

BLUEBOOK 2013



PAT COX FELLOWSHIP



HUMANITY IN
ACTION

HIA by Judith Goldstein

Humanity in Action works at the international intersection of **education** and **diversity** to promote a new generation of global **leaders**. Through its highly regarded international fellowship programs, conferences and expansive global network, HIA engages the aspirations of university students and young professionals to **confront the complex challenges of pluralistic, democratic societies**.

HIA organizes programs in many countries that have tragic histories grounded in **racial, religious** and **ethnic conflicts**—conflicts that have too frequently resulted in mass violence, ethnic cleansing and genocide. The Holocaust is the primary historic reference for the five programs in Europe as they connect past to present, with the conviction that **knowledge leads to action**. This educational focus is critically important today in many societies that are challenged by the economic, political, cultural and religious impact of large-scale migrations.



Judith Goldstein, HIA Co-Founder

Over **14 years**, and now with over **1200 Fellows**, HIA has built a **unique and vibrant global network** of students, young professionals and experts in diverse fields including diplomacy, government, communications, public health, international law, transitional justice, NGOs, and reconciliation.

Humanity in Action confronts the challenges of **diversity** within the broad context of **human rights** and promotes the values of diversity, civic **engagement**, individual **responsibility** and collaborative **ACTION**.

The Pat Cox Fellowship

Now in its **ninth** year, the Pat Cox Fellowship Program aims to familiarize a coming generation of international leaders in humanitarian action with the European Parliament's dedicated commitment to human rights throughout the world. The Pat Cox Fellowship is a two-part program in which Fellows work in the offices of MEPs from Mondays to Thursdays and participate in a high caliber lecture series on Fridays.

With the support of our patron Pat Cox and an active board we look forward to strengthening our network within the European Parliament.

We are also very grateful for the support of the **Friedrich Naumann Foundation** and look forward to continuing our cooperation with them in future. Should you want to learn more about the program, or need an intern for the beginning of 2013, please contact Mona Shair: m.shair@humanityinaction.org / www.humanityinaction.org/programs/9-pat-cox-HIA-fellowship

The 2013 HIA-Pat Cox Fellowship Program had more non-EU participants than ever before. Having fellows from the United States, Ukraine and Bosnia-Herzegovina taking part in the program shows that the world is growing closer together and that Brussels is gaining presence on the international stage. It is a pleasure and adventure to lead a program that brings together diverse and motivated HIA Senior Fellows with MEP's offices from different member states, political groups, backgrounds and responsibilities for three months annually. I derive satisfaction from seeing this international experiment function successfully year after year.

The program also experiences diversity on the weekly Friday lecture series front, since we listen to speakers from think-do tanks, the private sector, lobbying agencies, EU institutions and NGOs. Two of our interns also worked for the Migration Policy Group and the International Partnership for Human Rights.

Once again, we sincerely thank Pat Cox, our Patron, for his dedication and are grateful to the Friedrich Naumann Foundation for their continuous support. I would also like to thank the program coordinator, Lara Natale, for all her efforts and the MEPs and assistants for making all the internship placements possible.

I wish the 2013 Fellows all the best with their next steps and look forward to many exciting years ahead.

Mona Shair, Program Director



My second year with the Pat Cox Fellowship Program has proved to be equally rewarding. The 2013 Fellows are a typically diverse but particularly independent group who have taken every aspect of the challenging experience in their stride. In terms of coordination efforts, it was nice to see both the offices with whom we have established relationships and the “new on board” embrace the interests of the Fellows and exploit any synergies with the MEPs' prerogatives productively.

In liaising with the different organizations hosting our weekly Friday lectures, the reciprocity of learning and the connections made with our speakers “old” and “new” remain inspiring. The fact this year's group contained the most non-EU participants foregrounded the global context that frames the Brussels “Eurobubble” and, for me, has reinvigorated all our perspectives and resulted in a dynamic season for the Fellowship.

