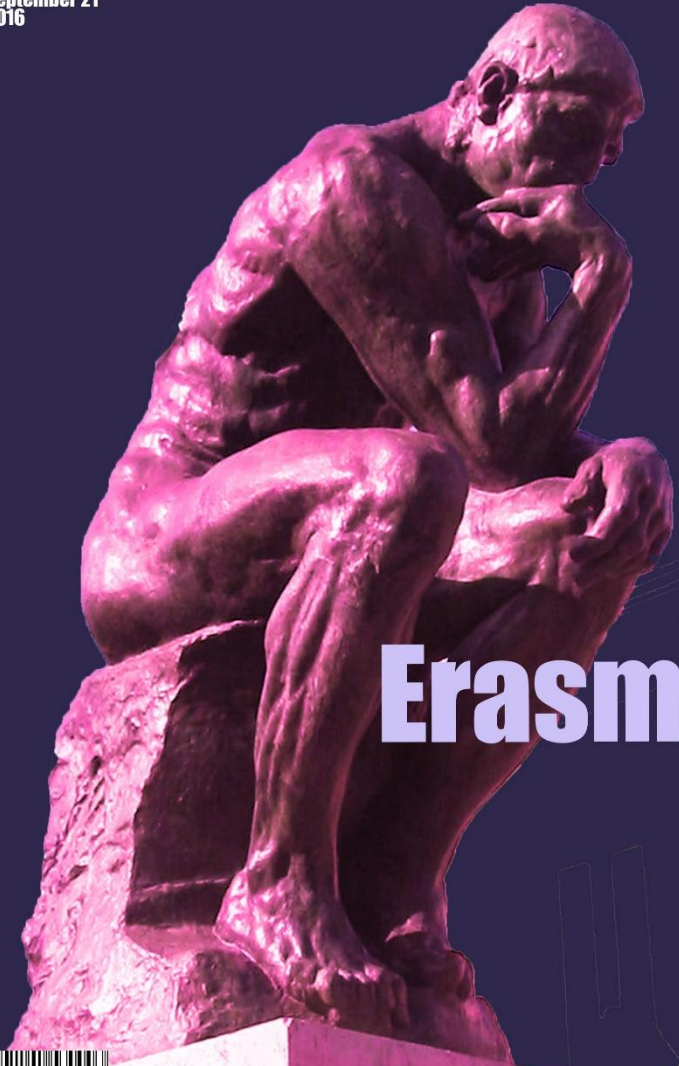


1st ed.

YOU think

september 21
2016

price 4.99\$



Erasmus +

job opportunities



THE WEhead TEAM



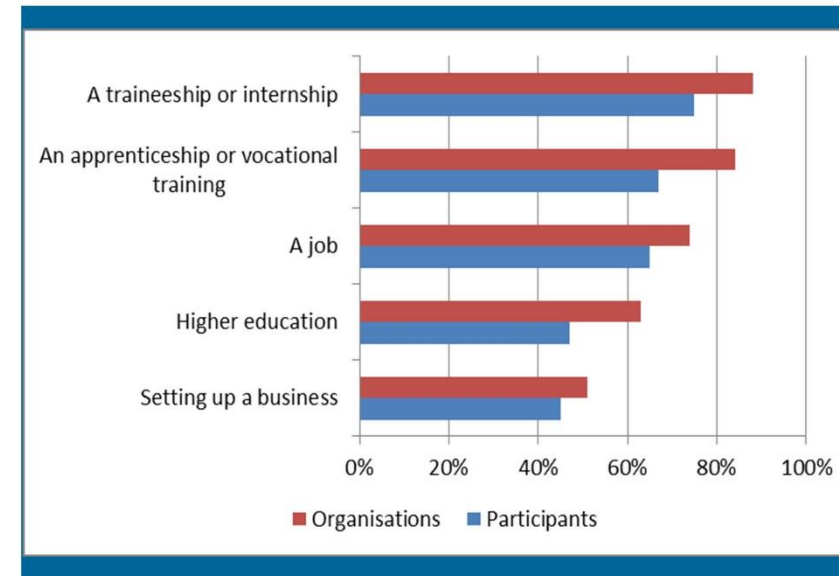
Erasmus+

Many students have already thought about working abroad, meet new people, new cultures. But due to the many different instances, it is quite confusing for students where to get information or where to apply for an internship. This results in a lot of students burying their thoughts of going abroad. As of 1 January 2014, the European Union has introduced Erasmus+. One umbrella programme, which concentrates all the information and reduces the administrative burden for students (European Commission, Directorate-General for Education and Culture, 2014).

