

# STUDENT SURVEY

Please send this survey to Veronika Eberl at the **BOKU International Relations** (e-mail: [kuwi@boku.ac.at](mailto:kuwi@boku.ac.at)) **within two months** of the end of the study abroad period. The letter of acknowledgement from the host institution should also be turned in to BOKU-IR (Peter Jordan Straße 82A, 1190 Wien). If all forms are not handed in (including this one), it is possible that the entire sum of the scholarship must be re-paid by the recipient to KUWI (see the agreement).

## BASIC INFORMATION

1. Name of student: anonym

Field of study: Economics and Social Sciences

Host Institution: Swedish University of Agriculture, Umeå

Host country/city: Sweden/Umeå

Study Abroad Period: from 27.11.2023 until 09.12.2023

## RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FUTURE STUDENTS

2. Information about the research offerings at the host institution:

How helpful were the following informational resources?

(1 = not helpful to 5 = very helpful)

☒ 5 BOKU- International Relations

☐ Lecturers at BOKU

☐ Degree course schemes

☐ Students / friends

☒ 5 Host institution

☒ 3 Host institution's web homepages

Other:

3. How would you rank your knowledge of the language spoken at your host institution?

(1 = little to 5 = excellent)

	Vor dem Aufenthalt im Ausland					Nach dem Aufenthalt im Ausland				
	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
Reading comprehension	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Listening comprehension	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Speaking ability	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Writing Ability	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

4. Languages most often used at the host institution, in percent:

Used language German: ☐ Ja ☒ Nein

1. English	100%	2.	
3.		4.	



## Which recommendations/tips would you give to future students about the host country and host institution?

(Please give any recommendations, information resources, contacts and links)

### 5. Host country

Ajtte Museum in Jokkmokk has a research department and they have a lot of studies about Sami culture, history and even conflicts. I would recommend to have a visit here and also partner with them in case one wants to be a visiting researcher as they also have facilities to host.

### 6. Host institution

SLU in Umea, Department of Forest Resource Management are very welcoming and flexible. <https://www.slu.se/en/about-slu/locations/slu-umea/>

### 7. To which degree did you feel socially integrated??

(1 = not at all to 5 = very good)

	1	2	3	4	5
Local culture/ society overall	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
With students from the host institution	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
With other foreign students at the host institution	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

### 8. With help from which contact person (at BOKU/ at the host institution) did you organize your stay?

KUWI, InFer, WiSO/SLU Umea – Dept of Forest Resources Mgmt.

### 9. To which degree would you rate the support you were thereby given (before and after your stay)?

(1 = low to 5 = high)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 5	BOKU- International Relations
<input type="checkbox"/>	Lecturers at BOKU
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 5	Host institution
<input type="checkbox"/>	Students from the host institution
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other:

### 10. Application forms, financial support, other needs

Travel insurance is very much appreciated, since there is a high chance of flight changes or cancellation especially on winter with snow storms and technical difficulties.  
For focus group meeting with stakeholders, it can be helpful to pay their transport/travel costs

### 11. Please give tips and helpful suggestions in reference to your host country/ host institution regarding society (cultural differences, importance of command of language, etc.):

Fika or coffee break at 9AM and 2:30 every day with colleagues are culturally important events. It is recommended to attend these events as a respect to their working culture and also to network. Most of all the Swedes I met are great at speaking English but of course, it doesn't hurt to learn some basic Swedish.

### 12. During your stay abroad, were special events organized specifically for exchange students?

☐ Yes ☒ No

If yes, please include descriptions:

## ACCOMODATION, SERVICES AND EXPENCES

### 13. Where did you actually live during your stay abroad?

☐ Student dormitory ☒ Hotel / boarding house / guest house ☐ Room in a private apartment  
☒ Private apartment ☐ Shared apartment with other students

### 14. Who helped you find living accommodation?

☒ Host institution ☐ Friends/family



☐ Broker☐ Other:**15. What quality of support did the host institution give in the search for accommodation?**

(1 = bad to 5 = excellent)

☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☒ 5**16. How would you rank the accommodation?**

(1 = bad to 5 = excellent)

☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☒ 5**17. To which extent were student resources available to you? (libraries, computer labs, laboratories, facilities, etc.)?**

(1 = not at all bis 5 = very good)

☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☒ 5**18. How was the computer and internet access?**

(1 = bad bis 5 = very good)

☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☒ 4 ☐ 5**19. Monthly expenditure during the course of the stay abroad (in Euros):**

