



## **Feedback on Erasmus Mobility for Traineeship Erasmus Student Network ASE Foggia**

In my final years of study, during the autumn semester devoted to our practice experience, my two groupmates and I chose to travel and perform our practice abroad. We all got accepted to do our traineeship in the Italy Erasmus Student Network organization, the ESN ASE Foggia section.

The Erasmus Student Network organization I was working for is among Europe's largest student associations in Europe that have around 15,000 active members in 54 active sections in Italy. This non-profit organization that at present, is working with more than 1000 Higher Education Institutions from over 40 countries and offers its services to around 350,000 international students every year. They work to improve the social and practical integration of foreign students by providing relevant information about mobility and by organizing, culturally educational trips, tours, and parties.

At ESN ASE Foggia section I was working as a Secretariat Officer intern from September 12th to November 30th of 2022. My internship hours were flexible, and I was to assist and support the ESN Foggia team supervisors. Starting with the first week's meetings on September 12th and 15th, my supervisor addressed my duties as a Secretariat Officer intern, explained the interior structure of the



ESN Foggia organization, taught me how to operate the organization's software Jupiter and how to create and share newly added contacts on Google Contacts. In all as an intern my duties were:

- Taking notes on upcoming activities and their specifics, as well as proposing ideas for improving organized ESN events based on students' feedback.

- Manage organizational software daily by approving new subscribers and providing them with access to the organization's documents.
- Daily administration of the organization's mailing lists and direct messaging groups by assisting students with questions about Jupiter accounts, details about events and trips, ESN cards, apartment rental, and other issues.
- Ensuring correct personal information for students on the official communication website Jupiter and the WhatsApp direct messaging group.
- Keeping track of the organization's documentation as well as the documents required for the events.
- Processing refunds and payments for ESN cards, events, and trips, as well as keeping track of people's names.
- Assisting members of the board at events/trips to provide information for Erasmus students.
- Interacting with Erasmus students from other countries to make them feel at ease and welcome at ESN-organized activities.

Deciding to do my 12 weeks internship abroad was truly an unforgettable and priceless experience. Since during my internship, I was able to strengthen my problem-solving, organizational, communication, adaptability, and analytical skills, as well as teamwork skills in a multicultural workplace, and develop a strong work ethic, and other hard skills. The chance to work and train in a foreign language also helped me to improve my English language. Furthermore, working with Erasmus students expanded my understanding of diverse cultures and cultural differences in social interactions, both written and verbal. Moreover, I not only gained beneficial skills for my future career but also had the chance to gain knowledge of another country as I had the opportunity with my work to visit many different places (museums and other historical sites), interact with locals, meet new people from around the world, and make new friends.

Thanks to the Erasmus Traineeship Mobility, I was able to enhance my future employability abroad life and apply the knowledge I obtained while studying at MRU to professional work practice, strengthen my communication skills in multicultural settings, and develop administrative skills that will be valuable in my future career that I'm planning to pursue. All of this would not have been possible without Erasmus. Therefore, I'm really grateful for this opportunity and I encourage others even if it seems scary and stressful to take advantage of this opportunity as it is still definitely worth it.

