Thema: Euregio Egrensis/ IDOR

Sendeplatz: AS Sendetermin: 01.08.03 Länge: 3:00 min Autor: Markus Klingele

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Schnitt: Michael Bauer

Arbeitstage: 2 Abnahme: Elke Kalb Sammelband: 1284 TC: 01:08:00

Drehort: Franzensbad / Marktredwitz

Bauchbinden: TC: 00:02 – 00:07 Sven Leppien,

TC: 01:38 Monika Prebischova, Tschechische Gastschülerin TC: 02:19 Dr. Birgit Seelbinder, Presidentin Euregio Egrensis

Anmod:

In 1993 the cross-border organisation Euregio Egrensis was founded. Euregio Egrensis consists of three regions working together, Bavaria, Vogtland/Bohemia and Westerzgebirge and aims at ensuring better communication and more tolerance between Bavaria, Saxony and Bohemia. Furthermore, Euregio Egrensis supports cross-border projects.

Text:

Quote: Sven Leppien

That is Czech and means:

Quote Sven:

And Sven likes playing soccer. His local soccer club is Bavaria Hof. Now, however, he plays in the stadium of the Czech Franzensbad, which is 80 kilometres away. The 10-year-old pupil is a member of the German-Czech soccer club, which coaches Czech and German youngsters together once a week.

Euregio Egrensis supports projects financially. It was brought into being by IDOR, the German-Czech information centre in Marktredwitz.

IDOR is supposed to prepare the population in the border regions for the enlargement of the European Union.

Coach Robert Kilin is Czech and speaks excellent German. He helps the children during training to overcome language barriers.

After playing soccer they have to swot German and Czech respectively.

Change of scenery: In Marktredwitz 20 Czech pupils draw a conclusion. They have been living in host families in Upper Franconia for half a year and have attended school there. The 17-year-old Monika is one of them; she was in Selb and went there to grammar school.

Quote: Monika: (At first it was quite difficult – a new language and new people and I did not feel comfortable because everybody in the class knew each other and I was the newcomer who spoke a different language, but after a while I pretty liked it.)

With such projects as the school exchange and the soccer club Euregio Egrensis tries to overcome the fear of the new EU member countries on both sides of the border. One important step in this process is the language barrier.

Quote: Birgitt Seelbinder, President of Euregio Egrensis (Many Germans do not know any Czech. On top of that Czech is a difficult language. However, I noticed that the better the people know each other the better they are able to understand each other and work together.)

Take for example the military which is not spared by the reconciliation efforts either. Euregio Egrensis organized a common military exercise fort he second time this year. This year the exercise took place against a very realistic background for it is possible that we have to work together in case of floods as nature does not stop at borders