para que los padres no tengan que renunciar a su

trabajo. Estas guarderías tienen secciones para niños de diferentes edades; hay una parte para bebés, otra parte para niños de dos o tres años, y una parte diferente para los que aquí estarían en parvulario. Los encargados atienden a todos los chicos, pasan tiempo con ellos y los crían. Mientras tanto los padres pueden seguir trabajando y asegurar a la familia.

En mi opinión esta actitud no es ideal, pero es lo mejor que los padres pueden hacer si el gobierno no les permite cuidar a su niño por el tiempo necesario para su buen crecimiento. En la República Checa el sistema me parece mucho más razonable y agradable para los padres, y sobre todo para los hijos.

JOSEFÍNA DUŠKOVÁ



<https://www.guiainfantil.com/salud/enfermedades-infantiles/cuando-no-deben-ir-los-ninos-a-la-escuela-infantil-o-guarderia/>

LA FUNDACIÓN INKA A LOS MAYAS

Hace 19 nueve años un grupo de entusiastas en la República Checa comenzó una fundación, que aunque no es muy conocida aquí, ha tenido un grandísimo impacto en las vidas de los indígenas en pueblitos de los Andes peruanos. La fundación Inka ha ayudado a numerosos niños a obtener la educación primaria y ha llevado a algunos afortunados hasta la educación universitaria. Su presencia ha conseguido la atención del gobierno, el cual empezó a poner más atención en la educación de los estudiantes indígenas. Los que se graduaron con el apoyo de Inka han vuelto a sus regiones a devolver la oportunidad al resto de sus paisanos.

Debido al gran éxito en Perú, la fundación ha decidido cambiar su enfoque a un país que necesita aun más su apoyo. Después de ayudar a la población de los Incas, ahora se dirigen al pueblo maya de Guatemala. Según la directora de la organización, Olga Vilímková:

“Guatemala es el país más auténtico en Latinoamérica y la gente allí está muy agradecida por todo lo que les ofrecemos.”

Si queréis conocer más, podeis visitar la página web de la fundación en www.inkaperu.cz, donde también se explica cómo podeis ayudar también vosotros.

MATEO RENDLA



<http://www.inkaperu.cz/?locale=cs&action=projects&presenter=About>

COMMENT LES ÉTUDIANTS IMAGINENT UN PROFESSEUR PARFAIT ENQUÊTE

Pour la majorité d'étudiants les bons professeurs sont les personnages très inspirants et ceux qui créent nos valeurs et qui influencent notre amour d'une matière ou de l'apprentissage en général. Mais comment les étudiants imaginent le professeur parfait qu'ils pourraient regarder avec admiration?

Les jeunes sont d'accord que l'aspect le plus important quand on parle des qualités du professeur idéal est le respect de tout. Il devrait respecter toutes les idées et opinions, en plus créer une

ambiance amicale et un environnement ouvert et aimable pour tout le monde. Cette réalité fait beaucoup de bien pour par exemple les gens qui ne se sentent pas assurés de ses qualités ou qui ont un peur de parler en public. Aussi, elle aide à créer un sens de la communauté et une appartenance à la classe.

Les meilleurs professeurs sont, selon les étudiants, chaleureux, accessibles, enthousiastes et attentionnés. Un étudiant peut venir voir l'enseignant sans aucun problème ou partager une histoire

amusante. Il est capable d'écouter et il prend du temps pour les étudiants si on a besoin de lui même s'il est occupé.

Une autre caractéristique que le bon professeur possède est la capacité de motiver les jeunes. Il a une chance de le faire en établissant des attentes élevées, en montrant sa passion pour le sujet et ses connaissances ou en étant un leader qualifié.

En plus, les étudiants aimeraient aussi connaître le professeur un peu personnellement, ce qui les aide à créer

une meilleure relation avec lui parce que du coup ils le voient comme un être humain, comme eux. D'autre part, le professeur parfait reste professionnel tout le temps - de l'apparence personnelle à la préparation de chaque leçon. La communication avec ce professeur devrait être facile mais exemplaire et avec un certain professionnalisme.

JASMÍNA ŠVARCOVÁ

Les plus beaux moments à l'école se passent à la cafétéria tous les jours et il y a plusieurs raisons. D'abord la nourriture est très bonne et je peux choisir parmi de nombreux repas. Puis les cuisiniers sont sympathiques et ils sourient souvent. Enfin, je mange avec mes amis des autres classes que j'apprécie.

