Mariam KarapetyanFaculty of Finance, 3rd year Hasselt University (Belgium)



I feel glad to write this short report about my Erasmus experience which I spent in Hasselt University, Belgium. This whole experience will always remain of great importance throughout my life. Six months ago I couldn't imagine that my life will change for 360 degrees. Six months that gave me challenge to lose myself and find another me. I am in Belgium with which I didn't have anything in common and now this country, this people and especially this city are my second home. I am so grateful for the opportunity to find friends from every corner of the world, to get to know their culture, to represent my country, and to have multicultural events. I am very grateful to the university to give me a high level of knowledge, good lecturers, and the best events of my life. University where knowledge

is in action and you directly can see what you learn as you are learning-by-doing.

Hasselt is one of the biggest cities of the Belgium with a very high student population. There are a lot to do and explore the city. There are museums, public library, parks, shopping stores, cinema, cafes where you can spend your free time. Apart from the happenings in city, the University also organizes many city trips.

The Flemish people are very friendly, they fluently speak English. Sport is encouraged here, everyone is biking. It was undoubtedly a unique and life changing experience for me, full of adventures, friends, new feelings, learning, and fun.

Ani Khachatryan

Faculty of Marketing and Business Organization, Master, 1st year Mikolas Romeris University (Lithuania)



Hello, dear reader. I am Ani, a master's student, whose Erasmus is taking place in one very beautiful city - Vilnius, in the university named after Mykolas Romeris. The crazy Erasmus life for me began on January 27, when I first came face to face with the reality that awaited me. To be honest, my ideas about Erasmus were quite different, and normal University days full of lessons and exams were expected. But from the second day I realized that this is another world. I started to get acquainted with dozens of representatives of different nationalities, I was surprised by their huge knowledge about Armenia, got some very close friends and our adventure life has began. We visited several cities of Lithuania, discovered the beauty of the capital, a week later - University courses:) Parties, birthdays, watching movies, ordinary days full of conversations and hilarious games, well, of course, do not forget about the lessons, which do not overload our everyday life and are quite interesting and meaningful. Let it not sound pathetic, but Erasmus days are one of the best days of my life, and happy all those students who at least once get the opportunity to be an Erasmus student.

Arpine Matevosyan

Faculty of Finance, 2nd year University of Applied Sciences Zwickau (Germany)



There are events that can be forgotten, and there are events that leave their prints in our hearts forever. Last months have been the best example of it. Leaving in a foreign place away from native land and family, but at the same time becoming native with the people with whom I was supposed to create this story in our small town Zwickau, in the heart of Europe, Germany.

It was an honor for me to study in one of the most influential and developed countries in the world. The chance to choose the subjects I wanted to study and organize my own schedule helped me to see the bigger picture of the field of economics I'd like to specialize in.

Erasmus gave me a lot. I've had an experience to participate in the lectures of internationally qualified professors, to get deeper and analytic knowledge. I had group presentations with other international students, improved linguistic skills. Trying myself in teamwork was an important influence on a personal development. I learned to cooperate, to put aside my own principles and share the joy of achievement with others.

But this is not what I want to talk about. My story is 6 months old. 6 unforgettable months based on love and respect, belief and trust. 6-month story created by each of us. It has been a great achievement to be a member of Erasmus family. Yes, it was a family with its specific customs, traditions, words and expressions. It was thrilling to see the unity, the firm friendship dominating inside the group. Seeing each other's eyes shining from pride, when presenting our country.

This path led us to be more independent, to make decisions and be responsible for them. The planning of adventurous trips, the risks and difficulties we faced during them, and the way we dealt with problems without losing our hope and humor are always going to be remembered.

It was an outstanding idea to gather people from different nationalities, with completely different lifestyle and mentality together for the same purpose. We learned to enjoy every moment, every second which becomes a memory, stays in our minds and follows us during our whole life. This is the real victory, the spirit that will live in us forever.

Arpine TadevosyanFaculty of Finance, 3rd year Varna University of Economics (Bulgaria)



Dreams, goals, reality ... I have always believed in the power of this scheme. Since school years studying abroad has been one of my dreams. Entering Armenian State University of Economics I learned about Erasmus + student mobility program and I set a goal to be one of the students who will be given an opportunity to study abroad and to represent the University.

