

# Hellin me!

Let's talk about migration  
and its cultural impact...

Migration Impacts- students  
exchange in Spain, Hellin  
(Castilla - La Mancha)

22.05. - 28.05.2022



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NextGenerationEU

# Meet us!

The story began with the friendship of our teachers, who met on a teaching course as part of an Erasmus project. They decided that our schools should create a project to understand both national cultures, as well as their national identities and heritage.

Thus, students from  
the IX LO  
W.Szymborskiej in  
Sosnowiec met with  
students from IES  
JUSTO MILLAN in  
Hellin.





# What was our plan?

to create space for cooperation and the sense of safety in a social way



to learn about the history and culture of Hellin and Spain

to develop our creativity, practice teamwork, ICT skills, gain better knowledge of the history and culture of the region

to learn about the multicultural heritage and the historical significance of the city

to be more aware of the migration movements of groups of people all over Europe and about the influence on different aspects of the current world

to increase of group integration because  
**WE ARE THE FUTURE!**

# Migration - what is it?

Migration is a complex and multifaceted phenomenon that holds significant importance for individuals, communities, and societies as a whole.



**Una delegación estudiantil de Polonia visita Hellín**

El IES Justo Millán realiza un Erasmus+ Ka 121 «bilateral» con un centro de Polonia con el que llevan

Here are several compelling arguments highlighting the importance of migration:

**Cultural Enrichment:** Migration brings together people from diverse backgrounds, fostering the exchange of cultures, traditions, and languages. This enriches societies by promoting tolerance, understanding, and appreciation for different ways of life. Exposure to new ideas and perspectives encourages creativity and innovation.



Language: Migration can influence the linguistic landscape of a region. New languages and dialects may be introduced, leading to a multilingual society.

Bilingualism and multilingualism become common, enhancing communication and cultural understanding.

Food and Cuisine: Migrants introduce their native cuisines to their host countries. This results in a diverse culinary landscape, offering a wide range of foods and flavors. Fusion cuisines can emerge, creating unique culinary experiences.



Asharq Al-awsat English

Middle-east Arab News Opinion

IF2 ASHARQ AL-AWSAT English Archive | Jan 9, 20...

Cultural Exchange: Migrants often bring with them their cultural practices, languages, art forms, and cuisines. This exchange of cultural elements can lead to the enrichment and hybridization of cultures, creating a more vibrant cultural landscape.

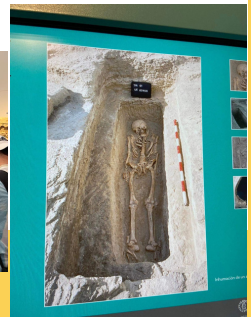


Arts and Culture: Migrants often influence the arts, music, literature, and fashion of their host countries. Their unique perspectives and experiences can lead to the creation of new artistic movements and styles.



Education and Knowledge Exchange: Migrants often bring their educational backgrounds and expertise to their host countries. This can lead to the transfer of knowledge and the internationalization of educational institutions.

Religion and Beliefs: Migrants often practice their religions and beliefs, contributing to religious diversity in host countries. This diversity can lead to interfaith dialogue and understanding, promoting tolerance and religious freedom.





# For or against?

## Good Sides of Migration:

**Economic Contribution:** Migrants often fill labor shortages in host countries, contributing to economic growth by working in industries where there is a demand for labor.

**Remittances:** Many migrants send remittances back to their home countries, which can help alleviate poverty, improve living conditions, and stimulate economic development in their places of origin.

**Cultural Enrichment:** Migration brings diverse cultures together, leading to cultural exchange and enrichment. This can lead to a more cosmopolitan and culturally vibrant society.

**Innovation and Entrepreneurship:** Migrants often start new businesses, introduce innovative ideas, and bring different perspectives that can drive entrepreneurship and economic innovation.

**Demographic Balance:** In aging societies, migrants can help balance demographic imbalances by adding a younger workforce, which can support social services and pension systems.



