



# My Internship with the European Roma Rights Centre in Budapest, Hungary

Emma Kaeser, Class of 2018





# Combatting anti-Roma discrimination

- The ERRC is a public interest law organization that works to combat anti-Roma racism through strategic litigation, research, policy development and advocacy
- Though based in Budapest, the ERRC is an international organization that litigates cases all throughout Europe

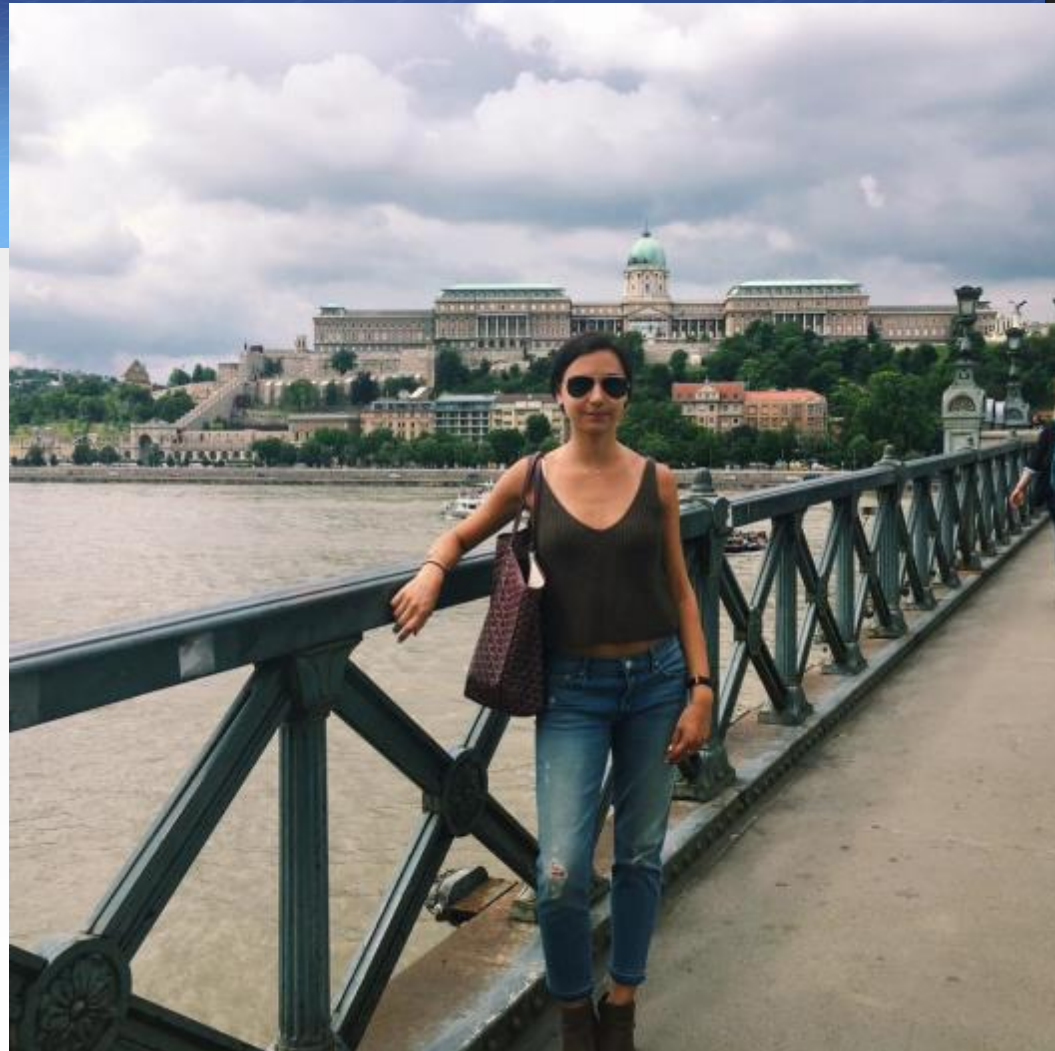


# My Responsibilities

- I helped compile research reports that would be used as evidence of discrimination when the ERRC brought cases to the European Court of Human Rights
  - These cases involved school segregation, discrimination in childcare systems, maternity ward segregation and reparations for forced sterilizations
- I helped redesign a page on the ERRC's website with summaries of previous strategic litigation cases



While in Budapest, I spent a lot of time exploring the city. Here I am on the famous Chain Bridge, which traverses the Danube River.





## Learning Beyond the Office

- I had the opportunity to attend a conference on stateless Roma in Belgrade, Serbia
- At the conference, I helped my colleagues from the ERRC conduct trainings on statelessness research and advocacy



Here I am with the other conference participants, all of whom are from organizations researching statelessness in Central and Eastern Europe.







In our free time, we got to explore Belgrade. Here I am at the edge of a 1,480 year-old fortress!





## A Lasting Impact

- For each project that I completed, I created a template or instruction sheet so that future interns could carry on the project in a consistent way
- Example: I developed templates for different types of case summaries that go on the ERRC website. Future interns will consequently be able to write summaries uniformly and efficiently when the ERRC litigates more cases





# My Travels

- Over the course of my stay in Europe, I traveled almost every weekend and visited Florence, Vienna, Salzburg, Berlin, Bratislava, Belgrade and rural Hungary.



The picture on the left is of the Berlin Wall and the one on the right I took while in Vienna.



# Personal and Professional Growth

- My experience at the ERRC solidified my decision to pursue a career in law and attend law school after college
- I gained so much knowledge about human rights law and what a career in this field would look like
- I feel that living alone in a foreign country made me far more independent, responsible and well-cultured
- During my time in Budapest, I met and worked with incredible people who transformed my worldview