STUDENT REPORT ON

INTERNATIONAL EXPERIENCE PROGRAMME- 2025

MECHANICAL ENGINEERING

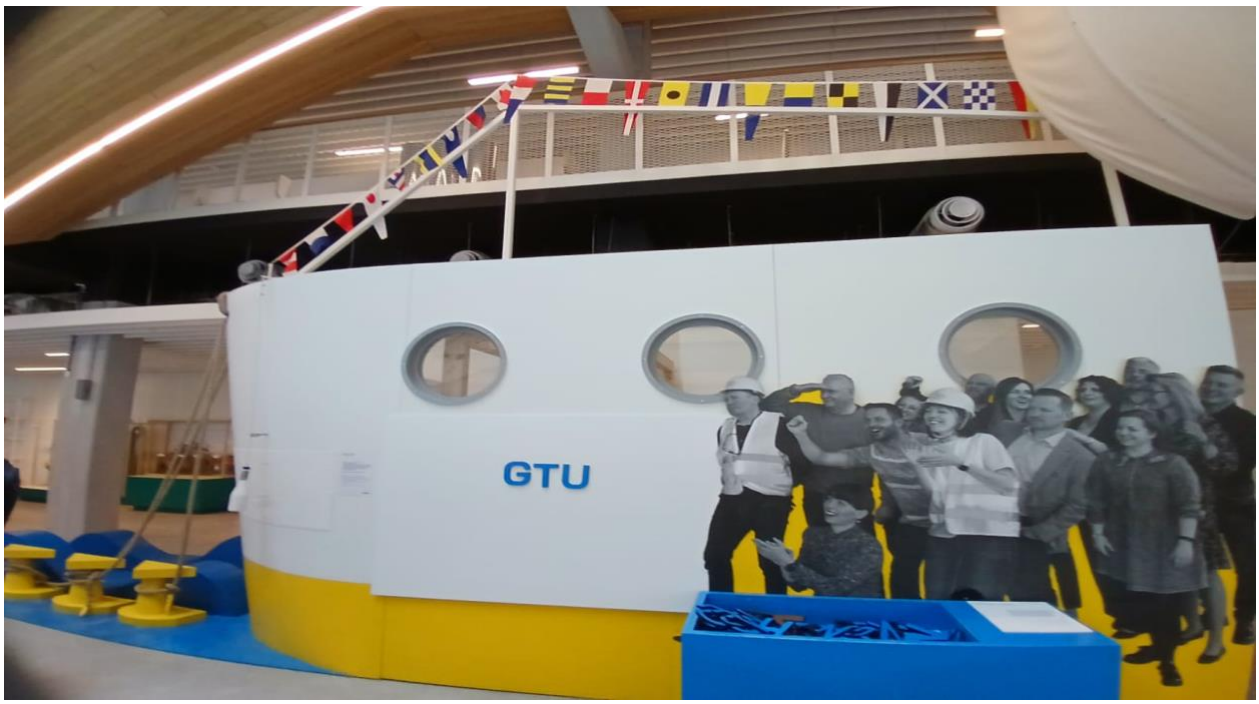
INSTITUTE NAME:

Vishwakarma Government Engineering College, Chandkheda.

PREPARED BY:

Rathod Nidhi Bharatbhai – 230173119015

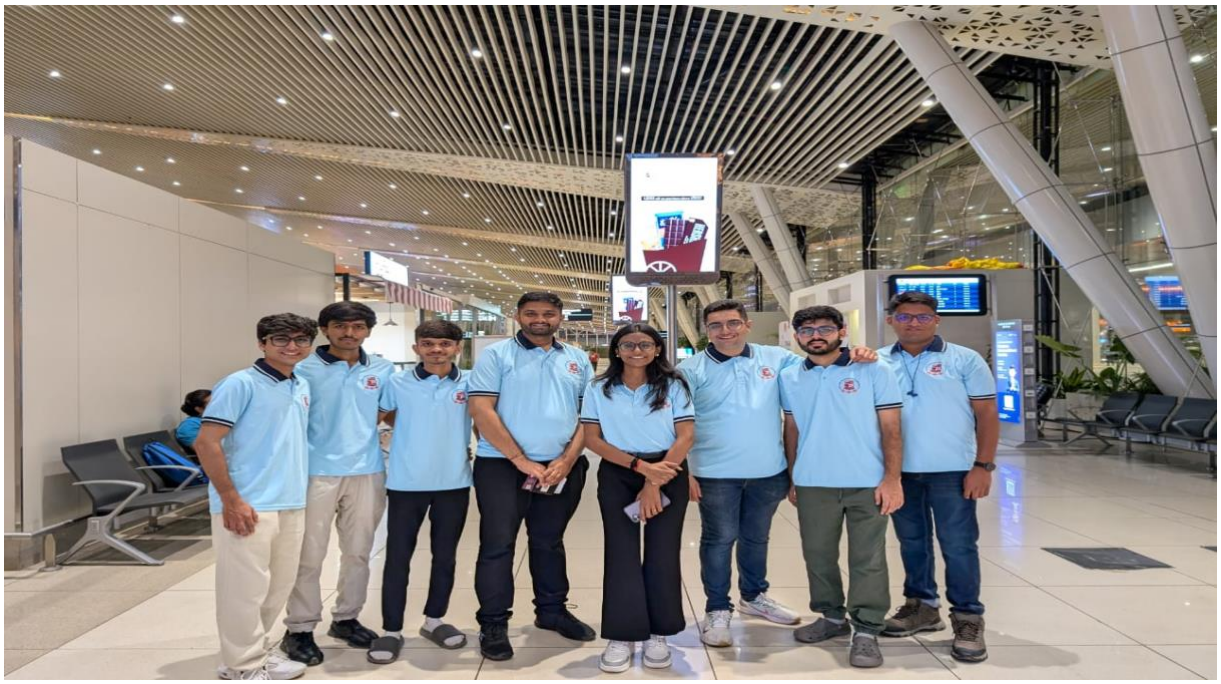
DURATION: 9TH JULY TO 14TH AUGUST



On 9th July 2025, our group departed from Ahmedabad for the International Experience Programme. After a long journey, we reached Berlin Airport on 11th July. Following immigration and baggage collection, we proceeded towards the next phase of travel — our transfer to Poland. A bus arranged by Gujarat Technological University (GTU) was waiting to receive us and comfortably transported us to the student dormitory.

Upon arrival, we were warmly welcomed by Professor Malgorzata and Professor Norbert, who played an important role in ensuring that all students settled in without difficulty. They personally assisted us with the check-in process by distributing room keys and Wi-Fi credentials. In addition, they provided the required cooking utensils, which proved extremely helpful for our stay. They also clearly explained the rules, regulations, and facilities available at the dormitory, thereby creating an environment of discipline, safety, and comfort. Their guidance not only helped us adapt quickly to the new setting but also gave us confidence as we began this international journey.

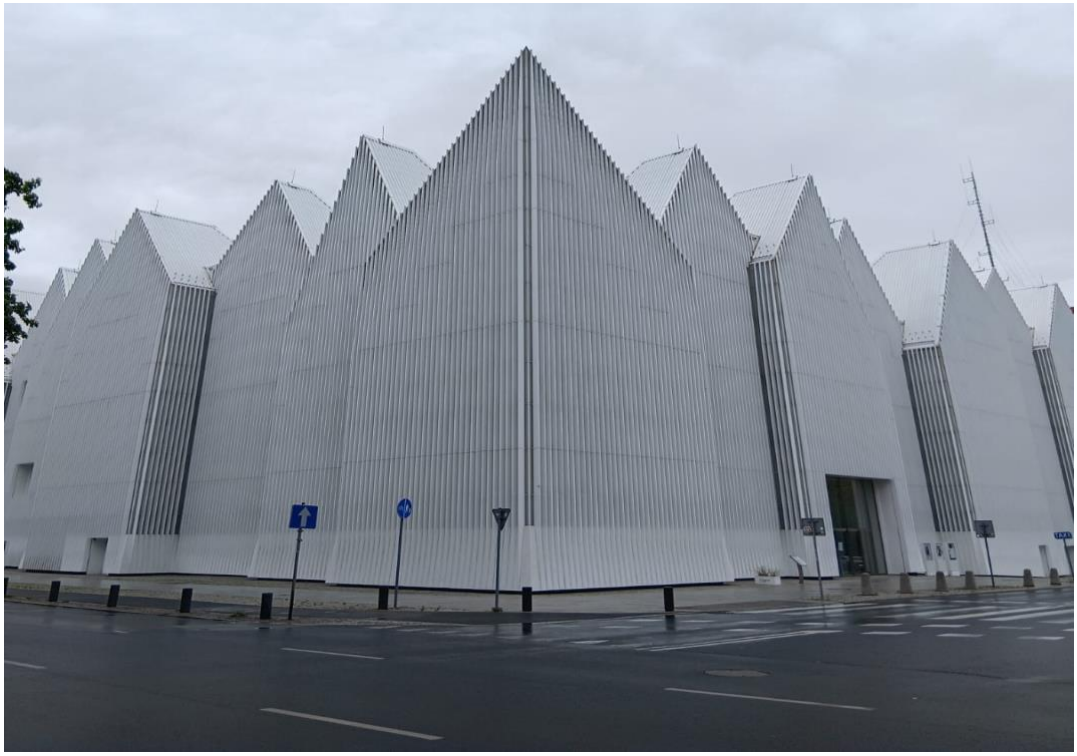
The initial two days after arrival were kept free of academic activities to allow students sufficient time for rest and adjustment. This recovery period was essential after the long travel, enabling us to regain energy and prepare ourselves for the upcoming programme schedule. During this time, we familiarized ourselves with the dormitory environment, interacted with fellow students, and became accustomed to the local surroundings. This smooth beginning created a strong foundation for the enriching experiences that were to follow in the subsequent weeks.



On 12th July 2025, we had the opportunity to explore some of the nearby tourist attractions, which provided us with a glimpse into the cultural and architectural richness of the city. One of the highlights of this visit was the **Philharmonic Hall**, a world-renowned auditorium celebrated not only for its musical performances but also for its exceptional architectural design. The building is considered a landmark of modern European architecture, characterized by its unique geometric structure, striking glass façade, and innovative use of space.

The Philharmonic Hall is not only a center for classical music and cultural events but also an iconic symbol of the city's artistic identity. Its design has won several international awards and continues to attract visitors from across the globe who come to admire its beauty and acoustical excellence. Visiting such a landmark allowed us to appreciate the blend of tradition and modernity in European cultural spaces.