## Bad Sides of Migration:

**Social Tensions:** Migration can sometimes lead to social tensions and conflicts, especially in areas where cultural differences are significant. This can manifest as discrimination, racism, or xenophobia.

**Strain on Services:** Rapid population growth due to migration can strain healthcare, education, and social services in host communities, potentially leading to reduced access and quality of services for both migrants and locals.

**Brain Drain:** Some countries experience a "brain drain" as their highly skilled professionals emigrate to seek better opportunities elsewhere, leaving a shortage of expertise in critical sectors.

**Integration Challenges:** Migrants may face difficulties in integrating into the host society due to language barriers, cultural differences, and discrimination, leading to social isolation.

**Human Trafficking and Exploitation:** Irregular migration can expose vulnerable individuals to human trafficking, forced labor, and other forms of exploitation.

**Cultural Dilution:** In some cases, rapid migration can lead to the dilution or loss of unique cultural practices and traditions, as migrants assimilate into the dominant culture.

**Economic Displacement:** In certain circumstances, the influx of migrant labor can depress wages in specific industries, potentially negatively impacting local workers.



In conclusion, migration is not only important but essential for the interconnected world we live in today. It brings about cultural exchange, economic growth, social progress, and a deeper understanding of our shared humanity. However, it's important to approach migration with well-designed policies that prioritize the rights and dignity of migrants, as well as the needs and concerns of host and origin communities.





## Our short guide to the places we visited



# HELLÍN

Hellín is situated in the province of Albacete in the region of Castilla-La Mancha.

The town boasts an old town with preserved examples of architecture from the Middle Ages (12th century) to the present day. It is worth taking a look at the stately buildings here and take a walk through the labyrinth of streets, discovering the former Jewish and Muslim districts and beautiful objects such as the Asunción church, the Nuestra Señora del Rosario chapel or the Franciscan monastery.



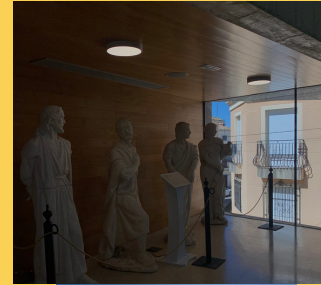
Położenie na mapie Hiszpanii



The exterior of this avant-garde building by Exit-Architects is a reconstruction of the facade of the former residence of the Count of Lumiares and creates a peculiar contrast that definitely attracts attention.

With an exhibition space of 2,160 square meters, the museum has several rooms dedicated to the famous tamboradas (drum parades) and Holy Week processions in Hellín. You can admire groups of sculptures, watch documentaries and use interactive devices. There is even a projection room placed inside a giant drum and a reconstruction of a sculpture workshop.

The MUSS also collects the archaeological and ethnographic collections of the former Regional Museum in Hellín with more than 300 historical exhibits from different periods and civilizations. Among them, those from the prehistoric and neolithic era, from the Fuente de Isso and El Pedernaloso areas, as well as utensils and remains from the Bronze Age, from the times of the Phoenicians, Iberians and Romans deserve special attention.

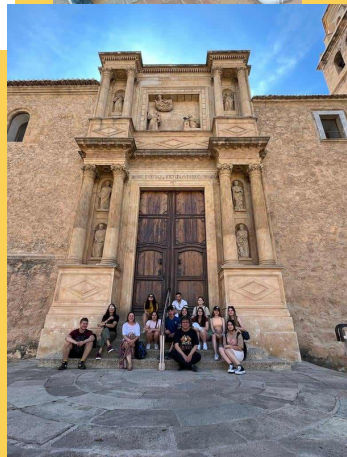


## Beating the drums

The highlight of Holy Week in Hellín, Albacete, is the beating of the drums. It is the most important festival in the town, where the sound of up to 20,000 drums resonates, causing a noise that will last for several days.

At midnight on Maundy Thursday, the most important beating of the drums takes place during this celebration. The clear opposite of this unusual uproar is the Holy Burial procession that takes place on Good Friday and is characterized by silence and concentration. The procession includes the sculpture of the Lying Christ by Marian Benlliure, considered the pinnacle of 20th century sculpture. The last drumbeat, from Saturday night to Sunday afternoon, crowns Holy Week in Hellín, after pigeons are launched massively into the sky.

