

Greetings from



MUNDUS JOURNALISM
2014 - 2016



GREETINGS FROM THE BLUE BOOK TEAM

Before joining the Mundus programme, “globalisation” was just a word you might have seen in the books or heard in the news. However, after we all finally met and started to explore this borderless Mundus world together, the word started to become reality. Whether in the classroom, library, canteen or somewhere in the city of Aarhus, we have always been surrounded by this all-embracing feeling of being a part of something bigger, of being connected to each other and feeling grateful for it.

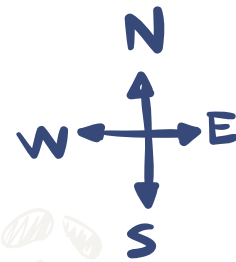
Step by step, we moved forward in this new world facing all the challenges together as if we were the single whole. At the same time, each of us kept his or her own identity and cultural legacy paying respect to who we are and where we come from. And this is how actually globalisation works; it brings and keeps us together although we all are different. It is a blending, a fusion, which has both “here” and “there”, “us” and “them”, local and global.

Dear future Mundus Journalism students, we are sending you this Blue Book postcard to tell our stories, hopes, fears and dreams thus giving our first impression of the program: *Globalisation is You!*

On behalf of the 2014-2016 students of Journalism, Media and Globalisation Mundus Master Programme.
You can find more about us here: <http://globalisationisyou.eu/>

Alba García Ruiz - Anastasia Costişanu - Anna Kozáková - Anne Koopman - Demba Kande - Faten Bushehri - Guillermo González Insua - Júlia Mandil - Julie Aelbrecht - Muyu Xu - Nehal ElSherif - Shulun Huang - Sisse Katrine Andreassen - Pamela Leiva Jacquelín - Roselyne Omondi - Varvara Morozova - Zi Zhang

MUNDUS JOURNALISM IS...



- Bettina Andersen -

Head of section / Erasmus Mundus
Journalism Coordinator

“... bridging – bridging between journalism, media and academia. Bridging between cultures, disciplines and backgrounds. Mundus Journalism is solid and bridging for life!”



- Hans Henrik Holm -

Head of Board of Studies / Professor
Danish School of Media and Journalism

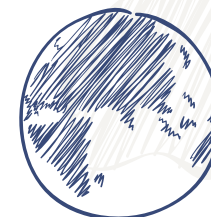
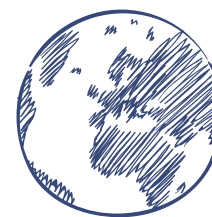
“...respatializing in true colour.”



- Inger Munk -

Head of International Department /
Erasmus Mundus Journalism Coordinator

“...a network of brilliant institutions and colleagues and great alumni and students.”



How did we get to Aarhus...



56%



19%



22%



4%

...and how do we get around the city.



67%



30%



3%



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We have experience from different types of media ...



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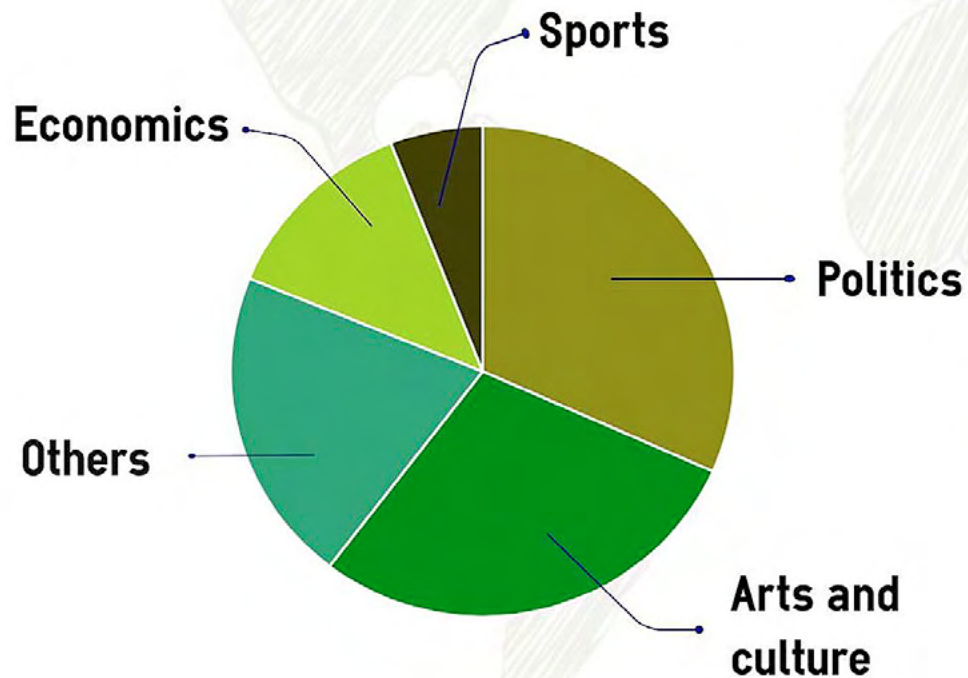


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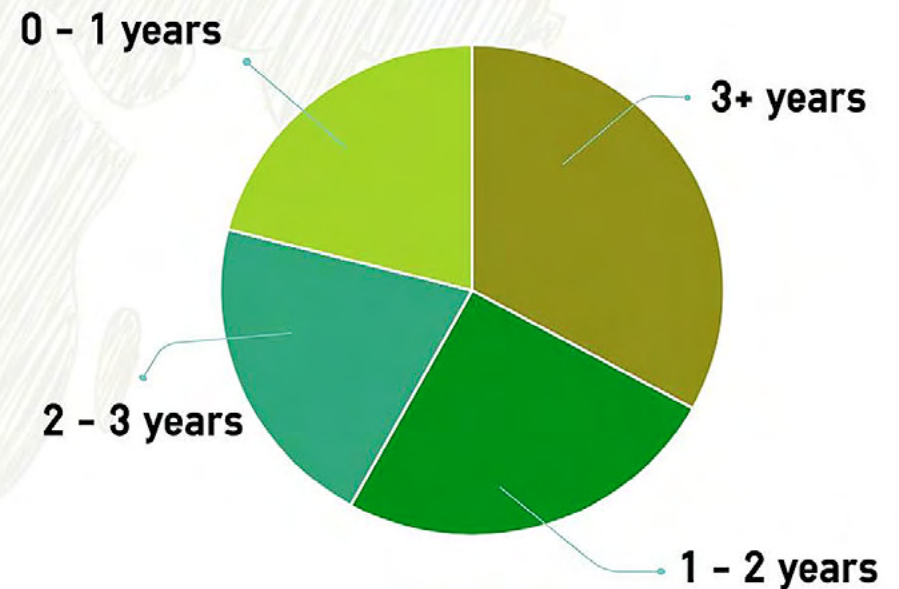
Others

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... specializing in ...



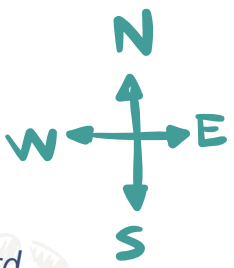
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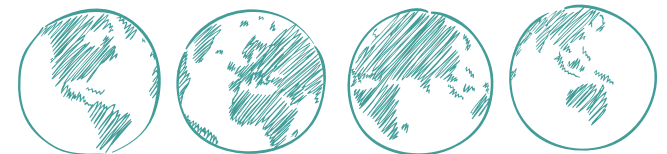
THE MUNDUSIANS



1. Aggelos Andreou
2. Alba Garcia Ruiz
3. Alison Haywood
4. Amelia Axelsen
5. Amélie Drouet
6. Anastasia Costişanu
7. Anna Kozáková
8. Annabella Stieren
9. Anne Koopman
10. Antii Saarenpää
11. Bettina Zbinden
12. Brindusa Ioana Natasa
13. Burján Szilárd László
14. Chiamaka Valery Onu-Okpara
15. Claudia De Meulemeester
16. Cristina Belda Font
17. David Meffe
18. Demba Kandeh
19. Dobrin Yungarev
20. Draško Vlahovic
21. Erika Astudillo
22. Esther Irene Pavia
23. Fabian Graber
24. Faten Bushehri
25. Feilidh O'Dwyer-Strang

26. Fernanda Bartels Ferreira
27. Franziska Katharina Bauer
28. Freja Celine Eriksen
29. Gabrielè Gedvilaitė
30. Giselle Garcia
31. Guillermo Gonzalez Insua
32. Hanna Valerie Wolf
33. Hans Liedtke
34. Ida Eri Sorbye
35. Idris Akinbajo
36. Jan Frédéric Willems
37. Jason Bagaia
38. Jelena Ašković
39. Jelena Subotic
40. Jennifer Guay
41. Jialu Zhang
42. Jintamas Saksornchai
43. John Ainger
44. Julia Lacerda Mandil
45. Julie Ann Aelbrecht
46. Katharina Kücke
47. Kim Laura Schönrock
48. Konrad Paul Stähelin
49. Kristian Gotthelf Schmidt Andersen
50. Madleen König

51. Mara Landa Martínez
52. Maren Marie Søndergaard
53. Marthe Vee
54. Muthoki Mumo
55. Muyu Xu
56. Nehal ElSherif
57. Noor Anwar
58. Ole Krogsgaard
59. Pamela Leiva Jacquelin
60. Pedro Henrique de Castro Barreto
61. Qing Li
62. Roselyne Omondi Ogao
63. Seon ah Cho
64. Shelley Daphne Henning
65. Shulun Huang
66. Simon Windfeld Møller
67. Sisse Katerine Andreassen
68. So Youn Park
69. Sokunthea Hang
70. Varvara Morozova
71. Yana Zakhvatova
72. Zi Zhang
73. Kahlua





GREEK

Specialism: London
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When I was a kid, I wanted to be a gardener and/or an astronaut, but eventually I ended up being a reporter. I've been working in the media industry since I was 19, and got my bachelor in Journalism at 29. A year later I had my first tattoo done describing my life perspective: S.A.F.E. And no, it doesn't mean what you think.

AGGELOS ANDREOU



First Mundus Meeting

I had a Xanax that day, so everything seemed cool and smooth.

