

Journey to Rome and RIMUN

Our journey to Rome started on Wednesday the 22nd March. We were a group consisting of 17 students and our two MUN-Directors, Mrs. Petzold and Mrs. Hohenfeld. The group would like to thank both of them very much for making possible a wonderful experience for all of us.

Our first flight from Hamburg to Cologne took about one hour. So we had to wait at the airport in Cologne for another hour for the connecting flight to Rome, Fiumicino, where one member of our group lost his bag. In the late afternoon we arrived at Liceo Farnesina by bus and registered. There we met our hosts for the first time. Most of us were lucky, since their hosts did not live that far from the school, so for them it would be possible to get up late ...

In the evening our hosts took us to a restaurant where we had dinner together. At the same time we intensified the relations with our hosts and could learn about their way of living.

The next day our group visited some of the sights of Rome, especially Vatican City. First we entered the Vatican Museums where many famous works of art are displayed. Most of these pieces of art are from the 15th and 16th century and were collected by the Popes for the future and to show their power and wisdom. We were also very impressed in the Sistine Chapel recognizing the amazing work of Michelangelo.

Later we walked to St. Peter's Cathedral and were fascinated again when we tried to understand how such a huge room could be constructed 500 years ago. So a few of us were willing to reach the top of the cathedral and climbed more than 500 steps upwards to the vantage point above the city.

The conference started on Friday in the town hall of Rome at 10 am. It was opened by the President of the General Assembly (PGA) and lots of speeches were given. Guests talked about different topics such as, but not limited to: the rights of children or the importance of the youth for the future. One of the speakers was for example a permanent secretary of the foreign Italian office, another one a member of the European Parliament. Their speeches were followed by the typical speeches of the ambassadors. Despite representing four organizations and states our delegation was only allowed to deliver one speech, the ambassador of Russia had that privilege. After the opening ceremonies had ended, we met outside to take a few pictures, then - still wearing our formal dress - we strolled through the city centre again to visit sights we had not seen the day before.

Our delegation split into different groups that visited the Colosseum or the Roman Forum. The Spanish steps and the Trevi Fountain shouldn't be forgotten, too. In the evening all

members of our delegation had dinner at an Italian restaurant where we noticed again how friendly Italians are.

On Saturday and on Sunday the conference took place at the Liceo Farnesina. Our two chairs, Mattis and Ömer, observed the lobbying process and the debates, while our 15 delegates wrote resolutions and participated in the debates. Our delegation was really successful with several delegates submitting resolutions in their councils or committees. After these two hard days full of work everyone was invited to the RIMUN party that took place in a club. So as a logical result most of us were really tired the next morning. However, despite being tired or even exhausted we went on working hard and intensively. On Monday the conference did not take much longer than four hours. Then most of the funny awards were presented to various delegates and our delegation was successful again.

Due to the early end of the conference that day we had some time to explore the town centre again. A few of us wanted to see the Castel Sant'Angelo, formerly known as the Mausoleum of Hadrian, while others just relaxed.

Tuesday was a special day for us. It was our last day in Rome and the last day of the conference, too. On Tuesday the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) took place. Therefore a lot of space was needed and thus a hotel in the south of Rome had been chosen as a location of the conference. This meant driving for about one hour, since most of our Italian hosts live right in the north and so we had to cross the whole city to reach the hotel.

Yet, the setting there was really nice despite the GA which we had imagined a bit bigger. One resolution of our delegation from GA4 passed there and the debate was quite good. After several hours of debating and various speeches where the speakers thanked the organizing team the conference was closed at the end of the closing ceremonies. Our delegation was happy because one of us had been chosen as the best delegate of his committee.¹

One week after we had flown from Germany to Italy we had to return to Lübeck. Wednesday afternoon we left Italy and landed in Hamburg at 6pm. A great journey with lots of memorable and fantastic moments ended. All of us will miss Rome, the conference, the debates, the other delegates, Italian food

Johannes W.

¹ Johannes was chosen as the best delegate of his committee.