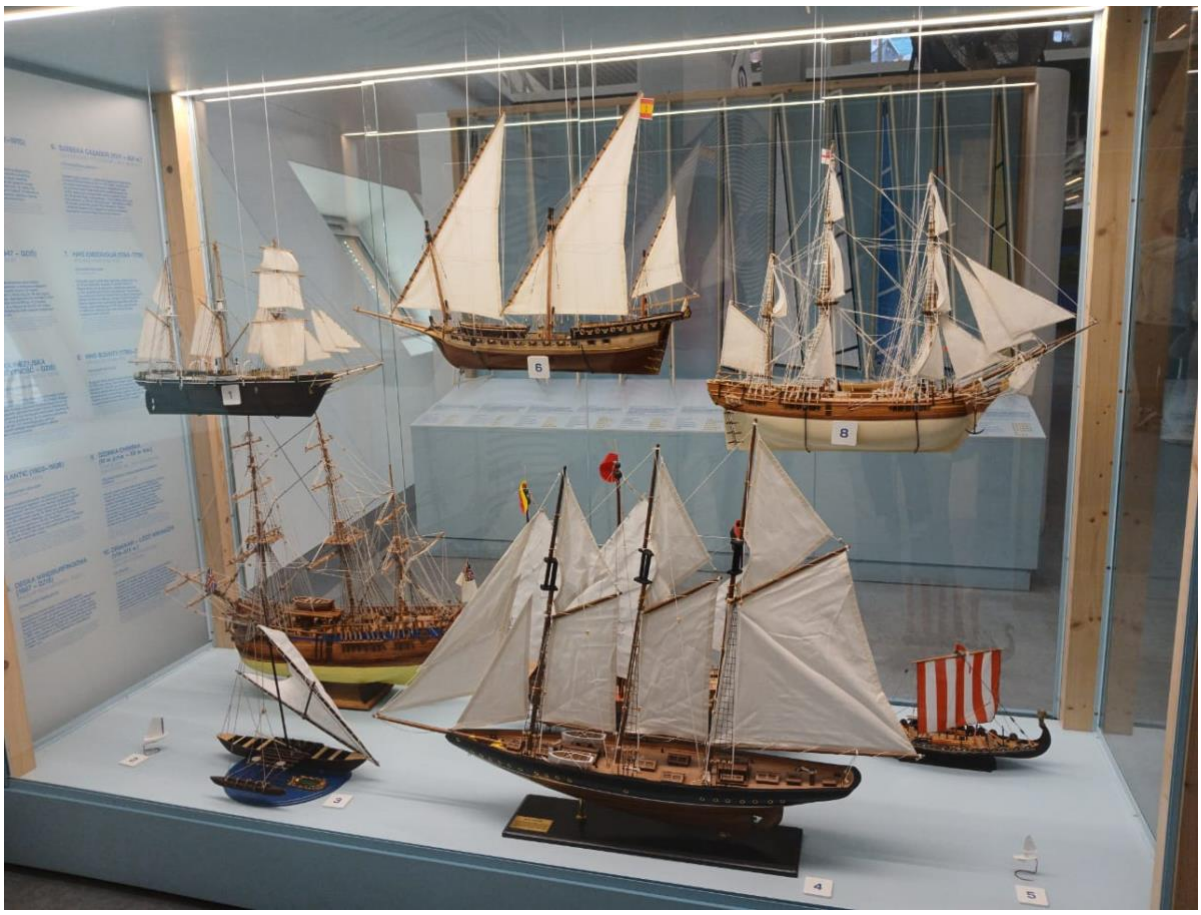
This short excursion was an enriching experience, as it provided both relaxation and cultural learning. It also helped us to better understand the city's heritage and the role of architecture in shaping its global recognition. The visit set a positive tone for the days ahead, balancing our academic programme with exposure to local art, history, and culture.



On 13th July 2025, we visited the Maritime Museum located near the Adventure Park in Szczecin. The museum is one of the city's most significant cultural and educational institutions, dedicated to preserving and showcasing the region's rich maritime history. It houses an extensive collection of ship models, navigation instruments, artifacts, and exhibits that illustrate the evolution of maritime trade, shipbuilding techniques, and naval engineering over the centuries.

During the visit, we gained valuable insights into the historical importance of Szczecin as a port city and its contribution to international trade and naval activities. The museum also displayed interactive exhibits and detailed models of ships, which helped us visualize the technological progress in marine transportation and engineering. Walking through the galleries provided us with both historical knowledge and technical understanding, making the experience particularly relevant to our field of mechanical engineering.

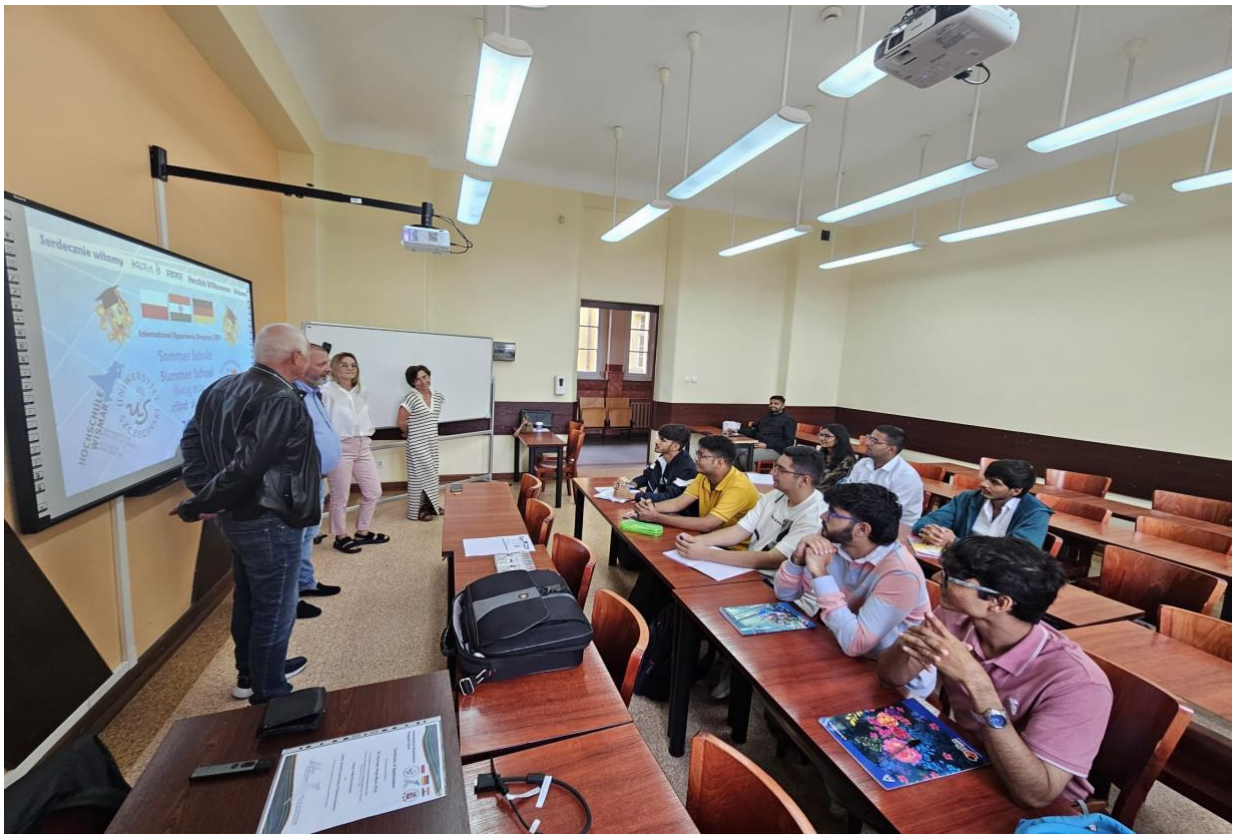
The location of the museum, close to the scenic Odra River and the Adventure Park, added to the overall experience by offering a vibrant atmosphere where culture, history, and leisure converge. This visit not only broadened our appreciation of maritime heritage but also deepened our understanding of how engineering innovations have shaped global connectivity through waterways.



From 14th July 2025, our regular academic sessions commenced, marking the official beginning of the structured part of the International Experience Programme. On the very first day of classes, we were warmly welcomed by Professor Norbert, Professor Malgorzata and Professor Henrick, who introduced themselves and gave us an overview of the academic schedule, teaching methodology, and expectations for the coming weeks.

They outlined the objectives of the programme, emphasizing both the theoretical and practical aspects of the subjects we would be studying. The professors also provided valuable insights into how the courses were designed to integrate classroom learning with industrial exposure, thereby offering us a well-rounded international academic experience. Their encouraging words and approachable manner created a positive atmosphere, which immediately made us feel comfortable and motivated.

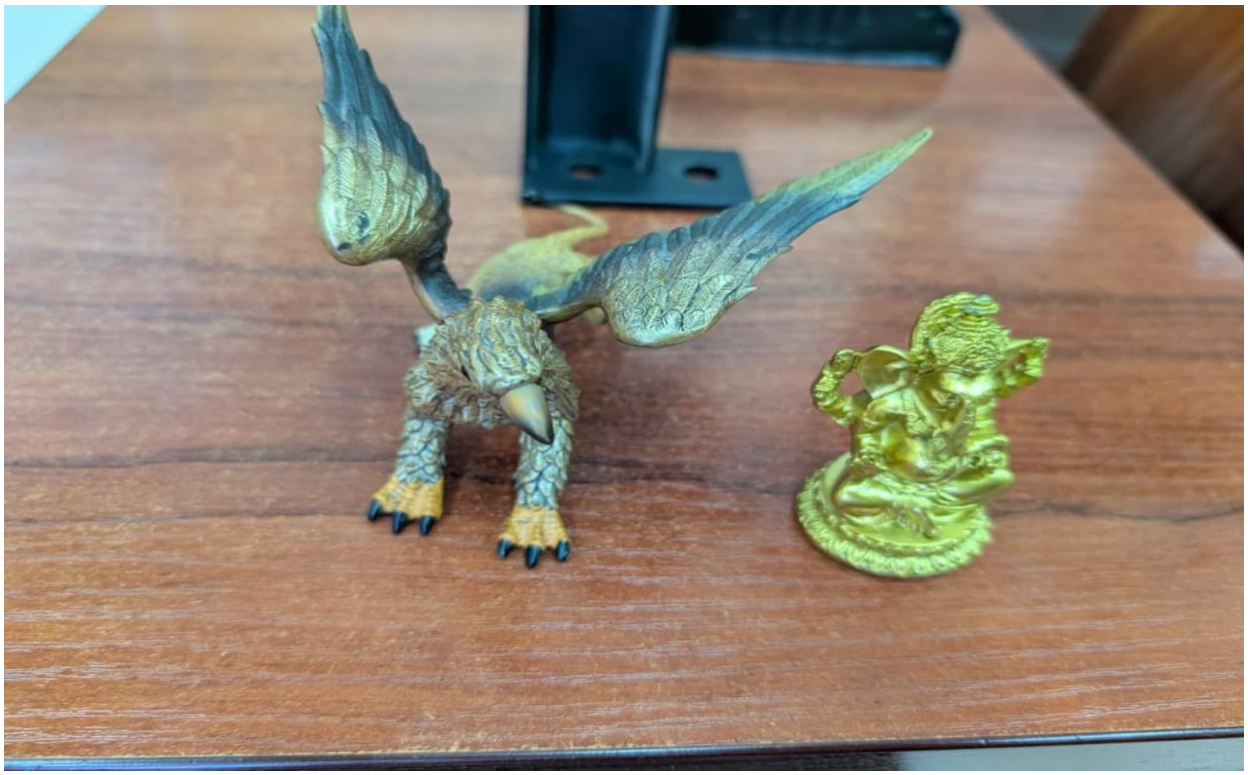
This orientation session played a vital role in setting the tone for the upcoming weeks, as it not only familiarized us with the academic framework but also highlighted the importance of discipline, active participation, and cross-cultural learning. The warm hospitality and professional guidance of the faculty helped us transition smoothly from the initial settling-in period to the beginning of our academic journey in Poland.



On 23rd July 2025, we appeared for our first examination of the programme, which was on the subject Design of Machine Elements. This exam was an important milestone, as it tested our understanding of fundamental design concepts and their application to real-world engineering problems. The assessment challenged us to apply principles of stress analysis, material selection, and failure criteria, thereby bridging theoretical knowledge with practical problem-solving.

