

WHAT ALUMNI SAY?

We asked our alumni to summarise how their experience of living and studying in Europe has impacted them personally.

The responses below were taken from scholars final reports:

Year of Scholarship	Type of Scholarship	Country	University/Institute	Subject
2016/2017	Undergraduate A1	Italy	Universita Degli Studi Di Milano	Medicine
Living on my own in EU was not easy to get used to in the first times. However, being in a EU country allowed me to have a relatively smoother transition period compared to others. I have learned to live on my own, cook, stay healthy, and make plans. I believe I have enhanced myself a lot as regards of handling responsibilities.				

Year of Scholarship	Type of Scholarship	Country	University/Institute	Subject
2016/2017	Post Graduate B1	Germany	Carl on Ossietzky Universitat	German as a Foreign Language
That was very opportunity to expand my worldview. Germany has a large population in EU and all the EU-countries have their own benefits and challenges. As a student, you should always to be organized in Germany (Oldenburg). Studying in Germany teaches you how to survive. There are many opportunities for reaching the sources necessary for your education. On the other hand, the relations between people are respectful but the commercialism dominates the culture, that's why the people behave politely.				

Year of Scholarship	Type of Scholarship	Country	University/Institute	Subject
2016/2017	Short Term C2	Republic of Ireland	ICE Irish College of English	English
Because there is a great friendship with students from different countries, I learned lots of things about them. Also Irish people are very friendly and kind.				

Year of Scholarship	Type of Scholarship	Country	University/Institute	Subject
2016/2017	Short Term C2 Language	The Netherlands	Masterclass Academy of Languages B.V	English
Golden period of my life.				

Year of Scholarship	Type of Scholarship	Country	University/Institute	Subject
2016/2017	Undergraduate A2	UK	University of Suffolk	BA (Hons) English
Gained self-confidence, responsibility and made great friends. I'm studying the thing I've always wanted to study and improving, gaining new skills along the way.				

Year of Scholarship	Type of Scholarship	Country	University/Institute	Subject
2016/2017	Undergraduate A2	The Netherlands	Fonty's School of Fine and Performing Arts	Bachelor Dans - Theaterdans Uitvoerend
I have been dancing since I was six years old and I also have done ballet and other dance styles but being in the professional field with big names made me grow a lot both in my mind and my body. My technical skills have developed in such an amazing way within my first year at the academy.				

Year of Scholarship	Type of Scholarship	Country	University/Institute	Subject
2016/2017	Undergraduate A2	Cyprus	University of Nicosia	BA Fine Art
I developed English. I learned Greek. I improved myself. I learned art and how to draw.				

Year of Scholarship	Type of Scholarship	Country	University/Institute	Subject
2016/17	Short Term C2 Language	Malta	IELS Malta Language Centre	English
Living and studying in the EU has impacted me in a positive way. Malta is a tiny island in Mediterranean and is very likely to Cyprus there are main differences between us. They value people and all living things. They have a planned future not for only next months. They have a good working Language School System. I prefer living in a country more organised and have law and order. In Malta some people had never heard about Cyprus before				

Year of Scholarship	Type of Scholarship	Country	University/Institute	Subject
2017/2018	Post Graduate B1	Sweden	Lund University	MSc in Molecular Biology, Microbiology

Studying in Sweden has improved my academic knowledge very much but it's not limited with that. I've learnt a lot of things from the Swedish lifestyle. Swedish people respect their surroundings so much that inspired me a lot. Even switching from using plastic bags to re-using fabric shopping bags, made me feel happier. I've started sorting out my wastes, recycling as much as I can and trying to live without less waste. The most nourishing/challenging thing is being obliged to do things alone and solve my problems on my own. I am aware that this has made me become much more confident in myself. Also, my communication skills in English have improved greatly.

Year of Scholarship	Type of Scholarship	Country	University/Institute	Subject
2017/2018	Post Graduate B1	Spain	ESEI International Business School	Masters in Digital Entrepreneurship

The course already helped me to be more confident in the field and gave me the credibility to find job at training institutions to work as a trainer for Erasmus+ projects.

I believe the whole experience helped me to be more mature and spend a lot of time with myself to think of different things. Additionally, it was great to explore different cultures, live with people that you don't speak their language and learn how to stay patient and positive when you face different challenges.

Year of Scholarship	Type of Scholarship	Country	University/Institute	Subject
2017/18	Post Graduate B1	Belgium	Vrije Universiteit Brussel	Bio dynamic Farm / Zentrum für Kultur und Pädagogik

As stated above, I do believe that this scholarship program helped me become more economically independent, culturally involved and personally motivated. I had the chance to meet with many people from different countries, cultures and religions. I have significantly improved my cross-cultural and multi-cultural communication skills, my familiarity of living together with people from all over the world, and the idea of the unity of diversity. While encountering with different cultures, I have also strengthen my connection to my own culture and my country. I have re-learned and re-understood my own culture and history while explaining it to others. I am happy that I could share the story of my island and bring people into connection with the Turkish Cypriot Community.

Year of Scholarship	Type of Scholarship	Country	University/Institute	Subject
2017/18	Post Graduate B1	Belgium	Vrije Universiteit Brussel	MSc in Management

I believe that living and studying in the EU gave me a fresh perspective on life and made me understand the importance of diversity.