Fears and Concerns

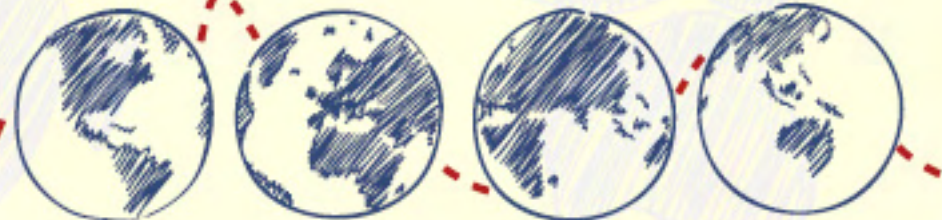
I'm a good reason to feel anxious before I start something new.

My Global Agenda

We're having this conversation in the Blue book? Seriously?

Brought from Home

I brought a suitcase, a credit card and a lighter.





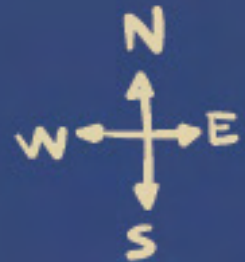
SPANISH

Specialism: Swansea
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I was born in a small and beautiful city by the sea in the south of Spain (Almería) so I learnt both how to swim and walk almost at the same time. When I was 18 I decided I wanted to write about what was going on in the world so I moved on to Madrid to study. There I got my B.A in Journalism. My experience comes mainly from television. I've been a part of national (Antena 3 TV) and local TV channels as editor and presenter and also I have contributed to multimedia websites with video-reports. In Belgium, where I studied for a year, I wrote for an international student newspaper and now I also participate in a Spanish online cultural magazine. And because some external forces call me not to stay at the same place for a long time, a year after I got my BA I took some months off and I went to Indonesia to be part of a social project. The Mundus Program has the perfect combination of all international people, different countries and journalism so the question is: how can you not choose it?

ALBA GARCIA RUIZ



First Mundus Meeting

It was awesome to feel that I was really there. There were many people from all over the world and I was really glad to be a little piece of this big global team :)

Fears and Concerns

Exams and papers. This is a High Level Master so I did not want to fail!

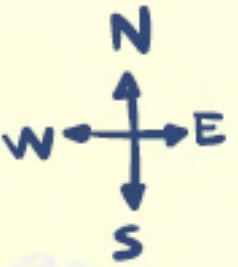
My Global Agenda

Us! I mean people. Everything related to their fears, their dreams, their worries, their struggles.... There will always be wars, poverty, inequality, global economic problems and environmental issues, among others, to focus on. But I believe that what really matters is how people live though these situations. That's what I try to think when I work as a journalist.

Brought from Home

I did not have enough time to pack up so I just brought myself. And a Borges's book :)





ALISON HAYWOOD



AMERICAN

Specialism: Hamburg
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Alison Haywood is an internationally published journalist. She holds Bachelor's degrees in Communication and German from Pacific Lutheran University and has done internships with major daily newspapers in Germany and the U.S. She loves to travel and chose this program because she hopes to live and work as a journalist in Europe someday.

First Mundus Meeting

One of the strangest things about being in a room with students from all over the world is it makes you really conscious about what you say during class discussions.

Fears and Concerns

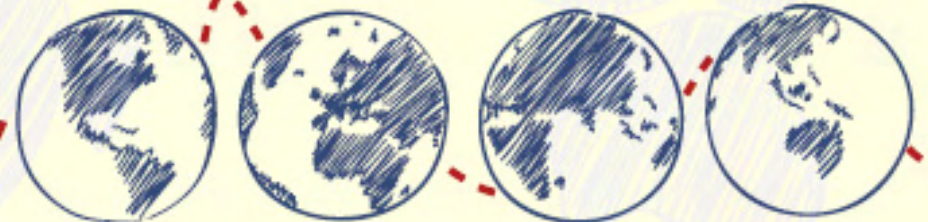
I was nervous about the workload of a graduate program. I'd heard horror stories from grad students about never having any free time and constantly writing papers. So far however the work has been fairly manageable.

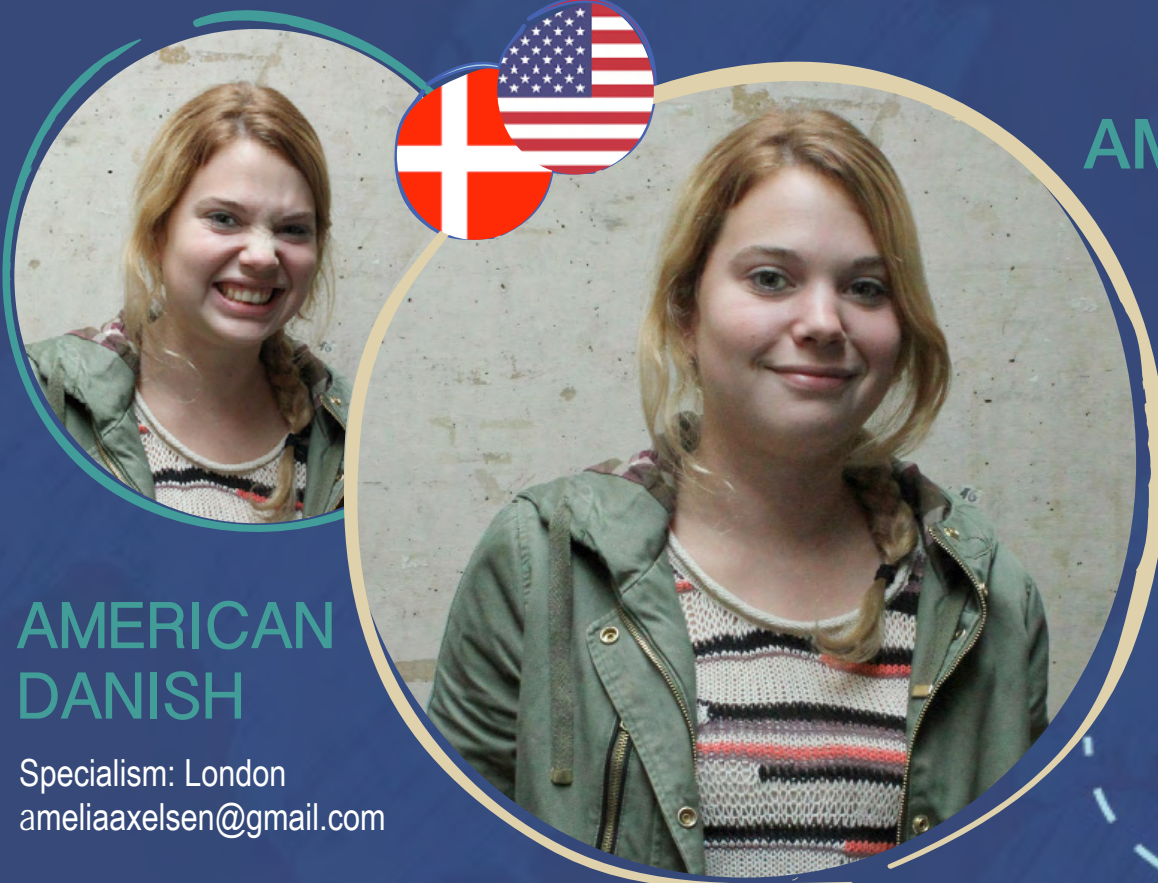
My Global Agenda

I think caring for the planet is the biggest issue in the world agenda. Creating and enforcing international environmental protection laws is going to take some unprecedented global cooperation. In this case, journalism can be used as a form of activism to raise awareness and encourage action against environmental damage.

Brought from Home

Books, they are heavy and take up a lot of space and weight in your suitcase, so I had to be very picky about what I packed. In the end I brought a *Game of Thrones* book, a textbook on media law so I could compare American laws with international ones, a couple of dictionaries, and the Associated Press Stylebook.





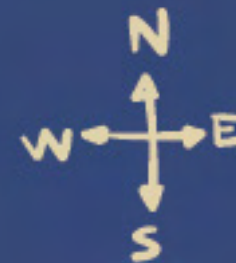
AMERICAN DANISH

Specialism: London
ameliaaxelsen@gmail.com



My name is Amelia Axelsen and I grew up in Houston, Texas with both a Danish and American national identity. Although, I have spent the majority of my life in the United States I have always been eager to move to Denmark, which is why, among other things, I wanted to be a part of the Mundus Journalism Program. Travel writing and investigative reporting has always been a passion of mine, so being able to live in both Aarhus and my second year specialism city in London made me even more enthusiastic to join the Mundus program. I graduated from the University of Texas with a BA in English Literature and worked for a student publication during my time there. Following graduation from UT, I worked as an Editor for a company in Austin, Texas called T2G that specializes in training manuals for U.N. Peacekeeping and various militaries and NGOs.

AMELIA AXELSEN



First Mundus Meeting

It was very interesting and exciting to meet people from all over the world. I think you gain a great insight into your own cultural behavior and mannerisms, something which I haven't truly noticed before meeting so many different people. It is also great to learn about people and places that I haven't been to before.

Fears and Concerns

I was eager to return to an academic setting, but nervous that I may have a difficult time adjusting from work to student life once again.

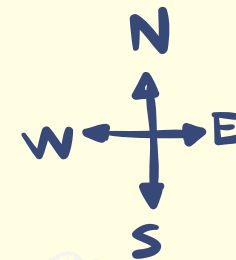
My Global Agenda

As a journalist, I want to produce interesting and insightful articles but I also want to cover stories where people are under represented. I think it is important to get to the central part of journalism and that is the human condition. I would like to engage with people whose voices may not always be heard and learn their stories.

Brought from Home

Despite being in Europe where "fodbold" or soccer prevails, I still find time to watch my Longhorns play American football and will continue to watch football once I get to London.





AMÉLIE DROUET

First Mundus Meeting

I got filled with enthusiasm the minute I walked in and started chatting with other students. People in such a program are often way more open-minded and way more determined to make the most out of the opportunity they get. It felt like I had found a place where I belonged. So far, I have not been outside of Europe and being in that room with these people from all over the world was a little bit like travelling.