A memorable and inspiring aspect of this day was the thoughtful arrangement made by our professor. Before the exam began, he placed an idol of Lord Ganesha and a unique eagle-lion figurine on the desk. The presence of Lord Ganesha, revered in Indian tradition as the *remover of obstacles and the god of wisdom*, symbolized blessings for success, clarity of thought, and the smooth conduct of the examination. The eagle-lion figure, representing strength, courage, and vision, served as a reminder of resilience and determination — qualities essential not only in academics but also in professional life.

This symbolic gesture created a positive and motivating environment for all the students. It beautifully blended cultural values with academic rigor, reminding us that examinations are not only about intellectual effort but also about inner confidence, focus, and perseverance. The thoughtful inclusion of these symbols turned an ordinary exam day into a memorable experience that left a lasting impression on us.

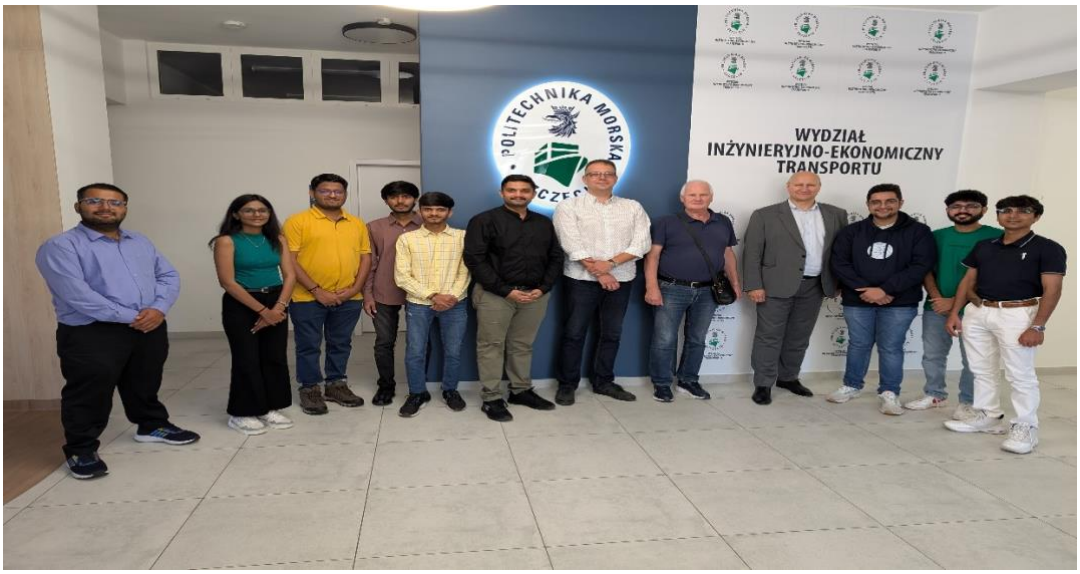


On 24th July 2025, we had the opportunity to visit Politechnika Morska (Maritime University of Szczecin), one of the most prestigious institutions in the region, renowned for its specialized education in maritime sciences and engineering. The visit was an insightful experience, as it allowed us to explore a wide range of state-of-the-art laboratories that have been specifically designed to provide practical training for students.

During the tour, the faculty and staff guided us through various laboratories dedicated to navigation, telematics, production and logistics automation, and marine engineering. Each laboratory was equipped with advanced instruments, simulators, and experimental setups that demonstrated how theoretical knowledge is applied in real-world maritime and industrial scenarios. For instance, the navigation and telematics labs offered a close look at modern simulation systems that are used to train students in handling real-time maritime operations. Similarly, the production and logistics automation labs highlighted the integration of automation technology in improving efficiency and precision in industrial processes.

The visit not only introduced us to the technical facilities of the university but also showcased its strong emphasis on practical learning, research, and innovation. It was inspiring to see how students at Politechnika Morska are provided with hands-on training to complement their classroom education, preparing them for professional roles in both maritime and engineering industries. This exposure broadened our perspective on how advanced laboratories can significantly enhance the quality of education and skill development.

Overall, the visit was highly enriching and gave us a deeper understanding of how international universities bridge the gap between academics and industry through modern facilities and practical training environments.

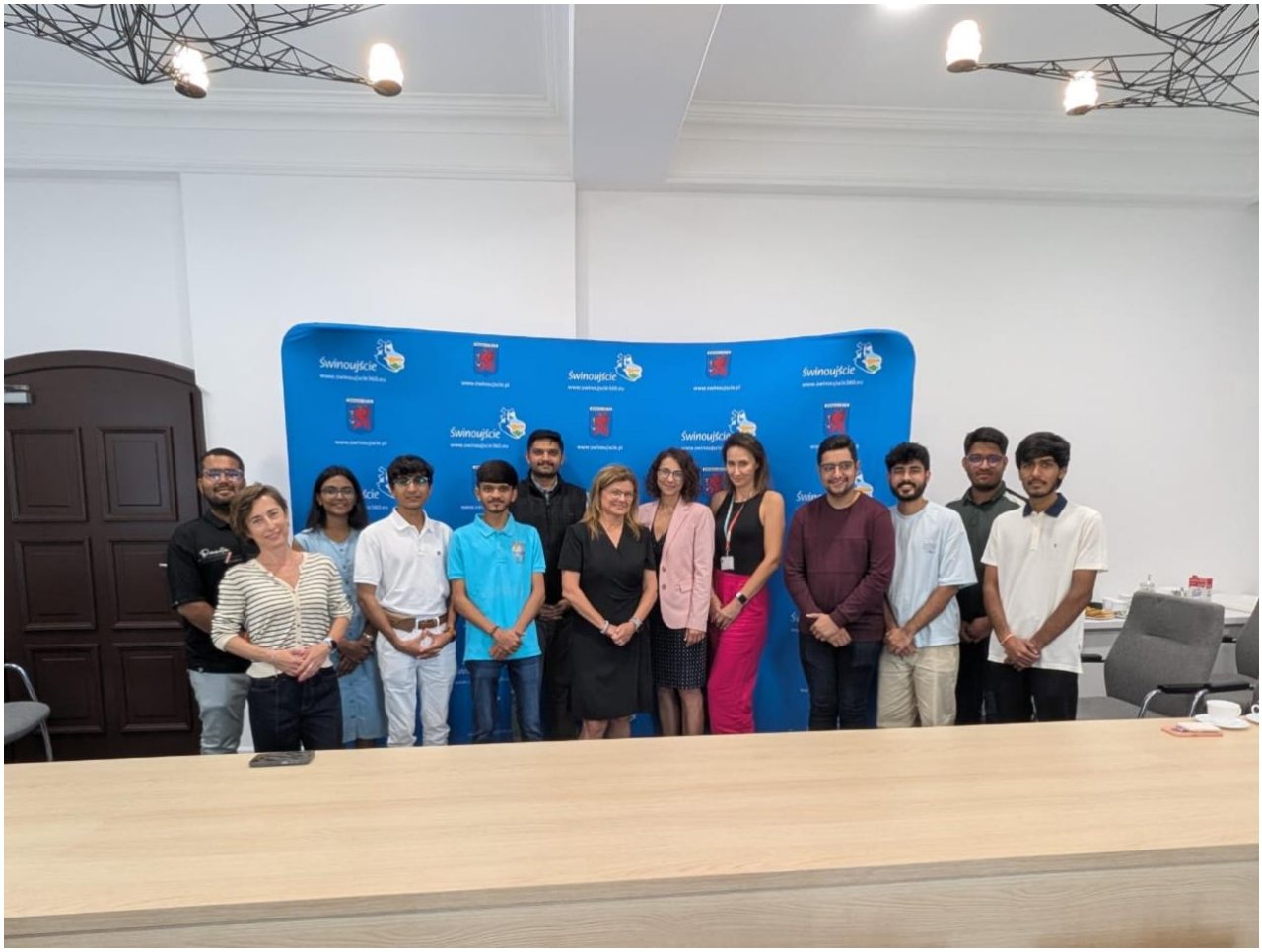


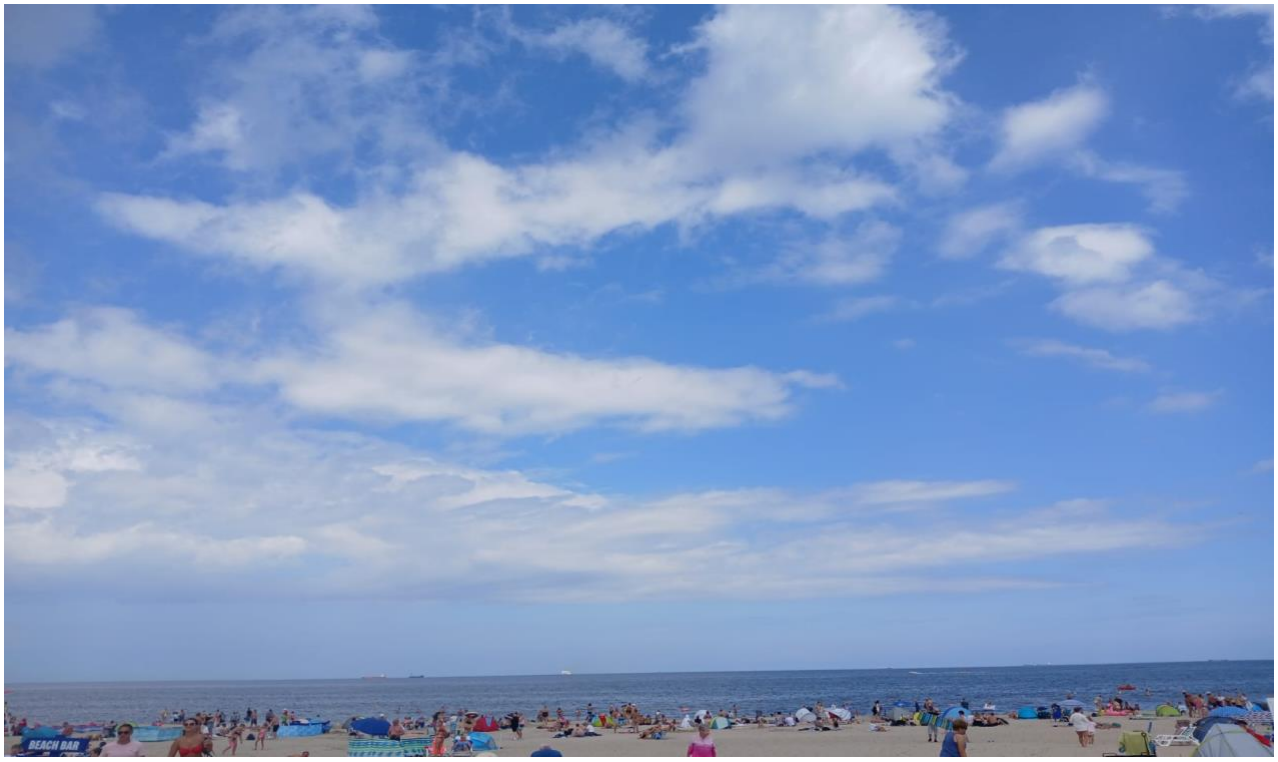
On 25th July 2025, we travelled to the coastal city of Świnoujście, an important seaport town located on the northwestern tip of Poland along the Baltic Sea. The journey itself was an enriching experience, as we first took a train from Szczecin and then crossed the river by ferry, which gave us a scenic view of the waterways and the city's maritime landscape. This mode of travel highlighted the geographical uniqueness of Świnoujście, which is spread across more than 40 islands and is known for its strategic naval and commercial significance.

