

Jo Smith

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EDUCATION

2013 – Present University of Edinburgh, History and Politics (MA Hons)

- Courses include: European History (since 1789), Economic History: The Global Economy, International Cooperation in Europe and Beyond, History of Southeastern Europe (in the »long 19th century« and since 1989), European Cooperation and Integration, Germany in World Politics since 1945, History of the US in the 20th Century
- Elective Honours courses: Genocide in the Modern World; Politics of the Middle East
- Dissertation (History): Investigating the role of diplomatic relations in the shaping of German foreign policy in the run up to the unilateral recognition of Slovenian and Croatian independence in 1991.

2015 – 2016 Year 3: Year Abroad at Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität in Munich, Germany (1.2 average; grades 1 – 5, 1 being the best)

- Courses taught in German and English
- Relevant work: 5,000-word thesis paper “Office of High Representative in Bosnia-Herzegovina: Explaining Institutional Change” (recommended for publishing)

2011 – 2013 International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme, Gimnazija Bežigrad, Ljubljana, Slovenia (Achieved 41/45)

- Achieved 7 in History High Level
- Relevant works: Extended Essay in History (achieved A) – relationship between the IRA and Sinn Féin preceding the 1916 Easter Revolution; History Internal Assessment (achieved A) – British national interest and diplomacy in the making of the Balfour Declaration

WORK EXPERIENCE AND INTERNSHIPS

2016 – 2017 Country Liaison Officer for Germany, Organising Team for Model European Union Strasbourg (MEUS) 2017, BETA

- Solely responsible for identifying potential MEUS partners among German NGOs and MEPs, and persuading them to contribute financially or otherwise to the MEUS project
- Independent organization of the third Preparatory Meeting in Munich, Germany

September 2016 Intern Assistant to MEP Tanja Fajon at the European Parliament, Brussels, Belgium

- Assisted with the work in LIBE and AFET Committees by preparing an analysis and a response to the Commission's new Directive on asylum procedures, and a report on media freedom in EURONEST countries
- Responded to journalists, wrote statements and speeches – wrote the MEP's speech for the State of the Union Address

- Independent running of the Office in Brussels during the Strasbourg plenary week

June – August 2015 Intern at Mladina (Slovenian political magazine), Ljubljana, Slovenia

- Researched and wrote own analytical articles on the topics in Slovenian and world politics
- Worked as a part of a small online editorial team – independently edited articles for online publishing; autonomously selected and wrote the daily news stories

OTHER ACHIEVEMENTS

2016 – 2017 President of the Yugo Society (Society promoting the appreciation of the culture, history, and politics of the Western Balkan states, and facilitating relations between Edinburgh students of Southern Slavic descent), University of Edinburgh

- Co-founder of the Society in 2015; elected Society President for 2016/7
- Leading the Society and representing it at the Edinburgh University Student Association events
- Initiating and organizing events – forthcoming talk with the distinguished Dr Igor Stiks on the national identity, political culture and popular movements in the Western Balkans' recent history

April 2016 Participation at the Model European Union Strasbourg 2016, Strasbourg, France

- The biggest simulation of European politics, organised by BETA under the sponsorship of the European Parliament
- Represented Greece in the Council of Ministers, independent work – analysis of two given Directives, research and formulation of the national position, representation of Greece in the Council, with the press and the lobbyists; prepared and passed amendments to the Directives

Student Representative, University of Edinburgh

- 2014 – 2015 Asia and Africa 2b
- 2013 – 2014 British History 1

Published Articles

- “The State of Perpetual Misery: Chaos-Building in Bosnia and Herzegovina”; accepted for publishing in the peer-reviewed Groundings Ancients, April 2016, Vol. 4
- “Re-Discovering the European Left”; Retrospect (School of History, Classics, and Archaeology journal), Winter 2014, Issue 16
- “Importing Liberalism: The Case of Bosnia”; Retrospect, Spring 2014, Issue 15

Languages

- Fluent in Slovenian, Croatian, English, and German

Receipient of two Slovenian scholarships for distinguished students and academic excellence

- 2009 – Present: Zoisova scholarship
- 2014 – Present: MOL scholarship

Any references available per request.