Fears and Concerns

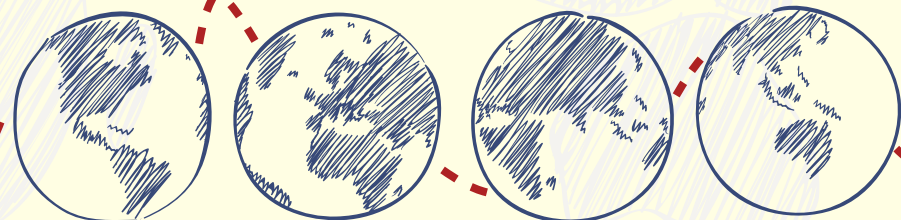
My biggest fear before coming to Aarhus was how to keep up with the level of the program. I knew the other students had all a great amount of experience and I felt like I was behind, especially since there is a lot of focus on political science, which I had never done before.

My Global Agenda

Since I have to pick one, I will say the environment issue. In my point of view, it tackles a number of other issues like the production and distribution of food or global security. I find it extremely sad that because of lobbies, habits and greed, we don't take care of the environment as much as we should.

Brought from Home

Herbal tea from a small producer in Bretagne and it is called "Tisane Coup de froid" (herbal tea for colds). It is a magical "tea" that helps get rid of a cold on the first symptoms.



FRENCH

Specialism: Hamburg
alytea@live.fr



I studied a BA in languages at the University of Strasbourg and in my last year went on Erasmus to the Netherlands. I realized I wanted to finish my studies abroad and decided I should finally start with journalism. A first internship in fashion commercial writing in Amsterdam got me on track. I went back to France, started a Master in Communication. I got an internship as a journalist in a local web-magazine where I wrote about the cultural and social life in Bretagne's capital, Rennes. Mundus was the best option to study journalism in a different way than what they do in France – and in English! I believe Mundus can open doors to an international workplace. I love people and listening to their stories. I always get very excited to do things together with people. Wait, did I mention food? Food is first on the list with people – because it is even better when shared.





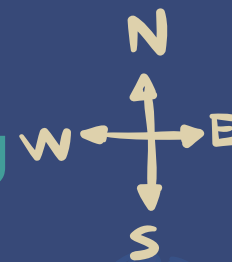
MOLDOVAN ROMANIAN

Specialism: Amsterdam
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I'm afraid that describing myself is a too great task. And it would anyway be easier for me to say who I'm not, rather than who I am. I hope that geography, occupation, age etc., could somehow define me. I am a 24 year old woman from Republic of Moldova, Chisinau and I studied journalism at the State University of Moldova. I have previously worked as a reporter for a national newspaper in my country and as a film critic for the International Film Festival in Yerevan, Armenia. The decision to study abroad and within the Erasmus Mundus programme came after I realized I was not satisfied with the quality of the educational system in Moldova and that my ambitions did not correspond with the local reality.

ANASTASIA COSTIŞANU



First Mundus Meeting

This was indeed an international, borderless, globalized moment which had at least to say an overwhelming effect on me, even if I had experienced before such environments. With people coming from all the continents and with numerous cultural backgrounds, I was "lost in translation".

Fears and Concerns

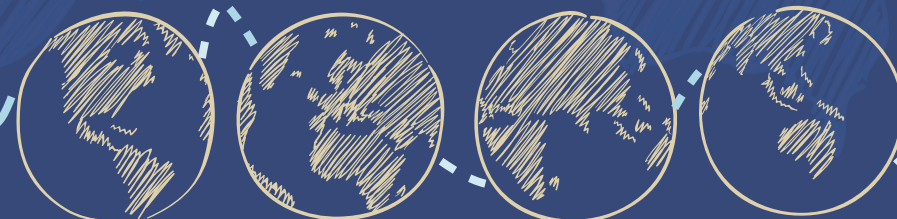
Coming to a new place was, and still is, equal for me with building your identity and environment, all that while leaving behind family, friends and the known surroundings. It is a change that requires strength, hard work and passion, if one expects good results.

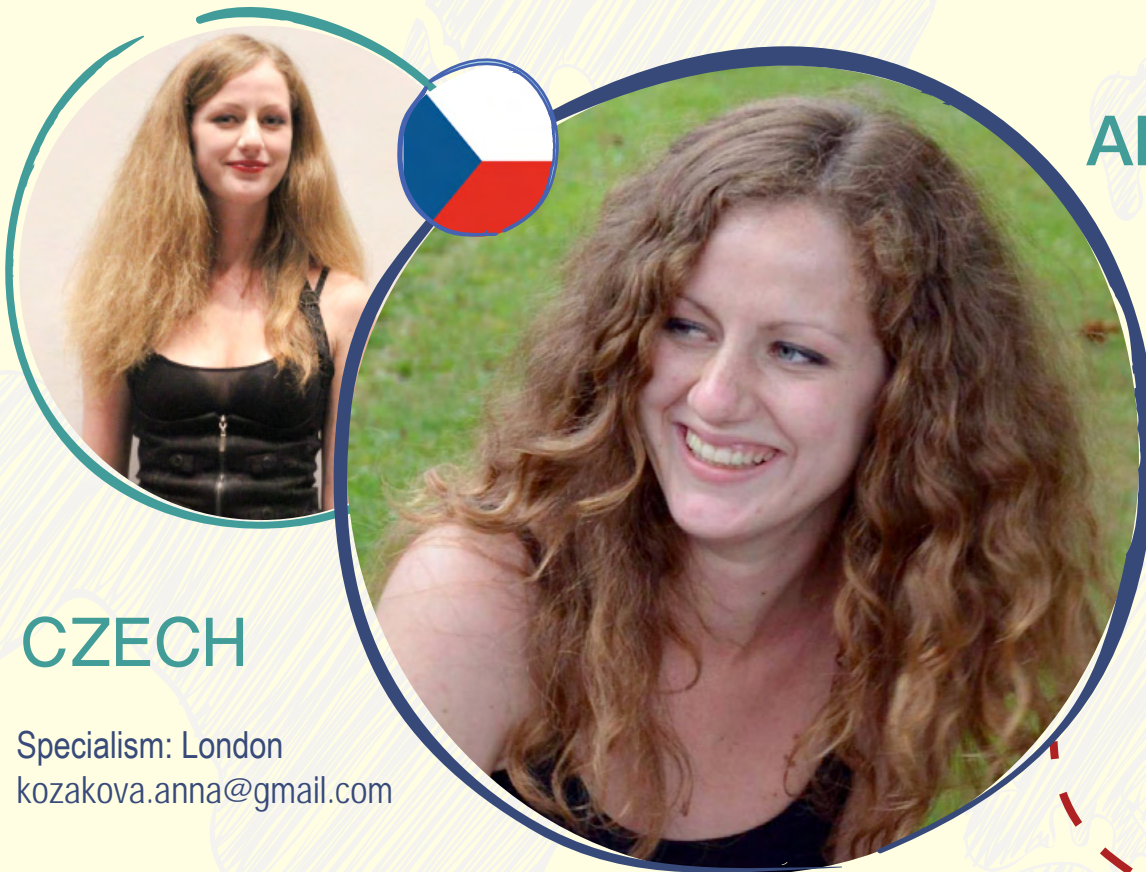
My Global Agenda

The worst part is that there are actual solutions to many of the discussed problems, which unfortunately are not applied, due to unwillingness or contexts that make it hard to do so. Although I will not write here what is the most relevant issue in world agenda today, I will advocate for more responsibility, when it comes to citizens, politicians and mass media.

Brought from Home

Lavender and wine. What a picturesque choice, one would say! The violet, sweet smelling lavender and the flavoured red wine portray at its best the beauty of the land called Moldova.





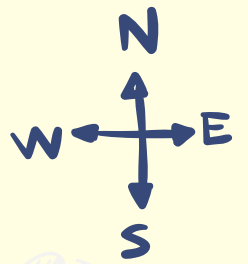
CZECH

Specialism: London
kozakova.anna@gmail.com



I studied broadcast journalism at Charles University in Prague, my working experience includes writing for a newspaper supplement and working as a communication specialist for Sourcefabric, an NGO which produces open-source software for independent media. Last year I was in Aarhus on exchange for one semester and this is the main reason why I applied for the Mundus Master program – I fell in love both with the city and the Danish School of Media and Journalism and really wanted to come back. Secondly, this program seemed very challenging and different from how journalism is taught in Czech Republic. Also I wanted to study in an international environment again, because it is very rewarding and also fun. In my free time I enjoy sketching, writing poetry, watching horror flicks and playing video games.

ANNA KOZÁKOVÁ



First Mundus Meeting

Opening the door to DMJX again was like a dream come true. I felt really happy and excited to see how many people from different countries will I meet and get to know in the following two years.

Fears and Concerns

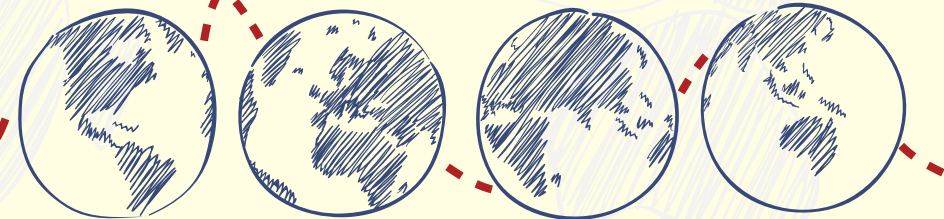
I was fairly concerned about whether I'll be able to keep up with the program, because it's very demanding - but so far, so good. Otherwise there were no fears, just excitement and returning to Aarhus felt more like coming home than going abroad.

My Global Agenda

What's my global agenda? Buy me a drink and I might try to come up with a smart answer ;)

Brought from Home

I brought my sketchpad, a set of pencils and a notepad so that I can keep track of everything in pictures and rhymes!





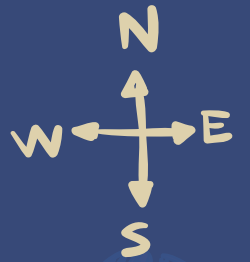
GERMAN

Specialism: Amsterdam
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I was born and raised in Berlin and moved to Heidelberg to start my studies in Political Science and Psychology. After two years I felt that there was nothing more to explore, so I moved to Istanbul. There I helped building up an independent online newspaper that was unfortunately shut down by the government. This fact enforced me even more in my wish to become a journalist and fight for the freedom of press. After finishing my Bachelor I worked at as a freelancer at Gruner+Jahr in Hamburg and also helped organizing projects fighting discrimination and violence in Germany. Both my academic background and my personal experiences made me realize the importance of independent international journalism. Wanting to learn more and be part of this made me choose the Mundus program.

