

## AUA INFORMATION PACKAGE

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### 1. INFORMATION ABOUT THE COUNTRY

Greece – the cradle of Western civilization. Greek language has the longest documented history of any living Indo-European language, spanning at least 3,500 years of written records. With traces of human habitation from the Paleolithic Age, it was the location where many civilizations flourished: Minoan, Cycladic, Mycenaean, Archaic, Classical, Hellenistic, Roman, Byzantine and Modern, Greeks were always there, creating and influencing, **a bridge and a modulator between East and West**. Greece lies at the south-eastern tip of Europe, at the southernmost extremity of the Balkan Peninsula. It's a mountainous and maritime country with approximately 6.000 islands -almost one fifth of its territory! Only 227 of those are inhabited. Its coast has a length of about 16.000km. The country shares borders with Albania, North Macedonia, Bulgaria and Turkey, the largest part of which are sea borders. Its Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) borders with that of Cyprus, Egypt, Libya and Italy.

Greek economy is based on service sector (80%), with contribution from industrial sector (16%) and primary sector (4%). Tourism and shipping are the most important industries. Agricultural and fisheries in Greece rank high among the most dynamic economic activities having doubled their export volume during the period 2010-2018. The capital city is Athens, time zone GMT+2 and the currency is EURO (€).

### 2. INFORMATION ABOUT THE CITY

Athens, one of the world's oldest and most famous cities! Birthplace of democracy and theatre, named in honor to the goddess of wisdom, Athens has been continuously inhabited for at least 5,000 years. Today with an Urban Area population of more than 5 million people it is the largest city of Greece and oldest European capital city. The Acropolis of Athens and its monuments, a UNESCO Cultural World Heritage Site, form the greatest architectural and artistic complex bequeathed by Greek Antiquity to the world. Since the time of Themistocles (470 BC) Athens has turn its sight to the coast of the Attica region uniting itself and destiny with the port of Piraeus city. Piraeus port is the busiest passenger port in Europe and since 2019 the busiest port of the Mediterranean in terms of container traffic. The wider Attica region (where Athens is located) is blessed with a coastline approaching 200km in length, packed with various activities: from award winning beaches to Piraeus port and a cluster of marinas, from oil distilleries and shipyards to small towns and settlements, from fisheries to other ports and huge coastal innovative urban developing projects, the coast of Athens is like its prestigious city: a place where the past meets the future and the reality meets inspirations. Needless to say, that there are plenty of gorgeous Greek islands that you can reach from the port of Athens (Piraeus) in 40 minutes to two hours for the perfect island getaways. The weather in Athens is generally warm: temperatures are high in summer and rarely drop below 0 °C in winter. Athens excels in the sheer variety of its entertainment. From traditional food to theater stages, long walks to the city center in the heart of Athens nightlife with a sophisticated collection of rooftop bars with amazing Acropolis view, night clubs and more to discover.

### 3. INFORMATION ABOUT THE PARTNER UNIVERSITY

The Agricultural University of Athens is the third oldest University of Greece and the first devoted to agriculture. Its history goes back to 1920 and its impact on the development of Greek agriculture has been very significant. Its historic location near Kerameikos and along Iera Odos, the oldest street of Europe, is inseparably linked to the ancient Greek traditions of agriculture. Nowadays, the A.U.A. has more than 450 teaching and research staff, approximately 15.000 students. AUA has contributed, in a valuable manner, to the restructuring and growth of agricultural production in Greece, and the development, as well as the diffusion of innovation, both at academic and practical level. This milestone is presenting AUA with new challenges, along with the Certification of the Internal Quality Assurance System of the Institution, awarded in January 2020, featuring the quality of all the services and facilities provided, and the fulfilment of its Strategic Objectives, too. The constant evolution of science, which is transformed into specialized products and services of high added value, requires both a high level of research and an effective mechanism for transferring knowledge to society. It is a key mission of our University to conduce, through research and education, to improving the scientific and technological level of the Agri-Food Sector. The Agricultural University of Athens, is the only Greek, Higher Educational Institution, which wields all the thematic fields of the broader Agronomic Science and Engineering. This uniqueness becomes our comparative advantage. Nowadays, AUA comprises fourteen (6) Faculties and seventeen (14) Academic Departments. Additionally, AUA wants to deliver special experiences, cultivate values via activities within its community by having dedicated units like the Volunteering AUA Team, field trips to production units within Greece or abroad, organized by the Departments as part of undergraduate and postgraduate studies, opportunity to participate to the cultural clubs: Music club, Theater club, Dance club, Trekking Club. The University also encourages sport actions and activities. In campus there is a gym and sport facilities for students and staff members as well as you can join the 1<sup>st</sup> outdoor fitness center / gym park in our University. In June 2019 the European Commission selected EU-CONEXUS as one of 17 “European University” projects. The Agricultural University of Athens is one of the six partners in the alias and will provide a space of creativity and transfer of new knowledge and technologies.

### 4. IMPORTANT NUMBERS AND CONTACTS

#### At the university:

EU-CONEXUS Minors officer:	<a href="mailto:a.vatousiadi@aua.gr">a.vatousiadi@aua.gr</a>
EU-CONEXUS Office:	<a href="mailto:euconexus@aua.gr">euconexus@aua.gr</a>
European Programmes Office:	<a href="mailto:european_pr@aua.gr">european_pr@aua.gr</a>
Erasmus Institutional Coordinator:	<a href="mailto:vr2@aua.gr">vr2@aua.gr</a>
ESN AUA Athens/ Buddy-system:	<a href="https://aua.esngreece.gr/">https://aua.esngreece.gr/</a>

## 5. OTHER USEFUL INFORMATION

First Aid Station	166
Holiday and Night Duty Hospitals	106
Holiday and Night Doctors	105
Athens Night Duty Pharmacies	107
Police	100
Fire Squad	199
Foreigners Bureau	+30 210 6411746
ELPA road assistance	104
Athens Traffic Police Headquarters	+30 210 5230111
Poisoning Cases Centre	+30 210 7793777
Hellenic Tourism Organisation	+30 210 3223111
Tourist Police	171
Counseling Centre for AIDS	+30 210 7222222

ESN AUA Athens/ Buddy-system:

<https://aua.esngreece.gr/buddy-system>

A Student Guide for International Students (about accommodation, the city, transportation, the university, campuses, etc.):

[http://www.european.aul.gr/?page\\_id=757](http://www.european.aul.gr/?page_id=757)

For more information about your Erasmus in AUA visit:

[http://www.european.aul.gr/?page\\_id=757](http://www.european.aul.gr/?page_id=757)

## 6. STUDY PROGRAMMES

Bachelor study programmes:

Master study programmes:

Catalogue of courses in English for Erasmus students:

[http://www.european.aua.gr/?page\\_id=780](http://www.european.aua.gr/?page_id=780)

## 7. INFORMATION FOR THE EU-CONEXUS STUDENTS

### I. EU CONEXUS MINORS

#### a. Agricultural University of Athens

List of available EU-CONEXUS minors can be found:

<https://www.eu-conexus.eu/en/introduction/studies/bachelors-minors/>