Ella Kesaieva
2016
Danish Institute for Human Rights
Copenhagen, Denmark
Unlike many internships, I did NOT spend my time buying people coffee.

I did RESEARCH.
My Assignments

- First couple weeks, my supervisors gave me A LOT of reading material so I could catch up on everything I needed to know about the Institute, NHRI (national human rights institutions), and human rights as an emerging academic field.

- Sounds icky but it was very cool. I learned a lot and it helped make my later assignments much easier.
My Assignments

- Next, I did a thorough analysis of the theoretical framework behind an article by Tom Pegram entitled “Global Human Rights Governance and Orchestration: National Human Rights Institutions as Intermediaries”.

- Then worked to define the term “human rights systems”. Making sure it didn’t imply something the Institute didn’t want it to imply.
My Assignments

- Next, I rewrote a case my supervisor was using to teach North African officials about human rights.
- Paying mind to cultural differences
My Assignments

- Prepared two highly extensive literary overviews spanning 18 journals:
  - Human Rights Reporting (last 10 years)
  - Human Rights Universality (last 5 years)
My Assignments

Human Rights Policing

- Few days reading up on policing
  - Protecting rights of people
  - Educating police
  - Protecting rights of police

- ...and then...
Final Assignment

Literary Overview

- Human Rights Policing
- 20 years
- 25 journals
My Impact

- Helped out multiple employers with their research for the Institute
- Created useful research tools that people at the Institute can use now
Rewards

- Work experience
- Highly esteemed researchers all around
- Learned a great deal about the field of human rights
DIHR is on the Wilders Kanal.
Great views from the office.
Impact on Life Choices

- Definitely going for a Master’s/PhD
- Definitely interested in becoming a political science researcher
- Not interested in researching human rights theory though. Sticking with IR.
- Would move to Copenhagen if offered a job there
Cultural Awareness

- It’s not like China or India. But it’s still different.
- Important to recognize that Denmark has a unique culture which separates it from the rest of Scandinavia and Western Europe.
- Relaxed lifestyle, open approach to life, yet traditional attitudes underlying the liberal visage.
Just waiting for the bus...
THANK YOU, IIP!!!