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I went to a non-ordinary school – it was a specialized lyceum in Lviv. It gave us an incredible preparation that most of my classmates would agree was lost in universities. So, right after graduation from Lviv University I was looking to get accepted into a university abroad, in Eastern Europe. Suddenly I got an email from my school classmate Lyuda advertising EERC in Kyiv. As I found out just a week before the submission deadline, next day I was already begging for recommendations from my professors. Few weeks later, before the admission exams, when I saw how many of my lyceum friends applied there wasn't a slimmest chance that EERC would not be a rocking place. The optimistic and collaborative atmosphere around EERC helped me pass the exams. (Lucky me, I was the last person in the list of people that EERC accepted that year!)

How did EERC differ from my previous university? In every way: professors' attitude was different, students were different, staff was ready to help with about anything – you wouldn't believe this is Ukraine. And the fact that we were taught in English made the place absolutely hype. Finally I felt that I wasn't losing my time being in a university.

EERC gave me an incredible base for my future career. First, it introduced us to modern economic thinking and modern economic tools. By this I do not mean that we learned how to efficiently split production between bread and butter. We learned, for example, how to manage investments, how to decide if a company violated antitrust laws, how distribution of property rights affects production, *etc.*

We also learned how to work efficiently and achieve goals. Known for high quality, EERC students were invited to work for different companies and organizations like the World Bank and the Ukrainian government. Being constantly put to new tests we became much more confident in our future. In one year EERC changed us from clueless kids into perspective professionals. Now, years later, it is a pleasure to see that all my friends are accomplished people. And when somebody's name comes up in a conversation I immediately add “We both went to EERC.”