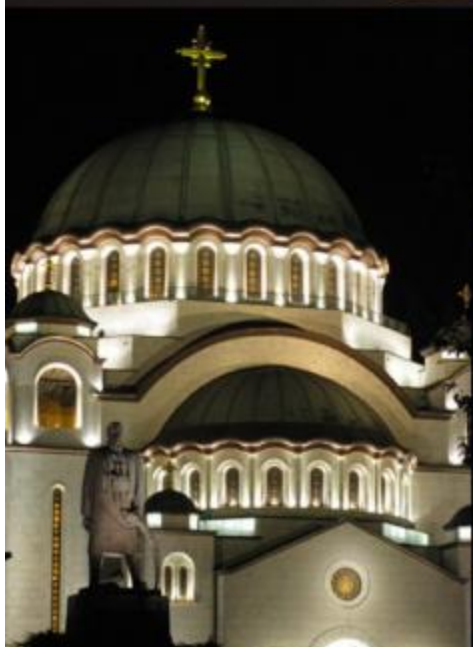




Belgrade



Practical guide 2010



WHO IS THIS GUIDE FOR

This Practical guide is intended for students and staff who are coming to Belgrade within **BASILEUS** and **JoinEU-SEE** projects as part of ERASMUS MUNDUS – External Cooperation Window program (EM ECW).

ACADEMIC INFORMATION

TYPES OF STUDY PROGRAMS OFFERED

The faculties comprising the University of Belgrade offer a variety of study programs at **Bachelor**, **Master** and **Doctoral** level. In order to find the most adequate study program for academic mobility, the candidates are advised to visit individual websites of the University of Belgrade member faculties following the link:

http://www.bg.ac.yu/en_index.php

GRADING SYSTEM

A **5 -10** grading scale is used at the University of Belgrade (with 6 as a pass level). A student's success is assessed by grades from 5 (failed) to 10 (excellent) within the higher education system of the Republic of Serbia.

PROGRAMS FOR DEGREE STUDENTS (pay attention to the language of instruction!)

Within EM ECW, enrolling in full degree programs at Western Balkan universities is not available.

COURSES FOR EXCHANGE STUDENTS (pay attention to the language of instruction!)

At the University of Belgrade, candidates cannot find a complete course catalogue for all available study programs. In order to find the desired courses and make sure what their contents and language of instruction are, the candidate has to **visit the website of the faculty** or department he/she is interested in.

The majority of courses and study programs are **in Serbian** and the candidate needs to have some level of knowledge of the host country's language before arrival. However, there are cases where some courses can be provided in English (e.g. some departments of the Faculty of Technical Sciences can offer their courses in English since professors are willing to enable consultations, literature or exams in English). The EM ECW candidate has to explore these options individually. This is a very important step, since it will be one of the major considerations when candidates' applications are evaluated by the host institution. Therefore, before or during their application for the exchange period, candidates are advised to **contact the administration** of a specific faculty or department and ask for course descriptions they are interested in as well as to inquire about the language of instruction and other conditions for academic mobility.

ACADEMIC CALENDAR

Even though there are small differences among different faculties of the University of Belgrade, the academic calendar is:

Winter semester: 1 October – 15 January
Exam period: 15 January – 15 February

Spring semester: 15 February – 31 May
Exam period: 1 June – 15 July
Exam period: 1-30 September

Note: Students are advised to arrive at least a week before the start of a semester in order to complete all the necessary paperwork and formalities.

REGISTRATION AT THE UNIVERSITY

ADMISSION CRITERIA

- Admission criteria for degree students – *not applicable for WB universities within Basileus.*
- Admission criteria for exchange students – this depends on individual faculties. Exchange students need to be registered at the student services of their **host faculty** upon arrival. It is important to have in mind that exchange students are not registered at the University level, but at the level of the faculty which has previously agreed to accept them (after reviewing their files during application period).

REGISTRATION / Admission

At the University of Belgrade registration process may differ, depending on the faculty. Please, in contact with the faculty, make sure that you bring all the documents necessary for admission.

The enrolment/ registration at a particular faculty is usually completed upon arrival. The coordinator at the International Office guides the exchange students through the process of enrolment/ registration at the faculty student service.

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

VISA AND RESIDENCE

All students coming to study in Belgrade are advised to **check** whether they need to get a study visa **before arrival**. For this they should contact the Embassy of Serbia in their home country and apply for a visa there, before coming to Belgrade. Please refer to: www.mfa.gov.rs/Consularaffairs.htm . The International Office of the University of Belgrade provides exchange students with invitation letters (one of the documents needed to apply for the visa).