Upon arrival, we had the privilege of visiting the Office of the President of Świnoujście, where we were introduced to the administrative and cultural importance of the city. The discussions emphasized the role of Świnoujście as not only a vital port but also as a hub for tourism, renewable energy projects, and international collaborations. The visit provided us with a new perspective on how local governance works in European port cities and how such regions balance economic growth with environmental sustainability.

From an Indian perspective, it was particularly interesting to note the growing presence of Indian students and professionals in Poland, including in cities like Świnoujście and Szczecin. Many Indian students pursue higher education in Polish universities, especially in fields such as engineering, medicine, and maritime sciences. This reflects the strengthening academic and cultural ties between India and Poland. Our visit further reinforced the importance of such exchange programmes in building mutual understanding and cooperation between the two countries.

The overall experience of visiting Świnoujście was both educational and memorable. The combination of a picturesque journey, exposure to local administration, and learning about the city's significance in Poland's maritime network made this visit a valuable part of our international programme.


Świnoujście


BEACH BAR

On 28th July 2025, we had the opportunity to visit a company named Elektryka Morska, which specializes in providing electrical and technical solutions for the maritime and industrial sectors. The visit was highly informative, as it exposed us to the practical applications of engineering concepts in the field of electrical systems used onboard ships and in port operations.

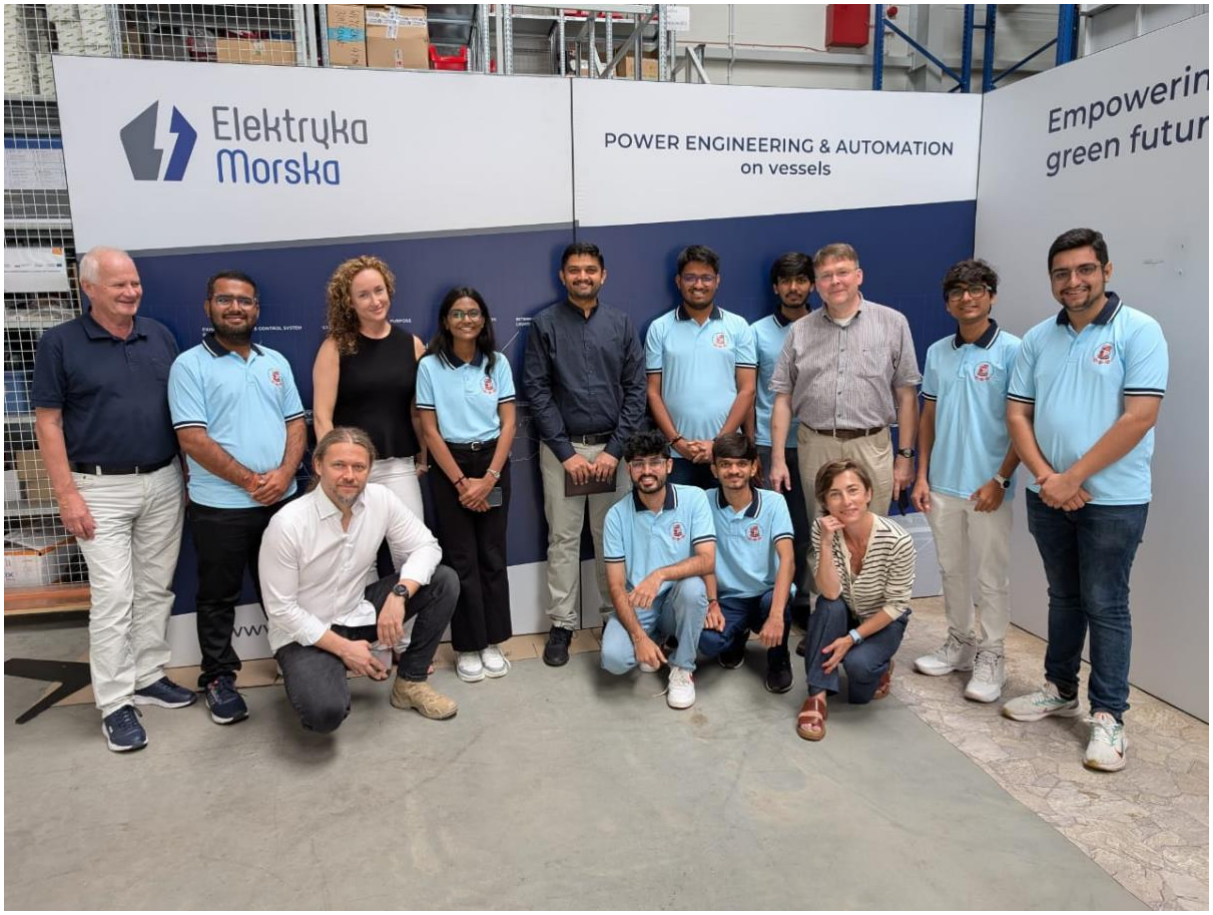
During the interaction, company representatives explained the scope of their work, which includes the installation, maintenance, and repair of electrical equipment, control systems, automation systems, and power distribution networks for vessels and offshore facilities. They also emphasized the importance of safety standards, precision, and reliability in maritime electrical engineering, given that ships operate under demanding environmental conditions.

We were given insights into the company's ongoing projects, such as modernization of ship electrical systems, integration of advanced automation technologies, and the use of energy-efficient solutions to reduce operational costs and environmental impact. These initiatives reflect the increasing global focus on sustainable and green shipping practices, an area where engineering innovation plays a vital role.

From an academic perspective, this visit allowed us to see how principles of electrical engineering, control systems, and mechanical design converge in real-world maritime applications. It also broadened our understanding of career opportunities available for engineers in specialized industries like marine electrical systems.

Furthermore, we learned that Poland's maritime sector has been actively collaborating with international partners, including companies from Asia and India, to enhance technological exchange and workforce mobility. This highlights the growing global demand for skilled engineers and the importance of international exposure for students like us.

Overall, the visit to Elektryka Morska was a valuable experience, as it not only expanded our technical knowledge but also helped us appreciate the critical role of electrical systems in ensuring the safe and efficient functioning of modern ships and maritime infrastructure.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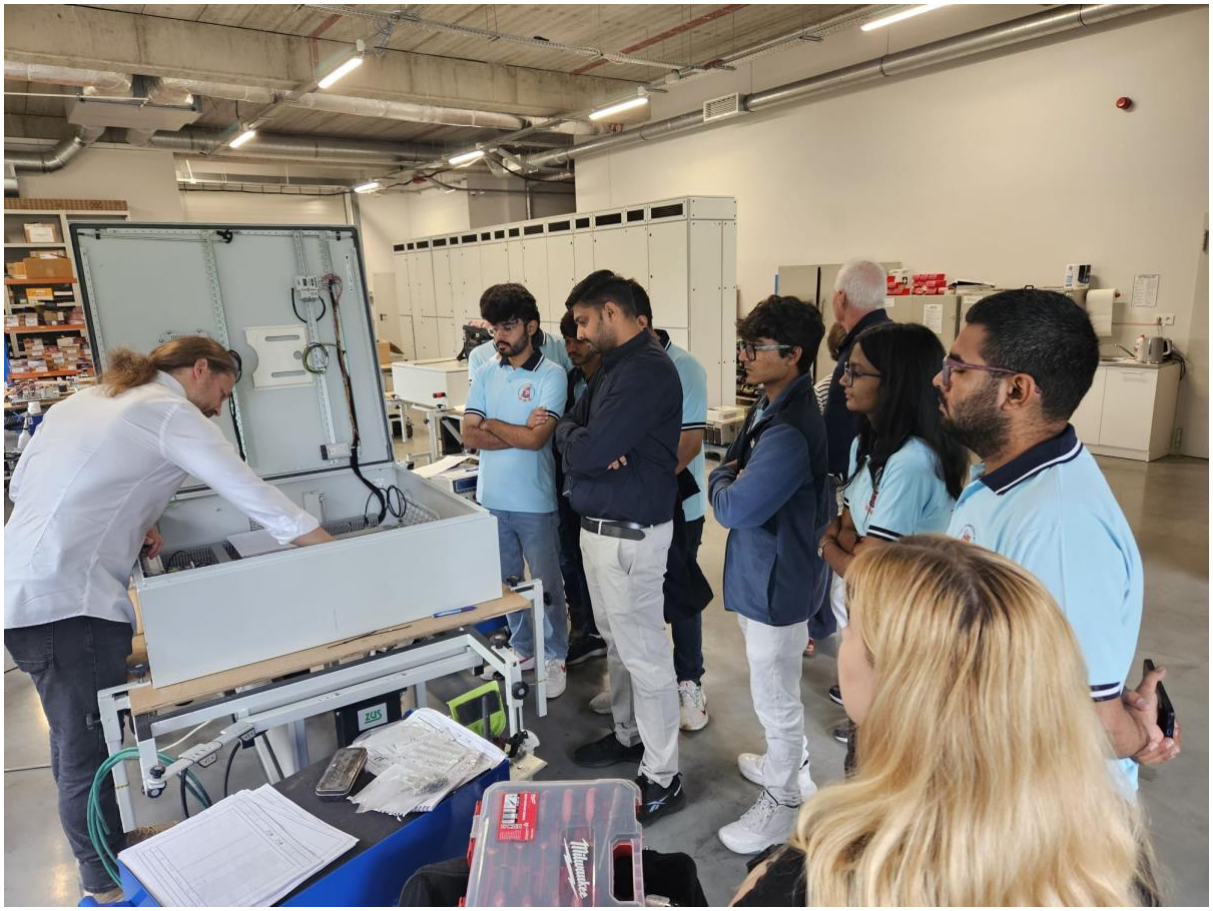
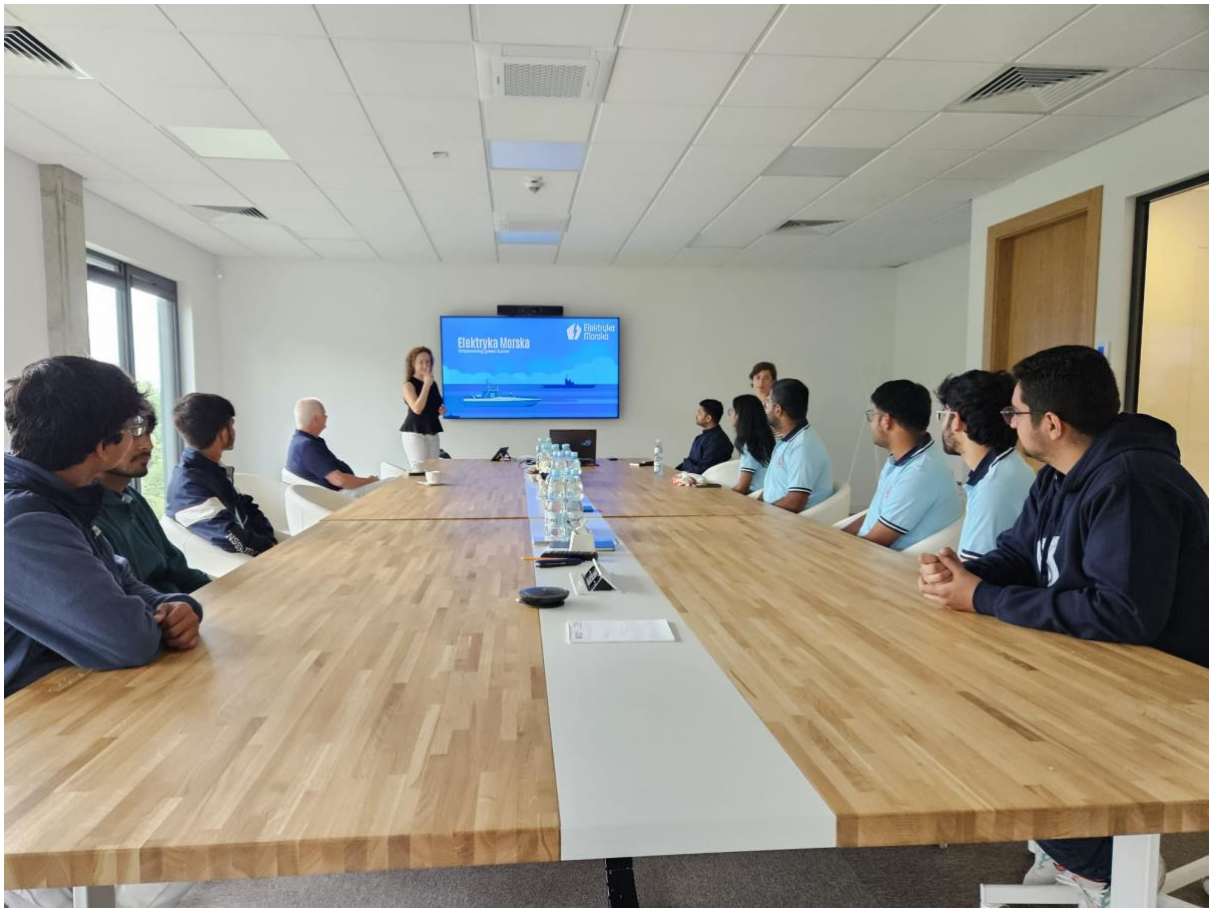



