



Sarwar Amin, 27, Iraq-Kurdistan region

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Sarwar comes from Kurdistan in Iraq, a region where he had experienced political turbulences all his life. Before he came to Konstanz in 2005 to deepen his knowledge in „Conflict and Peace“. The 27 year old graduate, who speaks four languages himself reports: “Speaking different languages is very essential. Only when you are able to communicate smoothly you can work in an international surrounding and thus serve the goals you have in mind“. As an international student, Sarwar is suited to the international location of Konstanz which borders three different states.

The international master program “Policy and Management“ used to be completely in English but is now taught 50 percent in German. “The course has become very attractive also for Germans. We now get the best of international and German students“, states Dr. Johannes Dingler, coordinator of the international master program “Public Policy and Management“.

“To come to Konstanz was especially exciting – and finally a 'must' – since the university here has a very innovating approach towards political science. We learn brand new methods of data collecting and data management. This empirical approach is more up to date other than many universities“, enthuses Sarwar, who has received a German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) scholarship.

Sarwar has been here for little more than a year now and has made a lot of friends. When he arrived he believed: “Always rely on yourself first!“ And this is the advice he would still give to new incoming students. A year ago Sarwar became depressed with the German regulations. But step by step he learnt how to deal with these new rules. “Suddenly I felt international. I know (almost) everything about Germany that gives me hope and ambition.“ Sarwar Amin is obviously proud of having found his own way of dealing with a completely different culture. And he finds ways to gap bridges between here and home.

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