

# OPPORTUNITY CENTER

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR POLITICAL SCIENCE STUDENTS - JANUARY 2012

Conferences  
& Calls  
for  
Papers



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## “IAPSS Academic Conference and General Assembly: The States They Are A-Changing”

**Organizing Institution:** IAPSS/  
StugA Politik

**Place:** Bremen, Germany

**Deadline:** January 22nd, 2012

**Duration:** April 22nd - 29th, 2012

**Description:** The students of political sciences at the Bremen University host the 2012 IAPSS ACGA, with the topic of “The States they are A-changing”. During the academic conference that will last three days, several aspects of the transformation of statehood will be discussed, attempting to examine the question of “who governs whom”. The theme is separated into three topics: economy and the state, states in the international context, citizens and the state. Scientists as well as practitioners from national and international organizations

will share their research and practical experiences in lectures, workshops and panel debates, trying to shed some light on the issue. At the end of the 3rd day, the participants will attempt to answer the question: Who rules the world – the economy, the state or the citizens? The academic part will be followed by the IAPSS General Assembly which will take place in the last three days. During the GA, which is the most important decision making body of IAPSS, all member associations will discuss the concerns and interests of the organization.



UNIVERSITY OF  
BIRMINGHAM

**Title:** "Sixth Annual Conference of the Graduate Centre for Europe: Collapsing Europe?"

**Organizing Institution:**

Graduate Centre for Europe, University of Birmingham

**Place:** Birmingham, United Kingdom

**Duration:** March 26th - 28th, 2012

**Abstracts Deadline:** January 13th, 2012

**Description:** Whether the dismantling of physical and figurative barriers in the name of integration, or apocalyptic predictions of the imminent failure of the "European project", the idea of collapse features prominently in modern notions of the continent's past, present and future. The Conference will encourage postgraduate researchers to offer their own reflections on European collapse. It will explore the concept of upheaval through time and space and consider how Europe's shifting fortunes have been, and remain, a function of both its own idiosyncrasies and of changes imposed upon it by its relationship with the outside world. This conference invites contributions from postgraduate researchers in a variety of disciplines with the express aim of learning from other academic approaches and sharing their own.

Send Abstracts to:

[gofe.bham@googlemail.com](mailto:gofe.bham@googlemail.com)

Click here!

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# "Comparing and contrasting 'Europeanization': concepts and experiences"



**Organizing Institution:**  
The Institute of International  
Economic Relations

**Place:** Athens, Greece

**Duration:** May 14th - 16th,  
2012

**Abstracts Deadline:**  
February 10th, 2012

**Description:** Sixty years since the entry into force in 1952 of the first European Community (Steel and Coal), it is time to offer a comprehensive and comparative analysis of the impact of European membership, a phenomenon known in the academic literature as "Europeanization". The event will try to offer a comparative and comprehensive approach to the notion, while attempting to answer to the question: is the concept of Europeanization still useful? A wide range of policy areas as well as EU institutions and member states will be analyzed from all three accepted Europeanization dimensions to date: downloading, uploading and cross-loading. Special attention will be also paid to the impact of Europeanization on Greece and in particular on its economy and on its foreign policy.

**Contact:**  
Mrs Stella Milioti  
Ms Boyka Boneva  
Institute of International  
Economic Relations,  
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# “European networks: the Balkans, Scandinavia the Baltic world in a time of economic and ideological crisis”

**Organizing Institution:** The Romanian Association for Baltic and Nordic Studies and Balkanalysis.com

**Place:** Targoviste, Dambovita, Romania

**Duration:** May 25th - 27th, 2012

**Abstracts Deadline:** February 1st, 2012

**Description:** A few years ago, the Western Balkans saw the road towards the EU as the way to ensure prosperity and stabilization. However, the current economic crisis and the consequent turbulences shook Europe to its very core, marked with uncertainty the Balkans route to the Union. The conference has two major goals. The first is to foster debate and academic discussion regarding contemporary problems facing the Balkan and Baltic regions during a period of severe global economic instability. The second aim of the conference is to foster cooperation and the creation of research networks between scholars from two geographical peripheries of Europe.



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*website*

## Contact:

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Tel. (004) 0724403094, Fax (004)  
0345 819714, E-mail:  
conference2012@arsbn.ro

## Internships

**Position:** Research Unit Intern

**Institution:** International Crisis Group

**Duration:** 6 months, starting in February and April 2012

**Place:** Brussels, Belgium

**Deadline:** January 20th, 2012

**Description:** The International Crisis Group is seeking two interns to work for six months with the Brussels Research Unit, starting in February and April 2012. The internship would suit a candidate with a recent degree in international relations, conflict studies, political science or similar. Responsibilities of the interns include: Research and draft background materials on conflict issues for Research Unit staff and field personnel; assistance with the preparation and publication of CrisisWatch, Crisis Group's monthly bulletin on conflict around the world; assistance in proofreading and preparing Crisis Group reports for publication; maintenance and updating of the Research Unit's conflict prevention library; attending policy briefings and seminars with/on behalf of Crisis Group staff; assistance in updating Crisis Group's website; carrying out administrative duties relevant to the Research Unit's work; support to the office of the President as directed; and general administrative support to the Brussels office.

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**Requirements:** Authorization to work in Belgium; a degree in law, international relations, conflict studies, political science or similar; English language skills at native-speaker level; French or other language an asset; professional experience within an international relations environment/NGO desirable; highly organized and able to pay close attention to detail; excellent working knowledge of Microsoft Office and online research tools.

**Application:** Send your CV and cover letter to [intern.vacancies@crisigroup.org](mailto:intern.vacancies@crisigroup.org) clearly stating "Research Unit Intern" and the date you would be able to start. Applications will be considered and interviews conducted on a rolling basis.

