

Call to action: The future is in our hands!

Please close your eyes.

Imagine you live in a beautiful village, you are surrounded by flourishing forests, admiring architecture and people that are proud of their culture. You spend your evenings with stargazing and wondering how you can preserve this rich environment. And now imagine, that young people, the ones who form the future of this region, decide to go somewhere else. Whatever the reason might be, they are leaving.

You can open your eyes now.

This story is something that David and I share. David was born in Santander and has never spent this long in Potes before this summer school. I was born in a rural area in Austria, moved to the big city of Vienna myself.

So, we asked ourselves, what could be done in order to stop young people from leaving rural areas? We found an answer during this project, and we want to address our call to action to you.

Back home in Austria, we have this Project called „Rurasmus“. This is a project where young students from Austria or other countries can come to rural areas, where they get free accommodation and a place to work on transdisciplinary projects. And it really works, there are people from all over the world visiting the small villages for an „Rurasmus Semester“.

And as we experienced these wonderful five days here in Liébana, we met so many professionals from diverse backgrounds along the way. We had a playground provided, where we could get creative and encourage somewhat of a mind shift.

Our call to you is: Please don't let this playground disappear. We want you to pay attention that here in Liébana it is possible as well to provide a project for young people coming to your region. In form of a spring camp maybe: You bring together 15 students from all over Spain here in Potes, provide them with free accommodation and bring them together with knowledgeable professionals from this region and politicians to foster the dialogue between locals and young people. We want to learn together and keep this creative process alive.

And we need you to help us to transform our curiosity into the infrastructure, that enables us to participate in forming the future of Liébana together. We are sure this is possible, and we are convinced, that there will be a big resonance from our generation.

You have the power to make this a reality. Together, we can build a future that inspires young people to stay, contribute and dream here.



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