Holy Week is one of the most deeply lived and rooted in the tradition of holidays celebrated in Spain. These celebrations have a centuries-old history and tradition, they commemorate the passion and death of Jesus Christ. The streets of most Spanish cities and towns become a stage of religious zeal and devotion, in which mourning and recollection of Christ's death are intertwined with music, art, color and magic of processions - ceremonial processions in which crowds accompany religious images.



Church of la Asunción (Hellín)  
The Church of la Asunción (Spanish: Iglesia Parroquial de Santa María de la Asunción) is a Renaissance Roman Catholic church located in Hellín, Spain. It was proclaimed the Bien de Interés Cultural in 1981. The church was erected in the 16th century. The chapels were refurbished in various styles and centuries. The main portal was erected in Renaissance style.





In this wonderful city I met many amazing people. Everyone I meet wanted to give me as much as they could. People shared their warm joy and kindnesses. Thanks to them I got to know many new traditions and tasted new flavours (for example snails).



En esta maravillosa ciudad conocí mucha gente maravillosa. Todos los que conocí querían darme todo lo que podían. La gente compartía su calor, su alegría y su amabilidad. Gracias a ellos conocí muchas tradiciones nuevas y probé nuevos sabores.

# LIETOR



Lietor is a charming and picturesque village located in the province of Albacete, which is situated in the autonomous community of Castilla-La Mancha, Spain. This small yet enchanting town is known for its rich history, stunning natural surroundings, and traditional Spanish charm.

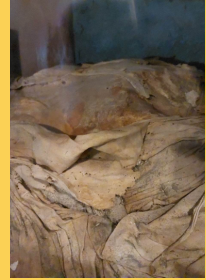
# LIETOR



One of the most striking features of Lietor is its well-preserved medieval architecture. The village is characterized by narrow winding streets, white-washed houses with tiled roofs, and a central plaza that serves as the heart of the community. Walking through the streets of Lietor feels like stepping back in time, as the town has retained its traditional Spanish identity.



# LIETOR



The church of San Sebastián is a prominent landmark in Lietor, dating back to the 16th century.

This historic church boasts an impressive façade and is an important religious and cultural center for the local population. Its architectural style reflects the Spanish Renaissance, with intricate details that showcase the skill of the craftsmen of that era.



# LIETOR



Lietor is also known for its beautiful natural surroundings.

The village is nestled in the Sierra del Segura, a mountain range that provides breathtaking views of the surrounding countryside. The rolling hills, lush forests, and pristine rivers make it an ideal destination for nature enthusiasts and hikers.



# ISSO

It is located 5 km from Hellin. It currently has  
2,171 inhabitants.

His celebrations are celebrated on July 25 by  
Santiago Apóstol.

## Bridges in isso

In order to communicate this region with the Sierra de Segura and Andalusia, several bridges were built over the Mundo River near Isso. Those that have survived to this day were traditionally called "Roman bridges", although today we know that their construction is much more modern. However, it is possible that there was a bridge built by the Romans in this place, from which only its name has been preserved thanks to oral tradition.

In a report sent to Philip II in 1576, "it was said that in the understanding of this city of Hellin there is only one bridge over the river el Mundo ... which is to the west, and near said bridge there is a mill with two wheels, and above said bridge there is a dam in which up to one hundred tauls of land are irrigated, which is understood as twenty-five fanegs of sowing and that this dam will make this part two years old, and that said mill and dam belong to a particular neighbor of said city, which is called Juan de Murcia de Vera.



# ISSO

The remains of this bridge would have been a kilometer below the current course of the road and before the ruins of Molino Falcón, as far as the road from Isso, and after crossing the river it forked in both directions to the right bank, which is joined by the only surviving arch. Its approximate length is 35 meters and its width is 4 meters. The largest arches are semicircular with 36 voussoirs visible on the river silt. The structure is made of stone. Between the two larger openings there are two breakwaters, one on each side. The elements that protect the work against the current of the river suggest that the bridge dates back to the 18th century. On the south side, slabs typical of Roman roads were discovered. This is a section of the path that leads to the first bridge.

