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I come from Palermo, capital of Sicily, the biggest island in the deep south of Italy. I decided to send my application for the Master in European Project Planning and Management at Pixel right after graduating in 2013. At Pixel I got to learn many aspects of the role of the European project manager and how to lead a group and how to solve the arduous situations or tasks you may find yourself in.

At the end of the theoretical phase I myself decided to apply for the internship in Sofia, Bulgaria. The moment I arrived I got hypnotized by two things: cyrillic and snow; to me it was like being inside a fantasy book. It was a beautiful adventure that I would experience over and over again. I was also lucky, I met three of the best persons in the world both as professionals and as human beings - Zori, Megy and Jheny; they gave me trust and made me work as one of them. We were the "A team" and **after my**

internship they offered me my first contract. I lived in Sofia for five months and we created a life-changing project under the Erasmus+ KA2, named V.I.S.I.ON (Visual Impairment Social Inclusion ON (contract number 2014-1-BG01-KA201-001555) which was approved with a score of 99/100 and later on - after its end - awarded as success story by a panel of experts from the Directorate-General for Education, Youth, Sport and Culture of the European Commission. V.I.S.I.ON, which developed an innovative theatrical method for the physical and vocal confidence of visually impaired young people, raising aspirations and promoting individual abilities. Though, during the two years of project life I did not stay in Bulgaria because I felt like I had to finish my academic studies. I got my MA degree in 2016 with a great graduation ceremony in St. Andrews, Scotland, and I was offered to do a PhD back in Perpignan. I refused because of the approval of another European project (V.I.E.W. - contract number: 2015-3-IT03-KA205-006975) aimed to develop an innovative training program for visually impaired youth workers to be used in their interaction with other visually impaired young people or young people with fewer opportunities, combining and upgrading worldly recognized non-formal learning methods from Bulgaria, Germany and Italy, for which I was meant to work as coordinator for the leading organization in Palermo, Italy.

I am also coordinating the Italian partner of the CULPEER project (contract number VG-IN-NW-16-24-023076) funded under the Erasmus+ EU programme and based on the development of new cultural and peer-learning approaches for successful integration of disadvantaged youth and refugees at school level.

Since August 2017 I have been doing an EVS experience in Denmark, at the Brenderup Højskole, a folk artistic high school founded on the concept of raising students' creativity and consciousness of themselves.

Braenderup, Denmark, December 2017