

Poland. Ooh Poland! Poland for me is my second home, not that some of my origins are from there, no, I just did my Erasmus+ there! From the first day I stepped my foot in Krakow, where my Erasmus was, I was in love, just by the first look and I knew I would carry this love for years if not forever.

For me the term "Poland - where the unbelievable happens" is as true as it gets! For two reasons; for me going on Erasmus wasn't as easy as for the most students is. My university in Greece was a new one and hadn't had an agreement with other universities yet. I wanted to do Erasmus with all my heart since the day I've had heard what this was about, I was 15. So I decided to start sending emails to other universities to make this so-wanted bilateral agreement. I first send some of those emails when I was at my 3rd year, I went on Erasmus on my 5th year, and yes it took so long to make it happen. But to be honest the first year I was trying with 3 universities only and there was no good communication between offices so those ships sailed, or to be more accurate didn't sail, but I'm grateful for that because otherwise I wouldn't have lived in Krakow or maybe even visit Poland ever, since Poland wasn't in my first choices. Well if I remember correctly, I had send to 38 universities in Europe (that's the number of universities that I had found on my field which is Conservation of Works of Art, and it's a rare field of studies and usually exists as masters degree, therefore I didn't had hundreds of option as if I were in law, medicine, economics, linguistics etc) and only 10 of them answered back of which 1 answered with the most positive potential of me attending there. So here it is... when the unbelievable happens... when I had lost hope, it was like I had seen a fountain of water in the dessert. I'm so grateful of Jan Matejko Academy of Fine Arts that gave me the chance to live this adventure and learn so much. That's the first reason.

As for the second reason, I will try to display it like that; where you live, where your routine is, there is your reality, the country you live in is your reality with its laws, culture, people, and its customs. It's like a commonly truth accepted by the most, for example, Greece is so dirty because its people throw the garbage wherever. Not all Greeks do it but most of us do, sadly. So walking around in a dirty Greece is a truth, is a reality, is the believable. What happens now if you move somewhere and everything is not just different from where you were but it's opposite? Would it be unbelievable? Well for it was like this... No sounds like yes, If you call a taxi is cheaper than taking it from the stop, no one throw rubbish where they don't belong -almost everyone- you can walk the zebra stripes without waiting for no cars to be around, you just cross them! Drivers won't get angry if you just pass the stripes without waiting for them to stop. Because it's your right! In fact drivers will be angry if you don't cross immediately and you're waiting, that's what happened with me, a lot. You can't drink on the street or pee on the street – halleluia! Smoke in the park is also forbidden, and parks are like forests in the city, not 5 trees and a cradle. On the other hand, Greek cuisine = great cuisine, Polish cuisine = not great cuisine, Greek weather = good weather, Polish weather = not good weather, Greek people = "huggy" people, Polish people = not so "huggy" people. But all these facts - and I have more-can be found in other countries too. Here is the fun fact that makes these countries opposite; Greece has the most doctors p.p. in Europe while, yes, you guessed it right, Poland has the fewer, according to a survey, at least.

Furthermore, while writing this, I thought one more reason. There is something the unbelievable to come out from those ashes that Poland once used to be, especially in a city as Warsaw, being destroyed like this, approximately the 85% of the city, rise like a phoenix and build up as pretty as it was before. Ending, by hoping no more city, country, area had been or will be destroyed like that...