

REBUILDING TURKEY

by Elene Panian 8e

Two devastating earthquakes

On the 6th of February, at 4:17 AM a devastating 7.8 earthquake hit Southern Turkey. This earthquake has affected the following cities: Kilis, Osmaniye, Gaziantep, Malatya, Diyarbakir, Adana and Hatay. After the 7.8 earthquake, a 7.5 magnitude hit again that caused further damages.

The Turkey-Syrian death toll continues to grow currently up to 51,000 and also leaving 108,000 injured. People in Nurdagi a Turkish town close to the epicentre of the earthquake are currently without homes sheltering in tents provided by the relief community with water and heat. This type of life is predicted to not only go on for weeks but months and possibly years.

Turkey is known for a diverse set of both oriental and European elements.

From traditional Turkish tea to the majestic Hagia Sophia. More than 160,000 Turkish buildings collapsed during the earthquakes, one of them being the historical Gaziantep Castle.



Photo: Lehrkraft/ E.Cleary

GSS Donation Campaign

The German eTwinning group from Geschwister-Scholl-School in Offenbach has decided to open a donation campaign in order to help Turkey and Syria in any way.

This donation campaign started on 14th of February and has been ongoing since. The class has been separated into groups for each day of the week to bake cakes and bring them to school to sell them.

The money that we collect from this campaign is saved and spent on special necessities for the ones in need.

This campaign managed to save more than 400 euros and was enough to fill 12-15 aid boxes. The boxes are provided with blankets, baby food, hygiene products, coloring books and pencils and many more items. The campaign grows further with classes throughout the school joining the effort to help rebuild Turkey and Syria.

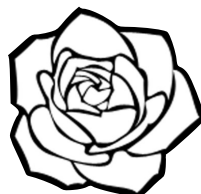




Photo: THW/Katharina Garrecht

German aid for Turkey

Germany has provided aid worth 6.9 million euros for Turkish and 1.5 for Syrian earthquake zones. „They did everything possible to save lives and rescue those buried beneath the rubble,“ said Federal Minister of Interior. But this is not the end of the German post-earthquake aid.

The German people with its background linking Turkey and Syria have lead the effort to support and help in this time of tragedy for these countries.

Germany wants to temporarily ease visa restrictions for survivors of the earthquake in Turkey and Syria who have close family ties to Germany if they are facing homelessness or were injured.

Although they are easing visa restrictions applicants must still provide a valid passport in order to be allowed into the country.

However, applicants must be able to provide enough money to pay for the family members. Other than that, they must either agree or deny if the family member is welcome to stay in their home or not.

Many people in Germany have Turkish roots because, more than 60 years ago, Germany recruited "guest workers" from Turkey to advance economically.

Our eTwinning Partner Schools

eTwinning is a collaborative platform created by the European Commission which enables schools from the European Union to organise, join, run and develop projects on various topics.

The eTwinners have multiple projects each year that help them advance their schools, enhance their English and develop strong cross cultural friendships. For example, our collaboration with our partner schools in Istanbul and Amasya initiated the Donation Campaign for the people in Turkey and Syria who had been hit by the disastrous earthquakes in February 2023.

Thanks to our Turkish school partners, **Ali Akkanat Anatolian Gymnasium in Istanbul und Amasya Social Studies Gymnasium in Amasya**, we can safely send the aid packages to the people who need them most.



Amasya Social Studies Gymnasium,
Amasya



Ali Akkanat Anatolian Gymnasium
Istanbul