If student applies for visa and resident permit upon arrival in Serbia the necessary documents are: **passport, 2 photos, proof of residence, proof of the means of subsistence** (scholarship or bank statement with min. 75 EUR per month) and **confirmation** from their host faculty and the University of Belgrade that they are exchange students.

Note: For a continuous stay of maximum 90 days, EU citizens and citizens of Croatia do not require a visa. However, all foreigners have to contact the Department for Foreigners at Savska 35 street (Police Department) three days upon arrival at the latest and register their place of residence in Belgrade. If the person is accommodated in a student dormitory, hotel or hostel they will register the person and issue the guest the so-called "white card". If a person is accommodated in a private apartment he/she needs to register his/her place of residence alone. Documents needed include: **passport, ID of the owner and proof of ownership**. The International Office staff will guide the exchange students through this procedure upon arrival.

ACCOMMODATION

The University of Belgrade is not directly in charge of the student dorms. The Student Centre, under the Ministry of Education, runs the dorms and the University of Belgrade cooperates with them in terms of booking the places for exchange students within some specific mobility programs, **such as the EM ECW projects**. However, please note, that due to some recent policies of the Ministry of Education the number of places in a student dorm available to EM ECW exchange students may be limited.

- **Dorm:** EM ECW students can ask the International Office of the University of Belgrade to check whether there is a place in a **double room** (only double rooms are offered) in a student dorm for a specific mobility period.
- **Private:** Since the EM ECW grant is quite generous, private accommodation might even prove better value. The average price for a single room apartment is between 150 and 250 EUR per month (depends on the location and amenities) excluding utilities.
- **Hostel:** In order to have temporary residence in Belgrade before finding private accommodation, you can visit the following site: serbia-hostels.org

If there are available places in the dorm, foreign students are usually accommodated in the student dormitory "**Rifat Burdzevic**", which is reachable by

Tram: 5,6,7 and 14

Trolley 28 and 40

Bus: 77

Address: Milana Rakića 77

Phone: 2423-029

CLIMATE

Belgrade has a **moderate continental climate**, with four seasons. Autumn is longer than spring, with long sunny and warm periods. Winter is not so severe, with an average of 21 days of sub-zero temperature. January is the coldest month, with an average temperature of 0.1 °C. Spring is usually short and rainy, while summer arrives abruptly. July and August are the hottest months, with an average temperature of 22.1 °C. The southeast-east wind Košava, which blows from the Carpathians and brings clear and dry weather, is characteristic of the local climate. It mostly blows in autumn and winter, in 2-3 days intervals.

HOW TO GET TO BELGRADE

1. YOU CAN TAKE A FLIGHT TO BELGRADE AIRPORT

Belgrade “Nikola Tesla” Airport is 18 kilometers away from Belgrade city centre (www.airport-belgrade.co.yu/welcome.54.html).

Bus transfer from airport to Belgrade

Tickets are available on the bus. You can choose between:

1. JAT Airways bus

Ticket price: *to be checked*

Travel time: 30 min.

Route: Airport - Novi Beograd - Central Railway Station - Slavija terminal

Frequency: 05.00 - 21.00 h

2. Local bus (GSP) line number 72

Travel time: 40 min.

Route: www.gsp.rs/english/transportlines.htm

2. YOU CAN TAKE A FLIGHT TO BUDAPEST AIRPORT

Belgrade is some 360 km away from Budapest (Hungary) but since some low-cost carriers fly to Budapest it might be a option easier on the pocket for flying to Belgrade.

Transport from the airport to the city

Ferihegy Airport is located near Budapest, 16 km from the City eastward, alongside Main Road 4. For details please visit: www.bud.hu

By minibus

Budapest Airport also operates a shuttle service “Airport Minibus”. Passengers are taken to the previously requested address by minibuses with eight to eleven seats.

By metro and bus

Budapest Airport is also easily accessible by public transportation. Passengers are taken by a direct bus service (Buses 93 and 200) from Terminals 1 and 2 to Kobanya-Kispest metro station. For more information about the public transportation in Budapest see www.bkv.hu.

