



ERASMUS STORY BY EMMANUELLA DENTAA AMPONG

I arrived in the Czech Republic on 7th September 2022. Originally, I was supposed to be part of the winter semester and leave in January 2023. I got the benefit of an extension of the exchange program. I have therefore enjoyed two semesters of the exchange program at the University of Hradec Králové.

Ten Months in the Czech Republic have been all joy and learning. I have met insightful lecturers and students from different parts of the world. I have learned from and participated in different types of topics and courses. I got the benefit of taking a philosophy course. This course enhanced my thinking threshold in ways I cannot imagine. At the same time, I practiced my writing skills; this is because the lecturer checked our weekly writing and gave effective feedback. As a matter of fact, my MPhil thesis topic was coined from one session of the Block of Expert Lectures (a course where lecturers come from different countries to teach various political topics). Honestly, the Czech language is a hard nut to crack. However, the lecturer makes it such an insightful experience that I enjoyed it for two semesters. The experience I loved the most was learning about Africa from lecturers who are not Africans. It gives a different perspective to it, which is beautiful.

The nature of schooling here allows students to see other parts of Europe during the exchange program. I have had the opportunity of seeing Paris (France) and Budapest (Hungary). ESN (Erasmus Students' Network) also organises internal trips for students to see beautiful sceneries in the Czech Republic while



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getting to know each other. I also participated in a culture showcase program in my first semester, and Ice skating in the second semester; all organised by CHARITAS. In the second semester, the Cosmopolity Project created an avenue for us to share our country's culture with high school students.

The challenge, however, is learning to make time for course fulfillment in Ghana while being effective in the host university. However, time is all that it takes to make the adjustment. There is also the issue of roommates. I was opportune to spend one semester with fellow Africans, and a semester with Spanish ladies. Either comes with its own challenges. However, I think allowing students from different backgrounds to fraternize would further enhance the experience of Erasmus.





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