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„As part of the cooperation between the Caucasus University and the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, I was on a visit to Macedonia with the "Erasmus +" academic mobility program, at Aristotle University, the hometown of Alexander the Great and his teacher - Aristotle.

The host party was School of Medicine of Aristotle University, particularly, the head of the Department of Internal Medicine #4, Professor of Internal Medicine and Rheumatology, Alexandros Garyfallos (at University Hospital of Hippocrates).

Within the framework of the program, a discussion was held on modern problems of internal medicine rheumatology and forms of teaching. I also gave lectures: "Silhouette of rheumatology, charm and difficulties / challenges" and "Sjogren's syndrome - a disease on the border of autoimmunity and neoplasia". Together with Professor Garyfallos, I participated in the weekly remote review of complex cases of different rheumatology departments in Greece (Athens, Thessaloniki, Ioannina, Larissa, Patras, Thessaly, Heraklion-Crete, etc.). A case of a 32-year-old woman with systemic lupus erythematosus, epilepsy, and cardiomyopathy was reviewed. Such interhospital review is an excellent means of continuous medical development and improvement of the quality of patient care.

We also discussed future cooperation and exchange programs - both in terms of students and academic staff. The "Ippokrateio" Hospital of Thessaloniki is a large multidisciplinary clinic with 800 beds, and the Aristotle University includes 5 more large clinics: AHEPA, Papanikolaou, Papageorgiou, G. Genimatas, and the Skin and Venereal Hospital. So, there is quite a good opportunity in terms of organizing student exchange programs and summer internships. Especially considering that the so-called Starting from June, the Greek state airline Aegean plans to schedule direct flights between Thessaloniki and Tbilisi.

During the visit, I had the opportunity to get to know the amazing nature of the Macedonian side and the rich historical monuments in Thessaloniki, Kavala, Veriasa Neo-Potidia and Kastoria, as well as in Surot, in the monastery of St. John the Theologian, where St. Pais of Athens is buried, which left an indelible impression.

I would like to express special thanks to the international departments of the Caucasus University and Aristotle University for coordinating the program, as well as to Professor Garyfallos for the well-organized meetings. The mobility program took place after the two-week Easter holidays in Greece and it was really not easy to fit the schedule of lectures and meetings during a very busy week for the staff back at work."