ANNABELLA STIEREN



First Mundus Meeting

Mixture of tension, excitement, and happiness maybe.

Fears and Concerns

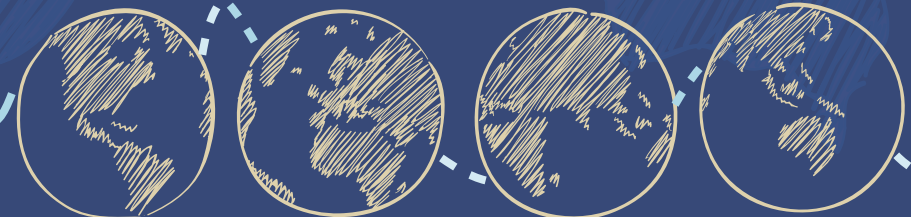
My biggest fear was that the program is not what I wanted and I would be bored in classes – not the case.

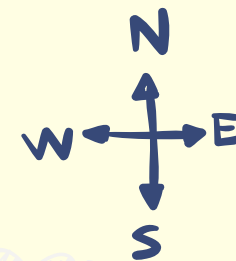
My Global Agenda

I would say missing education systems in most parts of the world should be on the world's agenda. The lack of information is in many cases the cause of human catastrophes, the basis for propaganda and the reason for underdevelopment and poverty. Securing the access to information and education, means giving people the same chances in life to develop. Education is also essential to solving the problem of overpopulation and the cause of women's rights.

Brought from Home

I brought my own Bialetti Italian Espresso maker. It is not very German but it is the reason why I am able to wake up happily every morning. It makes my kitchen smell like paradise and as soon as the first sip of this magic black warm energizing liquor enters my mouth and my blood cycle, I feel prepared for the Aarhus Mundus Life...





ANNE KOOPMAN



DUTCH

Specialism: Amsterdam
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I am social, enthusiastic and always happy. When you don't see a smile on my face, I am probably ill. I love having fun and hanging out with friends. But sometimes I love being alone as well. Hiking in the woods or walking along the beach. I have studied Communication Science at the University of Amsterdam. So I will be familiar with the teachers of the second year specialism :) At UvA I gained some journalistic experience by writing for the weblog of our student association. After that I spent sometime as an editor at a medical publisher. Choosing the Mundus program is the best thing I have ever made. I wanted a challenge; I wanted to follow my dream and study to be a journalist and I wanted to meet new people and cultures. Since I heard about the program, becoming a Mundusian was the only thing I could think of.

First Mundus Meeting

When I checked the list of students before coming, I felt excited for how global and international this was going to be. But at the first Mundus meeting I felt overwhelmed and very small, even though I am one of the tallest! Who am I, sitting here in a room with more than 40 nationalities? But that feeling disappeared soon and then I only felt amazed by how we all have the same dream and want to make a change in this world.

Fears and Concerns

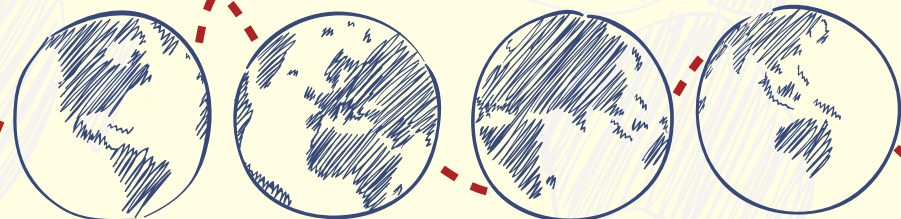
My biggest fear was meeting everyone. I have never studied abroad or lived in such an international atmosphere before. Luckily there was no reason to be scared.

My Global Agenda

Intolerance is the most relevant issue of my world agenda. The unwillingness to accept views, beliefs, or behavior that differs from one's own gets out of control. Imagine how boring the world would be if we were all the same. The Mundus Program would not be half the fun. We just need to become more tolerant to each other and respect that we are not alike.

Brought from Home

Since I came here by car, I brought my whole home with me :) Even my bike with the typical Dutch beer crate is here to face the hills of Aarhus. But the thing that makes my home complete, no matter where on the earth I am, are photos of my family and friends.





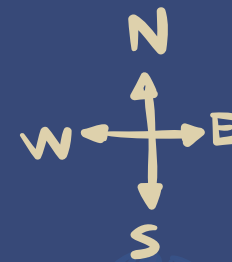
FINNISH

Specialism: London
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I was raised in a small city in southern Finland. I did my bachelor degree in Jyväskylä University and have worked as a radio and TV journalist in the national broadcasting company in Helsinki. As a person I'm more of a listener than a talker. I am not the most outgoing and spontaneous one. Despite that I feel comfortable to be around people who are. I'm into music and back in Finland I used to play drums in a 10-member band. We wore fur hats on every gig and played songs in Finnish-Russian-nonsense language. I consider mundus program as a step-away from my comfort-zone and as an opportunity to learn plenty of useful things, like Scholte's respalializ... never mind.

ANTTI SAARENPÄÄ



First Mundus Meeting

My first impression of my fellow Mundusians was that they were intelligent, multi-talented and breathlessly cosmopolitan. During the first week some people impressed me with the ability to party from day to day.

Fears and Concerns

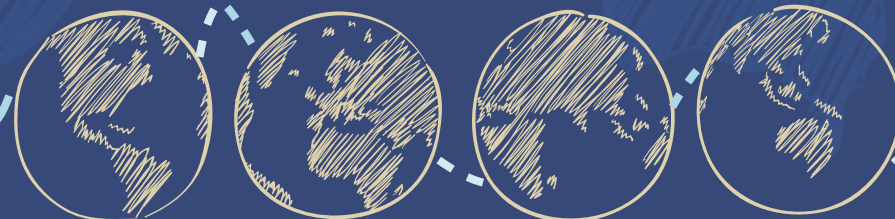
I thought about – and still sometimes think about – whether I could adapt to a large group of people and engage in a mundus-happy-family-thing. But it seems there is a lot space for diversity. And not taking oneself too seriously helps a lot.

My Global Agenda

For me, it's whether I can make it or not in Denmark and how can I afford the studies and the living. More seriously speaking, I would answer the general mistrust between the nations and a lack of prospects among young people that results as cynicism and prejudices. For a journalist it's rather difficult to make a difference in a world that is wallowing in bitterness and pessimism.

Brought from Home

I brought a book, which consists of short stories written by various authors. It's special not because of the content but because I got it from a person very important to me, and used to read it a lot in the summer before I left. Reading it brings me memories of Helsinki at its best.





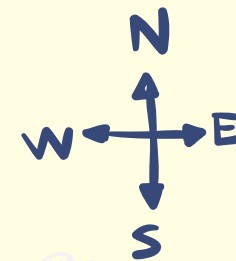
SWISS

Specialism: Hamburg
bettina.zbinden@hotmail.com



I am from Switzerland, from a small village where probably more cows than inhabitants exist. I live close to Bern, the capital of Switzerland – that sounds more popular! I love ice-skating, especially with 16 other girls on the ice – called synchronized skating. Another passion is languages! I love to explore new languages – that is why I am taking Danish classes and my classmates are trying to teach me some Chinese, Arabic, Portuguese... I studied Media and Cultural Anthropology at the University of Basel in Switzerland. Besides my studies I worked for the news section at the local TV station in Bern. I loved my job, but after 3 years I wanted to step up and see the world - and now I am here in Aarhus!

BETTINA ZBINDEN



First Mundus Meeting

It was just amazing! I already knew that it would be a cultural mix but I just realized it when I was actually there. It was overwhelming to meet people from the whole world and to know that they would be your new classmates! Since this moment I learn new things every day about other countries only by chatting with my classmates!

Fears and Concerns

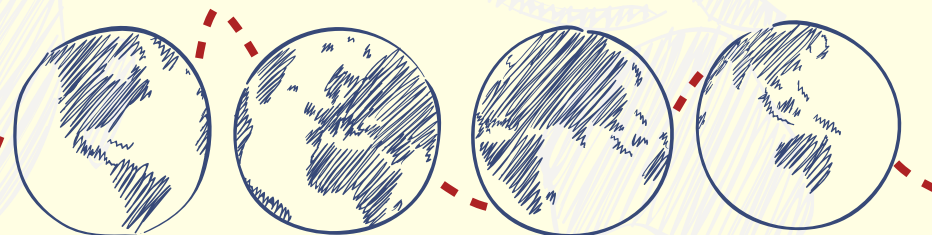
I was afraid that I would have trouble with the high level of academic English during the lectures. But I soon got used to it. I was also afraid that nobody would like me and I would spend my whole free time alone... in my room... in Aarhus... but now I barely spend time in my room!

My Global Agenda

Since I am here my global agenda has been turned upside down. Not in the sense that it changed my norms or values, but it gave me new perspectives of the world. For me as a journalist it will be useful to understand different perspectives and have various approaches to a certain topic.

Brought from Home

As I am Swiss I loooove chocolate! And of course Swiss chocolate is the best! So I always have some "emergency-chocolate-bars" in my cupboard as chocolate is helpful in many situations! But my real passion is dancing on ice! So hopefully my skates arrive soon so I can give the Danish ice a chance.





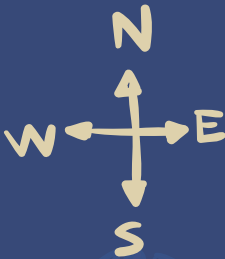
ROMANIAN

Specialism: London



I like playing God, therefore I make films.

BRINDUSA IOANA
NASTASU

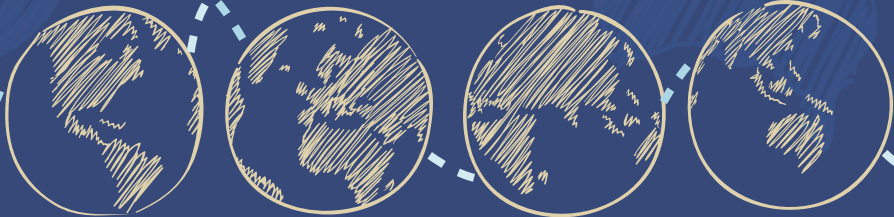


First Mundus Meeting
"I will never get to remember all their names".

