



IAESTE - Work. Experience. Discover.

Good news first: New visa restrictions for incomings in ZH repealed

As many of you might have heard, at the beginning of this year we received very bad and shocking news from the Swiss authorities in the Canton of Zurich (AWA ZH). According to their decision they have denied from January 2015 onwards all visa/work permits for incoming exchange students with third state

citizenships for a stay longer than 4 months. As IAESTE is always working on a 1:1 base for the international exchange, this was indeed a matter of high relevance for us. Decreasing incoming numbers always mean decreasing outgoing numbers as well, not mentioning the huge financial loss

for our non-profit organization.

After many weeks of meetings and discussions with the authorities we are very pleased to announce now that the AWA ZH repealed their decision! We are very happy of this great achievement as the decision was strongly menacing our international exchange!

Outgoer Event 2015

Early June IAESTE Switzerland had the pleasure to invite all current outgoing students, who have been accepted for an internship abroad to our annual *Outgoer Event*, which was held at the ETH Alumni Pavillon in Zurich. Former outgoers (alumni) and members of our Local Committees were invited as well. So the outgoing students had the possibility to connect with them and exchange some experiences.

As for most of the present outgoers this year's IAESTE internship will be their first work experience abroad, they were very happy to receive relevant information about the preparation for their stay in a foreign country. Therefore Victor Varga, our Outgoing Exchange Coordinator, started the event with a presentation giving some tips about how to plan their trip and talking about the work & life in a foreign country. Two representatives of our Premium Partners, Mirela Dimitrova, a Bulgarian intern at **Novartis**, and Pablo Mesa from Spain, who is employed at **Alstom**, told us about their own experiences and pointed out some cultural differences between Switzerland and their home countries.

Afterwards everyone enjoyed a delicious BBQ where the outgoers of 2015 had the opportunity to exchange some specific information within special country groups. The event was a big success and we hope that our Swiss outgoers are well equipped and prepared to spend a safe and interesting stay abroad!



Join IAESTE Switzerland!

How was your own IAESTE experience? Have you met a lot of nice, funny and friendly people abroad who became good friends of yours?

Are you looking forward in welcoming foreign students from all over the world in Switzerland, show them around our beautiful country, help them in administration stuff or just go out with them, grab a beer and have a lot of fun?

⇒ Join one of our **Local Committees in Basel, Berne Lausanne or Zurich** and write to newmembers@iaeste.ch

Or have you already finished your studies and you are looking for a new challenge in your life?

This is the chance for you to join our network, be a part of IAESTE Switzerland and help us to form the future of our exchange organisation and of many young talents from all over the world!

⇒ Become a **member of our National Committee** and contact sabine.lenz@office.iaeste.ch

CONNECT yourself to the world

If you join an IAESTE Local Committee, you will feel its distinguishable international vibe.

You will organize with your fellow team members many great and unforgettable events for new trainees, coming to your town from every corner of the world. It is always exciting – because you do something great for others while learning everyday something new.

This feeling is at its peak at the annual CONNECT Conference, where all west-European LCs are invited to join. This time Holland hosted the 5th edition of the conference in the peaceful location of Ter Aar. More than 100 people represented a total of 12 countries, including Sweden, England, Slovenia, Germany, Poland, Belgium, Spain... and of course Switzerland! Everyone brought their own spice to the meeting. The conference held many workshops to different topics as Team building, Jobraising and Body Language. We developed new ideas for the future of IAESTE in Europe, in the outlook of 2020. This is where everyone realizes that LCs from all countries are as different in their structure as the people themselves! While Norway's IAESTE is completely student run, the British are closely tied to the British council, for example. Everything was just like an international organization conference should be – and adding to that some cultural immersion and lots of fun! We finished “en beauté” with the legendary *International Night*, after having visited Amsterdam together.



The benefits of joining a Local Committee are clear: It doesn't just stay in your own town. There is always potential for you to get more involved and to make lifelong friends from all over the world. Welcome to IAESTE!

- *Basile Verhulst, member of LC Zurich*



IAESTE Lovestory

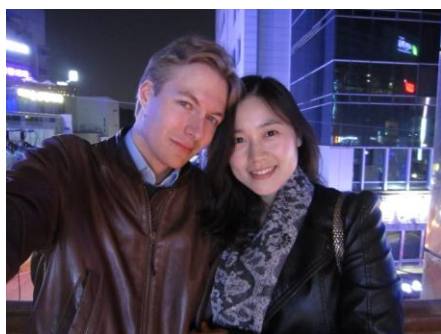
My life in Switzerland

I met my husband for the first time on a Thursday, the 12th of October 2012 to be exact, at Incheon airport in South Korea. I had to pick him up from the airport but only because the volunteer originally assigned to the task had cancelled on short notice. It was serendipitous. At that time I had been involved with IAESTE Korea for a while, first as a trainee in the Czech Republic, then working as a volunteer and later as a full-time employee. During that time, not only did I gain an international mindset through all the amazing experiences, but also many good friends from all over the world. When working for IAESTE I could impact other people's lives and for the first time bear actual responsibility. I loved how IAESTE helps to form strong bonds between people and to

spread ideas for a better world.

