Partner country of the month: Poland

Our partner country this month is Poland. We have thirteen partner universities in Poland, however it is impossible to introduce them all to you, so we will limit ourselves to two: the Warsaw School of Economics and Lazarski University. Our other partner universities in Poland can be found here.

General facts and figures:

Capital: Warsaw
Population: approx. 38.5 million
National holiday: 11 November (independence through the Treaty of Versailles in 1918)
Currency: 1 złoty (PLN) - 1 PLN = 0.22 EUR
Time zone: UTC+1 CET; UTC +2 CEST (March to October)
Official languages: Polish

A brief language lesson:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>English</th>
<th>Polish</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hello</td>
<td>Cześć</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bye</td>
<td>Cześć</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thank you</td>
<td>Dziękuję</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>You’re welcome</td>
<td>Proszę</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>tak</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>nie</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Poland, with a population of around 38.5 million, is the sixth largest country in the European Union. The most famous cities in Poland, aside from Warsaw, are: Krakow, Poznan, and Gdansk. Krakow is considered by many to be the most beautiful city in the country, and at the same time it is the most important cultural metropolis. Poland also has 23 national parks and thus occupies a leading place in Europe in terms of nature conservation. In addition, Poland is also known for its culinary diversity, which is in many ways similar to German cuisine. Examples of dishes from Poland are Pierogi (filled dumplings) or Bigos (a sauerkraut stew with mushrooms).

1 https://bankenverband.de/service/waehrungsrechner/ (as of 10.03.21)
2 https://www.weltreisewortschatz.de/polnisch/

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Warsaw

The capital of Poland is Warszawa (Warsaw). With about 1.75 million inhabitants, it is the largest city in Poland, both in terms of population and area. It is located on the Wsła (Vistula) River, the largest river in the country. Although some tend to imagine Warsaw as being rather gray, green areas actually account for about 25% of the city's area. The Old Town of Warsaw was declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site after its reconstruction after World War II. It is considered a good city for young people, in part due to the 70 state and private universities, with a total of over 200,000 students. Warsaw also has a large number of theatres, cinemas, and museums to offer. The most famous landmarks of Warsaw are the Palace of Culture, the Lazienki Park, the Old Town, as well as the district Praga, just to name a few. More information about Warsaw can be found here.
SGH Warsaw School of Economics

Founded in 1906, Szkoła Główna Handlowa (SGH) is located in the capital city of Warsaw and has approximately 13,700 students. It is the oldest business university in Poland. The university, which was originally private, was nationalized after the end of World War II. In 2011, it received IQA (International Quality Accreditation) from the CEEMAN organization, an award for the highest level of education in the field of management. SGH is divided into five faculties, all of which fall within the field of economics. Not only is it the top business university in Poland, but it is also ranked among the best business schools in Europe, according to the Financial Times (2019). If you decide to spend a semester abroad at SGH, you will be assigned a “buddy” there at the beginning who can help you get settled. There are also accommodations available directly on the SGH campus.

More information can be found on the SGH website, as well as here.
Lazarski University

Lazarski University is a young, private university in Warsaw that was founded in 1993. It has three faculties with about 5,000 students. It is consistently ranked among the best private universities in Poland and can be described as internationally oriented. In the international U-Multirank ranking, which was commissioned by the European Commission, Lazarski University was ranked as the best Polish university. Moreover, it belongs to the group of the best 8% universities in the world. The University of Bayreuth, Lazarski University is also a campus university.

We encourage you to watch the virtual campus tour and the official film of the university. For more information, check the university's website, and the overview of the degree programmes for which we offer exchange places.

The application deadline for bachelor’s and master’s students for stays in the following academic year is always December 1. Thanks to Erasmus+, all tuition fees at the foreign university are waived. In addition, you will receive a monthly grant of €330 in Poland, as the country belongs to country group 3 in the Erasmus+ programme.

More information about the funding can be found here.