Year of Scholarship	Type of Scholarship	Country	University/Institute	Subject
2017/18	Post Graduate B1	Belgium	Vrije Universiteit Brussel	Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literary Studies

The culture can be very different from your own even if it doesn't seem like it from the outside. Taking in a new culture adds a different dimension to you, it allows you to be more open and accepting of how other people do things and it lets you see a different side to life. I spent more time in nature than I ever had before, I ate food I'd never heard of and I took on their customs, their manners and their language. It's not until you live in a new country that your ideas, ways of doing things and perspectives can really change.

Year of Scholarship	Type of Scholarship	Country	University/Institute	Subject
2017/18	C1 ST Professional	Denmark	VIA University College	Working in contexts of disaster or conflict

It improved my vision about understanding different cultures.

Year of Scholarship	Type of Scholarship	Country	University/Institute	Subject
2017/18	D Internship	Latvia	Riga Technical University	Alumni Relations Practices

Studying in the EU has impacted me positively; especially socially, academically and culturally.

Year of Scholarship	Type of Scholarship	Country	University/Institute	Subject
2017/18	Post Graduate B2	Greece	Hellenic American University	Master of Arts in Conference Interpreting

I am definitely more autonomous as a person and I believe this has year has made me more responsible not only towards my personal life but also as a general attitude towards life and my country. It was quite challenging to be a Turkish Cypriot in Greece where they are not aware of the existence of Turkish Cypriots most of the time. Thus I can also say that I am more aware of the political situation regarding my country. I was attending to political discussion events where I have improved myself a lot.

Year of Scholarship	Type of Scholarship	Country	University/Institute	Subject
2017/18	Post Graduate B1	Brussels	Vrije Universiteit Brussel	Master of Arts in Linguistics and Literary Studies

Living and studying in EU have broadened my perspective about the education system and work life. I have learned the specific necessary formalities about my own field, which should exist in every country to help protect the translator and clients.

Year of Scholarship	Type of Scholarship	Country	University/Institute	Subject
2017/18	Post Graduate B2	Cyprus	Cyprus Institute of Neurology & Genetics	MSc Medical Genetics

It was an eye-opening experience and allowed me to learn more about the differences and similarities we had as Turkish Cypriots compared to Greek Cypriots and other EU nationals. I gained a different perspective and became more open to new ideas and cultures. It also made me feel more independent.

Year of Scholarship	Type of Scholarship	Country	University/Institute	Subject
2017/18	Post Graduate B3	Cyprus	Cyprus Institute	Heritage in Historic Mediterranean Cities: The Case of Nicosia

I now have more knowledge of life in South Cyprus, both academic and otherwise. This has been an eye opener since I was previously not exposed to South Cyprus at all - it has also been beneficial in better understanding the nature of the divide on the island.

Year of Scholarship	Type of Scholarship	Country	University/Institute	Subject
2017/18	Post Graduate B1	Germany	Universität Leipzig	Early Childhood Research, Master of Science

Studying in the EU help me to understand my rights and defend myself or express my emotion when I face with injustice or problems. Also, I learnt to leave in foreign country and that help me to be an independent from my parents. Also, I observed why recycling and protecting environment is important and how can I save and recycle. Also, I observed German system at kindergarten, special education center, research lab and some useful teaching technique in education so maybe I can use these observations in Cyprus to improve children life quality and learning process. After I studied in EU, I feel more confided to do something and encouraged me to seek the ways to improve myself. But, Living in Germany was difficult for me because German people had biases for foreign people and they do not want to talk English even if they know English and that is always problem and they do not respect the rights of foreign people, so that was a very bad experience for me.

Year of Scholarship	Type of Scholarship	Country	University/Institute	Subject
2017/18	Short Term C2	Germany	Hartnackschule	Language Course

Positive in every sense! I felt 'belonged'.

Year of Scholarship	Type of Scholarship	Country	University/Institute	Subject
2017/18	Short Term C2	Malta	LAL MALTA (IELS MALTA)	Language Course

Bir ab ülkesinde tatil dışında ilk kez iki ay bulundum. Birçok ülkeden arkadaşlarım oldu. Farklı kültürlerle kaynaşma imkanı buldum. I was in an EU country for the first time outside of a holiday for two months. I have friends from many countries. I have the opportunity to integrate with different cultures.

Year of Scholarship	Type of Scholarship	Country	University/Institute	Subject
2017/18	Short Term C2	Malta	AM Language	Language Course

I have the opportunity to make many friends from many different countries. This situation was an amazing experience for me now there are a lot of friends in the World and I write to them and I introduced them to my country..

Year of Scholarship	Type of Scholarship	Country	University/Institute	Subject
2017/18	Short Term Prof. C1 R	Cyprus	Cyprus Institute	Water

It was good that the internship was in Cyprus, so I could learn about agricultural water management in a similar environment and climate. I would like to start using automatic sensors for improving irrigation scheduling in my own village. But I hope in the future.

Year of Scholarship	Type of Scholarship	Country	University/Institute	Subject
2017/18	C2 ST Language	Greece	Aristotle University Thessaloniki / Peek at Greek-Greek Language Course and Culture School	Greek language course

Yunanca konuşma becerilerim arttı. Kitaplarda öğretilmeyen bilgiler edindim. Dilini öğrendiğim ülkenin gelenek göreneklerini ve yaşam koşullarını yakından izleme fırsatı buldum. Ayrıca bazen sadece kitaplarda okuduğum ve sadece kitaplarda kullanıldığını düşündüğüm kelimeleri insanların günlük konuşmalarında duymak beni çok mutlu etti. Unuttuğum bilgilerimi tazeledim, bilgilerime yeni bilgiler ekledim.