

The Recommendation of the Selection Committee

The Selection Committee established by the Executive Board for the 2022 Arenberg-Coimbra Group Prize for Erasmus Students is pleased to unanimously nominate Ms Marie Bakken from the University of Bergen (Norway) for this year's award.

In 2020, Ms Marie Bakken completed a semester of student exchange at the University of Salamanca in Spain. In December of the same year, she obtained a Master's degree in Law from the University of Bergen.

In her application, Ms Marie Bakken has convincingly described the impact of this Erasmus stay on her mindset, language, culture, academic interests, and career start altogether.

During her studies in Spain, she took various courses at the Faculty of Law including Criminal Law, Human Rights, Immigration Law, Military Law, Criminal Politics and Psychology in Law. She has clearly articulated the influence of her discussions with her professor in International Legal Procedural Cooperation at the University of Salamanca on her further decision to dedicating her Master's Thesis to the analysis of extradition laws and practices between Norway and the EU. She then successfully inspired in the learning outcomes of her Erasmus experience for the whole writing process. The Selection Committee very much welcome the European dimension of the thesis' subject.

While studying in Salamanca, Ms Marie Bakken also engaged in volunteering activities with a European dimension. She served as board member of the European Law Students' Association (ELSA). Through this engagement she could attend various meetings across Europe, thus experiencing different legal cultures and creating friendships all over the continent. She also got selected as finalist in the EEA (European Economic Area) Moot Court Competition 2020.

At the time of her nomination to the Arenberg-Coimbra Group Prize, Ms Marie Bakken was still engaged with EU law and human rights, serving since February 2021 as legal advisor in the municipal administration of the city of Stavanger in South-Western Norway.

The Selection Committee would like to congratulate Ms Marie Bakken on this year's Arenberg-Coimbra Group Prize and wish her a successful career based on her European educational experience.

We should also like to commend the other nominees; the standard was very high and their testimonials also provided excellent examples of the impact of their mobility experience and academic qualities. We are pleased to recognise also the commitment to the Erasmus project of the Coimbra Group Universities where they were awarded their degrees and undertook their exchange periods of study.