Thanks to this program I was given a chance to study one semester at University of Economics-Varna. It is one of the most ancient universities in Bulgaria and distinguishes with its unique methods of teaching. Here I have discovered new perspectives for me, have expanded my economic theoretical and practical knowledge, developed my ability to work in a team. I also had the opportunity to communicate with professors with high qualifications and long-term international experience, as well as with other lecturers from other countries. In addition to the high-quality education Erasmus + gave me an opportunity to live in a new culture, to share their daily life, to discover beautiful Bulgaria, to travel, to go after adventures, to find a way from any situation, to be by yourself and which is the most important that you can make friends from many countries all over the world.

Erasmus has taught me to follow my dreams, to have new goals, to strive new tops, to believe in yourself and move on.

These 4 months has become a motivation for my future life and I hope when I return I'll use my knowledge for profit of my country.

Thanks to ASUE and International Relations Office for this opportunity.

Anna AbazyanFaculty of Finance, 2nd yer
Miskolc University (Hungary)

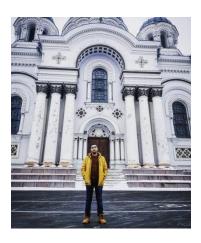


What can I say? Everything is perfect end Erasmus might become the best part of your studies.

Erasmus is a great opportunity that helps to develop. But it's not only about studies and growing as an economist. It helps you to develop as an open-minded person and accept people like they are.

Before going outside Armenia I didn't think that people's mentalities and views could differ so much. But coming to Miskolc I have met a lot of people from different countries of the world with their unique way of thinking, lifestyle and expectations. And now, when I have many friends from various countries, I can say that Erasmus makes the borders disappear.

Davit KharatyanFaculty of Marketing and Business Organization, 3rd year
Kaunas Technology University (Lithuania)



It will be probably 3,5 years that the name of Erasmus is in my mind. In 2016, I've got an opportunity to participate in the interview for studying at Stefan cel Mare University in Romania. Unfortunately, I failed and it was one of the gloomiest days of my life. In summer I was going to join army, but the goal of participating in Erasmus again stayed in my mind and becames one of the brightest motivations of my military service during that 2 years.

During this period I tried not to forget English. So during my night shift when everyone was sleeping I was imagining an interview, answering various questions. If I was realizing that I've forgotten some words, first thing to do after finishing my duty was looking through the words in my dictionary, repeating, studying. As my experience showed, difficult roads always lead to beautiful destinations. Standing for duty in -10 and colder temperature I couldn't even imagine that the memorable period of life was waiting for me.

After the end of my service the primary plan was taking part in this program again. I felt that the 2nd time would be lucky one. Finally I was accepted to study at

Kaunas Technological University (KTU).

Erasmus was a journey which gave me a huge amount of knowledge about my profession, many friends from more than 20 countries and an opportunity to face up with different cultures and languages. I will always be grateful to KTU for creating all the environments to make us feel comfortable and motivated. The lessons were quite interesting because every professor had a unique method of delivering lectures. Erasmus couldn't be so perfect without my friends. I am grateful to each friend I've spent good time with, traveled and created unforgettable memories.

One more important thing: I was the first student coming to Kaunas from Armenia. So besides studying I was responsible for representing my country and university. During my whole journey I've made the foreign students know some facts about Armenian history, what kind of culture we have and of course what is ours that no one can take from us! Also I shared my experience I've gained from ASUE.

At the end, I thank God, my family, my friends, ASUE and KTU, because all this would not have happened without their support. The duration of Erasmus is 5 months, but I will miss it till the end of time.

Gohar Ghukasyan

Faculty of Marketing and Business Organization, Master, 1st year Juraj Dobrila University of Pula (Croatia)



I had a desire to study abroad for a long time, but it especially increased when I found out about this program. The Erasmus+ program gave me this great opportunity, and now I am studying at the University of Juraj Dobrila in Croatia. This young University gave me the opportunity not only to choose courses that gave me valuable and practical knowledge about modern marketing and tourism, but also to acquire skills such as networking, teamwork and time management. It must be noted that the complex is equipped with modern technology, the lessons are in a friendly atmosphere, conducted by a caring and expert in their field of teaching staff, and open discussions are always encouraged here: just a student's Paradise): At the same time, within the framework of this program, I gained friends from many countries of the world, got acquainted with different cultures and customs.