Elektryka Morska

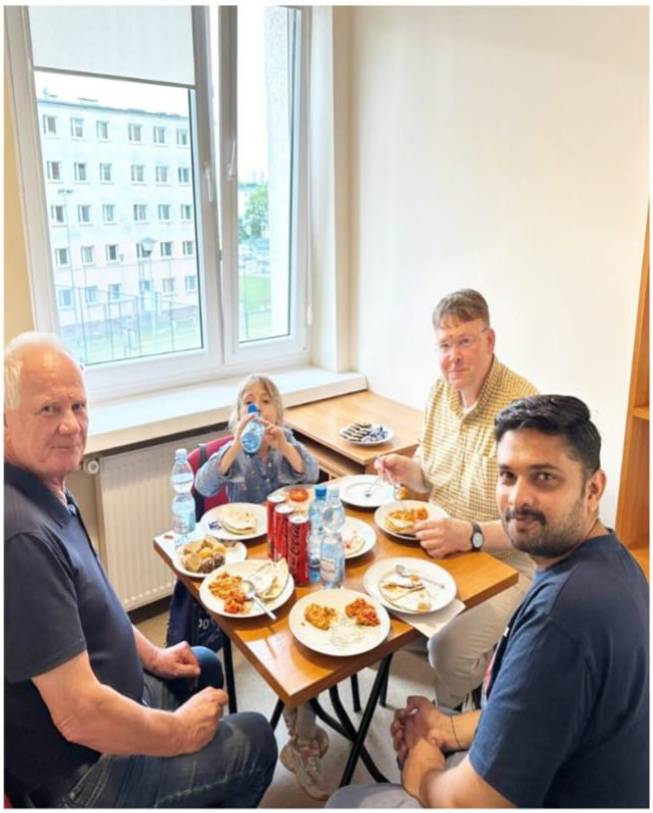
On 31st July 2025, we had the pleasure of inviting all our professors to a special dinner gathering, where we prepared a variety of traditional Indian dishes for them. This event was organized as a gesture of gratitude towards the faculty members for their continuous support and guidance during our stay in Poland.

The evening began with a warm Indian-style welcome ceremony, where we greeted our professors by applying a tilak on their foreheads, symbolizing respect, goodwill, and hospitality. This small yet meaningful gesture gave us the opportunity to share a glimpse of Indian traditions and culture with our hosts.

The dinner featured a selection of authentic Indian food, prepared with great enthusiasm by the students. The aroma of spices and flavours introduced our professors to the richness of Indian cuisine, which they thoroughly appreciated. Many of them expressed curiosity about the ingredients and cooking techniques, which led to engaging cultural conversations around the dining table.

The atmosphere throughout the evening was filled with joy, warmth, and cross-cultural exchange. Beyond just being a meal, the gathering turned into a memorable experience where we not only showcased our culinary skills but also strengthened our bond with the professors on a personal level.

This event was particularly significant as it reflected the essence of the International Experience Programme — building connections across cultures, sharing traditions, and fostering mutual respect. By blending academics with cultural hospitality, we were able to create a unique and lasting impression of Indian values abroad.

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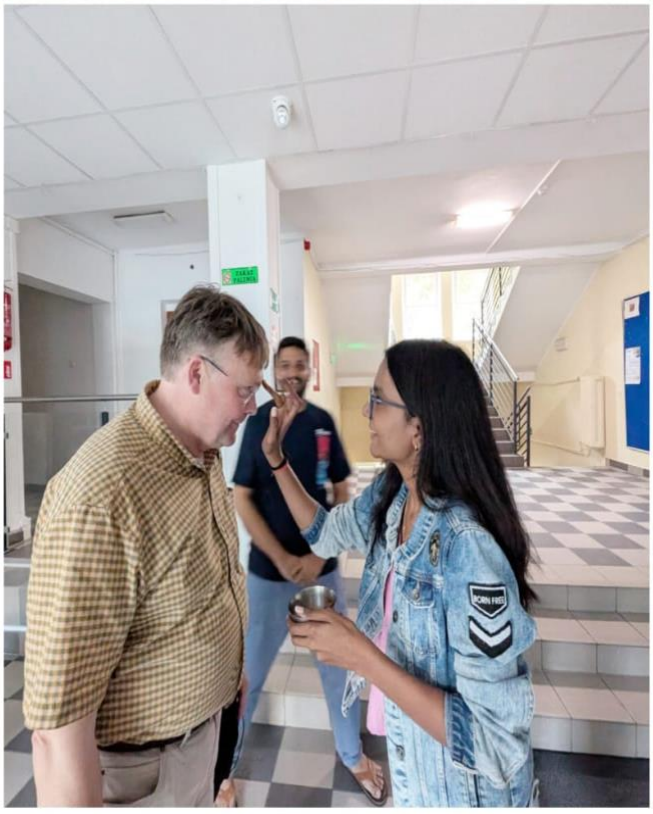
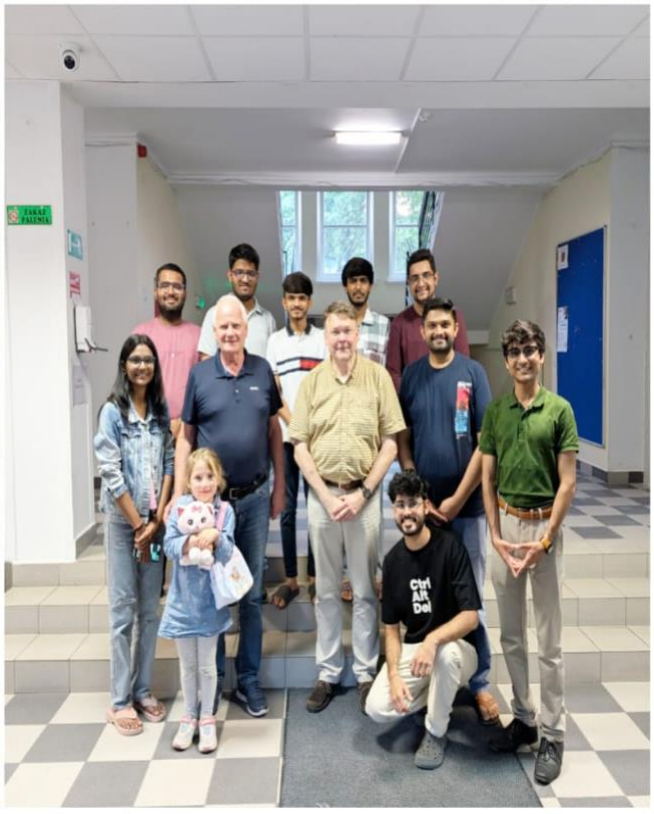


