My Erasmus + at National technical University of Athens, Greece
European masters in renewable energy
Summer semester 2020

How did you prepare for your semester abroad?

Since I am an EUREC student I had to do my specilisationin semester in Greece. I was there to do specilisationin in wind energy. I had a clear idea of going to Greece well before coming to Germany, so everything was well planned. Visa was not a problem as I already had a Schengen visa. I was given full information from the course coordinator regarding the university in Greece, so it was quite easy. Also, the students from the previous years batch helped me so it was quite easy to plan everything.

What was it like for you to be in Greece for the first time?

Unlike Oldenburg, Athens was quite sunny with clear sky, so weather was really nice in Athens. weather is really pleasing, and Athens is really very beautiful and welcoming city. There were many Indian restaurants too, so we enjoyed delicious food throughout the semester. Finding an accommodation was not that tough. You can easily find the good accommodation if you have right contacts. I found one using the contact given by one of the professors from the university. Generally, you will spend around 200-300 euros monthly for accommodation depending on the area in which you are living. I was staying at Zografou around 3km from university so it was not that far and you can use the local transport very easily. You can take a monthly ticket to travel around the Athens and its very cheap around 15 euros after the student discount. I reached Athens in first week of February, it was quite sunny that time. Temperature was around 18-24 C so quite pleasant for me.

How did you find our studies in the host university?

We had very highly educated and best professors. Unfortunately, because of COVID-19 all our classes were conducted online, and we lost many valuable things that could have been done if normal classes could have been done. Although professors tried to give us maximum, they can but still the subject demands many practical things, so it was totally unfortunate. Professors are very good, and they will support you and will give you enough time to solve your queries. Even in this difficult situation university managed to conduct 1 practical session in wind tunnel with all the precautions. That was the most admiring thing for me as I could perform the work that I was supposed to do. Overall, I can say that it is one of the best universities for my course.
What did your everyday life and leisure look like for you?

In February 20 before the outbreak of COVID-19 in Europe everything was normal and so we explored many places in Athens. The world-famous Acropolis is worth seeing. Night life was also very charming and exciting. You can find many bars bear city centre. Greece is famous for islands and its worth visiting. We manged to go to some islands. With Student card you can avail 50% discount on ferry rides, so the trip becomes quite cheap. Islands are very beautiful and peaceful. Beaches are very clean with clear water and you can enjoy good food with good people. After the outbreak of COVID-19 government had to lockdown everything and then unfortunately we could not explore many things that were on my to do list.

How do you rate your semester abroad in total?

On the scale of 10 I can rate my semester 8. It could be 9 if there was no COVID-19. Greece is worth visiting and the university is really nice with highly educated professors who know how to make students like the subject.