Travel expenses (for one way there and back): €503,50

Monthly expenditure (incl. accommodation): €1.163,35 , spent on:

€953,13 Accommodation

0 Maintenance

€210,22 Commuting expenses

0 Costs of books, copy, etc.

0 Tuition

0 Other

**OVERALL ASSESSMENT****20. Evaluate your stay in an academic sense:**

(1 = bad to 5 = excellent)

☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☒ 5**21. Evaluate your stay in a personal sense:**

(1 = bad to 5 = excellent)

☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☒ 5**22. Which aspects of your study abroad stay did you most enjoy?****In an academic sense:**

I was able to collect perspectives from the stakeholders themselves, meet them in person and discuss more in-depth about the issues. I also learned different conceptual approaches as to how to study land use conflict in Northern Sweden.

**In a socio-cultural sense:**

Immerse myself with how to live in the Arctic as well as the culture and ways of doing. I also got to meet fellow researchers working on the same topic of land use conflict

**23. Did you have any problems during this study abroad stay?**

A snow storm on my first day – I was informed by my SLU partners about it when I arrived

**24. Did the fact that you studied abroad cause you to have to study at BOKU longer?**☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ I don't no

If so, why?

**25. In your opinion, how can the KUWI scholarship program improve upon itself?**

The costs of living and travel is higher than the average in EU, I would suggest to adjust the amount of scholarship to reflect actual costs.



## Publication of this report

I agree that this report, including the above data (field of study, host university, year of study, length of stay), will be published on the website of BOKU- International Relations for the purpose of exchanging information on the study visit, so that future interested outgoings can be informed about your experience at the host institution.

The consent is voluntary and can be withdrawn at any time in the future without giving reasons. Any revocation can be declared at any time by e-mail to [kuwi@boku.ac.at](mailto:kuwi@boku.ac.at).

Yes ☒ No ☐



# Research Report

(Brief report of stay abroad from scientific point of view, ca. 1 page)

In my two weeks in Sweden, I was able to conduct my research in different city/towns to collect data for my PhD project: constructivist understanding of land use conflicts between economic activities, see details below:

Research stay Location	Date	Activity
SLU Umeå	27 - 29 Nov 2023	Coordination meeting with partners - SLU team
Ajtte, Jokkmokk	30 - 02 Dec 2023	Research stay with Ajtte Museum and focus group discussion with members of the Sami Parliament
Gällivare	03 - 06 Dec 2023	Focus group discussion with forest owners' association. Meeting with reform office (Municipal office) and Gällivare Museum curator
LTU Luleå	07- 09 Dec 2023	Meetings with LTU researchers

Luleå University of Technology, LTU

I conducted focus group discussions and interviews with relevant stakeholders (e.g. indigenous people, forest owners, local people, city council representatives and researchers) regarding land use conflict and what do they think about the current development of the industries in Gällivare, Sweden – as the city is undergoing social transformation wherein a town is being moved to another place because the mine is expanding. Aside from the mining companies, there are also reindeer herders that have usufructuary rights to use the land, and forest owners who own the land. Tourism is also increasing as the Arctic is becoming more accessible and the 'last chance' tourism is becoming more popular. Additionally, green transition agenda is being pushed by the Swedish state thereby intensifying the land use conflict not only in Gällivare but also in Northern Sweden. This means, increased mining operation to produce minerals for development of more solar panels, green batteries, etc.; more Sami lands to be transformed to windfarms; and more forest harvesting for renewable energy and wood construction.

Initial impressions from the data collection conducted were: (1) there is cumulative impact of the industries on Sami lands and local community. (2) Industries and authorities are aware of the cumulative impacts and tries to resolve the conflict through a solution-oriented lens, up to the point that they have little acknowledgement of the presence of conflict. (3) Indigenous people, forest owners, residents and minority groups felt that their voices aren't heard in existing procedures, for example on decision making with regards to the development of their lands and use of resources.

The next step for this project is data analysis and result interpretation that is planned to be done together with SLU partners and LTU researchers. We also plan to include the local stakeholders and our participants in the result interpretation to make sure that their perspectives are included and to make the result really representative of the current discourses in the area. We also plan to disseminate the results with more actors, such as presenting the initial results to scientific conferences and creating a video clip regarding the results so as to inform the general public about the current issues in the Arctic and to make them understand that the arctic is not a empty wilderness but a place where humans and industries exist.

**Thank you for your help!**