KLÁRA PEŠKOVÁ

Ma plus belle expérience à l'école est quand j'étais sekunda et les étudiants d'oktava ont organisé la "dernière sonnerie" au style de l'occupation par l'école concurrente (nommé "PORK"). Leur chef était très drôle et cruel et ils avaient de la crème fouettée en spray au lieu d'armes. Et tout événement était dans la matinée, au lieu de l'école! C'était super!

ANTONÍN ŠTEFKA

Mon meilleur souvenir d'école....ce sont les VACANCES. Avant d'aller à l'école, j'avais beaucoup de temps libre pour jouer et être avec ma famille. À l'école primaire, il y avait beaucoup de temps aussi, c'était bien. Mais quand je deviens plus âgée, j'ai toujours moins de temps à l'école et alors j'aime d'autant plus les vacances. Et maintenant, pendant l'IB, j'ai besoin de vacances (pour finir toutes les tâches d'IB). Mais je trouve, que quand je vais à l'école, les vacances sont plus précieux (et nécessaires).

KAROLÍNA HRABALOVÁ



PRIX DU DUC D'ÉDIMBOURG (DoFe)

C'est formidable que le programme éducatif DoFe du duc d'Édimbourg se déroule ici pour aider les jeunes à développer leurs compétences et à passer activement leur temps libre. Pour le moment, j'ai terminé le niveau de bronze et je dois dire que cela vaut la peine.

Le participant doit accomplir trois catégories facultatives comprenant l'activité sportive, le développement des talents et le bénévolat. Chaque activité doit faire exactement une heure par semaine et enregistrer ses progrès dans une application spéciale DoFe.

Les niveaux se terminent par une expédition d'aventure où chaque participant au DoFe forme une équipe pour partici-

per à l'expédition. Mon expédition était aussi éducative. Au début du mois de juin, mon équipe Kozáci a fait une expédition aventureuse dans la région de Český ráj et notre tâche consistait à observer les espèces d'insectes au cours de la période considérée. Ce fut une expérience très intéressante: dormir sous les tentes et être indépendant ou compter sur le travail d'équipe.

Ce projet s'adresse à ceux qui n'ont pas peur de surmonter leur peur sous la forme de nouveaux défis. Alors n'hésitez pas et postulez aussi!

MILOSLAVA MACKOVÁ



ENSEIGNEMENT SUPÉRIEUR EN FRANCE

Est-ce que vous connaissez, la différence entre les universités et les grandes écoles? C'est vrai qu'on a parlé du système éducatif français en cours, mais la distinction entre les deux était encore floue pour moi.

En premier lieu, les universités sont accessibles pour tous. Elles sont publiques et alors financées par l'État. Si vous pensez en étudier en France, il y a beaucoup de choix des universités. 75% des étudiants étrangers en France font leurs études aux universités. Par exemple, École des Hautes Études Commerciales du Nord ou Université Toulouse-I-Capitole.

En plus, il y a les grandes écoles. Ce sont des écoles d'ingénieurs, écoles de commerce et de management, écoles vétérinaires et quelques autres qui sont-

publiques ou privées approuvées par le gouvernement. Ces écoles sont très sélectives et pour les étudiantes du meilleur niveau académique. C'est possible de faire le concours de recrutement après deux ans de classe préparatoire ou en ligne droite après le bac si l'école propose un cycle préparatoire intégré. Les grandes écoles accueillent 20% des étudiantes étrangères qui sont en France. Et quelles sont des grandes écoles? Par exemple Institut d'études politiques de Bordeaux, École Supérieure d'Ingénieurs de Rennes ou École supérieure de biotechnologie de Strasbourg.

