



In German and English

EMERGE LIVING LIBRARY

Semester Abroad: Stories of freedom and international experiences

In the **EMERGE Living Library** you can explore different stories of our students: Rather than borrowing and reading a book, you can borrow a student's time and listen to their stories of freedom and international experiences, diversity and resilience.

EUROPE WEEK 2026 – EVERYONE IS WELCOME!

Wednesday, May 6, 11:30 am – 1:30 pm, Building Helsinki, HEL 065



Welcome to the **EMERGE** Living Library

The EMERGE Living Library is a space of mutual respect, safety, and open dialogue. It's about breaking down stereotypes and prejudice—one story at a time. There is no judging here. Stories share their personal, lived experiences, and unique perspectives. Your role as a reader is to listen with an open mind and engage in respectful conversation. Conversations are meant to be dialogues—not monologues.

How it works:

This catalog lists all the Stories available for you to listen to. All Stories are available in parallel sessions, and you can register to listen to one Story per time slot.

Each session lasts 30 minutes:

5–10 minutes for the story
10 minutes for conversation and questions
10 minutes for a short break

Time Slots:

- Slot #1: 11:30
- Slot #2: 12:00
- Slot #3: 12:30
- Slot #4: 13:00

You can reserve your spot for each slot in advance using your Library Card.

The Library Card registration starts on Wednesday, May

6th at 11:00 in HEL 065

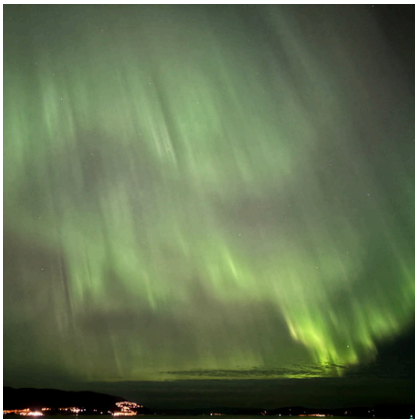
Each session is limited to a small group, allowing for intimate and meaningful dialogue.

Get ready to "read" up to 4 Stories—and experience stories that challenge, inspire, and connect.



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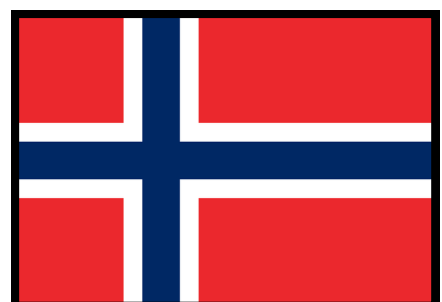
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“Jeg er glad i deg – how Norway Made Me Realise, what Feeling Glad Actually Means”

**Najem Eisa
(Trodheim, Norway)**

A deeply personal story of emotional ups and downs during an Erasmus semester in Norway. Through nature, friendships, and self-reflection, Najem finds a new understanding of happiness, gratitude, and inner peace.



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“One Week, Nine Universities: My EMERGE Experience in Slovakia”

Daniel Ampofo
(Banská Bystrica, Slovakia)

A one-week international programme turns into a powerful experience of connection and collaboration. Daniel reflects on meeting students and staff from across Europe and discovering the strength of intercultural exchange within the EMERGE alliance.



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“About Fear and Courage. My Journey to Finland.”

**Jill-Marie Lange
(Turku, Finland)**

Going abroad can be intimidating—but also transformative. Jill-Marie shares how stepping into the unknown led to personal growth, deep friendships, and a new sense of belonging in Finland. A heartfelt story about courage, change, and finding a second home.



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“Expanding my Horizons and Not Looking Back”

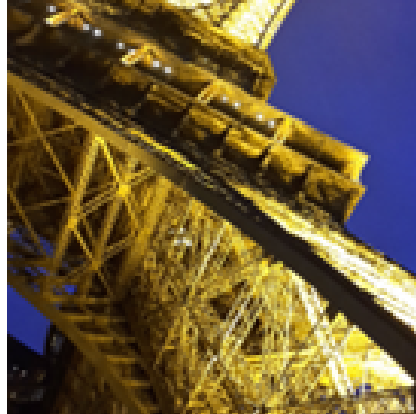
**Luca Heerey
(Flensburg, Germany)**

From a conservative hometown to life abroad, Luca’s journey is one of breaking boundaries and discovering freedom. This story explores cultural differences, resilience, and the life-changing impact of stepping outside your comfort zone.



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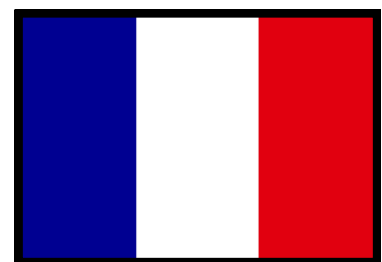
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“A Little Lost, A Lot Inspired”

Maria Kohler
(Warsaw, Poland / Paris, France)

Between Warsaw and Paris, Maria rediscovers her passion for art—and for herself. A reflective and creative journey through self-doubt, inspiration, and the joy of making art again, shaped by cities, street art, and unexpected moments.



