



## Katarzyna, 28, Poland

"I'm very happy here in Konstanz. The working conditions are just perfect.

The Faculty of Economics in Konstanz is very well known and coming here is extremely worthwhile."

Ph.D. student, International Economic Relations,  
University of Konstanz,  
<http://www.international-economics.uni-konstanz.de/>

"My first contact with the professors here was per e-mail. And not much later I was granted a scholarship and could come to Konstanz. The support of the department was very encouraging," says Katarzyna Bien, a 28 year old Ph.D. student from Warsaw, Poland. She has been working here within the Research Training Network "Microstructure of Financial Markets in Europe". Her field is "econometrics", dealing with statistical models as well as the simulation and forecasting methods applied to financial time series.

New people and a broader knowledge base – that is what comes first to Katarzyna's mind, when she thinks about the reasons for being in Konstanz. "The research environment is very inviting. I can freely develop my interests and discuss scientific problems with colleagues. Prof. Pohlmeier himself, the director of the Programme 'International Economic Relations' is one of the reasons why I came here. His research is just outstanding, I think."

Besides her professional and research interests, the middle size town in the German Southwest, situated at the Lake Constance, offers a lot to her. "Compared to my home in Warsaw, the town is small and very calm, but there are many interesting opportunities." Sports like swimming, surfing, sailing but also skiing in the Alps nearby are very popular among the students coming from such different countries as the United States, China, Russia, Turkey or Romania and Bulgaria.

"When I get back to Poland I would like to work as an academic teacher. My professional work has to be interesting and creative. In Konstanz I learned how much fun and how rewarding research work can be. I hope I can continue this experience," says Katarzyna.

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