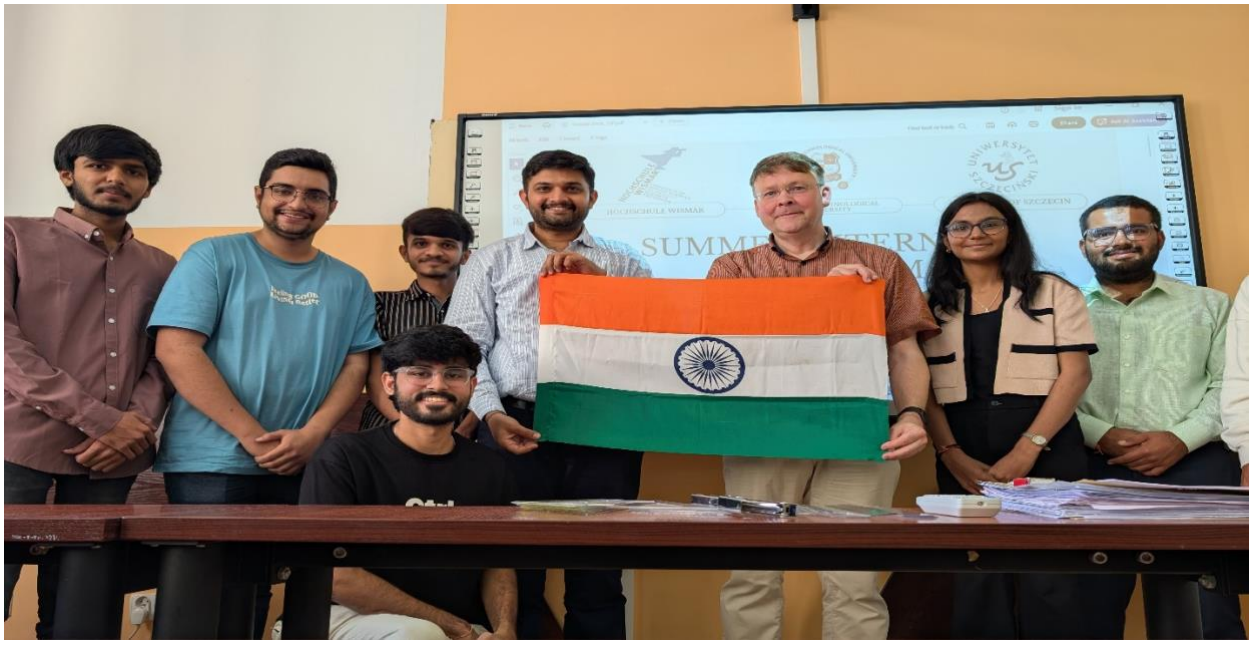


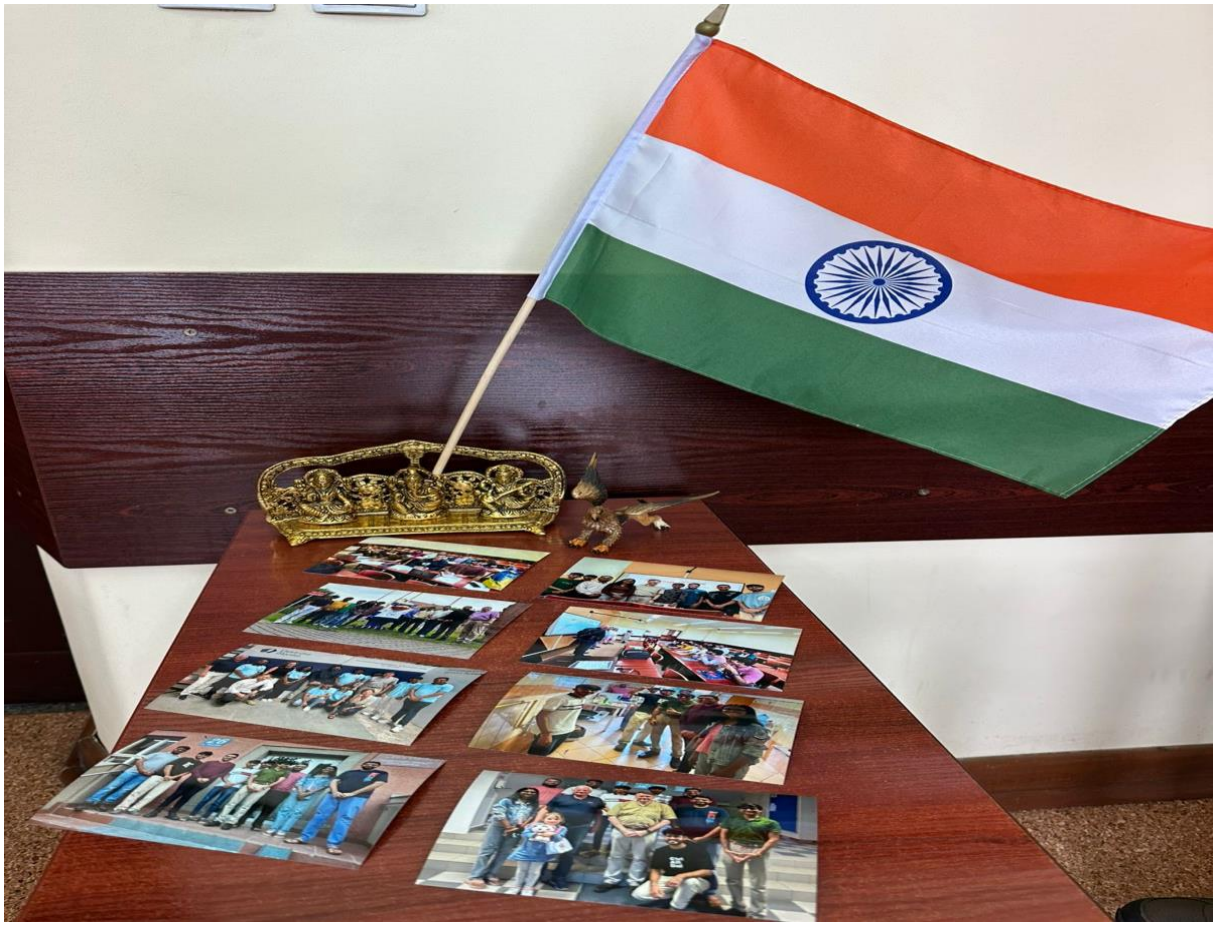
On 1st August 2025, we appeared for our final examination of the programme, which was based on the subject Quality and Reliability of Technical Systems. This exam marked the conclusion of our academic assessments and served as an important milestone in our learning journey.

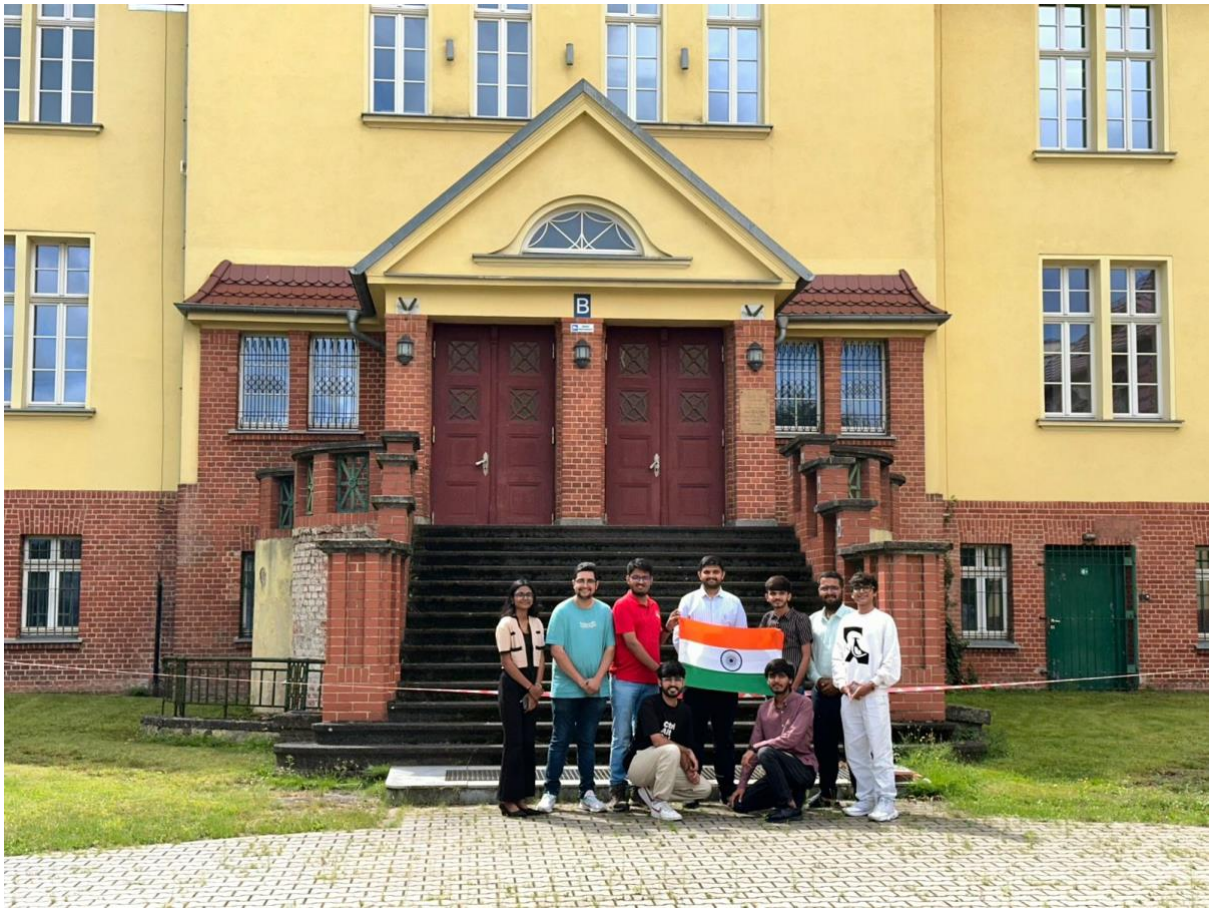
The subject itself holds great importance in engineering, as it focuses on ensuring that technical systems and components perform effectively, consistently, and safely throughout their operational life. The examination tested not only our theoretical knowledge of reliability models, quality assurance techniques, and maintenance strategies but also our ability to apply these concepts in practical engineering scenarios. By attempting case-based and application-oriented questions, we were encouraged to think critically and integrate classroom learning with real-world challenges.

A memorable aspect of this day was the thoughtful gesture by our professors, who had arranged murti of lord Ganesh ji, Saraswati ji and Laxmi ji, Indian flag, chocolates, and photographs to mark the occasion. This arrangement symbolized celebration, unity, and the successful completion of the academic phase of our programme. Their efforts made the day truly special and added a personal touch of warmth and encouragement.

Completing this final exam gave us a sense of accomplishment and closure, as it reflected the knowledge and skills we had gained during the course. It also highlighted the global significance of quality and reliability in engineering practices, preparing us for future professional responsibilities. With this, the academic phase of our programme concluded, leading us into the next stage of industrial visits and cultural activities.



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On 3rd August 2025, we had the remarkable opportunity to travel to Hamburg, Germany, to visit the facilities of Airbus, one of the world's leading aerospace companies. This visit was one of the most awaited industrial tours of the programme, as it offered us direct exposure to the aviation and aerospace industry on a global scale.

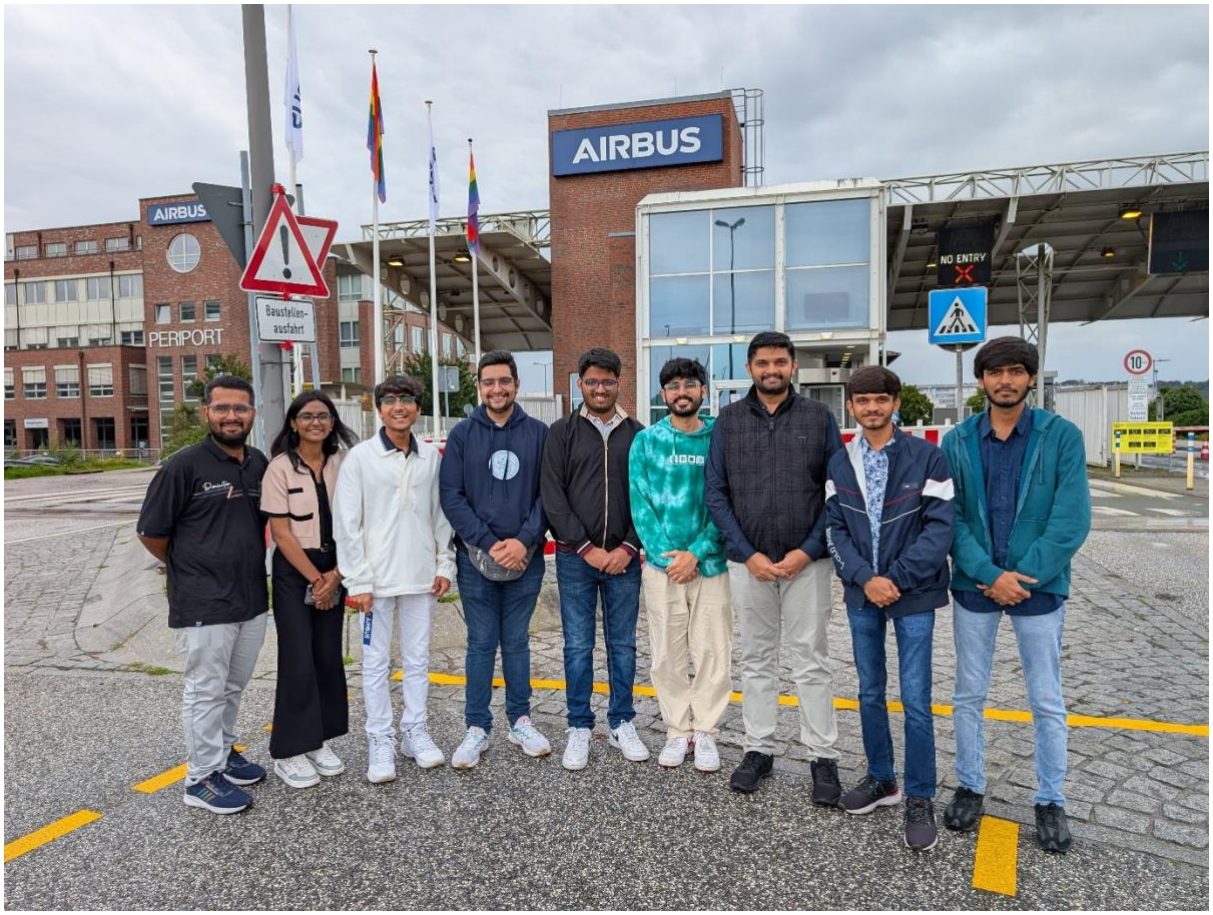
Upon reaching the Airbus premises, we were given an overview of the company's history, achievements, and its significant role in the development of modern aircraft. The introduction highlighted Airbus's contributions to global aviation, particularly its innovations in fuel efficiency, advanced aerodynamics, and safety technologies.