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## **Position: Traineeship at Amnesty International**

**Alternatives:** a) EU Common Foreign and Security Policy and External Relations (focusing on Africa, Asia and Americas)

b) EU Common Foreign and Security Policy and External Relations (focusing on Wider Europe, Middle East and Central Asia)

c) Campaign Assistant on Discrimination

**Institution:** Amnesty International, European Institutions Office

**Place:** Brussels, Belgium

**Duration:** March 1st - July 31st, 2012

**Deadline for application:** January 15th, 2012

**Description:** Tasks for all trainees will include: Assisting your Executive/Policy Officer with the representation of Amnesty International vis-a-vis the European Institutions, other NGOs and the press, as appropriate, both in writing and orally; mapping relevant EU policies and legislation related to the human rights area you are working on (as above);

preparation, assistance and follow-up of advocacy activities towards the EU institutions;

preparation of responses to queries and requests from the EU institutions and AI offices;

monitoring relevant EU legislation and events;

monitoring European Parliament meetings in Brussels;

information handling and focused research work on policy and legal developments in your work area; assistance in administrative tasks.

**General Requirements:** Work permit for Belgium or allowance to work in Belgium; knowledge of the EU institutions; experience working with the EU institutions or with the Council of Europe is an important asset.

Strong interest in human rights and current affairs;

fluency in English, including proficient drafting skills, proficient French and other EU languages are an asset;

good communication skills and an eye for detail;

ability to work independently and as part of a team, establishing priorities and organizing his/her time accordingly, with the ability to work on several files at the same time;

Standard computer skills (knowledge of Windows, Word, Internet Explorer).

**Specific Requirements:** For alternatives (a) and (b) educational background in political sciences, international/European law, international relations or human rights law.

For alternative (c) educational background in political sciences, international/European law, international relations or human rights law; web-editing skills and familiarity with web tools and applications; experience in campaigning an asset.

### **Contact:**

Albert Gans  
Amnesty International  
European Institutions Office  
rue de Trèves 35  
B-1040 Brussels  
Tel. : +32 (0) 2 548.27.62

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*Info & Application*

# Position: Official winter traineeship of the European Commission



**Institution:** European Union

**Duration:** October 1st - February 28th, 2012

**Deadline:** January 31st, 2012

**Description:** The interns' tasks will include assisting with high-level administrative and logistical tasks, such as organizing working groups, forums, public hearings and meetings, compiling information and documentation, preparing reports and answering queries, etc. (excluding any responsibility for financial management, official negotiations and representation); carrying out tasks similar to those which any "Administrator"-category official performs as part of his/her daily office work in order to deliver results, such as participating in unit or team meetings, document handling, word processing, data searching, filing, following up tenders, checking texts, etc.

**Requirements:** Nationality of EU member state (preferable), or of non-EU member state (limited positions); university diploma acquired by the application deadline; no previous in-service training or employment with any of the European institutions or bodies for more than six weeks; very good knowledge of English, French or German; if not national of an EU member state, very good knowledge of a second EU official language is required.

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## *Position: Trainee in European Affairs*

**Institution:** Interel European Affairs

**Duration:** 6 months, starting as soon as possible

**Place:** Brussels, Belgium

**Deadline:** Apply as soon as possible

**Description:** Interel European Affairs, the European Public Affairs Practice of the Interel Group is looking to recruit a trainee for 6 months to start as soon as possible. This program is intended to provide young dynamic graduates with the opportunity to gain experience in one of the leading public affairs and communications agencies in Brussels, as well as exposure to a broad range of EU actors, policies and processes. Responsibilities of the trainee will include research and analysis on a range of policy topics; organizing and participating in meetings and events; supporting the Interel consulting team in the delivery of public affairs and communications programs; assisting in the implementation of outreach programs towards the European institutions and other stakeholders; assisting with preparing draft reports, presentations and other internal and external documents.

**Requirements:** Higher education degree in a related field (economics, politics, technical degrees); knowledge of the EU institutions and of EU decision-making; excellent written and oral communication skills; perfect English, excellent knowledge of at least one other EU language; good organizational skills; good interpersonal skills with the ability to work in an international team.

**Application:** Send your CV and cover letter to [jobs@interel.eu](mailto:jobs@interel.eu) mentioning Traineeship in the subject line.

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# “Self-funded Summer Intern”

**Organizing Institution:** Interights

**Place:** London, United Kingdom

**Duration:** May - September, 2012

**Deadline:** January 31st, 2012

**Description:** Interights specializes in the strategic litigation of human rights cases before regional and international human rights bodies, on cases from Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union, Africa, South Asia and the Middle East. Their litigation is supported by related capacity building activities and publications on international and comparative human rights law. With programs of work on equality (including the human rights of women, persons with disabilities and LGBTI rights), security and the rule of law (including counter-terrorism) and economic and social rights, an internship at Interights provides valuable exposure to a variety of international legal challenges in practice. Summer interns provide valuable legal research and drafting assistance to Interights lawyers, helping with the preparation of legal briefs, training materials and publications on human rights.

**Requirements:** Be law graduates or be entering their final year of law school (LLM graduates or students desirable); demonstrate an interest in international human rights law; demonstrate excellent legal research; be fluent in English, with outstanding English drafting skills; have the right to work in the UK or successfully obtain a sponsorship certificate. Fluency in French, Russian or Arabic is an advantage. Experience of human rights issues and law in Eastern European and the former Soviet Union, Africa, South Asia or the Middle East is also desirable.



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## *Application*

*Applicants must be prepared to commit for no less than three months between May and September, and should specify their proposed dates in their covering letter. All requested documents should be sent to [jobs@interights.org](mailto:jobs@interights.org). In the subject field of your email write Summer Internship.*



*Happy 2012! :)*