IIR INTERN GIVES HER CV A BOOST, GAINS INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH SKILLS

Czech native Magdalena Buresova, studying Sociology and Social Policy at Charles University, had undertaken several marketing internships before finally finding an internship position at the Institute of International Relations in Prague.



MAGDALENA BURESOVA

"I wanted to gain experience in Public Relations. My former internships were only for a short time period and I wanted to deepen my knowledge" she says. "I thought that working for a research institution would nicely combine my major and my dream job."

Magdalena hopes to graduate in the summer of 2020 and then undertake a master's degree, but she now says she's considering beginning her career at IIR itself. "I would love to work specifically in the IIR!" she says.

LEARNING PROFESSIONAL SKILLS IN A LEADING RESEARCH ENVIRONMENT

From writing a report on a lecture about post-conflict reconstruction in Syria to participating in international conferences at the Czernin Palace, Magdalena says she has had many opportunities to gain useful skills as part of her internship.

"I love that my internship is quite diverse" she says. "I take care of our social media, I do graphic design, I help organize conferences, I take pictures, I do HR... I think I can't pick just one thing I enjoy the most, I like my job as a whole".

Magdalena was also not short of opportunities to fulfill her academic and research interests, working on a project with Senior IIR Researchers Jan Daniel and Jakub Eberle, whose article "Putin, You Suck: Affective Sticking Points in the Czech Narrative on 'Russian Hybrid Warfare'" was recently published in the prestigious Political Psychology journal.

Magdalena really enjoyed the experience, saying how friendly and helpful Daniel and Eberle were by providing useful insights and research tips for her future studies.

The chance to improve her English in conversation with professional researchers and to take a leading role in organizing high-level international conferences also highlights of Magdalena's internship. She had even graphical the opportunity to learn s o m e skills design and conduct interviews with some of the new interns.

IMPROVING HER CV WHILE MAKING NEW FRIENDS

The chance to make friends with young people from all around the world was a notable highlight for Magdalena. Writing a report on a lecture series on her very first day in the job was potentially a nerve-wracking experience, however the helpful assistance of her colleagues made the task much easier. "Everybody was very nice to me and helped me in many ways," she says.

The laid-back atmosphere of IIR also contributed to her enjoyment. "When I'm in the office I feel like I am among my friends, not just colleagues," she says.

Organising multilateral conferences at the Czernin Palace was certainly a new experience for Magdalena, but one she also found to be eye-opening and enjoyable. Her favourite event was the Prague European Summit, which encompassed speeches and debates from some of the leading names in European affairs such as Pascal Lamy (former EU Director-General and Commissioner) and Sylvia Hartleif (Leader of the Foreign Policy Team at the European Political Strategy Centre of the EU Commission).

She also helped plan the 'Hybrid Warfare and European Security' debate series, one of which took place in her home town of Pilsen.

Summarising her internship, Magdalena is happy that her experience at IIR taught her to be independent and gain confidence in an internationally recognised research environment. If you are interested in working in the dynamic international environment of a leading academic research institution, Magdalena encourages you to apply to the IIR.

"Do not hesitate and apply immediately, you won't regret it!" she says.