Fears and Concerns
Is it worth it?!

My Global Agenda
Seriously?!

Brought from Home
Nothing, but my mum sent me Romanian goat cheese - 2 kilos of it.





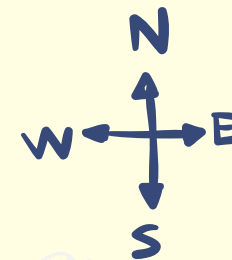
HUNGARIAN

Specialism: Swansea
szilard.burjan@gmail.com



I started my university studies with Communication and Media Science in Budapest at Corvinus University of Budapest. Parallel to my personality-defining studies I had some spare time to crystalize my journalistic skills as a columnist and member of the national association of journalists. In the same time I was a voluntary history teacher helping high school students to prepare for their final exams. After these triumphant, careless years I left my comfort zone to pursue higher goals. I moved to the Netherlands and I have been studying Political Science at the Radboud University of Nijmegen. The roots of my multicultural network of friends is from the Netherlands consequently, I even experienced the warm feeling of love thanks to a Belgian beauty. The international, multicultural social capital became an important aspect of my life this is the main reason why I choose the Erasmus Mundus Master.

BURJÁN SZILÁRD LÁSZLÓ



First Mundus Meeting

I was happy and I knew that I am in the right place in the right time. I also felt lucky to be a part of this wave of globally integrative, future building community.

Fears and Concerns

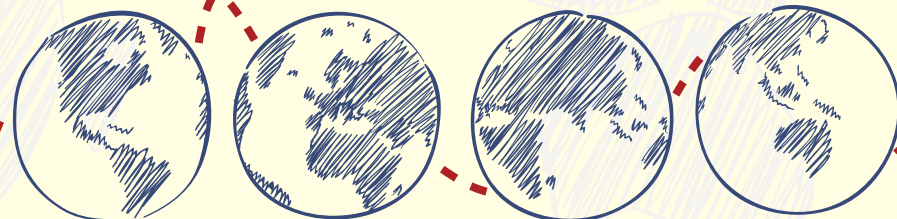
I was afraid I would be homeless for a couple of days since the housing market is very competitive in the city of Aarhus.

My Global Agenda

Even as a global citizen I feel responsible for the place where I was born, and my childhood experiences still make me feel somewhere deeply I belong to Transylvania. Therefore I have been always curious about ethnical minorities, constructed and imagined borders across the globe, identities of various communities and societies. Widening my scope of interests and knowledge my approach changed to a political approach about the rights and wealth of minorities, territorial autonomies and other connected issues.

Brought from Home

My answer is obviously the recipe of the Gulyás and my native optimism.





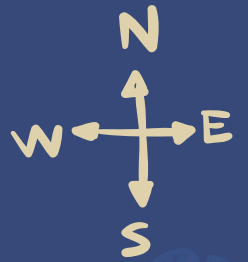
NIGERIAN

Specialism: Swansea
chionuokpara@gmail.com



I have a Bachelors Degree in Mass Communication from Covenant University, Nigeria. Prior to this programme, I worked in Customer Relations for Circuit Atlantic, an E-commerce firm. It was the most fulfilling year of my life and I discovered that my dream lay in having a job where I could interact with people. However, I left for a course in fashion designing soon after. When people asked, I told them I needed to learn an entrepreneurial skill. That was a major reason but deep down, I wanted something more. After my tailoring course, I joined an Experiential Marketing company and It was hard work and all interaction, just how I liked it!

CHIAMAKA ONU-OKPARA



First Mundus Meeting

My first Impression? Wow, this program is filled with Germans and Asians.

Fears and Concerns

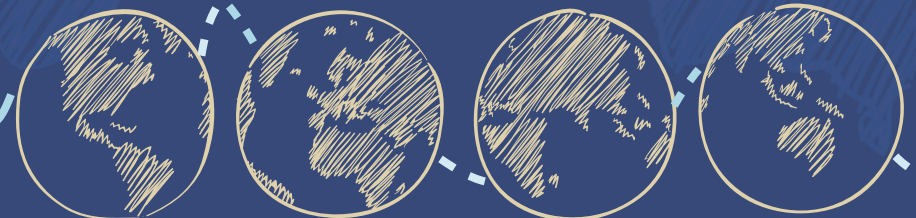
My biggest fear was that I would freeze to death because of the infamous Scandinavian weather. Also, that I would break my legs trying to learn biking. This is not an issue with the programme of course. I was excited to join the programme. Meeting loads of new people and learning new stuff is fun!

My Global Agenda

The most relevant issue for me is the eradication of hunger and illiteracy. Clips and stories are disseminated daily about issues like this in developing countries. Millions are given in form of aid to help eliminate these problems. Unfortunately, a lot of people still die from hunger and the disease known as Illiteracy.

Brought from Home

Err, probably the pleated Ankara gown and a blouse I made back home. Also, my heart. There's nothing to tell except that I love Nigeria and I carry my country inside of me.





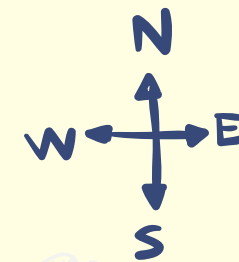
BELGIAN ITALIAN

Specialism: London
claudia_de_meulemeester@gmail.com



Hi there. I'm Claudia, but most of my friends and family call me Cla. I was born in Belgium and raised bilingually in Dutch and Italian. People would consider me a Belgian on the outside, but an Italian on the inside. Since I was a little girl I knew I wanted to become a journalist. At the age of 15, I started working at a local radio station where I presented a weekly program called 'Up To Date'. While studying Linguistics and Literature at Ghent University, I went on exchange to Vienna. The content of the Mundus program and the multicultural environment were exactly what I was looking for to expand my knowledge on the journalistic field.

CLAUDIA DE MEULEMEESTER



First Mundus Meeting

The day I arrived in Aarhus I was informed about living with 9 people from the program. 9 personalities, 9 nationalities, 9 languages and 3 continents united in one big family house. First day of class, we all walked together to the School of Media and Journalism and excitement was all over us.

Fears and Concerns

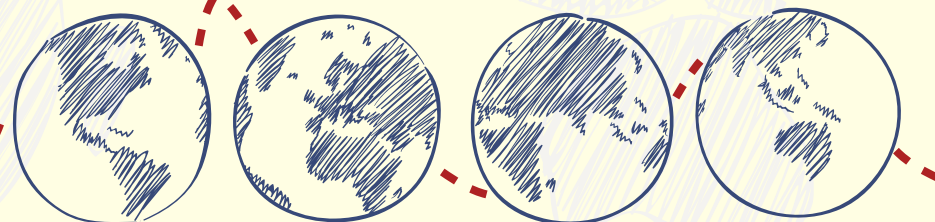
I had no specific fears before coming to Denmark. Bettina and her team did all the best to structure our journey. However, I was feeling really nervous during my last week in Belgium. But I guess that's perfectly normal if you leave everything and everyone behind for (at least) two years.

My Global Agenda

A lot of political, social and economic processes influence each other and undermine attempts of significant change. For this reason, journalists who started out as idealists can become very cynical. The challenge of current society lies in the development of a mindset in which our global networking can reach higher standards of equality, while respecting differences.

Brought from Home

I brought the Flemish 'adaptability' and some good beers from my Belgian part. My Italian half can be noticed by the amount of Italian coffee and parmigiano I guard in the kitchen. Eventually, my temperament can be related to the Italian 'vivacity'.





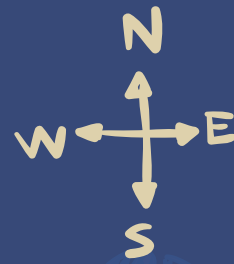
SPANISH

Specialism: London
belduxx@gmail.com



My name is Cristina Belda, from Madrid, Spain. I obtained my degree in Journalism from Universidad Complutense of Madrid a year ago. Last year, I specialized in International Relations, meanwhile I worked for the Spanish Think Tank Royal Institute Elcano, Canal Plus, and as a freelance editor for Paramount Channel. I recently obtained a fellowship from the Argentinean Council of Foreign Relations (CARI) to do some interesting jobs. Currently I am editor in the educational website Qué Aprendemos Hoy for International issues section and also write articles for Huffington Post Spain and Hemisferio Zero. The Erasmus Mundus Master Programme just covers most of my interests and passions in journalism, and I believe I will have the opportunity to develop analytical and practical skills on a higher academic level.

CRISTINA BELDA FONT



First Mundus Meeting

Being in a room with people from over 40 countries is one of the most rewarding experiences I've ever had. I must admit that I felt a bit overwhelmed and timid at that time, since I was not able to remember the names and nationalities of all of my peers!

Fears and Concerns

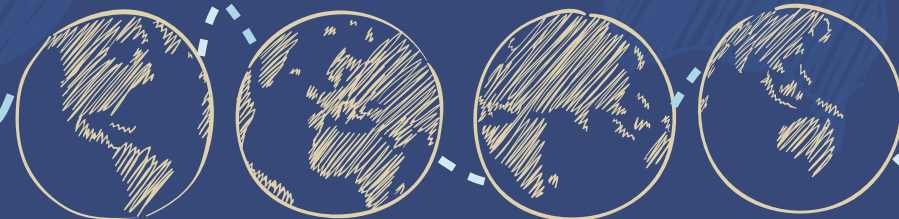
My biggest fear was the language. I was not scared about the syllabus because my major is in international relations and political science and it's very related with the program, but I was afraid not being able to express my ideas properly. I know it will take time and effort.

My Global Agenda

The global economic crisis and its consequences. Western countries, especially the south of the European Union is facing several challenges, such as unemployment, inequality, corruption and the dismantling of the welfare state. As a journalist I feel my aim is to change and to give voice to the voiceless.

Brought from Home

I brought a comic that my boyfriend created for me, with our entire story. Besides, I have my favorite books and two beautiful bracelets that my little sister made the day before I left. I think I shall bring more photos and Spanish food here if I can.