During the guided tour, we were taken through various sections of the facility, where we observed different stages of aircraft production. This included the design and assembly areas, fuselage integration, and component manufacturing units. Witnessing such a large-scale and highly coordinated production process was an eye-opening experience, as it demonstrated the complexity, precision, and teamwork required in the aerospace industry.

We also gained insights into the use of advanced materials, automation, robotics, and digital technologies in aircraft manufacturing. The integration of engineering disciplines such as mechanical, electrical, and software engineering became evident, highlighting how interdisciplinary knowledge is essential in modern industries.

Another fascinating aspect was learning about Airbus's commitment to sustainability and green aviation. The company is actively working on reducing carbon emissions, developing alternative fuels, and designing aircraft that align with future environmental standards. This perspective connected well with our academic background, as it reinforced the importance of innovation in addressing global challenges.

Overall, the visit to Airbus was an inspiring and enriching experience, as it not only broadened our technical understanding but also motivated us to think beyond conventional engineering boundaries. For many of us, it was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to witness how one of the most advanced industries in the world operates, and it left us with valuable lessons about precision, innovation, and global collaboration.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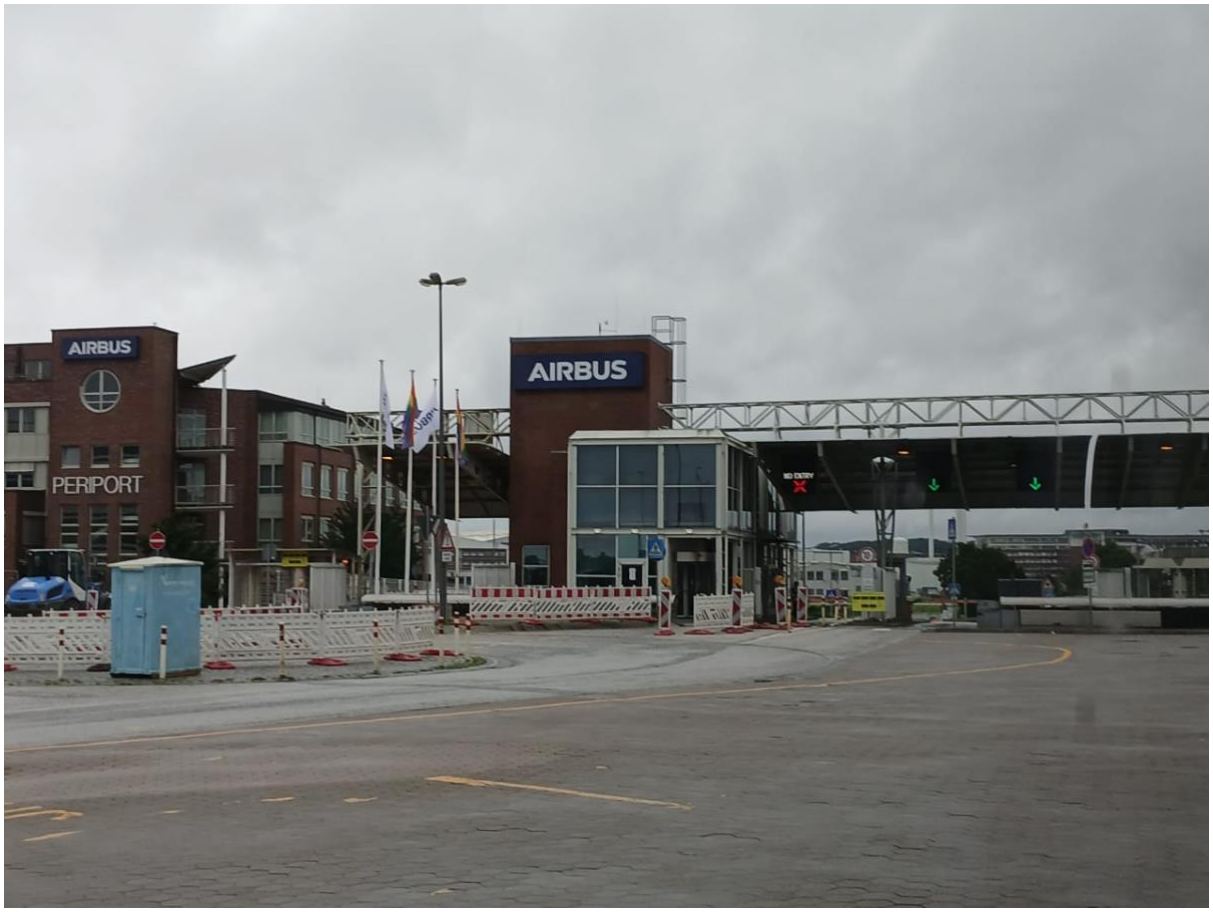
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On **6th August 2025**, we had the privilege of boarding the training ship of Politechnika Morska (Maritime University of Szczecin) for a comprehensive tour of its facilities. This visit was one of the most exciting and practical experiences of the programme, as it allowed us to witness first-hand how maritime education is imparted through real-life exposure on a fully functional vessel.

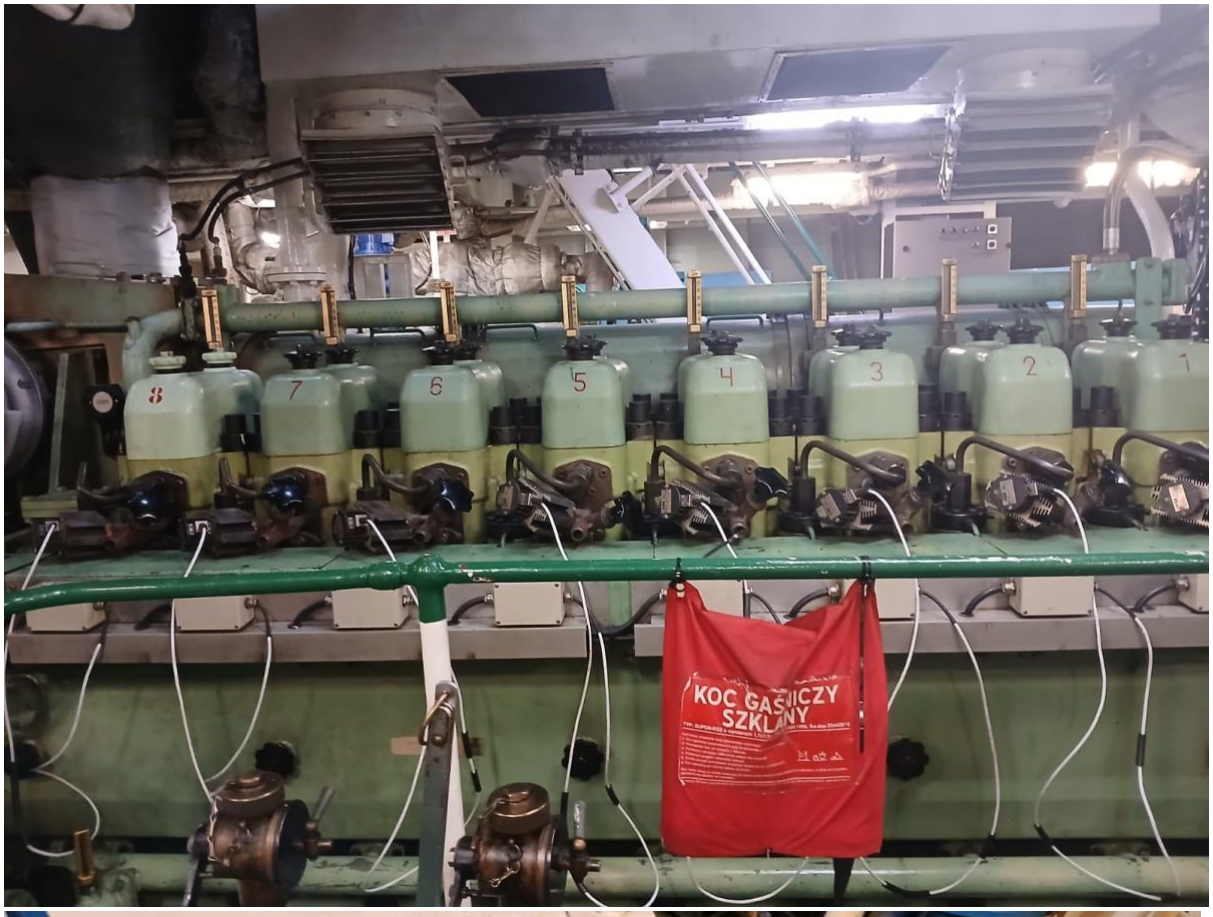
As we stepped on board, we were guided by the ship's crew and faculty members, who explained the various sections of the vessel and their significance. The tour began with an overview of the ship's layout, after which we were taken to the engine room—the heart of the vessel. Here, we observed the massive machinery, propulsion systems, and auxiliary equipment that are essential for the operation of the ship. The intricate network of pipes, turbines, generators, and control systems gave us a clear idea of the complexity and scale of marine engineering.

The faculty provided detailed explanations about the functioning of diesel engines, fuel systems, lubrication mechanisms, and power distribution on board. We also learned how modern automation and monitoring systems are integrated into ship operations to enhance safety, reliability, and efficiency. This was particularly relevant to us as mechanical engineering students, since it directly connected classroom theories with large-scale practical applications.

Apart from the engine room, we also visited other critical facilities such as the navigation bridge, where we were introduced to advanced navigation and communication equipment, including radar, GPS systems, and electronic chart displays. The precision and responsibility involved in navigating a vessel across international waters gave us a deeper appreciation of the maritime profession.

The visit also highlighted the importance of discipline, teamwork, and safety procedures on board. Every crew member has a defined role, and coordination among departments is vital for the smooth and safe functioning of the ship.

