

THEMATIC ROUTE "IRIS"


Objectives



- To familiarize students with the urban fabric of the city, with the types of housing, with the uses and reuses of buildings, with the former industrial buildings under renovation (IRIS).
- To raise awareness on the conservation of industrial heritage and waste management.
- To reflect on sustainable mobility.
- To connect all the above to the climate neutrality of Elefsina.


General description

The thematic route starts from X-Bowling, it passes by the neoclassical RODON, the Cultural Centre "Leonidas Kanellopoulos", the former IRIS factory and the workers' houses. It includes points of interest related to mobility, such as a cycle path that is not used due to poor design and the pedestrian paths between the workers' houses.

Stations

TIMELINE		LOCATION	SHORT DESCRIPTION	ACTIVITIES
10'	1	X-Bowling 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Find a suitable spot and gather the group in a circle. • We play the getting-to-know-you game. Holding an object, we say our name and hobby. We throw the object to the person opposite us and they say the same. • We allocate numbers 1,2,3. All the 1's get together and form a subgroup. They take on roles: Secretary, Photographer, Observers. The Secretary gets the plate with the FGs. The Photographer gets the school tablet. The Observers gets a pair of imaginary glasses of observation! 2 & 3 do the same. • We name the goals of our journey: Heritage Protection, 	<p style="text-align: center;">Dating game</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Division into groups</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Handing out Activities Leaflet (A.L.)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">The objectives of our route</p> <p style="text-align: center;">.....</p> <p style="text-align: center;">What are the objectives of our route? Can you understand</p>

			<p>Sustainable Mobility and Waste Management. These correspond to three of the four themes of the F.E.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In the fourth one we note down data on the inhabitants of Elefsina. 	<p>them from the A.L. you are holding?</p>
10'	2	<p>The neoclassical RODON = The residence of "Demestichas"</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On our hiking route we cross the southern area of the city with the residences and the catering and leisure shops. We also come across iconic buildings of the city, such as the RODON, formerly the Demesticha residence, which is now in second use as a catering establishment. This is the residence of Demestichas, son-in-law of Theodore Pangalos, who was an eloquent politician of the early 20th century. This house was the venue for evening meetings of prominent people of the time, including the poet Angelos Sikelianos, who greatly admired Elefsina because of its ancient culture. We discuss the value of changing the use and reuse of important buildings in a city. 	<p>Historical buildings of the city Reconstruction Change of use</p> <p>Why does the sustainable city reuse old buildings instead of tearing them down and building new ones? Saves materials, energy, space, preserves the historic face of the city</p>
	3	<p>The Cultural Centre "Leonidas Kanellopoulos"</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Then we meet the Cultural Center "Leonidas Kanellopoulos", former residence of the founder of the TITAN factory, which was donated to the Municipality of Elefsina for cultural events. We make a comparison between the urban houses and the low houses we meet on our way. We discuss low-rise construction, the orientation of the buildings, the materials which they are built with, green architecture, redevelopment, the second use of buildings. 	<p>Building renovations Cultural uses Orientation Bioclimatic buildings (south-facing façade, insulated, north-facing windows for cooling in summer, deciduous trees in the courtyard)</p>

	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red; text-align: center;">4</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">AN ORDINARY NEIGHBORHOOD VS. WORKERS' COUNCIL HOUSES</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We are concerned about identical houses and we are encouraged to learn about organized building. • The OAED, which bought the site of IRIS from the bank, built in a large part of it worker's houses that were distributed by lottery to the beneficiaries. • They are two-storey houses with two apartments per floor and a large garden around the perimeter. • Among the houses there are many walkways and open spaces. We are discussing their contribution to climate neutrality. • We compare the workers' houses with the houses we meet on our route. 	
	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red; text-align: center;">5</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">GARBAGE BINS</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On our route we meet green and blue bins, as well as brown bins. • We discuss how Elefsina manages its waste. • How does the city manage its organic waste? • We discuss the municipal Recycling Materials Sorting Centre (RMC), which does a very high degree of material recovery from rubbish, branches and debris. • We comment on the purple bin that has been placed outside the Jumbo. 	<p>Reduction - Reuse - Recycling Reduce- Reuse- Recycle Sort recyclable materials Blue bins (paper, plastic, aluminium) Green bins Brown bins for organics Purple bins for clothes</p>

THE "IRIS" FACTORY





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- Why the factory was called IRIS?
- IRIS is the first varnish and paint industry established in Greece, based in Elefsina in 1925.
- Until then, paints were imported from Europe.
- It produced paints and varnishes with vertically integrated production, i.e. it bought only the raw materials and manufactured all the products and their packaging.
- The founding chemists also conducted experiments that led to the production of the first plastic in Greece.
- The region was chosen because the area produced large quantities of pine resin and other raw materials for the paint industry.
- In its heyday, it came to employ up to 300 workers.
- Many women and even children were employed.
- The IRIS plant could not cope with the competition from VIVEXHROM, so it began to decline, closed permanently in 1976 and was transferred to the National Bank, from which it was bought by the OAED.
- Today it has been granted to the Municipality of Elefsina by contract and it is being restored while its use changed to a cultural space.
- Around the old factory there are many eucalyptus trees, which were planted en masse near industries just like the most air pollution resistant trees in an effort to absorb pollutants.
- Among the workers' houses, the old brick chimney of the IRIS stands out.
- The historic 35m high factory chimney, built entirely of bricks, has lost the last part of its chimney where the letter I was stuck. It will be restored soon.

The colours of IRIDOS
 The advantages of Elefsina
 Raw materials from the region
 Work for all
 Preservation of industrial heritage
 Cultural sites
 Modern uses
 Historical memories in the city

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Why did he choose Elefsina to settle?
 What were the advantages of the city that attracted the factory owners?
 What reasons led the industry to decline and closure?
 What is the significance of the reuse of the old factory for the city of Elefsina?

	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red; text-align: center;">7</p>	<p>JUMBO & PLASTIC POLLUTION</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Jumbo store, which sells plastic toys, mainly from China, has been built on an adjacent plot of land, where it used to operate as a restaurant. • We are discussing the overconsumption of goods, the hidden carbon footprint and the management of the waste generated. • We tell the story of the 18,000 plastic yellow ducklings and the lifespan of plastic in nature (450 years). • We show photos and the dangers to marine life from plastic. • What concerns do we have about the use of cheap and plastic items in our lives? 	<p>Hidden carbon footprint (oil extraction, factory production, transport) Cheap products - cheap labour - exploitation of human labour Possible child labour </p> <p>What is the lifespan of plastic in nature?</p>
<p>10'</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red; text-align: center;">8</p>	<p>CYCLE-PEDESTRIAN PATHS</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On our hiking route after IRIS, we find many pedestrian paths between the workers' houses and a cycling path. • We discuss their contribution to the climate-neutral city. • We discuss green public transport (electric buses). • We list the problems faced by pedestrians. • We look for charging stations for electric cars. 	<p>The contribution of pedestrian and cycling networks to a climate-neutral city. The value of public transport and stationary vehicles. </p> <p>What is the need for a cycle network?</p>
		<p>CONSULTATION</p>	<p>This path will feed data to tables 4,5 (day 1) and 15, 16 (day 2), where students will deliberate and come up with proposals for the climate neutrality of Elefsina on the issues of Sustainable Mobility and Waste Management.</p>	