To sum up, I would like to say that I am very grateful to ASUE and the staff of the International Relations Division for such an unforgettable and unique opportunity.

Hayk KalantaryanFaculty of Accounting and Auditing, 2nd year University of Applied Sciences Zwickau (Germany)



Hello, I am Hayk, 2nd year student of ASUE, who has been lucky enough to study in Germany which has the world's best educational systems. As a future economist I can surely say that living and studying in the leading economic country of Europe will be the most favorable stimulus for expanding my economic worldview.

In my opinion, in the midst of past and future you have to build your strong bridge, for which firstly it is necessary to have independence and the path to independence is the "monopoly" of education. The days of Erasmus life are sturdy and cultivating stones, as you are becoming part of international students, beging to live independently, learning new languages, and studying in a completely new educational system.

You become the representative of Armenia (and after telling about your country and after a cultural evening you are obliged to become a guide and host for foreigners who have a great desire to visit Armenia as soon as possible and drink a glass of cognac with you).

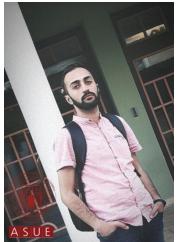
These days are injected into a culture of luxury, because you interact and see how foreigners are in everyday life and in a way of thinking. You can travel to beautiful European countries, and you fill your motivation supply basket until the last drop. After all, you are studying at a university where all the conditions are created for an effective learning process; competitive, motivating professors, university located in the edge of the city and in the forests, up-to-date methods and

flexible graphics, deep interaction between students and university. Being one of the first ASUE students who continue his study at the University of Applied Sciences Zwickau, I am also trying to be one of the links that will contribute to the expansion of cooperation between Armenian and German universities and more ASUE students will be able to continue their education in Germany.

There are a lot of opportunities in the Erasmus life. You must be able to accept any positive thing, open your arms and completely absorb the entirety of the new educational system.

As Erasmus students say - Once Erasmus, always Erasmus.

Khoren Ispiryan Faculty of Finance, 3rd year Juraj Dobrila University of Pula (Croatia)



Education is not preparation for life; education is life itself. Thanks to Erasmus+ Program and ASUE International Relations Division, I was fortunate enough to be convinced of the truthfulness of these words.

Studying in Croatia at Juraj Dobrila University of Pula, I had the opportunity to discover a new unique world, to reach a higher professional quality and gain good friends. Studying abroad also means to represent your country wherever you go; it was this fact that enhanced my commitment and responsibility towards great achievements.

Having a relatively flexible schedule is one of the greatest features of studying abroad within Erasmus+ Program. That gave me an opportunity to be more productive within specific time frames, to communicate with different people, to discover and explore new cultures, to get acquainted with local organizations and their activities and, most importantly, to have active experience exchange. During the 5 months I had the opportunity to volunteer at several leading Croatian organizations, as well as to take part in other events organized by them.

I don't know whether it was noticed or not but I have used the word "opportunity" many times in my story. Yes, Erasmus+ program is a set of opportunities for me and, of course, a real fiesta of unrepeatable moments.

I wish all students to have unforgettable memories and the best experience of Erasmus+ Program:)

Lilia Mnatsakanyan Faculty of Finance, 3rd year University of Applied Sciences Zwickau (Germany)



Hi, I'm Lilia, a bachelor student in Finance at Armenian State University of Economics. I spent a semester of my studies at the University of Applied Sciences Zwickau. I have been interested in ASUE partner universities since I was a freshman. It has been a long time that I participate in the Erasmus + short-term projects (youth exchanges, seminars), but I always had a desire to be engaged in Erasmus formal educational program.

The partnership with the German University was new, so we were the first Armenian students, which was a great responsibility for each of us.

As for the educational system, it is quite different. Despite the lack of subjects taught in English, they are practical, and the lecturers-more than motivating.

Other than that Erasmus gave me an opportunity to get acquainted with my foreign friends' cultures, tell them about my homeland during Armenian Evening organized in the university in the presence of multinational audience.

I am thankful to Erasmus program for making this semester fruitful in terms of

education and creating an intangible but valuable asset for my personal and professional growth.