Lara Natale, Program Coordinator



Cecilie Bjerre

Danish Summer Fellowship 2011

Denmark

MEP Claudiu Ciprian Tanasescu, S&D (Romania)
Environment, Public Health & Food Safety; Culture & Education

memorable moment: "The European Parliament is often portrayed as an infinitely slow institution, where everything takes years and years. In my office, I was encouraged to take the initiative on issues that interest me. So even though I might not have revolutionised the workflow in the European Parliament, I felt that, in my office at least, thought was not far from action."

bio: I'm in my first year of my graduate studies at the University of Copenhagen. I study History and Minority Studies with focus on prison reform and rehabilitation. Last semester I participated in the Erasmus Programme and studied in Paris. I have worked at the Danish Jewish Museum since 2010 where I do research and guided tours, and before that I worked for several years at Save the Children Denmark. Since my participation at the Humanity in Action Summer Academy I have been a board member of the Senior Fellow Association.

aspirations: After the Pat Cox Fellowship, I will begin writing my Master's thesis on solitary confinement. I hope to continue in this line and to have the opportunity to further examine the issue by writing a PhD. My other goal in life is to read Marcel Proust's "In Search of Lost Time", David Foster Wallace's "Infinite Jest" and James Joyce's "Ulysses".

interests: Reading, learning, travelling, eating, running, yoga and environmental issues.



Tamara Demydenko

German Summer Fellowship 2012

Ukraine

MEP Antonyia Parvanova , ALDE (Bulgaria) / IPHR

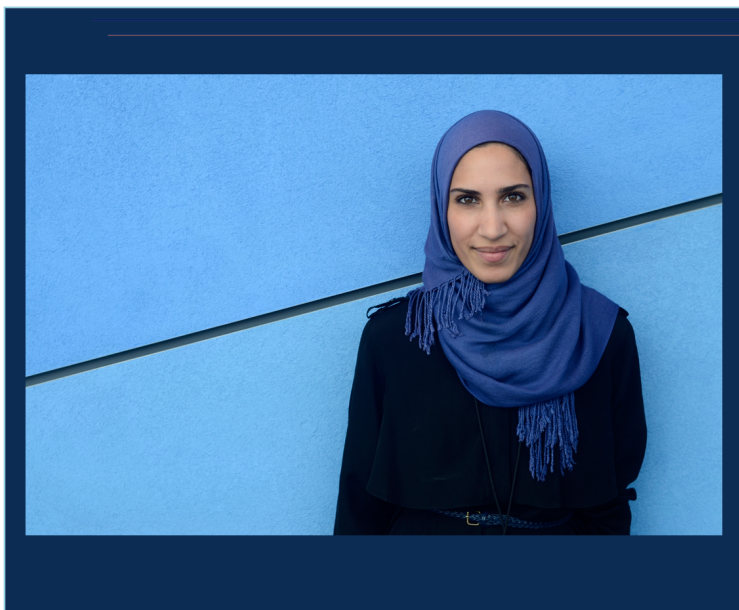
Vice-President ALDE; Environment; Women's Rights

memorable moment: "Each Friday with its lectures became memorable for me. Meeting new people from different Brussels-based stakeholders expanded my knowledge and ability to think "outside the box" and to understand better how to make my goals and objectives become true."

bio: I am concluding the final stage of my PhD at the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, Institute of History. My academic and professional areas of research include the analysis of how history influences and determines today's social realities. During my traineeship in the Council of Europe Brussels Liaison Office I followed and analyzed the developments of human rights in the CoE member countries, migration flows and data protection, national conflicts and their perception. Back in Ukraine I used to work for the NGO "Open Society Vinnytsya" as program coordinator and interpreter.

aspirations: My plans direct me towards working in the field of international relations and the Pat Cox Fellowship has been instrumental to bring me closer to my aspirations. Working with a wide range of stakeholders, bringing together organizations of different interests and solving problems in the field of human rights are the cornerstones of my ideal career. I believe in the strength of the civil side of international relations, and wish to become a participant in it, a diplomat without a diplomatic passport.

interests: I love working in archives and libraries, to discover facts and traces of the past that are clean from any political interpretation, and which can help to understand the roots of the present. Talking to people, exploring their personality and background also fascinates me. You can find me discovering small towns and villages.



