



ERASMUS MOBILITY PROGRAM

Student Experience Report

Erfahrungsbericht Saragossa

ABSTRACT

This report contains experience of the overseas study carried out by the sponsorship of ERASMUS mobility programme

Darshana bowatte

EUREC Masters in Renewable Energy 2018/2019

1. Preperation and planing

I was not aware of the ERASMUS mobility program until I was notified by some of my fellow students in my core university. However, the Master program which I was enrolled, had specifically mentioned the mobility between two European countries as a mandatory requirement. The core university (university of Oldenburg) was highly supportive and encourage students to participate in the program. My receiving institution was already finalized under my Master program and that gave me enough head start to finalize my accommodation and travel. Since there were many Spanish students in our core university, they assisted me a lot in finding a great accommodation facility in the city of Zaragoza.

As a Person which appreciate travel and exploring cultures, I planned my departure via Madrid to University of Zaragoza. My initial travel was from Hamburg to Madrid via flight and resides in the Madrid city for four days right Infront of the Historical Bear in Madrid.

Madrid was a beautiful city which had a lot to offer for a visitor, the people were warm and welcoming except the Bus driver who was really upset about twenty euro note in the early morning. During my stay I visited almost all of the historic and iconic places in Madrid, and the Royal parade was one of the magnificent events which I was lucky enough to witness on very next day.

2. Logging and stay in Zaragoza

I travelled from a Bus to Zaragoza, this was a moment to observer the countryside of the Spain and it was a 5-hour ride. Upon arrival, I Dragged my luggage in the cobble work roads of the city which was full of festive appearance. It was completely opposite experience from the German city which was dead after six in the evening. My land lord, Mr. Sovinzky who could not speak a word in English was one of the best gentlemen I have met in my life. It is surprising that I managed my day to day life with him while staying in his house as a tenant. It was at the heart of the city and on a 7th floor which was really nice for quite life. The city was a very live creature, and they did not sleep till midnight.

3. The University of Zaragoza

The university was 30 minutes tram ride from the place I lived. This ride was the one ride that I really enjoyed to take when I was done with the daily studies in the university. It was winding through the historic buildings and festive places of the city.

The institution was a great atmosphere for students to thrive, the place lack the essential access for information in English, However , the staff did their best to compensate this.

Our Student group was one of the highly diverse one. It represented people from all corners of the globe, hence the discussions about each cultures, politics and histories were common among ourselves. Other than our very own group, the social life of university was highly active, student societies and specials events aimed at socializing students from all over the university were a weekly thing in Zaragoza.

My studies were related to renewable energy integration to power systems. The institution had very active involvement with the industry and research related to the field.

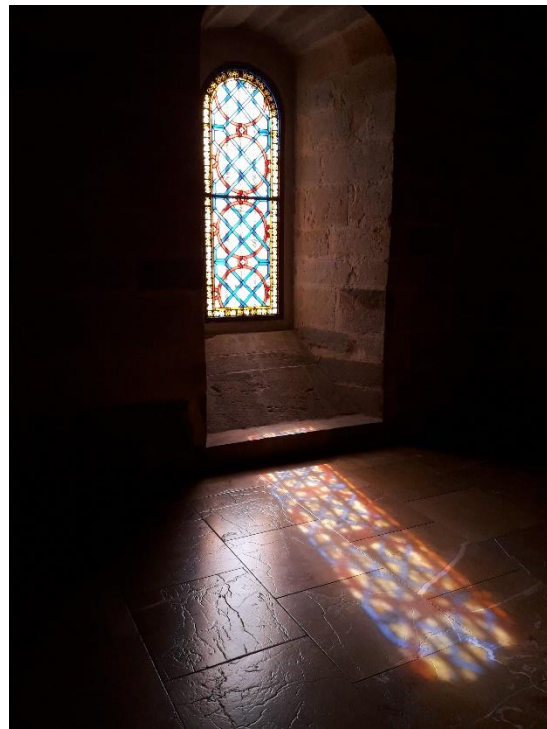
4. Conclusion

The Erasmus program was a great assistance for me, during my stay in Spain, it facilitated me to explore the country and to interact among people all over the world. Before traveling to Spain, I have been to many countries in Europe. In every European country I have observed that basic structure of the cities and administrations had been sharing a common origin, for example, the city square which I have observed in Germany, Belgium, Netherlands and in Spain. The transport has integrated very much in to a common system which enables borderless traveling a reality.

This experience provided me with long lasting network of people from all over the globe. The opinions and ideologies which we shared made us more global citizens that which we used to be.



Madrid Bear



Santiago Cathedral in Bilbao.



In Basque Country



The Globe in Zaragoza.