


MY STUDENT EXCHANGE EXPERIENCE

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All societies, I believe, exist in caves with their limited boundaries and knowledge of the reality beyond the caves. Though the boundaries and lack of information have shrunk as a result of the shift to the globalization age, various issues have arisen as a result of globalization's knowledge distortion and misinterpretation of societies. Despite the above limitations of globalization, the Erasmus exchange program allowed me to travel outside of the country and gain some knowledge of the western political, social, and economic systems. Also, it provided me with academic knowledge that went beyond my previous knowledge.

I'm not a geographer, but Erasmus's exchange allowed me to live in a different region of the world for more than three seasons. It was a dry season when I left Ethiopia, but I was surprised to find myself in the Czech Republic, where I had very cold days. However, a month later, the snow began to melt, and the temperature gradually rose in the spring season. Now, we are in the midst of summer. I will be returning to Ethiopia during the winter season, which is also known as the rainy season in Ethiopia. Despite the above seasonal differences between my country and the Czech Republic, this exchange program allowed me to meet a variety of international students from all over the world. These students are enthusiastic and eager to make a difference in the world of the future. As a result of meeting and conversing with those students, I was able to deduce universal moral principles and some universal reality.

For example, in my interactions with them, I discovered that a mother is a mother regardless of her children's ages, nationality, or where she lives; almost all care for their young children, some calling daily to tell them how to cook, others sending their children with bulky foods, and so on. As a member of the above-mentioned international community, it assisted me in understanding how we are connected in terms of value and how we differ in terms of value.



In a word, my Erasmus exchange at the Univerzita Hradec Králové, Hradec Králové, the Czech Republic, from February 3 to June 29, was a great opportunity for my academic and personal life for the following reason: it enabled me to live outside my comfort zone and build the skill of adapting to a new environment, second, it broadened my horizon of knowledge of my subject area, and finally, it made me have a sense of being cosmopolitan or of the universalism of the world.