Roqaya Dhaif

American Summer Fellowship 2009

Denmark

Said El Khadraoui, S&D (Belgium)

Delegation to the Mashreq Countries

memorable moment: "Working with and monitoring mainly the Middle East delegations during the fellowship, which is a region I am highly interested in and especially with the Arab Spring events and spillovers during that time, allowed me to get a "behind the scenes" access to some of the negotiations and decisions made from the EU and other actors."

bio: With a great interest in different cultures, I pursued a Bachelor's degree in Business, Language and Culture with a focus on Francophone countries. I am now finishing my Master's degree in Business and Development Studies at Copenhagen Business School. My Master's thesis examines the role of the private sector in giving access to healthcare for low income communities in Egypt. My work experience has been within international trade and development, most recently at the Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs and at the Danish Embassy in Paris.

aspirations: I hope that the Pat Cox Fellowship, along with my studies and work experience, will lead me to work with international development with Middle Eastern countries. I also hope to set up my own translation bureau in the near future.

interests: I have a great interest in documentaries and documentary making. I enjoy going to photo exhibitions. I like working with young people and children. My biggest interest is traveling.



Milena Mastalo

Danish Summer Fellowship 2008

Bosnia & Herzegovina

MEP Jelko Kacin, ALDE (Slovenia)

Delegation for Albania, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Serbia, Montenegro and Kosovo

memorable moment: "The Pat Cox Fellowship gave me deeper insights into the decision making process, goals, principles and activities of the EU institutions, but the moments I treasure the most are those in my office: tasks that helped me to learn a lot about my region and positive work relationships. I am grateful for my respectful, courteous and polite co-workers."

bio: I am currently an advanced student at the Faculty of Law in Bosnia and Herzegovina. During my studies I have become an active member of several NGOs where I participated in various projects related to human rights, culture, and children's rights. I have attended many programs, lectures and seminars in the field of human rights, democracy, lobbying, elections, volunteerism, culture, sport, and environment. Since I finished the HIA program in Denmark in 2008, I have planned a number of activities and helped to organize different events in HIA Bosnia and Herzegovina. The most valuable lesson I learned in HIA is that motivation and hard work can ultimately result in fantastic experiences filled with new knowledge, new cultures and new friendships.

aspirations: After the Pat Cox Fellowship I plan to go back to Bosnia and Herzegovina to finish my studies. I remain undecided which direction to focus on moving forward, as I am interested in a great number of different fields. I would like to apply the skills and knowledge I have learned in a practical capacity, however the option of further study is not out of the question either.

interests: Working with children and youth; theatre; enjoying nature and adventure sports; organizing events; meeting people with different backgrounds

Aseem Mehta

French Summer Fellowship 2012

United States

MEP Luigi Berlinguer, S&D (Italy)

Legal Affairs Committee

memorable moment: “Our group conversation with representatives from Hill & Knowlton Strategies provided me with insight into the realities of political lobbying in the EU. The discussion left me reconsidering the images of smoke-filled backroom dealings I had in my head, shedding new light on the role of private actors in public decisions.”

bio: I am in the third year of my undergraduate studies at Yale, majoring in Ethics, Politics & Economics. My areas of focus are international law and access to justice for minority populations. I co-directed a feature-length documentary on the use of solitary confinement in supermax prisons in the United States, which has been screened in communities across the country. Currently, I am working on films about policing tactics in New Haven, CT and immigration detention policies in Austin, TX. I have worked previously on prison reform implementation at the Vera Institute of Justice in New York, social services advocacy at the National Youth Recovery Foundation in Minneapolis, and public health programming at the Boston Medical Center.

aspirations: Following the Pat Cox Fellowship, I will begin my senior thesis research on the impact of federal immigration enforcement programs on community safety in major cities in the US, with a comparative analysis of European practices. Looking forward, I plan to pursue a law degree in order to work on public interest legal issues. I hope to fuse my interests in law and storytelling in the form of grassroots advocacy to increase access to justice for marginalized populations.

interests: Exploring new cities without a map; shooting video; playing basketball; reading longform journalism; writing; the board game Blokus; scouring blogs for new music; pondering hypotheticals.



