**Exchange Semester in Tel Aviv**

In October 2022 I started my journey to Tel Aviv. I arrived mid-October, around one week before the winter semester started. I was living in Jaffa, which is quite far from the University (45 Minutes by Bus), yet, it is the beautiful old part of the city, with lively cafés, bars, and a flea market. Moreover, Jaffa is located close to the beach. The Tel Aviv University consists of a huge campus in the north of Tel Aviv. The courses I took, “Global Ethics” and “The History of Antisemitism” were exceptionally interesting, since the students came from all around the world, enriching the courses with their different perspectives, experiences, and opinions, sparking great discussion. I highly recommend “Global Ethics” as Dr. Sarit Smila Sened is one of the best and most knowledgeable professors I ever had.

Tel Aviv is a vibrating city with much to experience. When it comes to museums, I would suggest visiting the Museum of Modern Art and the Museum of the Jewish people, which is located on the university campus and is free every Friday. Of course, middle eastern food is amazing. There are too many different dishes and places to suggest, but Jachnun Tziona in Neve Tzedek is outstanding. The place is only open on Shabbat Saturdays. However, Tel Aviv is extremely expensive, from housing to grocery shopping and night life. It is important to keep in mind that, the financial help through the Austrian government scholarship, was not enough to make a living in Tel Aviv. Nevertheless, the scholarship was extremely helpful and played for approximately 70% of the expenses.

There is so much to experience in Tel Aviv, yet it was important for me to get out of the city from time to time and make the most of living in the middle east. I traveled to many places in Israel, Palestine, Egypt, and Jordan. I highly recommend visiting Hebron and Ramallah in Palestine, as well as Amman and the desert Wadi Rum in Jordan.

All in all, the organization of the exchange program was flawless, and I would like to thank AIANI and the persons in charge of the exchange students in Tel Aviv for all the experiences I was able to make and the interesting people I was able to meet!