

DTP Testimonial

As an intern at the Diplomacy Training Program, (DTP) throughout an entire semester, (which amounted to 14 days, one day a week) I was exposed to real world tasks and processes that are required to run a successful human rights driven NGO. I was able to see first hand how an organisation runs and operates, how it works to encourage and advance human rights and empowers civil society in the Asian pacific region and the Middle East.

Upon my internship with the DTP, my first task was to interview a current trainer in Lebanon. Interviewing her was my first real experience understanding what the DTP was really about, its essence and mission. From there I came back to Sydney and began researching and emailing past and current participants and trainers to create profiles for the DTP E-bulletin. This added to my knowledge on what the DTP was about, its training programs and its program's successes. Additionally, the DTP ensured that my personal interests were aligned with assigned tasks, and thus under exceptional guidance, I wrote up a background research paper on migrant workers in the Middle East.

Although I had previously volunteered with other NGO's who focused on the Middle East, my fourteen-day experience with the DTP broadened and deepened my understanding and contributed most of what I know about the region today than previous experiences with other NGO's. My learning experience enabled to not only critically analyse laws, practices and polices but to provide real, long lasting solutions, and I would argue that this is due to the wide range of tasks that were assigned to me. they were real day-to-day task that represented the 'behind the scenes' work of a successful organisation.

My overall experience with the DTP was worthwhile, not only was I able to see how theory is implemented into practice, but was also introduced to a wonderful team of smart and humble people who are full of wisdom and passion, and once again due to their encouragement and guidance, they have helped me figure out what my future career path will entail and to that I owe the DTP team a thank you for such an insightful experience.

Thank you for taking me on board for the semester and sharing knowledge and encouragement. All the best!

Hanine Hamed, 2016