KAROLÍNA HRABALOVÁ



https://rue89bordeaux.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/05/IEP_Bordeaux-770x340.jpg

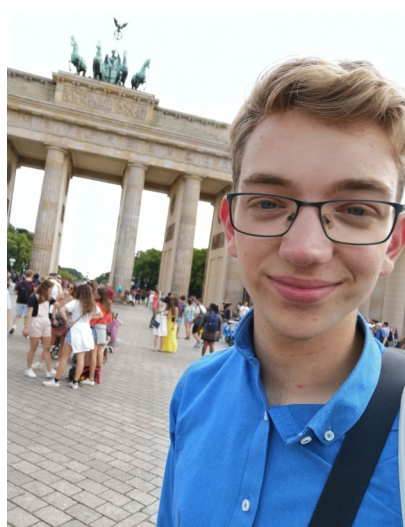
SPRACHKURS IN DEUTSCHLAND

Was kann man machen, wenn man eine Fremdsprache (wie in meinem Fall Deutsch) schnell und effektiv lernen will? Die Antwort ist ziemlich einfach: an einem Sprachkurs in dem jeweiligen Land - bei mir also in Deutschland oder Österreich - teilnehmen. Und das habe ich gemacht: diesen Sommer verbrachte ich vier Wochen in Berlin (vermittelt durch die Agentur Education First) und es war ganz toll! Deshalb möchte ich meine Erfahrung mit euch teilen und die Sprachkurse nur empfehlen.

Stunden in der Sprachschule sind ein wichtiger Aspekt des Kurses. Ich hatte einen Intensivkurs. Das bedeutet, dass ich etwa fünf Stunden jeden Tag hatte. Das garantiert die Verbesserung und ich muss gestehen, dass der Fortschritt merklich ist. Am meisten habe ich den Wortschatz und das Hörverständnis verbessert. Das ist logisch, weil man mit der Sprache wirklich umringt ist und es viele Situationen gibt, in welchen man die Wörter nutzen kann und die Bedeutung sich schnell merkt. Am wichtigsten aber finde ich, dass ich jetzt weniger Angst zu sprechen und schreiben habe. Natürlich mache ich noch viele Fehler, trotzdem weiß ich, dass man durch die Fehler lernt.

Außerdem ist Deutsch ein Instrument zur Kommunikation und da machen die Fehler überhaupt nichts.

Obwohl ich viel in den Stunden gelernt habe, denke ich, dass die Alltagskommunikation mir noch mehr gegeben hat. Ich habe mit meiner Gastfamilie und meinen Mitschülern immer gesprochen oder habe allorts andere Deutsche getroffen. Man sieht wirklich, wie das gesprochene Deutsch aussieht und das hilft auch die Regeln der Sprache zu verstehen. Ich habe auch sehr viel Aktivitäten gemacht und habe Berlin kreuz und quer durchgewandert und besser kennen gelernt. Zum Beispiel war ich zweimal im Freiluftkino, machte eine Schifffahrt auf der Spree, besuchte viele Museen, sah die Gärten der Welt oder das Olympiastadion. Diese



FRIEDRICH-SCHILLER-GYMNASIUM PIRNA

Haben Sie schon vom Gymnasium in Pirna gehört? Es ist ganz ähnlich wie Open Gate - die Schüler lernen mehrere Sprachen, sie wohnen in Internat und lernen Menschen aus verschiedenen Kulturen zu kennen. Es ist auch nur wenige Jahre älter als unsere Schule. Aber es gibt einen großen Unterschied - deutsche und tschechische Kinder leben dort zusammen, weil das Gymnasium die Beziehungen zwischen den beiden Ländern verbessern will. Sie lernen Tschechisch, Deutsch, Englisch und einige Französisch. Funktioniert es? Ja!

Die Schüler sind erfolgreich in Wettbewerben und machen viele Projekte. Zum Beispiel, sie haben ein Video über ihren Tag gedreht, oder sie haben die Website ihrer Schule verbessert. Darüber hinaus die Schule bietet viele Ausflüge ins Ausland an. Zusammenzufassen, sie haben Spaß.

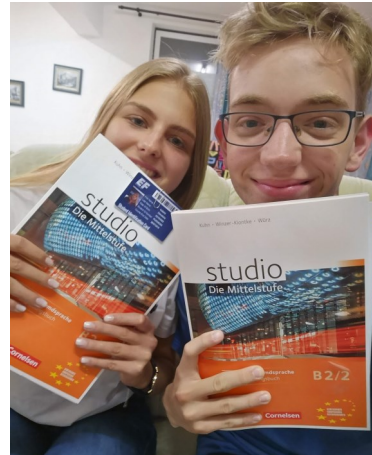
Sehr interessant sind die Unterschiede zwischen der Tschechischen Republik

und Sachsen; es gibt eine ganze Liste auf der Website der Schule. Zum Beispiel die Altersgrenze für Alkoholkonsum oder Autofahren sind unterschiedlich, genauso wie die Meinung zu Religion. Trotz all dieser Fakten sind die Schüler Freunde und haben vieles gemeinsam.

