

## MARKO BABIĆ

Home institution and country: PAN EUROPEAN UNIVERSITY APEIRON

Field of studies: PHYSIOTHERAPY

Dates of mobility (from – to): 17/07/2022 – 16/09/2022

Main purpose and activities during the stay: PRACTICAL PLACEMENT

Quote from the final report: **“I simply told myself: Let’s see what happens. Let’s go for the knowledge, the new connections, and the experience. And that’s exactly what I found.”**

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I applied for the Erasmus+ programme in České Budějovice without any expectations. Looking back now, I can confidently say it was one of the best decisions I’ve ever made. Alone, with little experience and unsure of what the next two months would bring, I headed to the south of the Czech Republic, to a city that would open many doors for me, both professionally and personally.

My practical training took place after the summer semester lectures had ended, but that didn’t stop me from getting involved and feeling part of the community. Friends from my home university, together with the team in České Budějovice, welcomed me warmly and wished me all the best.



As the only student from my group, I simply told myself: *Let’s see what happens. Let’s go for the knowledge, the new connections, and the experience.* And that’s exactly what I found.

During hospital hours, I worked alongside experienced physiotherapists, observing and assisting in therapy sessions, operating physiotherapeutic devices, and learning a variety of rehabilitation techniques and patient care strategies. Besides that, there was plenty of time to travel and explore the Czech Republic, its culture, architecture, people, and way of life.

What left the biggest impression on me were the colleagues and mentors I met, many of whom I still keep in touch with. One of them encouraged me to continue my education in Prague, and together with the recommendations I received from my mentors, I went on to complete my master’s degree in the Czech capital.

Today, after finishing that chapter as well, one that brought me closer to my goal of working internationally and combining academic work with clinical practice, I can say that this experience truly shaped me as a person and gave me a much broader perspective on life. Erasmus+ wasn't just a mobility programme, it was a turning point.

I won't go into all the details, just let me encourage you, if you ever get the chance to go on Erasmus, take it with an open mind.