Jasmijn Slootjes

Dutch Summer Fellowship 2009

The Netherlands

Migration Policy Group

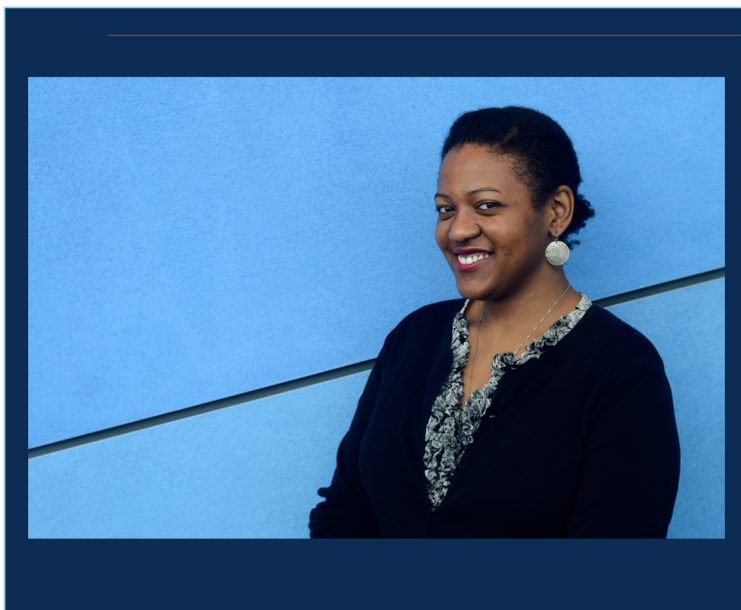
Mobility, Equality, Anti-Discrimination, Diversity & Integration

memorable moment: "The entire Pat Cox Fellowship formed a great memorable experience. The great diversity in the Friday seminars, my experiences at the Migration Policy Group and the different conferences and events I was able to attend all gave me another window into the Brussels experience."

bio: Last summer I completed my research Master's in Migration, Ethnic Relations & Multiculturalism at Utrecht University after which I started as a PhD candidate at the Free University of Amsterdam working on the role of health problems in the employment and integration of migrant women. Besides my academic focus on diversity issues, I also explored other perspectives on this issue, for instance, by working at the Integration Committee of the Municipality of Utrecht working on the consequences of upcoming budget-cuts on integration courses. Being able to now combine my PhD with the Pat Cox Fellowship at the Migration Policy Group enabled me to continue the combination of academic insides on diversity issues with practice and policy.

aspirations: In the coming years I will be finishing my PhD. Afterwards I want to continue conducting in-depth research in order to contribute to more well-informed and effective policies in the field of migration and integration.

interests: Classic ballet and modern dance, experimental cooking with whatever is in my fridge, exploring new places and things and enjoying little things.



Aisha Turner

Danish Summer Fellowship 2011

United States

MEP Dimitrios Droustas, S&D (Greece)

Industry, Research & Energy; Civil Liberties

memorable moment: “About a month into my time at the Parliament I attended a closed meeting with the S&D members of the Delegation to Iran. As the discussion wore on I began to realize how so much of what I understood and thought about the West's relationship with Iran was shaped by growing up in the U.S. Hearing a European perspective on Iran helped me to confront my "American bias" on a variety of world issues, and

I hope I am able to continue challenging myself in this way even as I leave Brussels.”

bio: I graduated from Duke University in 2009 with a degree in Public Policy, Sociology, and Media Studies. My focus was on the (mis)representation of communities of color and other marginalized groups in the mainstream U.S. media, and the ways in which those representations could influence policymaking. After college my interest in media on a theoretical level and long-time involvement in various journalism projects led me to the PBS NewsHour. The NewsHour is a Washington, DC-based public television show dedicated to national and international affairs. I held a variety of jobs at the NewsHour, most recently as a Reporter-Producer, writing scripts and editing video for day-of-news stories. I had the opportunity to watch the world change from day to day as I covered a range of topics such as the Eurozone crisis, the Arab Spring and its aftermath, and the 2012 U.S. presidential race.

aspirations: My biggest aspiration is to learn about as many parts of the world and ways of life as possible. I intend to eventually return to TV journalism, but working in a studio can actually be very isolating, so I plan to spend a significant amount of time traveling and learning about unfamiliar communities now before I return to the mainstream media bubble.

interests: Figuring out how people and places fit together; getting lost and discovering new parts of whatever city I'm in; new foods, and lazy weekends.