Viele Kinder wollen das Gymnasium besuchen, aber die Aufnahmeprüfung ist ziemlich schwer. Und die Lektionen sind auch nicht einfach. "Wichtig ist, nicht aufzugeben!" sagt die Absolventin Kristýna. Genau wie ihre Klassenkameraden, konnte sie unter tschechischen und deutschen Universität wählen. Das ist einer der Hauptgründe, warum das Gymnasium Pirna so beliebt ist.

JITKA BURIANOVÁ

Aspekte machen den Kurs unvergesslich und einzigartig!



Ich denke, dass vier Wochen für einen Kurs optimal sind. In der letzten Woche habe ich mich ziemlich müde und schon überlastet gefühlt. Ja, es macht Spaß die Sprache zu lernen und dazu Erlebnisse zu haben, trotzdem hat man nicht unendlich viel Energie und dann kann alles sehr erschöpfend sein.

Zum Schluss will ich bemerken - wenn du dir einen Sprachkurs leisten kannst, hab keine Angst und nimm daran teil! Es lohnt sich.

JAN HREBÍK

WANDERUNG UM DIE WELT

Wie jeden Montag, so auch am 21. November haben die Open Gate Schüler an einer „Assembly“ teilgenommen. Dieses Mal war die Schulversammlung aber etwas anders als sonst. Es ist ein interessanter Gast gekommen, der über seine Wanderungen erzählt hat. Nicht nur dass er nach Santiago de Compostela oder Rom gepilgert ist, sondern er ist auch durch die Türkei, nach Jerusalem, Tibet, China, Georgien oder Armenien zu Fuß gegangen. Die Rede ist vom Schriftsteller und Globetrotter Ladislav Zibura.

Dieser siebenundzwanzigjährige Mann hat an diesem Montag seine Erfahrungen und Erlebnisse mit den Schülern geteilt. Nach dem Abitur hat er sich entschieden nach Santiago de Compostela zu pilgern (in einem Monat hat er ungefähr 800 km zurückgelegt). Da hat er viele Leute aus unterschiedlichen Ländern getroffen und mit ihnen gesprochen. Diese Reise, die Begegnungen und Lebensgeschichten waren für ihn sehr inspirativ. Auf den Reisen hat er entdeckt, dass die Lebensbahn eines Juristen nicht für ihn ist und dass er Journalist werden will.

Was ist mein schönstes Erlebnis von der Schule?

Bei einem Weihnachtsabendessen habe ich Herrn Grejták ein Glöckchen geschenkt. Als er damit geklingelt hat, habe ich ihm das wirkliche Geschenk gezeigt. An der Wand hing ein Bild von Herrn Grejták, das aus winzigen Ziffern bestand, so wie ein 'f3ynm4n'-Porträt, das in dem Klassenzimmer Feynman hängt. Nach mehr als drei Monaten Planung hat alles geklappt - Herr Grejták war froh und fast alle Schüler haben mir applaudiert.

VÁCLAV TRPIŠOVSKÝ

Jedes Weihnachtsabendessen gehört zu den schönsten Erlebnissen für mich. Vor allem das erste, das mir schön verwundert hat.

ANNE-MARIA MATEJAS

Während des Studiums hat Zibura die Reise fortgesetzt und auch eine erste tschechische Bücherserie über das Reisen geschrieben. Es ist interessant, dass er keine Sehenswürdigkeiten besucht hat, denn er wollte einfach Dörfer durchgehen und sich dabei mit dem Leben der dortigen Einwohner vertraut machen. Obwohl er so viele Staaten gesehen hatte, sagt er: „die Tschechische Republik ist und bleibt für immer meine Heimat. Ich liebe nicht nur die Natur hier, sondern auch die Mentalität Leute und die Sprache. Es ist immer schön zurückzukommen...“

Zibura hat gewisse Ausstrahlung. Alle haben an seinen Lippen gehangen, weil er von Humor und Witz gesprüht hat. Die Schüler waren bezaubert. Die zwei Stunden sind niemals so schnell vergangen. Die Lehrer wie auch die Schüler könnten sogar eine Unterschrift von ihm bekommen. Was soll man mehr sagen? Inspirativ und fesselnd!

