

Global learning: Draft on Partnership Project during Coronavirus pandemic

Usually, this time of year we plan either to travel to Tanzania or to welcome our Tanzanian friends at Elisabeth-von-Thadden school to meet, build friendships, share life in many ways, work together on a common topic and reflect and discuss our experiences!

This year is different! Covid 19 has spread around the planet, causing already over 2 Million of deaths, sending billions into lockdown and rendering travels almost impossible.

IDEA: Now the idea has come up to meet, build friendships, share life, work together on a common topic and reflect together in a virtual, digital project: in partnership, entrusting responsibility and creativity to our students and supporting them in return, technically as well as pedagogically.

TOPIC: It appears that the Covid Pandemic is currently the predominant subject around the world. This might predestine the subject to be equally relevant and suitable for our partnership to exchange our experiences on how this global pandemic affects our personal lives in the families, as well as school life and public life in the society of our countries. We engage in global learning as we share our different experiences and reflections on the topic in our different regions of the world.

WORKING CONDITIONS: We want to find ways to make the experiences on the topic in our countries visible and enter in discussion and reflection.

What could this look like practically?

In Germany as well as in Tanzania small groups of students (3-5 per group) separately start their investigations to find interesting partners for little interviews: They detect people i) in their families ii) in the context of school, iii) a public figure of their municipality and iv) some unrepresented fringe group of society. These interview partners ideally picture the cross section of the respective pandemic experiences in our countries.

The students now have to prepare good questions to draw out the relevant personal and public experiences and reflections of their interview partners. The question here is, how can our interviews become meaningful and representative for our societies.

After having carefully introduced the context of our project to the participants, the interviews take place and should be filmed in short sequences by video function of a (teachers?) mobile. (Here some thought might have to be spent on how students can legally work with the filming function of a mobile during school times...)

The best of the material should thereafter be compiled to a little videoclip roughly 2 minutes long all together, giving some representative insight into Tanzania's experiences and perceptions of the global pandemic.

Different groups of students come up with slightly different approaches to the subject.

Meanwhile, German students work on the same project in their country.

After having compiled their videos, students present and discuss their results at first in their own school. Only afterwards the video clips are exchanged!

In an online video-meeting the students of both countries now engage in reflection and discussion of their experiences, encounters and results and how the other countries insights are perceived.

The result is a global learning experience: we learn, how the same subject, the Corona pandemic is perceived differently from different angles in the world. And as friendships deepen, the sense of responsibility for one another's wellbeing deepens alike.