



# “Erasmus has opened many doors for U”

**NEO ALBANIA**  
National Erasmus+ Office of Albania

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E+ Programme: Exchange Students  
Host Institution: Istanbul technical University (ITU)  
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## My journey towards Erasmus+

Hello everyone, my name is Adelina and I am a student at Alexander Xhuvani university of Elbasan

To be honest doing an Erasmus has never been part of my studying plan and until the second year I never heard about it .I genuinely still don't really know how I got involved in such a great experience , I guess it was some sort of fate and I feel so privileged to have grabbed hold of this with both my hands ☺ .



However, the beginning was not as I imagined. I arrived in Istanbul on 28<sup>th</sup> of January 2019. At the start I had to face a few difficulties as I had to find a place to live, manage my own money, introducing myself to one of the biggest city in the world .... let's just say that my first couple of weeks as an Erasmus student aged me at least 2 to 3 years :P

It was definitely challenging for me to go through the initial weeks, however I learned so much about myself and it also helped me develop in so many different ways; I never thought I would be able to overcome these challenges on my own.

Suddenly, I was getting really involved in the atmosphere created by the Erasmus students and society. The orientation programme and ITU gave me the possibility to learn more about Turkish culture which Albania is related so much to it , the beautiful city of Istanbul and also helped me meet and interact with people who would shortly become friends and part of my Erasmus family during the next few months!



## My Erasmus my Experience

After a “I have had better days “ in school I didn't realized I get the email I was waiting for so long .I realized it almost in midnight and to be honest I hardly slept that night I started imagine how would my life be in there, about my social life and about the courses I would take in there, also I remember I wrote to all the people I loved the most about the big news , and of course no one of them replied that moment :P

Honestly no words can accurately describe the Erasmus experience. You must experience it! I can only tell you to prepare yourself for losing yourself in the time, for spending days and nights in endless conversations, for finding out that you actually like food you never thought you would eat, for getting to know so many unthinkable places it makes you feel like you're dreaming, for celebrating the nights you won't remember with the people you will never forget!



Erasmus makes your dream of visiting stunning and new places become a reality, while also saving money! Once you start working, you'll see that Erasmus has opened you many doors for you, as it gives you world knowledge and brings you connections to people from all over the world.

Get ready for the months that flip your life a full 360 degrees because once you've experienced Erasmus, your life will never be the same! Once you return to your country, you won't be the same person with the same thoughts; otherwise you were not on Erasmus!



I guess I have to finally face it: it's the end. First of all, I have to thank my parents and my home institution "ALEXANDER XHUVANI" for making all this possible, without their support I would have never been able to get through such an amazing experience! I had everything an

Erasmus student could ever want parties, travelling and a group of amazing people. It was by far one of the best experiences I could ever have been a part of.



While I write this, I keep hearing Avicii's song in my head; it reminds me that this cannot be the end, because: "These are the days we've been waiting for, on days like these who couldn't ask for more, keep them coming, cause we're not done yet; these are the days we won't regret, these are the days we won't forget."