MARKÉTA MALCOVÁ

JARNÍ VZPOMÍN-

Krůpěje rosy se lesknou
a ránem létají čmeláci.
Zaháním vzpomínku tesknou,
ale pocit smutku se navrácí.

Bylo to jaro jak tohle,
kdy spojila jiskra naše oči.
Stačil jen jediný pohled
a osudy se nám stočí.

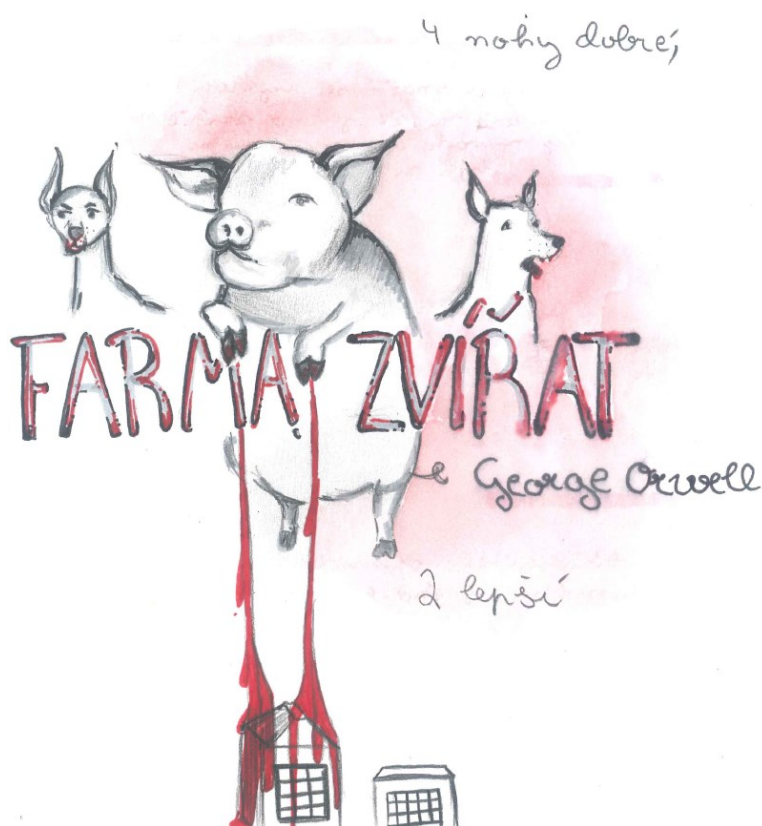
Slova nelétala mezi námi
aby vyznala vzájemný cit,
a s ním nevyřčené přání,
že navždy si chceme být.

Však cizích srdcí krutost
nakonec zmařila sen náš.
Válka zlomila pouta křehkost,
i přes můj vroucí Otčenáš.

Válka odvádí srdce chlapců
a srdce dívek plní smutkem.
Kolik je na bitevním poli dravců,
tolik je slz v potůčku prudkém.

Zbyl mi jen na hrobu kámen,
ze tvého libého úsměvu.
Mojí modlitbu končí Amen,
už ani ptákům není do zpěvu.

ELIŠKA STRÁNSKÁ



PLYNOUCÍ DNY

Den za dnem,
už je nepočítám,
Noc končí,
a každý ráno svítá.

Prší,
když to tvrdí v předpovědi,
a podle kalendáře na zdi,
i datum
vždycky přesně sedí.

Čas někdy pádí a někdy se vleče,
tikot mi vadí,
když zdolávám v kleče,
příšerný
existenční křeče.

Vteřiny kloužou jak těla hadí,
a to mi vadí.

FARMA ZVÍŘAT

Studenti kvarty A dostali úkol
vytvořit plakát ke knize, který by
nalákal dnešního čtenáře. Naláká
i vás?



Den za dnem,
každý stejně krutý,
rozkrájím je pak na minuty.
Nikdy a někdy třídím zas,
a stále doufám, to se ví,
že jednou někdo objeví,
kam mizí čas.