Zhasmen Shahbazyan

Faculty of Regulation of Economy and International Economic Relations, Master, 1st year Cracow University of Economics (Poland)



I am Jasmine and I am Erasmus student in Krakow from Armenia. Well, I used this sentence the most during last 3 months of my Erasmus experience. It is hard to explain all emotions and experience that I am getting here, but I will try to introduce it by the best way.

First, it starts from Armenia, where our kind team helped us with everything, shared their experience, worried about us and made us ready for the most interesting adventure of our life. After that, when I arrived to Krakow, people here did everything for us to feel at home, they were ready to help us with everything and kindly answered to all our questions. When you are far from home, the only Armenian here, it is wonderful to have such a good mentors and team.

Secondly, one of the most important factors of Erasmus life for me is cultural exchange, when you meet many people from all over the world started from Brazil to China, and you know so many things about different nations, found similarities with your country, say ''Hello'' in more than 50 languages. Although I am the only representative from Armenia, I am trying to introduce my country to everyone; it is a big responsibility for me to be the only Armenian, because

everyone imagines Armenia by me. I am trying to be a good example of Armenian, to show all good qualities that our great nation has. Now everyone here loves Armenia, they want to visit our country for its beautiful nature, amazing atmosphere and hospitable people, for its historical and cultural heritage. There are also people who started to learn Armenian with my help because they are interested in our old and beautiful language. Therefore, I am doing my best to help people know as much as possible about my lovely country. They imagine Armenia as sunny and kind country, where people are helpful and hospitable.

Although cultural exchange is very important, the main reason of our Erasmus of course is education. I can surely say that from the first day in Krakow University of Economics I realized that I am going to have a great experience with great professors. Here almost all professors have a good opinion about Armenians, so I am trying to do my best. I am always choosing topics about Armenia for my projects, and professors are interested in it. I want to show the quality of education in Armenian State University of Economics and be a good example of Armenian student.

Overall, it is hard sometimes to be so far from your home and be alone from your country, but when wonderful people from all over the world surround you, it becomes interesting. I can surely say that Erasmus experience is the best and the most interesting adventure in my life, I am sure that every Erasmus student will agree with me, because Erasmus changes your way of thinking. As we all know, once Erasmus, always Erasmus...

Meri Hovsepyan

Faculty of Regulation of Economy and International Economic Relations, Master, 1st year Poznan University of Economics and Business (Poland)



This city, a colorful and perfect combination of modern and ancient style, isn't that much popular. I didn't hear about it until my Erasmus. After experiencing the interactive life in Yerevan, I relished the peaceful life in Poznan. It's a perfect city for living, studying, self-developing and discovering the world and yourself. People are very nice and kind, and you will always feel welcomed even if you can't speak Polish.

From the beginning, Erasmus seemed very uncertain to me but every single detail was planned by University International Office and ESN. The semester started with an orientation week. It was full of information, many activities and different sorts of parties. During the orientation week, they deeply integrated us to their community, to the city and university life. And of course, they started to break the stereotypes of multicultural differences among all of us. In my opinion, one of the main privileges of doing Erasmus was that we are choosing our subjects by ourselves. And this decision was mainly based not only on the name of subject but also having an opportunity of two weeks to attend and understand whether it

overlaps with our interest or not. Apart from special Erasmus courses, we were also allowed to register for any course offered in the university, for their own Masters or Bachelor programs. Therefore, I have taken only one Erasmus course and the fact that I was studying courses that are most suitable to my narrow professional sphere motivated me.

Now, more than ever before, I can attest that Poznan University of Economics and Business is one of the best in Poland. The university atmosphere, professors and a new way of education allows us to develop our skills, knowledge and go deep into studies. I am glad to mention that I was actively involved in the University life, and was attending many seminars and workshops and also received certification. One more important thing I would proudly mention is that I have attended Harvard business school professor Michel Porter's lecture, which was dedicated to value added chain creation process. And this opportunity provided me and my friends with motivation by showing that they value our strength and willingness to study. Apart from the curriculum, the environment of the class in itself was providing a platform to learn a lot. Having different classes with so many international students from different countries of the world, having discussions, presentations and listening to different perspectives and ways of thinking was a worthwhile experience. And this is just an example, out of many, to show the advantages studying abroad.

