

## TESTIMONIAL - *JCU Center for Career Services*, Spring 2016

I am Luigia D'Alessandro, a 23-year-old girl who graduated in **International Affairs and Marketing** at *John Cabot University* in December 2015. At the beginning of my last semester - Fall 15, I received one of the emails that the *JCU Career Services* usually sends to students when new intern or job positions open. **The Budapest Centre for the International Prevention of Genocide and Mass Atrocities** was looking for an Intern to contribute to the research background and to the organization of seminars, conferences, and workshops that the organization was carrying out. Since I started *John Cabot University*, I have always been passionate about **International Law** and **International Criminal Justice**. Therefore, I did not hesitate to send my resume and cover letter to the *Career Services* and apply for the position.



After a couple of days, I received an email from the Research Assistant of the organization in which he was thanking me for applying and was looking forward to meet me for a job interview together with the Director of Research and Cooperation of the Budapest Centre. Before starting working officially, the Director asked me to write a book review of the **European Task Force** that the Centre had carried out to assess the preventive capabilities of the **European Union**. I still remember he suggested me to pay attention to the structure of the review and to my English, as it is the official language of the organization.

I started working as an Intern in mid-September, focusing my research on the concept of the **Responsibility to Protect, on Genocide, on Migration, and Religion**. Until December, I contributed to the drafting of concept proposals, I helped the planning of the session “Ten Years of RtoP: the way ahead. Implementation of a Normative Principle” that the Centre carried out at the World Bank during the Law, Justice, and Development week, I represented the Budapest Centre in a variety of conferences hosted by IAI, the Chamber of Deputies, and the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and I wrote articles and news for the official website of the Centre.

In January, I started working full-time as Research Assistant and my role, as well as my responsibilities, changed. Indeed, since January, I have already contributed to the drafting of three European calls for proposal and represented the Centre at the CSDN Training on Peacebuilding Advocacy organized by EPLO in Brussels. I have also participated in the International Conference on Religion and Diplomacy hosted by ISPI and the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and I have been writing a policy-paper on the Responsibility to Protect. **I strongly believe that the opportunity to work for the Budapest Centre and its team has made me grow both professionally and personally. Working for and with the Budapest Centre staff is helping me improve my research skills, thus preparing me for a future Master’s Program, and understand who I want to be.**

*Luigia D'Alessandro*