



NEO ALBANIA
National Erasmus+ Office of Albania

“Erasmus+ a path toward experiences”

Student: Vasil CIKO
Home Institution: University Fan S. Noli.
E+ Programme: Exchange Students
Host Institution: University of Economics-Varna
Period: February 2020 -June 2020

My Journey towards Erasmus+

My name is Vasil Ciko and I am studying in the third-year in the University of Economics Fan S. Noli, branch Finance-Accounting. I have always liked new experiences and Erasmus + was one of the ones I was looking for as I would have the opportunity to expand my background professionally, culturally, and socially. The information I had about the program has been incredibly compelling and the moment the University announced about the student exchange program I was feeling very excited to participate. University staff selected students with a high average and good English language skills to apply. Based on the criteria to be met, I was one of the students selected to apply and represent the University.



The application procedures were the preparation of a motivation letter, CV, House Application, and Learning Agreement in which you had to choose between the available courses that you were interested in studying. The selected courses would be converted into semester courses. The motivation letter was an article where you would express your opinion about the Erasmus+ program and the reason for applying. While House Application is an accommodation document which you fill in according to the preferences among the available options.

After completing the application process I was notified by the host University of Varna that I had been accepted by sending me the letter of acceptance and I was in contact with the coordinators in further stages such as visa or accommodation.

At the end of the semester, I notified the host University coordinators of my arrival by sending them the ticket and the company I was going to travel with. Upon arrival, I was greeted by the University staff to accommodate me and orient me with the place.

My experiences in Varna

Upon my arrival in Varna, I met students from different countries and cultures and we exchanged different and



interesting knowledge between each other. On the first day at Varna University of Economics, I completed the program

contract by defining the duration of my stay for the calculation of the scholarship. The first few days seemed a bit difficult as it was a new place, new people, and until I orientated myself with the place and the other students. The adventure of this beautiful experience started faster than I expected as the coordinators were very close to us in resolving any difficulties we might encounter. Around a week I withdrew the amount of scholarship

which was enough to cover all expenses.

The pedagogues were also highly qualified, communicative, and highly practical while not facing difficulties in learning the subject. During the Erasmus + period, I learned a lot of necessary professional knowledge, collaborated with foreign students, and strengthened my English language skills.

Part of the Erasmus + program were also tripping to different countries both inside and outside Bulgaria, which were organized by the program staff and coordinators. Special classes were also scheduled to talk to competent people in certain fields to share with us the necessary professional information and their experiences.

This beautiful and valuable adventure passed in a very short time and at its completion were the final procedures where we received the documents necessary for the local



University. After returning from Erasmus+ I submitted all the documents received to convert the grades to the local University. Being in contact and supported by local and host coordinators all procedures were easily passed. I invite all students not to hesitate to try out such valuable experiences and take advantage of the opportunities offered by the school, but of course, everything is achieved by studying and working to succeed.

"Erasmus + is not only a good opportunity in professional terms but also an opportunity to collaborate and get to know different cultures and nationalities by further expanding the individual formation and horizon."

