





The «Erasmus⁺ R.E.S.P.E.C.T» team of General Lyceum of Kato Achaia visited the Town Hall in order to meet the Deputy Mayor Mr. Xenophon Bahras and discuss with him about some particular population groups in our region and their right to education.

We initially presented him our program and then took an interview.

The interview was published in the newspaper "Αχαγιώτικα Νέα" in October 2017.



Interview

-Mr. Bahras, we would like you to inform us about the attempt to create a Social Tutorial in our municipality in 2014.

-The Social Tutorial was implemented for a very short time in the Municipal Library. On the students' side, there was participation and a need for a Social Tutorial. The program actually failed since later there were no volunteer teachers especially in the specialties that children were asking for.

-Was there an attempt to work with local tutorials?

-Yes, however, most of them had their own programs and were flexible towards students in less economical terms. There has been collaboration with a Foreign Language Tutorial.

-In our region the percentage of Roma is important. How are theses children distributed in schools?

-The percentage is indeed high, since it reaches the 58% in Kato Achaia. In Primary schools they are alphabetically distributed. Especially in classrooms there is redistribution so there is no arithmetic superiority neither of the Roma nor of the non-natives and natives of our region.

-We will touch the issue of unemployment and poverty in the region. Which is the rate and what actions has the Municipality taken for this issue?

-The unemployment rate is actually high. As far as the Municipality is considered, there is the Food Bank where, with the contribution of the European Union, we provide our fellow citizens with food (fruits, dairy products etc.).

-As regards the Medical Care Sector, what services are provided to those without enough money or insurance?

-There is Medical Care! The main carriers are the "Help at Home" and of course the Health Center of Kato Achaia that accepts even the uninsured ones.

-What services do the municipality and the region offer for free education after high school?

-For two years there has been functioning a vocational training institute (IEK), where approximately 70 adults (and from the surrounding areas) attend, with several specialties adapted to the needs of the region.

-Do people with special needs have the opportunity to be educated? Are there any trained teachers and Special Schools for them?

-In the area of Kato Achaia there is a Special Kindergarten where 3 children are attending and an Elementary school where 9 children attend. Their accommodation is available in other schools of our city.

-Do working places for people with special needs exist in the area?

-Unfortunately, no. Of course, there were some six-month programs. These people did not choose them since the salary was lower than their subvention. It is understandable that these people have increased needs.

- Thank you for your time.

Editors:

Tzoumari Selina
Tsafou Penny

Accompanying Teachers:

Kopana Alexandra

Frantzi Fotini