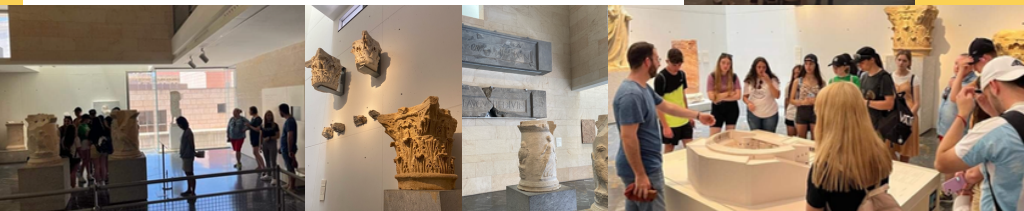
This second bridge was in use until the layout of the current road in the 1860s.

Next to the second oldest bridge is an area prepared for rest and where reforestation has been encouraged until it is one of the few remnants of a gallery forest on this stretch of the Mundo River.



# The Museum of the Roman Theater

The project for the recovery of the Roman Theater of Cartagena has contemplated the integration of the remains into the urban fabric, as well as their proper conservation and exhibition for educational and cultural purposes. In addition, the considerable wealth of the pieces found during the successive excavation campaigns in the Theater has offered the opportunity to provide the city with a new museum space. The archaeological recovery works of the Roman theater acquired a programmed rhythm, thanks to the collaboration agreement signed between the Autonomous Community, the City Council of Cartagena and the Cajamurcia Foundation in 1996. Between 1996 and 2003, almost complete excavations of the entire theatre were completed, being able to see all its grandeur and splendour.





The Museo del Teatro Romano, which not only serves as a suitable exhibition framework, but also, in the brilliant conception of the architect Rafael Moneo, leads visitors to the interior of the monument, turning the Roman Theater into its last great hall.

With the entrance located in front of the Town Hall. The Museo is articulated in two distinct buildings linked by a subway corridor that gives rise to incorporate the Pascual de Riquelme Palace and an archaeological corridor under the Church of Santa Maria la Vieja, making the Theater the last and most remarkable piece of the Museo.



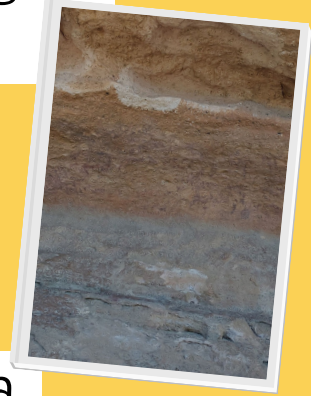
# What is El Tolmo de Minateda?

El Tolmo de Minateda is the archeological site in which you can discover the history of El Tolmo city ruins and nearby cave paintings. This Journey is excellent for history fans and geography fans. And for those interested in the history of human migrations. It's located near the city Hellin in the region called "Castilla la mancha".



# Prehistory

Nearby El Tolmo we have noticed traces of neolithic inhabitants of Iberian Peninsula seen in cave paintings on the mountain wall. The paintings mostly show huntings.



**Bronze age and Iberian era**  
3000 years ago in the Bronze age El Tolmo became a settlement. From this period we have almost nothing because most of the buildings were destroyed. In Iberian times El Tolmo was the dominant city in the region. Presence of Iberians may be noticed in the oldest part of the city gate.



## Roman era

El Tolmo was captured by the Carthaginian Empire. That's why after the Second Punic War Carthaginian colonies were taken over by the Roman Republic. For many years, the city was functioning under the Roman Empire which forever changed, not only El Tolmo but even the entire Spain.

The influence of the Romans I have noticed in the other part of the gate at the entrance to the town which was also used as propaganda for the empire. This era changed the entire Spain because we can see the influence for example in a similarity between Latin language and Spanish language.



