Where did we go?

- Erasmus Postgraduate Students:
  - **Where**: Madrid, Spain
  - **When**: Sept. 2014 – Feb. 2015 (5 months)
  - **Why**: 3rd semester of Postgraduate studies to elaborate Master Thesis
- **University**: Polytechnic university of Madrid (UPM), Department Of Software Engineering And Information Systems, Distributed Systems Lab (LSD)
Current ID Difficulties

- ID Difficulties:
  - No expiration date
  - Pictures in young age
  - Difficult to identify first name, last name, father’s name, etc. (handwritten information)
  - Looked like a fake ID since most of the IDs today are in a credit-card form
  - Lack of digital information (e.g. fingerprints in digitalized form)
  - Asking for Passports

Greece vs Everyone
Expectation vs Reality

**EXPECTATION**

- Easy registration to the **University**
- Easy-to-get **Public Transport Cards**
- Fast service in (Public) Services (e.g. Bank, Apartment Rental)
- **Friendliness & Understanding** (since we are all EU citizens)
- Hardest part would be speaking English in Spain!

**REALITY**

- Long waiting to grant access to the University Services
- 1-week waiting to find a way to approve our IDs in the Public Transport Services
- Long hours of waiting to the (Public) Services for confirming that our IDs are not fake
- Treatment as citizens of “**Third World Countries**” (e.g. impoliteness)
- Easiest part was speaking English in Spain!
Overall Conclusion

- Conclusions & Lessons learned:
  - New *friends* from all over the world
  - New *experiences & lifestyle*
  - A collaborative *Master Thesis*
  - 1st time *away* from our home country
  - *Collaborations* with other students & professors
Any Questions?