Erasmus+ is a programme that combines the former Lifelong Learning Programme, Youth in Action, Erasmus Mundus and other less known European schemes. By granting financial aid through Erasmus+, the European Union aims to improve the environment for young people in the field of sport, education and training (European Commission, Directorate-General for Education and Culture, 2014). Erasmus+ has 3 key actions: - support for the learning mobility of individuals: e.g. offering internships and exchanges to students in order to gain work experience abroad;

- SUPPORT THE BUILD OF PARTNERSHIPS BETWEEN ORGANIZATIONS;- SUPPORT REFORM IN EDUCATION, TRAINING AND YOUTH POLICIES.

During and even before participating in an exchange or internship, applicants will have the possibility to practice their language skills. Erasmus+ offers a course which also includes a test to check your current language skill (European Commission, Directorate-General for Education and Culture, 2014). At the end of every internship, the applicants receive a Youthpass certificate. These certificates are a prove for their participation and shows what they have done and learned. These non-formal and informal ways of learning can be validated by the European universities. It grants the holders of a Youthpass 3 ECTS credits.



Youthpass enhances the chances to succeed when applying for ... (Taru & Kloosterman, 2013) Since the introduction of the Youthpass in 2007, "approximately 10,000 organisations issued more than 235,000 Youthpass certificates to young people and youth workers who had participated in over 20,000 projects." (Taru & Kloosterman, 2013). In this report, the researchers have come to the conclusion that a Youthpass helps to communicate competences when applying for a job, training,....

As a result, it improves the chances to succeed when applying.

THE INTERVIEW

Interviewer:

Can you tell me something about the experiences you have had with Erasmus+?

Driss:

The experiences I had with Erasmus+ are the following: I went to Sicily, Spain, studied in Istanbul, I have also organized a project in Ghent and now we are here in Cyprus. On this picture u can see all the participants of the exchange in Sicily. There were people from 6 different countries: Turkey, Belgium, Italy, Romania, Slovakia and Portugal. The main topic of the week was European citizenship, meaning that we aimed to build one European identity instead of separate ourselves into 27 members of the EU. One of the tools we used was presenting our own countries and implement 3 things that are typical for our culture in a new identity. During the week we also visited some places, for example a castle in a medieval village, Montalbano. We also went sightseeing in Tindari, which has a fairytale landscape and a beautiful lagoon. The fun part of the exchanges is that nothing is formal. There is really a friendly-like atmosphere.

Interviewer:

What were the advantages of the youth exchange you participated in?

Driss:

At the end of the exchange the participants receive a Youthpass. On the first page there is a description of the exchange, where it took place, which were the participating countries, the period, etc. On the last page u have an overview of the acquired competences or skills. As it is generally acknowledged, it is very helpful for instance when u want to apply for a job. Some of the competences a company asks for are difficult to prove. Now with this Youth pass it is possible. So you will have a slight advantage compared to other applicants.

Interviewer:

Can you give me a specific anecdote you will remember for always?

Driss:

For example, in our hostel there was no internet and during one of the nights, I needed to send an email to one of my teachers. So I asked one of the responsible where I can have access to the internet. He went to ask the mayor if I could use his pc in his office and he came back with the key of the town hall and told me to go on my own. It was really weird for me to see the difference in mentalities and habits between the Sicilian and we Belgian people.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO TAKE A JOB ABROAD? THIS ARTICLE IS FOR SURE FOR YOU. WE PRESENT SOME DO'S AND DON'TS TO HELP YOU WITH MAKING THIS DECISION.

I hope, you realise that first of all you gain experience in many fields, starting from developing language skills, gaining profession experience, gaining independence and so on. Secondly, you have wider labor market so you can choose any country you prefer. After you are employed, you are starting exploring new ways of working and you get professional qualifications. Working abroad opens up new possibilities especially for young people.



Of course it is not an easy decision because such changes arise out with a lot of stress caused by, for example, poor language skills, fear of working in a foreign workplace, foreign environment and culture. You could also be afraid of higher maintenance costs but you can take care of different things before removal (accommodation, transport, phone etc.). For most of you the most important fear and disadvantage is separation with family and friends. It's always hard to be alone but for sure will make friends in every place you choose.