Overall, the experience of exploring the training ship of Politechnika Morska was truly enriching. It not only broadened our technical knowledge of marine systems but also provided us with a real-world understanding of how theory, engineering, and practice converge in the maritime industry. For many of us, it was the first time being inside a fully operational ship, making it one of the most memorable highlights of the programme.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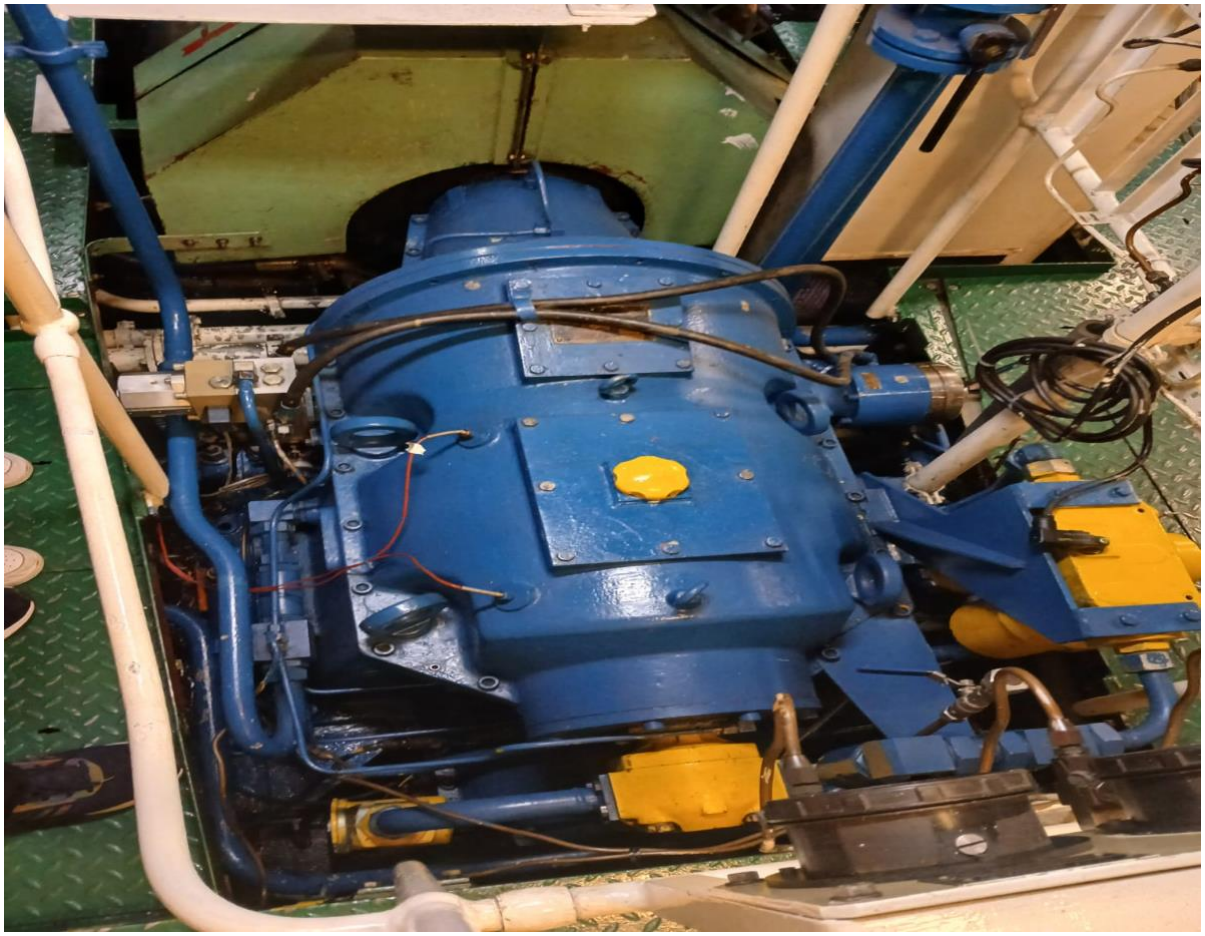
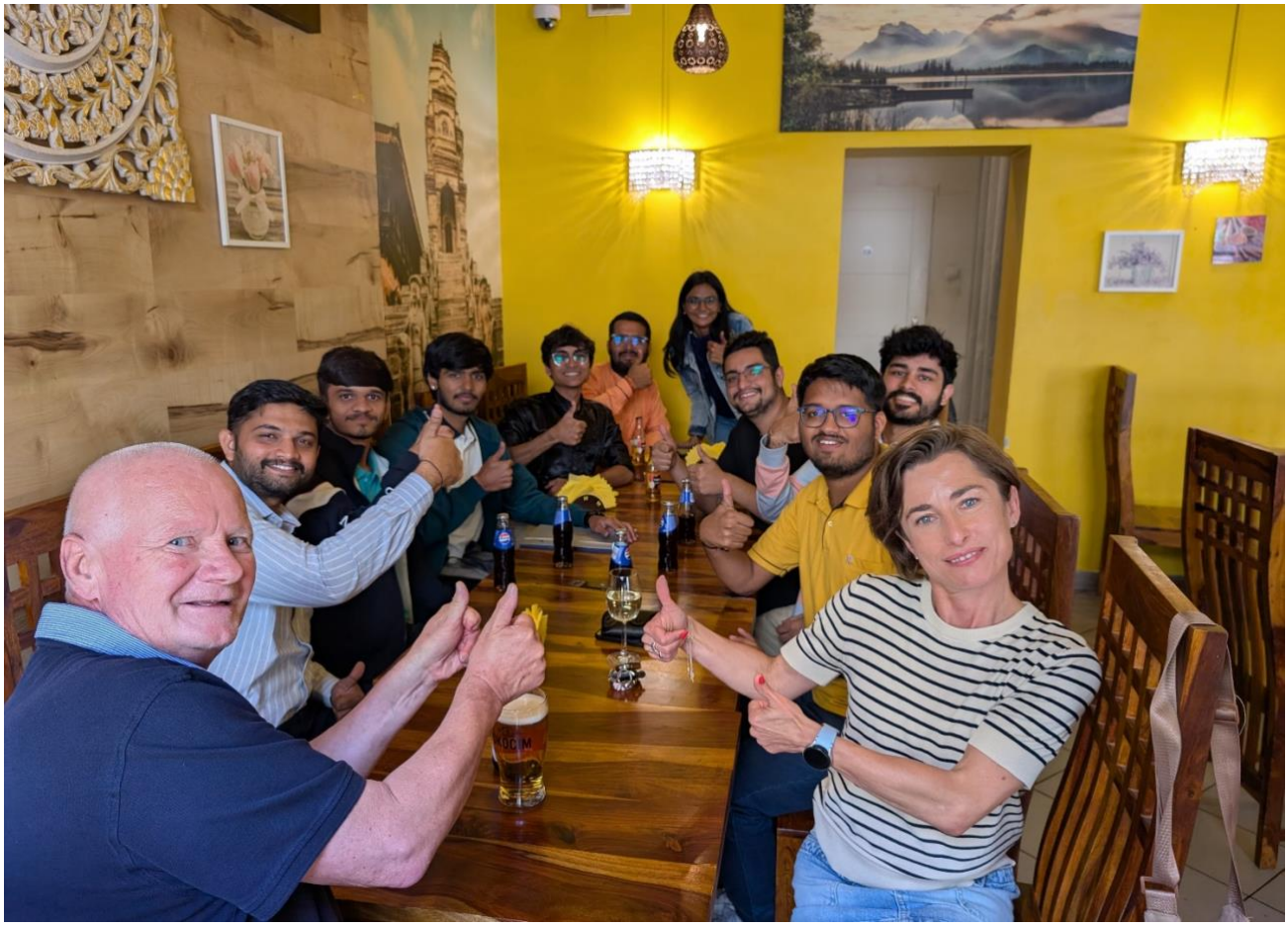
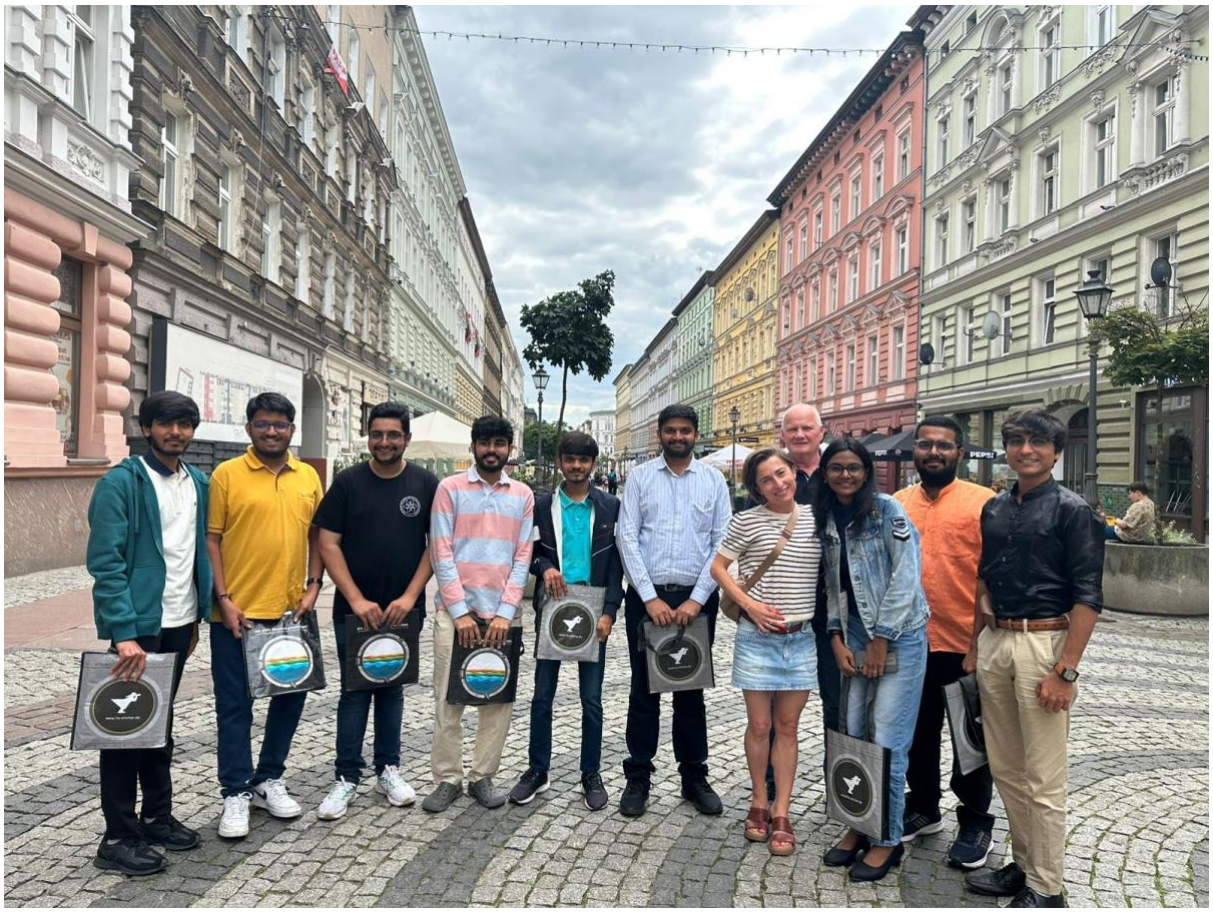


After the ship visit, Professor Norbert and Professor Malgorzata graciously invited us for a special lunch gathering as a gesture of hospitality and encouragement. The lunch provided a warm and friendly environment, where we could interact with our professors outside the classroom setting, share experiences, and express our gratitude for their constant support throughout the programme.

Following the meal, we were formally presented with the Certificates of Completion for the International Experience Programme. Receiving the certificates was a proud and memorable moment for all of us, as it symbolized not only the successful conclusion of our academic and industrial activities but also our personal growth, cross-cultural learning, and global exposure. The ceremony was marked by appreciation, smiles, and photographs, making it a truly unforgettable occasion that highlighted the value of this international journey. Formally, it was the end of programme and we waved final goodbyes which was quiet overwhelming.





On 12th August 2025, we bid farewell to Poland, marking the end of an unforgettable journey filled with academic learning, industrial exposure, and cultural experiences. As we departed, we carried with us not only knowledge but also countless memories of the professors, classmates, and international friends who had made our stay meaningful and enriching.

Our return journey began from Szczecin, after which we traveled to Berlin for our onward flight. The long journey home gave us time to reflect on the valuable lessons and experiences we had gained during the programme. On 14th August 2025, we finally reached Ahmedabad, where we were warmly welcomed by our families and friends.

The moment of arrival was emotional, as it combined the joy of reuniting with loved ones with the pride of successfully completing an International Experience Programme. This marked not only the conclusion of our travel but also the beginning of a new chapter, where the knowledge, skills, and global exposure we had received would serve as a strong foundation for our future professional and personal endeavors.