

AStA Universität Paderborn - Warburger Str. 100 - 33098 Paderborn

48. Studierendenparlament der Universität Paderborn Warburger Str. 100 33098 Paderborn Deutschland

> Datum 31.03.2020

## Tätigkeitsbericht Referat Internationales

Sehr geehrte Parlamentarierinnen und Kommilitoninnen, Im Folgenden möchte ich Ihnen meine Tätigkeiten des letzten Monats vorstellen.

#### Office Hours:

Regular office hours weekly (until all shut down due to Coronavirus) to solve the problems of international students and to facilitate them in various ways. Every student is welcome no matter German or international to avail support regarding any problems or information or coordination needed. Gather all problems in these hours, and work on solving them the whole week. However, available on call and via e-mail and still providing services.

#### Problems due to Coronavirus:

Due to Coronavirus situation many problems arise. Like every previous semester, we used to arrange accommodations for new incoming international students to reduce their initial difficulties. This time was done the same. However, as their visa/flights cancelled at the last moment, majority of them were not able to reach Paderborn and it's a big problem as given our guarantee to the landlords and hence they need to rent of month of April 2020. It's a confusing situation as whom should be paying it. Trying to sort it out without damaging



relations with landlords as we need them for coming semesters. Also, as the conditions are not clear about Coronavirus, it's confusing for new incoming international students as what to do. We are trying to answer their technical queries; however, many things are not even clear to us as nothing like this ever happened. On the other hand, the international students who arrived, trying to sort out their initial settling without coming to them in physical contact. It's difficult because, usually we keep orientation phase for the new ones and the ones who travelling out of their countries for the first time, they feel lost. But we trying to control things. Also, their matriculation is being happening without physical contact. Lastly, the students who matriculated through our online matriculation support process and didn't arrived and don't know until when they will arrive, trying to sort out their deadlines and further legalities.

# > Buddy Program:

Running the Buddy program for international students (apart from exchange students). These students were supposed to arrive in March and would have started the session from summer semester 2020 but due to Coronavirus all schedules disturbed and confused. A big group of volunteers are collected and attached to every new incoming international students. These buddies are trained to entertain the new incoming and given support in every case of special problem. Also these buddies are scared of being in contact with anyone.

### Miscellaneous:

Many other things including issuing certificates and other letters to scholarship holders and other types of students and coordinating among partner organizations.

Freundliche Grüße,

Azharuddin Kazi Referent für Internationales AStA Uni Paderborn