**DON'T BE AFRAID OF MAKING DIFFICULT
DECISIONS. THINK ABOUT IT AND GOOD
LUCK!**

EU OPPORTUNITIES

Since 2012 the European Union has set a goal to drive down youth unemployment. The project is aimed to help all youths with special interest: - people who have left school or training without achieving upper-secondary education - graduates to get a first work experience

The EU has devised opportunity through projects such as: -volunteering -EVS -local organisations

For example, the European Voluntary Service is a project of the European Commission that allows a young person to become volunteer in another country for a specified period, between 2 and 12 months. Volunteering is a great way to gain work competences while you are still studying and you don't have the time for a steady job (attention: you won't get paid. It is only a

Erasmus + also provides a grant for higher education students to carry out work experience. Having a choice from 32 countries across Europe. You get to travel, improve language skills, might also get paid. But mostly you will receive the most precious gift of "Experience".

Local Organisations

Local organisations play a big role in the matter. They provide a bridge for communication between locals and the EU, whilst being available for any queries one might have. The organisations help implement EU policies and hold events in a local setting.

The service activities can be, for example, in the field of environment, arts and culture, activities with children, young people or the elderly, heritage or sports and leisure activities. Your choice can depend on either your studies or your personal interests.

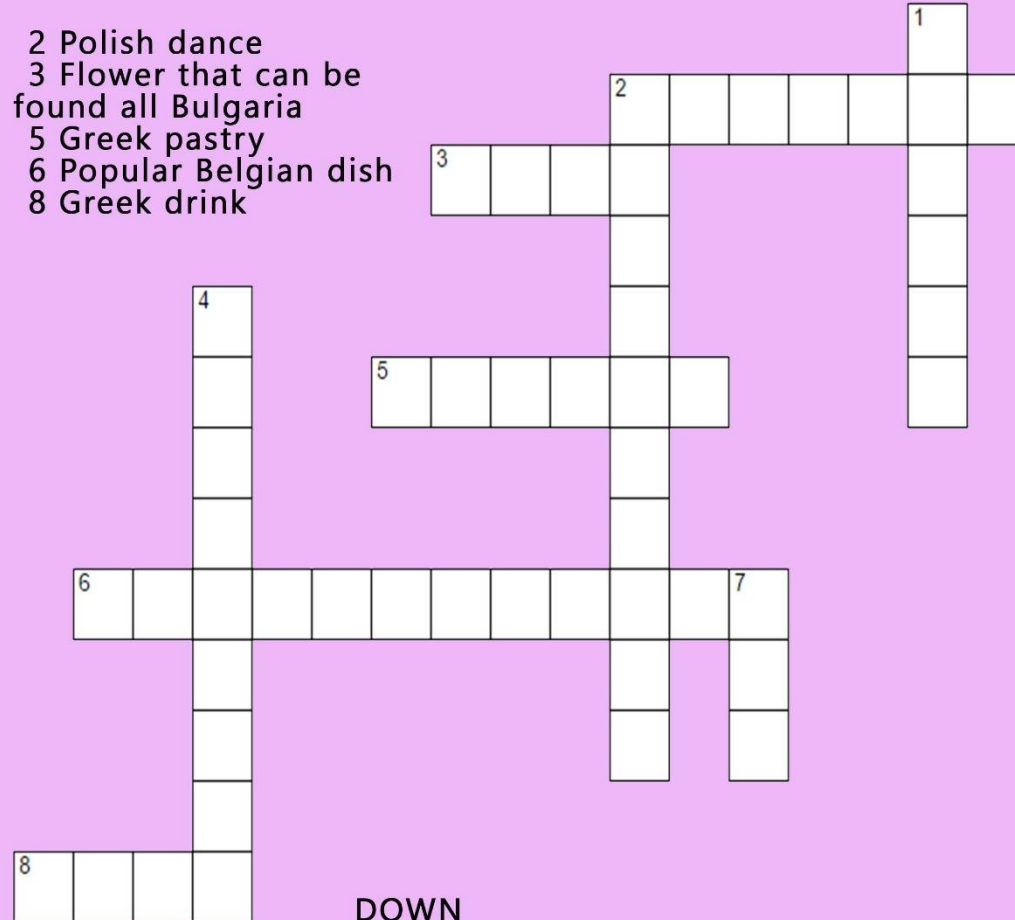
You can always try something new! Every young person between 18 and 30 years old can apply for an EVS. Another way to gain experience is by participating in the Erasmus Youth Exchange. The EU funds youth exchanges which give young people the chance to experience another country and work together in a team.

It's not only an opportunity to gain skills such as project management, but also to improve your foreign language proficiency.

CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- 2 Polish dance
- 3 Flower that can be found all Bulgaria
- 5 Greek pastry
- 6 Popular Belgian dish
- 8 Greek drink



DOWN

- 1 Number 1 in Maltese
- 2 ... tommorow
- 4 The name of a cypriotic city
- 7 Name of the hotel you are staying in