Indeed, a very important thing for me is that we are kind of representatives of our countries. And I am really glad that I could create interest about our home country and its culture. Now I can come back to my country, knowing that I have tried my best and seeing the interest of my proffessors and my friends about my country, our language and our culture, I think I have succeeded. During our orientation week, ESN organised an International dinner. I introduced Armenian dishes and sweets, which was the first step to introduce foreingners to our culture. And during this sememster, I have had lots of opportunities to introduce my country to foreingners, and I did it with passion. To conlude, for me,

Erasmus was also a short-term experience in diplomacy work to introduce my country to the rest of the world.

And finnaly, being an Erasmus student means having endless opportunities to discover the world, nations and different cultures. And Poznan has perfect geographic location for this. Warsaw is only 3 hours away by train and Berlin is more or less the same. For my own experience, you would never find any other place in the world where students are so much valued as in Europe. And being a student is really playing an important role in this society.

To sum up, this was undoubtedly a unique and life changing experience for me. Every moment was full of learning and fun. I consider myself to be a part of the Erasmus family by availing such an opportunity. I will thank you very much for providing me with this opportunity and will highly recommend Poznan University of Economics as one of the best places to go to for an exchange program.

Meri NikolayanFaculty of Finance, Master, 1st year University of Miskolc (Hungary)



Hi, my name is Meri. I'm going to present my success story.

It all began with my acceptance at the best university back in 2014, which is the Armenian State University of Economics. Let me say that I don't know whether it was a coincidence or not, I applied for Erasmus + program in 2018 and spent my second semester of master's program in the University of Miskolc, Hungary. Miskolc is hospitable, very beautiful, and is called "a student city." The University offers a unique, modern, and friendly environment for students. Student life here is extremely busy. In the morning we have lectures, after studies you get time for sports. The weekends are left for travelling to freshen yourself due to exhaustive studies. I have travelled to 15 cities within 10 European countries which have madethousands of unforgettable moments like celebration of my birthday in the city of dreams – Paris.

When we talk about Erasmus, it's not just going abroad for education but rather Erasmus is a lifestyle, and a life-time experience. Erasmus is an experience through which you can learn, see, and know even more than a person can during their life. It's an opportunity to discover yourself, and to gain independence by

living alone. Erasmus is a world coming together in one place. Erasmus is not just about studies but rather it is about people as Bassel from Syria, Camil from France, Merili from Estonia. A family with whom you share experiences, knowledge, languages, culture, and of course sweets. When I leave this family (Erasmus), I will miss it a lot. But now I know that I have a home in many parts of the world, where my friends are waiting for me and my home is waiting for them in Yerevan.

If you are reading my success story and you think that this is exactly what you want, do not waste your time, do not let go of the opportunity, and create your own Erasmus story.

I am grateful to ASUE and the Foreign Relations Division for this opportunity, as well as for on-going attention and support. Köszönöm (thank you). ☺

Srbuhi Chalikyan

Faculty of Finance, Master, 1st year Varna University of Economics (Bulgaria)



Studying at European universities was one of my main goals for life. Following my dreams and goals I applied for "Erasmus+" mobility program and studied at University of Economics-Varna which is one of the oldest universities in Bulgaria. Being and studying in Varna gave me very unique and interesting opportunities, great experience and memories. Participation to this program gave an opportunity to learn about different cultures, to make friends from 17 different countries, also learn modern methods of studying, deepen my knowledge about Economics, travel and explore Bulgarian cities, culture, people. Besides I could present Armenia to all of them. I'd say that my Erasmus was with adventures and discovers full of funny, unbelievable, impossible and incredible stories. So if you want to have life changing experience, realize your real you and not to be afraid of obstacles Erasmus is the best thing that can happen to you because as we say "Once Erasmus, always Erasmus". My special thanks to ASUE International Relations Division for this stunning opportunity.

Suren Minasyan

Faculty of Regulation of Economy and International Economic Relations, Master, 1st year Univertsity of Applied Sciences Zwickau (Germany)



On the way to achieve our career dreams and goals each of us faces the fact to do brave decisions. My brave decision to stop my job and study abroad was so significant and important that even the first days of being here make me learn something new.

Being passionate about economics and wishing to continue my professional career in this field, I entered Armenian State University of Economics in 2018 to get my master's degree majoring in International Monetary and Financial Relations. My home university being highly involved in international exchange programs constantly offers such programs to students. Meanwhile, understanding the complicity and responsibility of my chosen way I realize the necessity for continuous development of my knowledge and personal skills to be considered as a

competitive candidate for international organizations. That is why, the aspiration to achieve my goals made me think about getting exchange program abroad, and looking through my university's webpage to find relevant one I chose Germany as my future study destination without any hesitation.