From Budapest to Belgrade

You can take a train from the **Keleti Train Station** in Budapest to Belgrade. This station is located in the Eastern part of Budapest at **Keleti Pályaudvar metro station** - M2 metro line (red line). The train goes daily at 13:20 and at 23:25 and it takes about 8 hours to arrive to Belgrade. For more information check the Serbian Railways website:

http://www.zeleznicesrbije.com/active/en/home/glavna_navigacija/putnicki_saobracaj/mejunarodni_saobracaj/cene_prevoza_v01.html

LIVING IN BELGRADE

EXPLORING THE CITY

One thing is sure - IT'S NEVER BORING in Belgrade! Almost every day some meeting, event, festival, tournament, exhibition, concert, match, or performance takes place. The local ones - for friends from the neighbourhood, as well as the great ones - of international importance. Belgrade has character in spades. Other places might have a lead in exoticism, but for the real beguiling Balkan spirit, it has to be Belgrade. It is a city where you can dance until sunrise seven nights a week, where hospitality crackles in the air, and where looking good is a birthright and a religion in one. In Belgrade you can taste some of the purest organically produced food and drink. Traditional cuisine means that almost everything is home-grown - and it tastes that way. With a penchant for locally smoked ham, grilled meat, stuffed vegetables, specialist breads, salads, pickles and soft "kajmak" cheese, most Serbs eat enormous amounts and yet stay enviably slender. A lot of nightclubs, bars and restaurant-boats along the riverbanks make Belgrade nightlife one of the most exuberant in Europe. Spectacularly beautiful young women who look as if they have stepped from the fashion pages of Cosmopolitan, students, young men in sports clothes, musicians and writers link arms in camaraderie as they wander the cobbled streets of the nineteenth-century Skadarlija Bohemian quarter, the pedestrian Knez Mihailova Street teeming with luxury shops or Republic Square with its dozens of pavement cafés. Most Serbs go out after 10pm and most nightspots are open until at least 2am - yet there is rarely any sign of drunkenness or offensive behavior. The atmosphere is usually of people having a benignly good time enjoying everything from Procol Harum to Electric Six, Sinatra ballads to Serbia's home-grown brand of high-energy pop music. Places to visit include the symbol of Belgrade - Kalemegdan fortress, Temple of Saint Sava, Ada Ciganlija, Kosutnjak, Avala watchtower, There are many cultural events in Belgrade during the year: Belgrade Beer Fest,....

Find out more here: <http://www.tob.co.yu/eng/index.php>

Useful site for getting to know cities in Serbia: <http://www.planplus.rs/>

SERBIAN LANGUAGE COURSES

At the University of Belgrade you can learn Serbian at the **Centre for Serbian as a Foreign Language**. It offers a variety of Serbian courses ranging from A1 (Beginners) to C2

(Advanced Mastery) level. The Center organizes a Summer School of Serbian Language and also offers an intensive language course before the start of a semester. More information about the Centre is available at <http://serbian2.fil.bg.ac.rs/>

Contact:

Phone: 011/ 2638-310

Email: cnrp@fil.bg.ac.rs

OTHER USEFUL INFORMATION

CURRENCY

Serbian Dinar (**RSD**)

1 EUR = around 95 RSD (*please check the website of the National Bank of Serbia for the latest information*). Official site is <http://www.nbs.rs/export/internet/english/> . The only legal currency in Serbia is the Serbian dinar. There are many exchange offices in the city but you can exchange your money in banks as well. Please check the exchange rate (and fee if any) before exchanging your money. Most exchange offices will only exchange Euros and Dollars, for other currencies you will probably need to go to a bank. Besides cash most supermarkets, shops and restaurants accepts credit and debit cards (Visa, Visa Electron, Master, Maestro, Diners). Please check before making a purchase.

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

The public city transport in Belgrade is performed by:

GSP "Beograd" (buses, trolleys, trams)

Private bus transport companies

Taxi

SP "Lasta" (suburban and local bus transport)

Beovoz - City Railway

Express mini bus

GSP "Beograd"

City Public Transport Company

Kneginje Ljubice 29, tel. 2627-411, fax 631-760

Dispatch center 2629-019

EXPRESS MINIBUS LINES:

E1 Konjarnik - Novi Beograd (Blok 45)

E2 Petlovo brdo - Dorćol (Cara Dušana)

E3 Cerak vinogradi - Novi Beograd (Blok 61)

E4 Ustanička - Bežanijska kosa

E5 Ada Ciganlija - Zvezdara

E6 Mirijevo - Novi Beograd (Blok 61)

E8 Naselje "Braće Jerković" - Karaburma II

If you need to use the public transportation frequently the best option is to subscribe for monthly pass as it cost approximately 10 Euros. For more info check the official web site www.qsp.rs

BANK ACCOUNT

There are a lot of different banks in Belgrade (Banka Intesa, EFG Eurobank, HVB Bank, Hypo – Alpe Adria Bank, Raiffeisen bank, Societe Generale) so if you have an account in one of these banks in your home country you can use the VISA Electron card on the cash machines. You can also open an account in any bank.