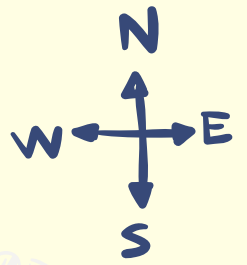
CANADA

Specialism: Swansea
dma.meffe@gmail.com



I am a multimedia freelance journalist from snowy Montreal, Canada. I studied my undergraduate degree at Carleton University in Ottawa, and received a bachelor's degree in Journalism and History, with a minor in English Literature. While in university, I was an editor at the student newspaper, president of the school's Journalists for Human Rights chapter and an active volunteer in fundraising and orientation week. I have previously interned or freelanced for the Nation Media Group (East Africa), VICE (New York), Postmedia (Canada), Vocativ (New York), New African Magazine (Africa), The Montreal Gazette, and a host of other outlets. I am also co-owner and chief editor for The Blink Magazine, an East African online magazine with a focus on underground arts and highlighting local talent.

DAVID MEFFE



First Mundus Meeting

Realizing you're in a room full of people from across the globe can be mildly intimidating; notions of stereotypes, no matter how reserved, often come to the cognitive forefront of discussion, especially when you least expect it. There was an awkward first start, then things began to take off at incredible speed, with the realization that each member of the program brings with them their own unique culture and personal experiences.

Fears and Concerns

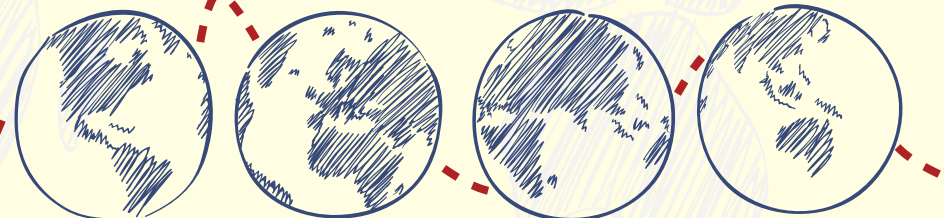
After spending the previous year in East Africa, thought of the weather in Denmark made me shudder. I had resolved to never again do battle with the forces of snow and winter, and embrace a more tropical climate as my natural birthright.

My Global Agenda

We talk about issues like global poverty, immigration, refugees, conflict, but we fail to effectively take command of them, despite the resources at our disposal. As journalists, it's important we understand and learn about these concepts within the context of a global village, and only in that manner can we appropriately reflect and write about these issues to bring about tangible change on a world level.

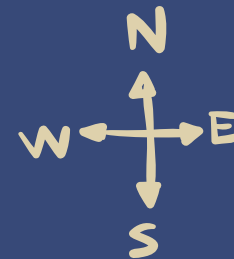
Brought from Home

Two cans of real maple syrup, a large Canadian flag and a \$5 Canadian bill.





DEMBA KANDEH



GAMBIAN

Specialism: Amsterdam
kandeh77@gmail.com



I have worked as a journalist in The Gambia for more than five years. I am friendly, smiley and probably due to my modest background, I relate well with people from different backgrounds. The Gambia has a very tiny space for press freedom, which is quite unfortunate as we navigate the 21st century. It is my strong desire to learn from the Mundus Program and the experiences of colleagues and since I have my first degree in political science, hopefully at the end of this program I will have acquired the necessary skills required to bring about all the change we need in The Gambia. I am optimistic now more than ever before that it is achievable. Mundus Journalism is a unique postgraduate program that any serious journalist will love to take thanks to its course content and the success stories of its growing alumni.

First Mundus Meeting

Overwhelmed! I was deeply touched by the warm reception and smiles from people that I had never met. Due to issues with my residence permit I arrived late. I was worried and felt lost after traveling 36 hours but meeting my new "family" gave a sense of relief and assurance with everyone offering to help me to catch up.

Fears and Concerns

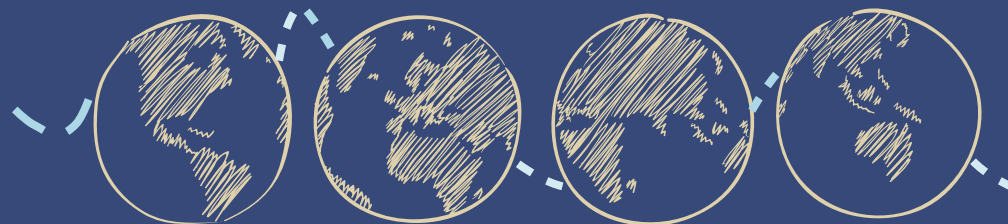
My greatest concern was that of sacrificing everything home, literally abandoning the comfort zones and going to an entirely new place. Thoughts of a demanding academic program, in addition to what may be "severe" weather conditions started lingering in my mind. Yet my fear turned out to be my sense of motivation and strength.

My Global Agenda

Justice! There is no "real world order". All of us are tied to our national and regional worlds and yet claiming to pursue a global agenda for the betterment of the world. International relations are shaped by national interest; nobody seems to care about the principle of "just relations of states". As a journalist, I feel sorry for being entangled in a world where injustice is rewarded and justice punished.

Brought from Home

Smiles! The Gambia is referred to as the "Smiling Coast of Africa" due to the hospitality and friendliness of the people.





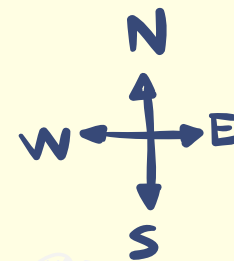
BULGARIAN

Specialism: Swansea
doobrin@gmail.com



I love conflicts. I chose this programme because of the Swansea and Berkeley options. I worked as journalist for a while in a big national newspaper called Trud in Bulgaria, also did some radio, photojournalism, freelance, blogging and content-writing.

DOBRIN YUNGAREV



First Mundus Meeting

My first Mundus meeting was quite awkward, I did not know anybody and had to at least try and memorize some names. I was impressed by most of the stories I heard. It was good we were in a bar.

Fears and Concerns

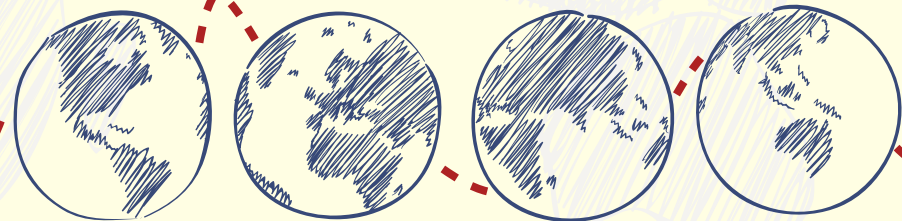
My biggest concern before I came to Aarhus was that I might not get into Berkeley.

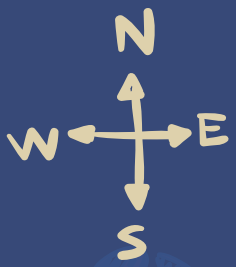
My Global Agenda

People tend to be ignorant sometimes. That's relevant issue, right?

Brought from Home

This one is easy. I brought Rakia (Ракия)





DRAŠKO VLAHOVIĆ

First Mundus Meeting

"Whoa! Is this a UN meeting?" It is interesting to experience globalisation in your everyday life so intensively. Since I was the only person on the programme from my country, I felt very privileged to share the room with so many smart, educated, diligent, successful and proactive people. In such an incredible environment one has to eventually become a better person.

Fears and Concerns

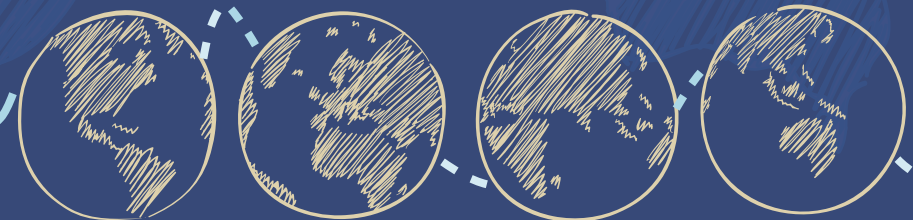
I was afraid that everyone was going to be better than me! Later I figured out that the University of Montenegro did a better job preparing me for such a challenge than I thought. But I am very grateful for being given an opportunity to learn from people who are more experienced than me.

My Global Agenda

Inequality, especially economic. Equal opportunities are among the central notions within liberalism and yet so difficult to achieve in reality. It is difficult because there is a lack of will to redistribute wealth in a more equitable way. Inequality is also an important issue when it comes to nationality, race, gender, sexual orientation, religion etc.

Brought from Home

I brought cheese, pršuta - which is a sort of smoked ham - and red wine. Montenegrin food is usually pretty salty but tasty, especially when you eat it while drinking premium red wine. I also brought my charming smile - I take it everywhere with me.



MONTENEGRIN

Specialism: Amsterdam
drasko.vlahovic@gmail.com



I hold a BSc in journalism and I specialized in political science. I worked in several media outlets and one think-tank, but most of my experience is related to radio journalism. When I don't have any obligations, I play guitar, sing and enjoy fine art in all forms. When I am under pressure because of the exams, I play the guitar and sing much more than usual.





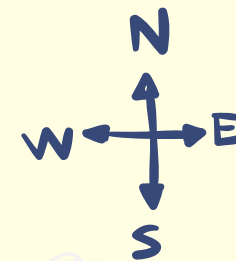
ECUADORIAN

Specialism: London
erikaastudillo@hotmail.com



I am a very optimistic person. My mind is always open to learn about new cultures, languages and people. I decided to become a journalist because it is a career that allows me to do all that, to communicate what is happening around us and most importantly to give a voice to those who don't have one. I did my bachelor degree in Journalism and after three years of experience in different mass media, I reinforced my passion for journalism by choosing the Mundus Program. This master helps us to understand the world from a global perspective and get us ready to transmit that knowledge to our audiences around the world. It also gives us the opportunity to live in two different countries, therefore experience globalisation itself.

ERIKA ASTUDILLO



First Mundus Meeting

After a few words we all noticed we share common interests, fears and dreams. Moreover, I knew I could discover a country and a culture through each one of the students and learn that there are no limits in the world.