Being in Zwickau, a small German city, which is famous for an automotive industry tradition over a hundred years old, the first thing was interesting for me, as an economist, the classic difference between capitalism and socialism. Germany is an excellent example with its regions with different degrees of economic development to understand and examine the achievements and challenges of economic policies.

My opportunity to study in my destination university, West Saxon University of Applied Sciences Zwickau will have great significance for my future professional path. Studying in a European university where education is quite different from my home country, let me acquire practical knowledge, interact with well-prepared professors and both German and international students having the completely different approach to life, education and everything in general.

I am confident that these six months full of adventures will stay unforgettable, the friends, feelings, memories gained during these days made my life. I learnt that language and culture are definitely not barriers to making friends and building contacts, I left Germany gained a network of lifelong friends, learnt a new language, and experienced a new culture through traveling a lot in Europe. I embraced vulnerability and discovered a new side of me. The vulnerability I felt on the experience, coupled with being surrounded by so many people in the same situation made me discover a different side of me. Despite my seemingly out-going personality, there is a part of me that is quite shy and introvert. During my Erasmus+ experience I learnt to listen to those parts of myself, in a way I was detached from past labelling, etiquettes, responsibilities, cultural rules, norms and morals such as I had known them— and so what I was left with was just 'me' – all of me.

My Erasmus+ story was fantastic experience for me.

Syuzi VanoyanFaculty of Finance, 3rd year
University of Appled Sciences Zwickau (Germany)



Greetings from Germany! I am Syuzi. I study in Germany at Zwickau University of Applied Sciences within Erasmus+ project. I have dreamed about studying abroad from school ages. Over the years the dream has been transferred into the goal and now it is real. Germany is one of the best countries in the world providing efficient higher education in the field of economics. Zwickau University of Applied Sciences applies the latest educational technologies, teaching staff do its best in order to provide the materials in a qualified and atteinable way and students try to do everything possible to justify their efforts. Relations between students and professors are simplified and the teaching mechanism is better regulated, integrating. In the result

studying is not a burden, but something really educating and motivative.

As a consequence the project made me flexible and accommodating. It was the best opportunity for me to learn living alone on my own. Erasmus+ experience was not just educational project, but also cultural. I got in touch with different cultures, customs, cuisines, life styles. Due to cultural evenings I got new friends not only from Germany, but also from other countries. In terms of higher education I shall proudly mention my experience in Germany and also the memories from Erasmus+ program.

Tigran GhalayanFaculty of Regulation of Economy and International Economic Relations, 3rd year Tsenov Academy of Economics (Bulgaria)



The decision of studying abroad was not something that we make every day. I was thinking about that and the thoughts about new experience and the issues related to foreign languages that could appear and the cultural differences were creating mixed feelings.

But what I really wanted was to prove to myself that I can deal with that challenge and the decision was made, and there was no any single second of repentance about it.

From the very first day I understood, that people here were open to cooperate, the mentors did their best to help us with adapting in a new place.

The other students were just like me, in their first experience of studying abroad. Being in almost the same mental situation and having almost the same goals made us good friends, then colleagues. I was learning more and more not only about the subjects that I have chosen or about the educational system in D.A. Tsenov Academy of Economics in Svishtov, but about Bulgarian people, their customs and culture as well.

Our groups were small, 4-7 students, and big attention was payed to how the students prepare and present their work about certain topics. Presentations were widely used and I prepared and presented 4 presentations during the semester and improved my skills of making them and presenting in English. Participated in classes of Chinese and Bulgarian languages for the beginners and received certificates. Took part in student conference in Kranevo, Bulgaria and presented my essay in "Student experience and opportunities for engagement in multi-stakeholder partnerships to achieve sustainable development goals" topic.

During this period, I managed to travel to 6 countries (apart from Bulgaria) with people from 10 different countries. Surrounded by smart and ambitious young people I was improving my social and professional knowledge which was being automatically during studying, spending time with friends or just having fun, because everyone here, were one of the best students of their universities, some of them were master's, the others even Ph.D. students.

After all I think I am a so successful person, because I had this unforgettable experience, which I would like to have again in future.