MOBILE PHONE

The competition is getting stronger and price cuts and special offers are constantly being promoted. There are now three options:

- **MTS company**
Is the largest and state owned mobile operator in Serbia and it is also present in Bosnia and Montenegro. For their current offer check their website: www.mts.telekom.rs
- **TELENOR company**
The prepaid packages are very diverse so for the latest offers you should refer to their website: www.telenor.rs
- **VIP company**
Is the new mobile operator in Serbia. It has a very attractive offers and discounts on mobile phones. Check their website for all the latest information: www.vipmobile.rs

INTERNET AVAILABILITY

Broadband internet access is widely available (cable, ADSL, wireless) but it depends on your accommodation (ask for details). Prices and speeds are changing (currently for 15 Euros per month you can get 1Mbit flat rate). There are several internet cafes and faculties have their own computer rooms. Some of the parks are covered with the wireless internet you can use for free, e.g. Studentski park.

EMERGENCY NUMBERS

Police – **92**

Ambulance – **94**

Fire brigade – **93**

International dialing code for Serbia is **+381**

For making calls abroad from Serbia dial **00**

Note: If you dial any of the emergency numbers, mentioned above, from your cell phone (Serbian mobile operator) you will need first to type the dialing code for Belgrade (011) and

then the emergency number. For example, if you want to call a fire brigade you will type 01193. Note that emergency calls are free of charge.

LIVING EXPENSES

Living in a rented apartment is somewhat more expensive than living in dormitory but has other advantages. A studio flat costs between 150-300 EUR/month. Additional costs for utilities (heating, water, garbage disposal etc.), telephone, electricity, cable TV are around 30-60 EUR and depend on the city area and size of the apartment. Food in the supermarkets costs about the same as in most EU countries. Local grocery stores have higher prices and are therefore not recommended for bigger shopping. Bigger supermarket chains (such as Maxi, Tempo, Merkator, Idea) offer considerably lower prices. There are numerous restaurants and cafes where you can eat for around 6-7 EUR or less. There are some places with vegetarian food and you can eat different fish specialties. In average you will need around 400 Euros to cover your basic living expenses (rent, food and living costs). There is also a possibility of subscribing to student cuisines. In order to do this you will need to contact the **Student Centar**.

Check their web site for more info. <http://www.sc.org.yu/>

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

There are numerous student organizations, groups and associations at the University of Belgrade. Their main role is to resolve students' problems and improve their participation in the work and management of the University. Specialized student organizations are also very active and organize various activities including short term student exchanges, volunteering work. Some student organizations have started programs for helping foreign student getting around Belgrade and Serbia (they have planned to organize excursions, tours and parties). During winter semester some student organizations organize the so-called freshmen welcome parties.

For details on student organizations, please visit:

http://www.bg.ac.rs/eng/student/en_studorg.php

SHOPS

There are many shops in the pedestrian area of the city center. There are also several smaller and bigger shopping malls with most of the familiar labels. Prices vary from shop to shop and depend on the label, but it has to be emphasized that clothes and shoes can be more expensive in Serbia than in EU countries.

LIBRARIES

Each faculty has its own library and reading rooms. The central library of the University of Belgrade has new premises:

Address: Bulevar Kralja Aleksandra 71.

Working hours of the Library:

Monday-Friday, from 8:00 – 20:00

Saturday from 8:00 -14:00

Website: <http://www.unilib.bg.ac.yu/>

E-mail: webmaster@unilib.bg.ac.rs

Primarily it collects literature for interdisciplinary studies at our University.

SPORT

The University Sports Association coordinates the work of sports organizations at each faculty and organizes various inter-university national and international sporting events. One can also take part in various other sports activities all year round (ice skating, swimming, track running, football and even American football).

MEDICAL SERVICES

Medical services are provided by the Student polyclinic. All foreign students have to have medical insurance (either from their home country or purchased in Serbia). In some cases private practice is a better option for medical treatment, but it is not guaranteed that these costs will be reimbursed.

WELCOME DAYS

The International Office of the University of Belgrade organizes welcome days for foreign students in specific mobility programs at the beginning of each school year. EM ECW candidates will be arriving in different periods, so for the time being there is no specific date for a welcome day for this program. However, the International Office of the University is there to support logistically all incoming EM ECW students upon arrival and during their stay.

STUDENT ADVICE

For schedules of their courses, foreign students should refer to the faculty information boards or internet sites. For each exam period there is usually a 5 day application deadline (for details on these deadlines, students should refer to the faculty student services or contact their buddies for help).

CONTACTS

International Relation Office

University of Belgrade

Studentski Trg 1, 11000 Belgrade, Serbia

www.bg.ac.rs/en_index.php