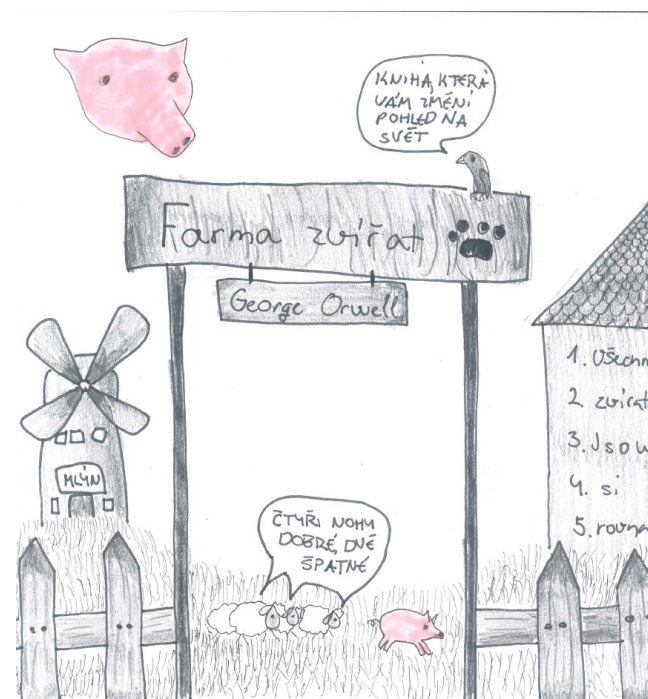
Čím dál víc,
mi chybí tvoje krásná líc.
Už čekám jenom na chvíli,
kdy budu mít dost sil,
abych ti pravdu řekl, jak moc mi
chybíš.
Píšu tuhle báseň, snad pochopíš.

A proto chci říct,
miluju tě čím dál víc,
bez tebe bych byl nic,
a s tebou jsem mnohem víc.

Věřím pevně
v tebe i ve mě.
Až padneme do rokle,
skončíme v pekle.
Očividně,
čas je proti nám,
a tak ti povídám.

Bojím se lásko moje,
o to, co tady budujeme.
Nenech to vše odejít!
Asi umřu, nech to být.

ANONYM

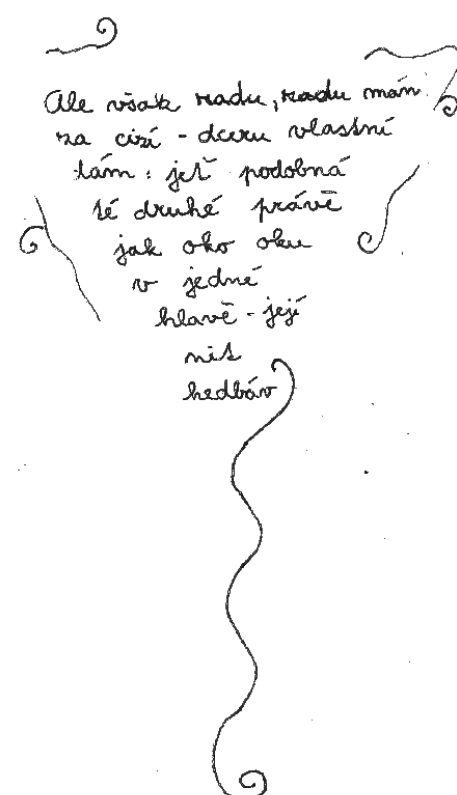


Milý čtenáři,

chtěli bychom Vám popřát
klidné a bezstarostné vánoč-
ní svátky strávené v kruhu
rodiny a úspěšný nový rok.

Vaše KrOGnika

Kaligramy z úryvků básní vytvořila sexta B, o jakou rostlinu se jedná, zjistíte z úryvků, ze kterých jsou nakresleny.

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[The page contains dense handwritten text in Czech, written diagonally across the page. The text appears to be a collection of notes or a letter, possibly related to the historical context provided in the caption.]

1. *Handwritten:* "Sincerely,
 Mary"



WORDS HAVE THE POWER TO CHANGE THE WORLD, SO WE'VE BEEN CHOOSING THEM CAREFULLY FOR FOURTEEN YEARS.

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