Fears and Concerns

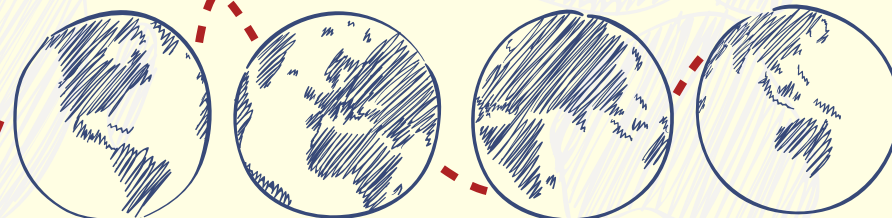
Even though the program and the housing service are really well organized, there is always this fear of coming alone to a place completely unknown and, in my case, at midnight. Fortunately, everything worked perfect and I arrived safe to my dorm. Teachers and classmates are always there to help!

My Global Agenda

Equity and access to education are the most important for me. As a journalist I have reported many cases of injustice and stories that show how women can overcome every situation in life after being part of an education system. I would like to keep telling those kinds of stories.

Brought from Home

I took all the values my family taught me such as responsibility, respect for others and love. From my country, I took principles like kindness and care for other people. Besides, my will to let more people know about Ecuador. Also some Ecuadorian chocolate!





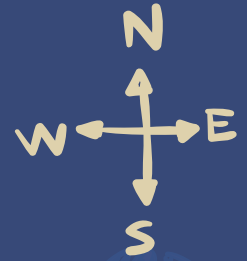
FILIPINO

Specialism: Hamburg
estherirenepavia@gmail.com



I grew up trying to be a jack-of-all-trades. Before college, mathematics and communication were equally my favorite subjects. Alongside, I would join the school's news publication. I was doing well in Mathematics. But at the bottom of my heart, it was in journalism where I saw my future. I pursued Bachelor of Arts in Broadcast Communication at the University of the Philippines I spent two years working for a national television network. I started as a researcher for a documentary program. Later on, I joined the flagship program of the news channel where I had opportunities to write stories on politics and international news in comprehensive and critical way. Eventually, it grew in me a desire to further my experience beyond my borders. Hence, I am here in Europe, living my dreams through the Mundus Journalism program.

ESTHER IRENE PAVIA



First Mundus Meeting

It was like being in an international assembly like the United Nations. No words would suffice to express how overwhelmed I am to be part of this diverse class.

Fears and Concerns

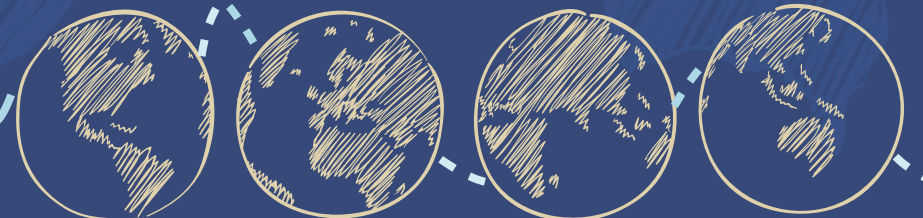
I fear that I might fail God and my parents. I fear that I might screw up and not finish victoriously. I sometimes fear that I am not good enough for this opportunity. I also fear that I might run out of resources to finish this degree. But God's grace constantly reminds me that I have nothing to fear.

My Global Agenda

Before anything, disinformation in today's global society should be considered a relevant concern in looking into the problems of this globalizing world. Old issues such as poverty, diseases and terrorism are evolving as globalization does. Addressing disinformation could be the first step. And this responsibility lies in the hands of the media.

Brought from Home

A special sash called "sablay." Instead of togas, this garment is worn over a white dress or barong during graduation ceremonies. It is a unique tradition that the rest of the universities in the country do not have. I keep it visible to me in my room to remind me that like my bachelor's degree, I am also gonna nail this master's degree, hopefully with flying colors.





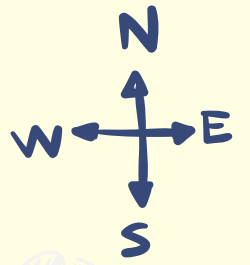
AUSTRIAN

Specialism: London
f.graber@hotmail.com



I decided quite late to become a journalist. It happened when I have already been studying at Vienna's business school for two years, however not being very happy with the programme there. So, fortunately, I was accepted at Vienna's journalism school for a Bachelor course and studied there for three years until 2012. I gained practical experience in three internships at Austrian media outlets - two newspapers and public broadcasting - and got offered a full time job at a nationwide business newspaper called WirtschaftsBlatt. This was my occupation until August 2014, shortly before moving to Denmark for the Mundus programme. I think the time with the Mundusians will most likely broaden my knowledge, views and horizon for journalistic work - which was limited to Austrian business affairs in the past two years. And it will, beside of just having a very good time, make it possible to become part of an international network of journalists who are eager to get things going. That was and still is my motivation.

FABIAN GRABER



First Mundus Meeting

I thought about it a lot prior to the actual start of the programme. How would the first encounter be? It made me quite nervous. However, it was very smooth. I knew some people already from a get-together with a few beers the day before, there were some smokers in front of the entrance that I joined and everybody was just very friendly. Just like arriving at a hostel and you introducing yourself to the roommates.

Fears and Concerns

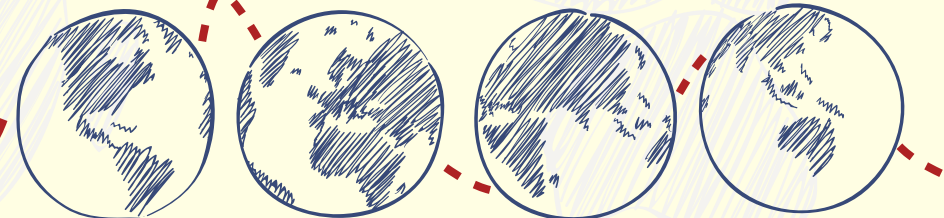
I was really looking forward to attending the programme and mainly had positive thoughts about it. But if you want, my main concern was if I would be able to quickly get into studying again, as I had been working full time for two years before I moved to Denmark.

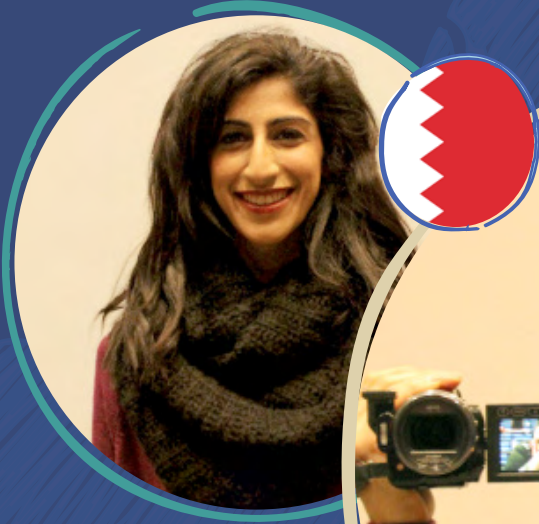
My Global Agenda

Personally, the most relevant issue in the world is corruption. It is responsible for probably most of the bad things happening out there. And it is my motivation as a journalist to uncover corruption - which you find everywhere.

Brought from Home

I brought some Austrian gummi bear, a Vienna souvenir magnet for my fridge from a friend, some pictures, some letters, two packs of cigarettes. Everything else is either digital, in my head or was thrown out of my bag because it was too heavy. So my room looks a little naked here. I am probably still working on that.





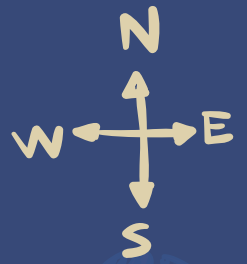
BAHRAINI

Specialism: Amsterdam
fatenbu@gmail.com



Journalist, advocate for human and civil rights, news and documentaries junkie, passionate about ideas, people, culture and travel. I obtained my BA of Arts with concentration in broadcast journalism from DePaul University in Chicago. I have interned and worked in print, radio and TV in Bahrain and the US. I quit my job as an Associate producer for Al Hurra TV in Washington D.C. to join the Mundus programme. I chose it because of the diverse culture and great networking opportunity it offers, as well as the experience to live in two countries. I wanted to complement my practical experience with a strong theoretical knowledge in media and politics to become more effective in my field. The Mundus Program was a match made in heaven for me.

FATEN BUSHEHRI



First Mundus Meeting

The first thing I said to myself when we were all standing in the hallways of DMJX was "wow! This is one big crowd". My second thought was "How long is it going to take for us to learn each others' names!"

Fears and Concerns

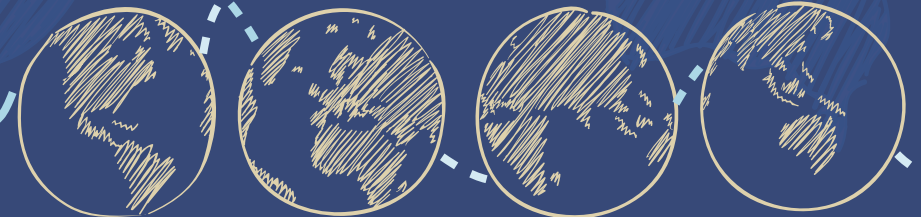
My biggest fear before coming (I think I still have this fear), is the Thesis we'll have to write before graduation. My general fear is I will get drifted away from what I really want to do, and not become a successful and influential journalist.

My Global Agenda

On my personal agenda, the most important issue is the ongoing Palestinian-Israeli conflict, because it's the core of the wider Arab-Israeli conflict. As a Middle Eastern and a journalist, I can't ignore this global issue. There's a new story to tell about this conflict everyday.

Brought from Home

A picture of me as a baby with my parents, I have it on my night stand. A book about Bahrain's history, and most importantly, a box of Arabic cooking spices. I also brought my Bahraini determination to spread knowledge and awareness about my country





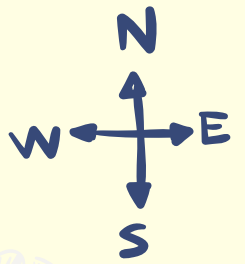
KIWI BRITISH

Specialism: Hamburg
feilidh.dwyer@gmail.com



I'm a twenty six year old Kiwi who came across the world to take part in this programme. I love to travel and I've been fortunate to travel to about thirty countries so far. In the past I lived in Indonesia, where I studied Indonesian and recently I worked doing course advice, giving presentations and organising events for Victoria University Wellington. I have a BA in Politics, Film & Media from Otago University and a Graduate Diploma in Journalism from Canterbury University. I also used to work as a journalist for a breaking-news website in Auckland. A big influence for joining this programme was a recommendation by a former student and friend who is very similar to me. I like the idea of networking with people from different parts of the globe and learning about how media impacts people's perception of the world.

