Higher Institute for Insurance and Finance Erasmus+ Charter

VUZF University is a private educational institution founded by Resolution of the National Assembly dated 25.07.2002. It is educating students in Bachelor's and Master's degree in majors from the professional field "Economics". In some of the majors of the two educational degrees the training is carried out in partnership with business organizations, among which are The Business Institute, Saatchi & Saatchi, FiBank, ERP Academy, Trace Group, "Bulgarian" Media Academy, etc. VUZF University has established a longtime tradition for the training of highly qualified staff for the needs of both economics and scientific research. It also implements an internal strategy for quality and it aims at meeting the requirements of the European Standards. Its joining to the Erasmus+ Charter is linked to VUZF's ambition to expand is network of universities cooperation and attract foreign students at its premises in strive of becoming part of a European common educational and research area.

Before Mobility

If you choose VUZF as your Erasmus+ host institution, we advise you first to contact the support services of VUZF that could give you information whether VUZF has signed a mobility agreement with your sending university. The support service of the university provides as well practical information regarding visa support (if necessary), general guidance on study, welfare and financial matters. For more information and contacts, please follow the <u>link</u>.

During your mobility

VUZF could support students by arranging their accommodation at a separate cost. Please, bear in mind that the accommodation costs in Bulgaria are cheaper than in other European capitals. In order to demand support from VUZF, you should fill in the online <u>contact form</u>.

Besides this opportunity, students are advised to join the Erasmus+ students network in Bulgaria on Facebook or contact them per e-mail <u>here</u>. The mission of the Erasmus+ student network is to help incoming students in integrating themselves in their incoming universities and societies. Through this network, you could be well informed about the organization of trips across

Bulgaria as well as different events that are being organized. Also, more information related to finding housing in Bulgaria could be found at the <u>Erasmus student community page</u>.

VUZG facilities offer a canteen and library services to the students. The canteen is opened between 8:00 and 16:00, while the library offers access to both Bulgarian and English academic literatures in economics and finances. Regarding the other breakfast and lunch opportunities, there are several nearby little canteens that offer warm and cooked lunch at affordable prizes. Students could acquaint themselves with the Campus facilities <u>here</u>. The University also has a small chapel named after the Greek Orthodox Saint Gregorius Bogoslov which is situated in the internal backyard of the University. It is also important to note that VUZF building (main entrance, toilets and escalator) are suited to people with disabilities.

Places to visit

Sofia is a modern city which is situated in the outskirts of the "Vitosha" Mountain. More about this national park could be found at the official tourism portal of Bulgaria <u>here</u>.

You could go for a walk both in the city and in the surrounding nature. The city is full of well preserved old Byzantine relics and Medieval Bulgarian Churches such as <u>"St Georges"</u> Rotunda which is in the internal yard of the Presidency building and <u>"Boyana"</u> Church, part of IONESCU heritage. All of them are worth visiting as they offer the unique possibility to get to know the ancient cultural background of Bulgaria.

Practical tips

Sofia has a good transport network, including a subway, trams, buses and trolley buses that connect every part of the city. <u>There is an official website</u> of Sofia transport facilities where you could also read the schedules of the different transports.

You could reach VUZF by trams (Numbers **4** and **5** by taking them from the City Centre, either at St "Nedelya Church" or at the Judicial Palace (the stop is behind the palace), buses number **45** and **73**, connecting "Ovcha Kupel" district to the city centre. The stop where you need to descend is

the National Centre of Rehabilitation (Nationalen Centur po Rehabilitaciya), if you choose to take these buses.

There are plenty of supermarkets such as Fantastiko, Bila, Lidle where students could buy food and drinks at affordable prizes.

Holidays

Bulgarian students have an official holiday-the 8th of December which is not a studying day for them. It is usually a day where students organize party for themselves.

8 December – Official holiday of Bulgarian students