



# WUR Goes Abroad

## 1. Student Information

<b>Field of study in Wageningen</b>	Tourism
<b>Study period exchange (dd/mm/yyyy)</b>	01-09-2022 until 28-02-2023
<b>Country (exchange)</b>	Poland
<b>City (exchange)</b>	Warsaw
<b>University (exchange)</b>	Collegium Civitas
<b>Faculty (exchange)</b>	International Relations & Security Studies

## 2. Motivation for exchange

### Why did you choose to go on study exchange?

To experience life abroad and to get the opportunity something completely different than tourism.

### What is the reason you chose for this country/university?

It was the university which offered security studies in the best and most professional way, and I wanted to see if I liked it.

## 3. Accessibility to reach destination

### Do you have any tips to reach your exchange destination? (E.g. bus, train, etc.)

Just go by plane, its cheap and other transport modes are not doable.

## 4. University and studying

Could you provide some general information about the followed courses?

	Course	ECTS	Short description of the contents	Appreciation of course: 1(low) – 5(high)	Remarks
<b>1</b>	Cybersecurity	5	Teaches you about the cyberspace and how we can better secure it.	3	Too general
<b>2</b>	Introduction to security studies	3	Wide range of most security concepts that exist.	4	Too many criteria for a 3 ECTS course
<b>3</b>	Lobbying and Negotiations in International Environment	3	Explaining how lobbying structures work.	5	Too much focused on the EU
<b>4</b>	Socio-political Geography of Terrorism	5	How all the different regions in the world have to deal with terrorism.	5	The class was too full. The course was based on individual presentations which meant that the scheme was overloaded.
<b>5</b>	Islam in a Post-Soviet Space	3	Learning about the islam in the area around Russia, Kazakhstan and Georgia	3	I learned a lot of things, but teacher was just a bit strange. Also performing Islamic rituals in class...
<b>6</b>	Environmental Security & sustainable development	5	Learning about the environmental challenges and solutions in today's world	3	Very interesting course but the teacher did not know what she was doing. First told us that we did not have to write an essay and later 3 weeks before the deadline she told us that we had to write one.

7	Hybrid Conflicts and asymmetric threats	3	Learning about war & terrorism in an up to date way	3	There was a lot of repetition
8	Political Strategies in a multipolar world	3	Learning about powers in the world and the strategies that they apply in today's world	5	No remarks

**How is the study formalized? (E.g. study forms, academic level, examination, workload, lesson material)**

Only 3 days of class. The classes were way more intense than in the Netherlands (Classes of 1,5 hours without break and sometimes 4 classes on a day), and the knowledge was way more practical than in the Netherlands, not so focusing on irrelevant and abstract theories that you will not remember. The examination was very easy. Workload was quite high since there were eight courses and they all involved an exam presentation and/or essay.

**What is the culture of the university? (E.g. How approachable are the lecturers, engagement with local students? What are the differences with the WUR?)**

A lot of engagement with students. Classes are also very small

**What does the university offer the student additionally? (E.g. Catering, sports facilities, laundry facilities?)**

Very limited additional facilities. There only was a library that was connected to the university itself. There also was a program that hosted activities once every month for new coming students.

## 5.Housing-travelling-living

**What are the possibilities for housing? (E.g. Availability to sign up for a room on campus, private rooms, rent rates?)**

Rents are considerably lower than the Netherlands and via Erasmus U it was very easy to find housing.

**What is the culture of the country like? (E.g. Differences with home, local cuisine, habits, manners?)**

People in Poland are way more closed off and it was hard to make real Polish friends. Furthermore, the cuisine was not my preference of taste and the supermarkets were of lower quality than in the Netherlands.

**Could you give a general price indication of the place of residence compared to living in Wageningen?**

I don't live in Wageningen, but the price in Poland was 450 euros for around 22 m2 for what I paid.

**Could you give some information about public transport infrastructure? (E.g. Cost public transport card, taxi prices, how to travel to the university?)**

In Warsaw, public transport was super. Low prices and public transport drove very intensively and even at night.

## 6. Free time

**What are must-sees in the area? (E.g. nearby destinations, how do you prefer to travel, when to plan?)**

The old centre, the Palace of Culture.

**What does not appear in the travel guide, but is worth a visit?**

Gardens of Milanow at night with lights.

**Do you have general tips and tricks about leisure time (E.g. recommendations for restaurants, going out?)**

Find some cool techno parties, there are a lot of them and it is still very underground there.

## 7.Challenges & best moment abroad

**What was a challenge you have experienced?**

Cooking with the products in the supermarkets there.

**What was your best memory abroad?**

My Spanish housemates.

## 8. Contact details (optional)

<b>Is the reader allowed to contact the writer?</b>	yes	
<b>Name/e-mail</b>	Daniel12meijer@gmail.com	