# Visigothic and Arabs times

After the fall of Western Roman Empire the city was taken over by the Visigoths. Due to their destructive culture most of the Roman buildings were demolished to create Visigothic buildings.

Visigoths created additional fortifications to the city and a church. Shortly after the Visigoths were conquered by the Arabs and the city was completely Islamized. Around the year 825 the city was demolished and abandoned. Arabic culture mostly influences Spanish architecture. A perfect example is Grenada's "Alhambra".



# Murcia

## History



Murcia is a large city in the southeast of Spain and the administrative center of the region of the same name. The city was founded in the first half of the 9th century by the emir of Cordoba. In the 12th century, Murcia developed a lot, it was famous for its ceramics and silk. In the 13th century, the city was under the protectorate of the Kingdom of Castile, then it turned into the independent kingdom of Murcia, which, however, was conquered by the King of Aragon, Jaime II. In 1304 it finally became part of Castile. Murcia lost its importance over the years, but in the 18th century it flourished again thanks to the production of silk. The city was plundered by Napoleon's army in 1810, and in 1829 it was destroyed by an earthquake.

# Memories

Murcia made a huge impression on me. Amazing atmosphere, beautiful buildings, nice people and a portion of interesting history are things that will remain in my memory for a long time.



# Monuments



One of the most famous monuments of Murcia is the Cathedral, the construction of which began in 1388 but the work lasted over four centuries. As a result, the building contains features of the Baroque, Gothic, Neoclassicism and Renaissance. Noteworthy is also the monastery church of La Merced, belonging to the Order of Mercy, which was built in 1562, but it was completely destroyed and rebuilt in 1705-1715. Currently, the church belongs to the Franciscan Order.



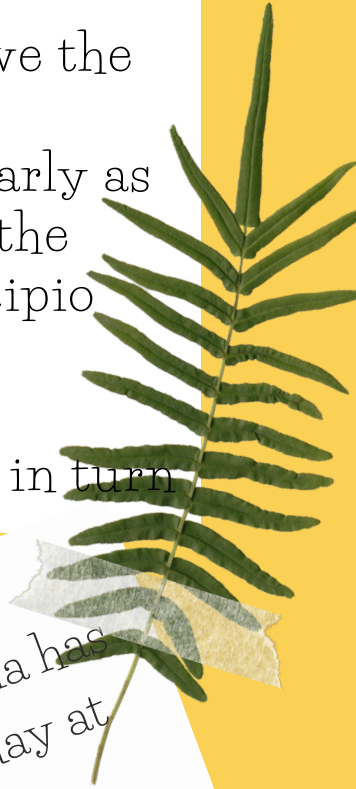


## Ancient cultures

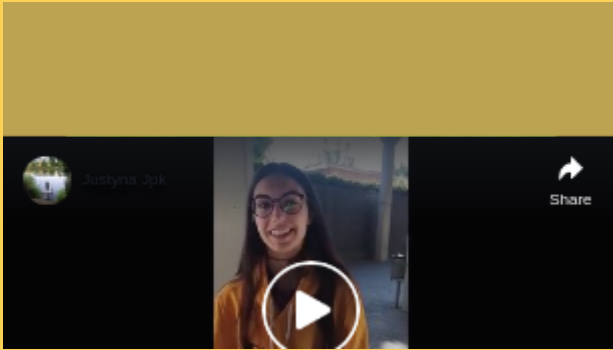
The oldest excavations prove the existence of prehistoric civilizations in Murcia as early as 1.5 million years ago. Until the conquest of the lands by Scipio Africanus in 209 BCE, the Phoenicians, Greeks and Carthaginians settled there in turn.

## Interesting facts

The Cathedral of Santa Maria has 25 bells, which ring every day at 1pm, announcing it's time to eat. Every May, Murcia celebrates the International Festival of Three Cultures, which aims to rebuild relations between Christians, Jews and Muslims.



# What can we say more?



We try to show you  
that:

You don't have to know a foreign  
language perfectly and dress in  
designer clothes  
It's all about being yourself and  
having an open heart to other  
people!

We will never forget!



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