Personal ERASMUS - Report

The application

During the summer semester 2015, I had the opportunity to take part in the Advanced Master's Programme in Intellectual Property Rights and ICT Law offered by the Centre for Intellectual Property Rights (CIR) and the Interdisciplinary Centre for Law and Information Technology (ICRI) of the Receiving Institution.

As an official student of the Master Programme in IT-Law and IP-Law (Eulisp) organized by the Institute for Legal Informatics at the Faculty of Law of the Leibniz Universität Hannover, studying the summer semester abroad was a mandatory requirement of the master programme.

The application for a place in the Receiving Institution was fully mediated by the Faculty of Law of the Leibniz Universität Hannover. Hence, the coordinator of the Eulisp programme got the place for me.

If you want further information regarding the Eulisp Master Programme, please visit the following website: http://www.eulisp.de/

House-hunting

Getting a house in Brussels is not an easy task, especially at the beginning of the summer semester.

There are many flat sharing offers in Brussels. However, in general the places that I visited were not so comfortable. Regarding the rent fee, it is more expensive compared to Hanover. For example: The average price for a room in a shared flat is 450 euros total.

There are several groups on Facebook that can help you to see the offers.

Studies at the Katholieke Universiteit Leuven

In Brussels, the mobility office of the KU Leuven organized a very nice welcome reception for all Erasmus students and a guided city tour, which included important departments of the university such as the library, cafeteria, administration office, etc.

About the master program itself, I really liked it. I took part in the following courses: European Electronic Business Law, Media Law, European Privacy and Data Protection Law,
Electronic Contracts Law and Public and Government Cybercrime Law, all of them exclusively in English.

The teachers were very competent and the lectures were very interesting. We had for example one lecture given by the European Data Protection Supervisor as a guest speaker.

In general, most students were from Belgium or the Netherland. There were no other Erasmus students in my class, except those who came with me from Hannover.

In my opinion, the exams were relatively difficult (more than in Hannover, for instance). In Brussels, I spent much of my time in the library studying for the exams and writing my master’s thesis.

The support of the KU Leuven University is great. The administration office and the mobility office (Ms. Rebecca Rampelberg) can help you with any problem that you may have.

If you want further information regarding the Advanced Master Programme offered by the KU Leuven, please visit the following website: http://www.law.kuleuven.be/brussel/en/education/intellectual_property_rights

**Erasmus-Life in Brussels**

What I can say is that Brussels is a beautiful city with great food and amazing beer. I have never eaten so much fried potatoes and drank so much beer in my life!!

When I had some spare time, I used to go the Delirium Cafe, one of the best pubs of the city town in my opinion. The cost of living is higher than in Hannover. For example, considering all the costs (except tourist trips) I used to spend about 900 euros per month.

In addition, Brussels as the heart and capital of Europe, it is very easy to participate in conferences organized by the European Commission and other European Institutions. I took part in many of them.

**My conclusion**

I am sure that my time in Brussels was of great value to my personal and professional life. I had the opportunity to study in one of best universities in Europe in IT Law.
In my opinion, the city of Hannover is nicer than Brussels, but Brussels also has its virtues. It was a great opportunity to get in touch with people from everywhere and also to take part in some extracurricular activities. I would like to deeply thank the Leibniz Universität Hannover for the opportunity and in particular the International Office in the person of Mrs. Dott. Francesco Ducatelli, who was always very helpful.