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“Freedom of Curiosity”

**Stephen Astante
(Coruña, Spain)**

Stephen explores the journey from anticipation to adaptation during his time abroad in Spain. His story highlights cultural differences, personal decisions, and the academic and intercultural growth that comes with embracing curiosity.



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“Juggling Between Cultures: A Journey of Becoming a World Citizen”

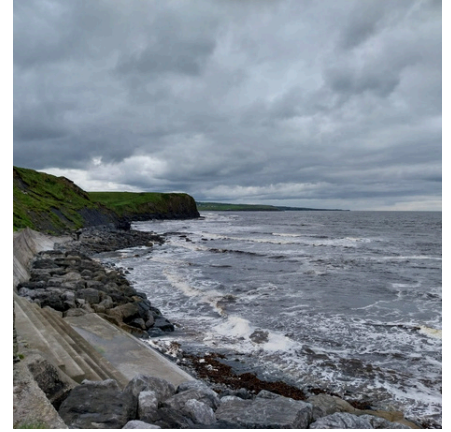
**Sukrati Shah
(Italy / Romania / Germany)**

From Italy to Romania to Germany, Sukrati’s journey is about belonging across cultures. A story of identity, adaptability, and discovering what it means to truly live—not just visit—different cultures.



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“Between Pages and People: How My Education and the People Abroad Influenced Me”

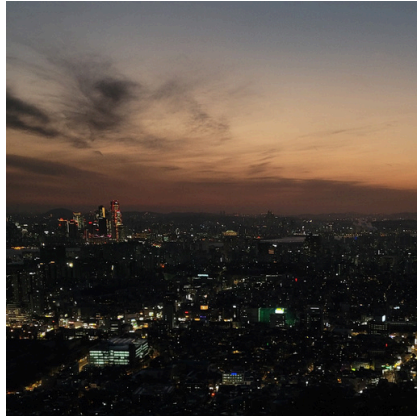
Zoe Wiese
(Limerick, Ireland)

Studying in Ireland becomes more than an academic experience for Zoe —it’s a journey of connection, culture, and personal growth. From classrooms to cultural traditions, she reflects on how people shape learning abroad.



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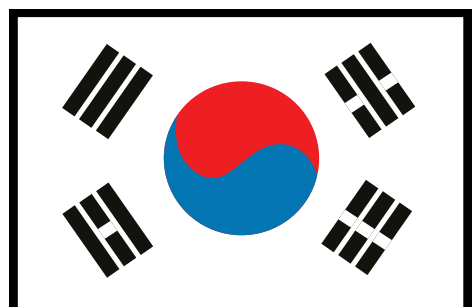
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“Adventures of a Ginger in South Korea”

**Clara Hohmann
(Seoul, South Korea)**

What happens when you suddenly stand out everywhere you go? Clara shares her lively and honest journey in Seoul—full of cultural surprises, personal growth, unexpected friendships, and moments of chaos. A story about identity, visibility, and truly living abroad.



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“Learning about Soft Skills in Teaching Next to Europe’s Only Opal Mine”

**Emma Kruse
(Prešov, Slovakia)**

From teaching in Slovak classrooms to exploring opal mines, Emma’s short-term mobility experience blends learning, adventure, and intercultural teamwork. A story about education beyond borders and the value of soft skills in international settings.



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“An Adventurous Soul”

Lukas Heuer
(Cork, Ireland / Cambridge, United Kingdom)

From the rugged Scottish Highlands to the lush coasts of Ireland, Lukas’s journey blends travel, volunteering, and academic exploration. A story of cultural immersion, community engagement, and a deepening passion for public health shaped through diverse landscapes and international connections.



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Tips and Advice from our Stories

- Step outside your comfort zone, this is where real growth happens.
- Don't just visit a country, try to learn the culture, the people, and the everyday life.
- Go to the events, even before your semester abroad starts.
- Try to find friends, so you can help each other with the organisation.
- If you ever visit Korea, make sure to try Bingsu!
- If you are in Norway, take the tram to Lian / all events at Samfundet / Trip to Ålesund and Sunnmøre / Gunnerusbibliothek / Våttakammen in Bymarka / sauna at havet / mushroom picking.
- If you are in Limerick, try the Milkmarket, Belltable Theatre, and the Limetree Theatre.
- Stores are open on Sundays in Ireland!
- Always have a spare copy of your passport.
- Purchase a travel charging port.
- Always plan your trip beforehand and write down all transport information about the trip.
- Be open to and try new experiences.
- Look at the street art tour in Monmartre.



Do you want to know about EMERGE?

You can discover more by scanning the QR code down below.
We also have an EMERGE instagram @emerge_at_euf



Discover **EMERGE**



unifl.de/emerge

TAKE A MOMENT TO REFLECT

- What surprised you today? What shifted in your thinking?
- What will you carry forward from these conversations?

Share your thoughts with *#EMERGELivingLibrary* and tag us:

@emerge_at_euf
@euf_international
@emergealliance

Visit us:

EMERGE at Europa-Universität Flensburg:

<https://www.uni-flensburg.de/en/emerge>



♥ THANK YOU FOR BEING PART OF THE EMERGE LIVING LIBRARY.

Your curiosity, empathy, and willingness to listen help build a more inclusive, understanding world.

Every question asked, every story heard, is a step toward change.

