

Your Magnificence, Spectabiles, Honorabiles,

Dear parents, dear guests,

Děkujeme, že jste dnes přišli. Je mi velkou cti, že mohu promluvit jménem své třídy.

Bereits am aller ersten Tag in Lorient habe ich verstanden, was es bedeutet, trinational zu studieren. Als ich die deutschen Studierenden das erste Mal getroffen habe, wollte ich sie begrüßen. Faire la bise est quelque chose de naturel en France. Als Anna mir stattdessen die Hand gegeben hat, habe ich verstanden, dass es der Anfang eines wunderschönen Abenteuers war. We learned so much during these years, not only that it is difficult to say ice cream „zmrzlina“ in Czech but also how to adapt in three different countries. Ce n'est pas facile d'étudier avec le frische Luft quand il fait 0 degrés à Lorient! Despite all difficulties with the Covid-19 pandemic, we worked, supported each other, learned from each other, and succeeded. I remember when we heard for the first time of the state exams. Amalie, whom I met three years ago during a strategic partnership and saw again for the master reassured me and explained me what it was. I remember during the online semester in Zwickau, how we supported each other and managed to conduct projects from three different countries. And how could I not mention the great trip we had in Český Krumlov, after seven months apart. 2 years after, here we are, graduated but also intern, worker or student. I am really grateful that I met all of you. Being a GPRE student brought us knowledge in various areas, economics, the environment, multilingualism, project management, international cooperation and showed us how powerful it is to be part of the European Union. Today, we are ready to represent the European values such as cooperation, solidarity, respect, equality, and freedom in the world. Whether in Vienna, Luxembourg, Hamburg, Wrocław, Lorient, Ouagadougou, Yaoundé or České Budějovice, I know we will stay connected. Borders have never stopped us and will never do it. Being part of the GPRE is being part of a family. That is how I felt when I went to Zwickau and spent 4 months with the Master 1.

The alumni association allowed us to meet and to get to know each other yesterday, which was amazing. There have already been 5 generations of the GPRE Master students, who finished their studies and are successful in the professional world.

We would like to thank you all for making this master possible. Thank you for opening up many doors and pathways for us. We are grateful for having had the opportunity to broaden up our horizons and to refine our personalities. It not only enabled us to enrich our intercultural competencies but also our skills in intercultural communication. We are truly grateful for all the support that you have given us over these two past challenging years. Thank you for being there with us all that time.

We are proud to have been part of this unique program and I'm confident to say that none of us would have chosen differently. We will continue to cross Europe's borders with enthusiasm and courage in our futures to come. Thank you very much in the name of the GPRE students.

Moc děkuji a brzy navídenou!

Maëla Barçon