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“We never keep to the present. We anticipate the future as if we found it too slow in coming and were trying to hurry it up, or we recall the past as if to stay its too rapid flight.” - Blaise Pascal.

If someone asked me to describe my time abroad in one phrase, I would likely refer to this exact quote. On the one hand, before departure, I was eager to speed up time and find myself on the streets of Germany, in a new environment, as soon as possible, and on the other hand, once it all came to an end, I wished I could bring that moment back and relive it once more.

I decided to go abroad because I was drawn both to the opportunity for academic development and to the possibility of living in another country and travelling. During the exchange programme, I spent six months in the German city of Darmstadt.

The truth is that life in Germany, despite being different, became my everyday life over the course of those six months.

Darmstadt is a relatively small and quiet city. I especially remember the evenings when I cycled through its almost empty streets. During my stay in Germany, I also travelled to various cities and made some great friends - people whom I probably would never have gotten to know otherwise.

Studying in Germany turned out to be different, interesting, and quite demanding. However, travelling around and spending time with friends balanced it out. The final weeks were quite emotional, as friends were leaving one by one for their home countries, and soon enough, it was my time to go.

Now that I am back home, I miss those “everyday” German days.

I want to thank Caucasus University for this amazing opportunity. I can confidently say that going abroad on an exchange programme was one of the best decisions of my life.