My "twenties" are inseparable from my experiences with IEASTE. Still the most important event was that Thursday when I met Damian. He was arriving from Switzerland for an internship at Korea University, he had just completed his Master's degree and I was going to be the first Korean to welcome him at the airport. It was love at first sight – for both of us. Damian extended his stay to learn Korean before returning to Switzerland and one and a half years later we got married in Jeju Island, Korea. Now we are living in Zurich, loving and supporting each other. It still feels a little bit weird being married to a foreigner and to live in a country other than Korea. But every day I am grateful for that Thursday and that we found each other to build our life together.

- Sehee Kim, LC Zurich



New team member at the National Office

We are pleased to welcome Denise Wantz as a new member of our Incoming Exchange Team! Denise joined us at the beginning of July and will replace Barbara Widmer who sadly decided to leave us this summer.

As Denise was already our contact person at Mettler-Toledo, a company which receives every year about five incoming exchange trainees, we already met her a year ago and always enjoyed working with her. She was very dedicated to promote our programme at Mettler-Toledo. Therefore we are very happy that she decided to join us!



SID – useful output for Strategy 2020

The 30th SID (Strategic IAESTE Development) meeting took place at the beginning of May in Bratislava, Slovakia. Around 50 people from countries as far away as China and Bangladesh came together with the aim of working towards the improvement of our association. Four different workshop-groups were in action. One of it analyzed the exchange process identifying its bottlenecks and the action to be taken to avoid them and in order to push the whole year exchange with the support of new IT-tools.

Another group of International Branding & International Public Relations was active in regards to a better annual review, and creating a year-around marketing team.

How to shorten the Annual Conference from 2020 onwards was the challenge of another team and they came up with a new, realistic and concise timetable that would make this possible. The fourth and the fifth workgroup discussed how to communicate the IAESTE 2020 Strategy and how to engage the international community to implement it as well as the new fee structure and Development fund.

Once more there is no event without an international night and an interesting cultural program which was a walking city tour through the historical part of Bratislava, including a delicious traditional lunch.



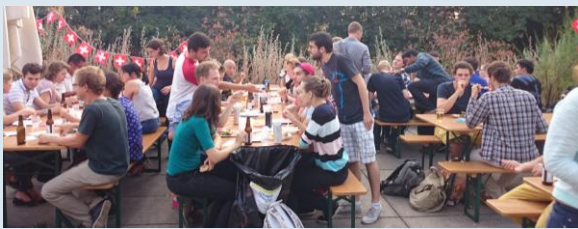
The *Ruling the FREE* exchange workgroup with their output notes ...

Summer BBQ

This year's summer BBQ took place the 23th of July at ETH Zurich. Due to the big number of registrations we had to change our rooftop against the Alumni Pavilion on the ETH ground. We benefited from the heat-wave 2015 and had a lot of sunshine and nice temperature for the evening. For the perfect temperatures on the grill the two voluntary grill-masters from the Swiss university-association **Uniboard** were responsible and provided us with delicious grilled meat and some bratwurst.

As every year, almost everyone related to IAESTE Switzerland was represented at our wonderful event: *incoming* students, alumni, Swiss employers, LC members and even one little IAESTE-offspring.

Well, with all this harmonious components it's not a surprise that our Summer BBQ was once more a great success and we all had a lot of fun. It was the perfect possibility to share experiences, link with new friends, drink a cool beer and enjoy an amazing summer night with good company.



Novartis Campus sight

On the 8th of May we had the unique opportunity to visit the headquarters of Novartis, one of our Premium Partners and largest pharmaceutical company in the world, located in Basel. More than 2,500 scientists and over 7,500 employees from more than 100 different countries of origin are working on the campus to discover and develop new innovative products to cure diseases and improve the life quality of sick people.

After some troubles finding the right tram to get to the campus we got a very warm welcome at Novartis. Everybody got their badge at the main gate for security reasons and then we headed to the visitor center. At the visitor center Mr. Sandro Crameri, Head HR University Relations & Apprentices, gave us an interesting talk about the goals and organization of Novartis. As we are all scientist, we were very interested to hear a lot about the fascinating research at Novartis. After the lecture we went on to see some of the amazing architectural buildings on the campus. The who's who of the architectural world is building on the campus. We got to learn some interesting details about the stories behind the buildings. For example one building has a glass facade with glass pieces of a lot of different colors. In the early days Ciba-Geigy AG, later becoming Novartis, produced colors, and these old colors were used for the facade of this particular building.

The event was rounded up with some delicious burgers followed by some drinks in the beautiful town of Basel. It was really great and very interesting to have the chance to see a little bit behind the scenes of such a remarkable company as Novartis!

We thank Novartis for their long-lasting support of our international exchange and the great cooperation!



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