Thijs van Lindert

Dutch Summer Fellowship 2012

The Netherlands

MEP Ioan Mircea Pascu, S&D (Romania)

Security and Defense; Foreign Affairs

memorable moment: "Visiting the International Crisis Group and Google were highlights of the Pat Cox program for me. Both organizations try to shape today's world, and they succeed in doing so. More generally, the Pat Cox program was an ideal way to gain more insight in the functioning of the European Parliament and some interesting actors in Brussels that try to influence the decision making process within European institutions.."

bio: Last summer I graduated from the University of Amsterdam with a MSc in Sociology and Political Science (cum laude). I completed my studies with an empirical assessment of some grand theories in International Relations. Furthermore, I participated in the Diplomatic Studies Programme at the Netherlands Institute of International Relations 'Clingendael' in The Hague. During my time at this think tank, I enjoyed the process of formulating concrete policy recommendations on diverse socio-cultural, economic and geopolitical changes. While previously mainly occupied with foreign affairs, I focused on human rights issues within the Netherlands as a fellow at Humanity in Action in 2012. After the Pat Cox program in Brussels, I will work as a strategic analyst for Amnesty International.

aspirations: In my position at Amnesty International, I will do exactly as I have aspired: drawing policy recommendations on global developments on the basis of sound research. I am fascinated by the tension between academic theory, ethical desirability and political reality. I hope to keep working on themes that fit within my broad academic interests; such as the complex processes that underlie political transformation, consequences of emerging economies, global migration and demographics, cultural value changes and conflict.

interests: Call me old-fashioned, but I still love reading the newspaper and listening to in-depth interviews on the radio. I enjoy playing board games, varying from a quick game of chess to a long game of Risk, with friends. I try to undertake a large journey through one of the world's amazing continents once every two or three years.



Olena Vazhynska

German Summer Fellowship 2010

Ukraine

MEP Norica Nicolai, ALDE (Romania)

Subcommittee on Security and Defense

memorable moment: "One of the most memorable moments for me was a lecture at the International Crisis Group. It was very inspiring to find out the personal career path of Richard Atwood, Director of the Research, in particular his experience of work in the field. The lecture was very informative and gave me a lot of "food for thoughts"; moreover, I found it very touching when Mr. Atwood shared his personal emotional experience of the one of his first UN missions."

bio: I'm in the first year of my postgraduate studies at the Tarash Shevchenko National University of Kiev, Ukraine, conducting anthropological research of the perception of the textual archetypes by different national entities across Europe from Antiquity until the present. A significant part of my research is dedicated to the construction of European identity as a phenomenon of the late 20th and 21st centuries. Previously I obtained a triple Master's degree in European Literary Cultures. My first year of the Master Programme was completed at the University of Haute-Alsace in Mulhouse, France, specializing in European Cultures and Literature. I spent my third semester at Alma Mater Studiorum University of Bologna, majoring in Italian and European studies and Linguistics; and I have finished the Master's Programme at Aristote University of Thessaloniki, Greece, specializing in Comparative literary studies and European Cultures.

aspirations: Finalizing my PhD thesis, I intend to acquire a practical knowledge in the fields of international affairs and cultures. Being inspired by both Humanity in Action and Pat Cox – HIA Fellowships, I would like to keep my activities related to Human Rights issues and hope to combine my scientific research and my interests in a possible career path.

interests: Photography, debates and critical writing. I am passionate about foreign languages and cultures: every time I travel I try to learn and understand the customs, traditions and values of the nation through its language, art, literature, food and music.

We would like to thank and recognize the organizations which met with and hosted us during our stay in Brussels, including:

The European Parliament, Google, The Open Society Initiative, The International Partnership for Human Rights, Hill and Knowlton Strategies, The Brussels School of International Studies, International Crisis Group, Migration Policy Group, and European Federation of National Organisations working with the Homeless.

We are grateful for the support we received from:

Friedrich Naumann
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HUMANITY IN
ACTION