Erasmus + student exchange programme POV

To whom it may concern,

I am Zlatko Kujundzic, current mechanical engineering student at Faculty of Technical Sciences in Novi Sad. I applied for Erasmus+ student exchange programme out of pure curiosity, to experience something new and different. I was pleasantly surprised with the tidiness of the dorm I was staying in (14C). When I came in for the first time, room was clean and tidy. Local student explained me rules and customs because dorm employees don't speak or understand English. Employees are very pleasant and ready to help, dorm is quiet and overall nice place to live. It came as a surprise when I found out that I will be put in Romanian class on 2 courses. Later I found out that some other foreign students also listen their classes on Romanian. When I applied for Erasmus+ nobody mentioned me that. I understand that regular professors don't have time to deal with every student separately, but at least that could be mentioned on interview so students have more time to prepare and learn at least basic things on Romanian language. On the other hand, that gave me opportunity to see how many foreign students live and study in Romania. For example, I've met Greek and Indian students that study here along with some Serbs. My guess is that about 50% Professors and Assistants know some basic level English and only few of them speak English very well. Props to Assistant Dan Stepan and Prof. Virgil Stoica that did their best to hold lectures on English and Romanian simultaneously. I think that Prof. Herisanu is great coordinator as he did his best to always find time for me in his busy schedule. He introduced me with other Prof., helped me to overcome lingual barriers and kept me informed. He even assigned us a cabinet in which we can do our projects and study. ESN (Erasmus Student Network) did great job at keeping us entertained. All of their volunteers are very warm and helpful. They organized so much events such as parties, picnics, paintball, ride with air balloon etc. We hang out regularly with few of them. There was also few parties organized for noble causes, such as raising money for children in need and visiting children from the "Save the Children Foundation". Also I would like to express my gratitude to UPT IRO employees. They helped me a lot answering all of my questions regarding mobility programme, especially Ms. Diana Bals-Diaconescu (there was huge amount of questions) . All things considered, I had a great time here. Minor drawbacks are overshadowed with ton of very nice and inspiring things that happened over past 4 months. I would definitely recommend Timisoara to any student seeking for Erasmus+ exchange programme.

Sincerely,

Zlatko Kujundzic

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