FEILIDH O'DWYER-STRANG



First Mundus Meeting

After the first meeting I was impressed with the diversity in the room. There was a big variety of accents and backgrounds. To have so many nations represented within one programme is pretty cool. I just want to learn more about each person and the country they are from.

Fears and Concerns

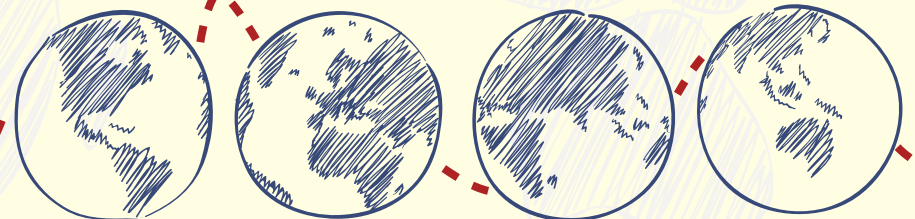
My biggest concern before arriving was that I wouldn't like the programme (so far so good); that Aarhus would be a boring city (I'm enjoying it) and that the weather would be miserable during winter and I might feel down about that (remains to be seen).

My Global Agenda

The most relevant issue for me in the world is inequality. A tiny percentage of the world's population increases their wealth every year and yet so many don't have access to the necessities of life. As a journalist and communicator, I want to inspire people to work towards positive change.

Brought from Home

I brought a jar of Marmite which is a salty, yeast-derived spread to put on toast. Unfortunately many non-New Zealanders find it disgusting. I've also have a couple of Kiwi t-shirts to occasionally assert my national identity.





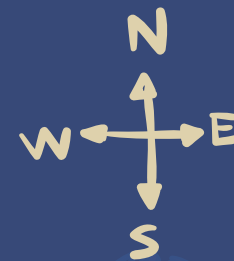
BRAZILIAN GERMAN

Specialism: Hamburg
bartels.fe@gmail.com



Well, I am 25 years old and originally from Belo Horizonte, Brazil. I pursued my bachelor's degree in communication with focus in public relations and minor focus in online journalism at George Mason University, Virginia, US. Upon graduation, I worked in the Washington D.C. area and New York – mostly with PR and online journalism for about a year. After that, I moved to São Paulo, Brazil, where I also worked in online projects and public relations. I chose the Mundus program because it is a unique opportunity to further my studies in a multicultural environment. It is also a great chance to live in two European countries while meeting awesome people along the way.

FERNANDA BARTELS



First Mundus Meeting

I thought: "This is what I am here for, this is the most exciting part." This is an exceptional program and we have amazing professors, but I think that we actually gain the most from each other. We are constantly adapting to different cultures, learning from and with our colleagues and growing as global citizens.

Fears and Concerns

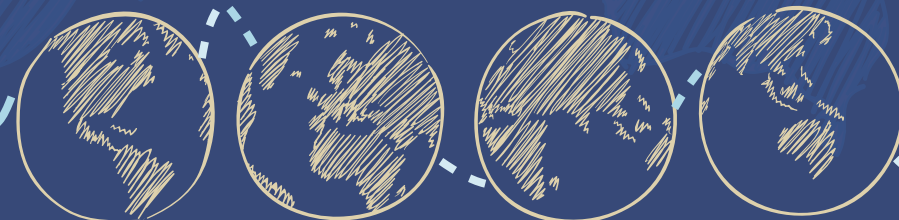
Once you have lived abroad, leaving home is not the hardest part. I think we crave the unknown, we embrace changes and we have a constant desire for new experiences. I wanted this so much and I knew it was the moment, but I couldn't help question if this was the right program for me.

My Global Agenda

Poverty. I think it is unacceptable that some people still lack basic conditions of survival and good living – food, health and hygiene, infrastructure, education, accommodation, culture and so on. The roots of this issue are founded in infrastructural problems, as well as on different types of inequality. As journalists, we can bring awareness to these issues and work to change this scenario.

Brought from Home

I brought a little bit of sunshine from Brazil to the rainy (and soon to be cold) Aarhus ☺





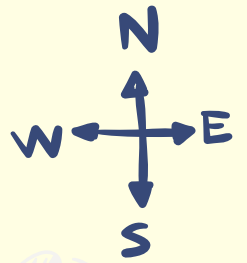
GERMAN

Specialism: Hamburg
f.k.bauer@gmail.com



I am Fran from a tiny village in the foothills of the German Alps. My regional interest developed quite early, when I went to Thailand for a yearlong high school exchange and I have been in and out of East and South East Asia ever since. I studied Anthropology in Vienna, that's where I gained my first journalistic experience. Working as a volunteer for different magazines was a good start to get things going and made me realize that's what I wanted to do for a living. Weekend seminars on journalism helped me get an internship at "Der Standard", an Austrian national newspaper. Another long internship with DLD, a hub for technological and social innovation, got me some training in online, and what I term "PR journalism". Afterwards my love for Asia pulled me to China, where I worked as a freelancer for an English language newspaper among others. At some point I knew I needed to expand my knowledge, get another angle on issues, and I wanted to be part of an(other) international community. That's why I'm here.

FRANZISKA KATHARINA BAUER



First Mundus Meeting

A-MA-ZING! A truly positive first impression (that hasn't changed since). This is where I feel at home – among peers, who have the same interests. It's a very special atmosphere that is rarely to be found: a room buzzing with the sound of different languages, laughter, excitement, anticipation, and also a little tension.

Fears and Concerns

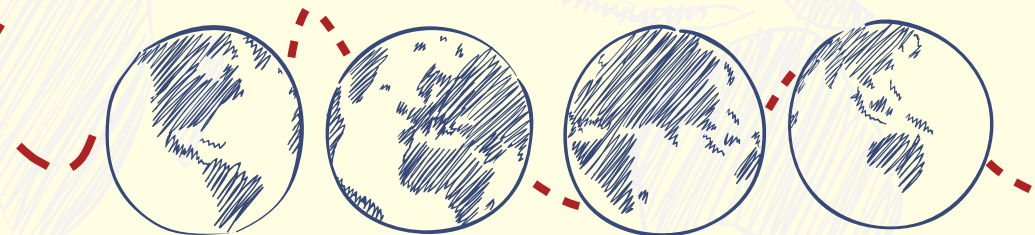
The only thing I was afraid of was an excessive workload and that the content of the studies would be too difficult. I am actually relieved now – although studies are demanding, it is not an insurmountable quantity of work and the professors help a lot making the subject matters approachable for everyone.

My Global Agenda

I don't really want to ascribe forced migration a more pressing role than other global crises (particularly because it is also connected to them). It is, however, not only an acute problem, but also one of increasing urgency due to rising numbers of affected people.

Brought from home

I brought an extra mattress. As I am a person who tends to move around a lot and doesn't stay at a place for a very long time, it is all the more important that my friends have a chance to visit me when they wish to.





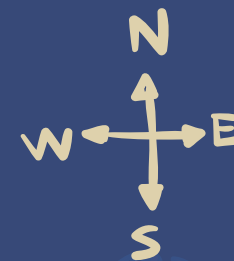
DANISH

Specialism: Hamburg
frejaeriksen@yahoo.dk



Dane, made in China, raised in three continents, now based in the so-called ghetto of Aarhus and studying with 72 wonderful Mundus alumni to be. I chose to move from Copenhagen to Aarhus precisely to meet said people and to try to find out how media is changing today – I now know – due to respatialization. I have worked as an editor at an online news site startup writing about the Danish public sector before. Though that may sound a bit dry, it was tremendously exciting and rewarding and has made me hope to start my own media someday. Other than that, I am a bachelor of rhetoric now learning to analyze the world outside texts. It's fascinating and scary.

FREJA ERIKSEN



First Mundus Meeting

Every single one seems so openhearted and willing to meet and get to know each other. That was my first impression, which holds true. Secondly, everyone sounds very clever and experienced in journalism. (They are.) Thirdly, another German?

Fears and Concerns

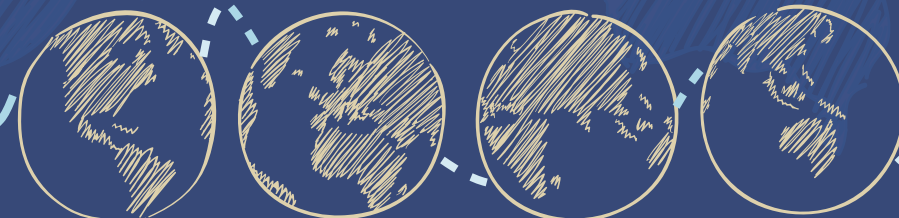
My biggest fear: Aarhus being a dead suburb compared to Copenhagen! So far, this has been proven wrong. My biggest concern: Not having studied either political science or journalism at all beforehand.

My Global Agenda

World climate change. Had I not been unable to process elements of physics, chemistry, mathematics and basically all sciences I would have become a researcher on this field. I hope I come to write about it in my future career.

Brought from hometown

I brought my bicycle for sure - you can't live without it.





LITHUANIAN

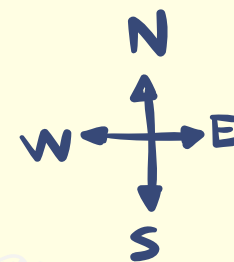
Specialism: Amsterdam
gabriele.ged@inbox.lt



I graduated in journalism at Vilnius University more than one year ago and I was feeling a little bit tired of studying and working at the same time (I was a journalist at the National television of Lithuania). I decided to have a gap year abroad and it was the best thing I have ever done. There's nothing better than feeling that I want to study again and rediscover the awesome life you can have when you are a student.

I chose this programme because there is a good balance of what I wanted: journalism and specialism in narrower field. Also, it offers a chance to study in at least two different countries which will make 6 foreign countries I lived in by the time I move to Amsterdam!

GABRIELĖ GEDVILAITĖ



First Mundus Meeting

I realized that my classmates will be an alternative source of studies as everyone is with his/her own story, experience and knowledge.

Fears and Concerns

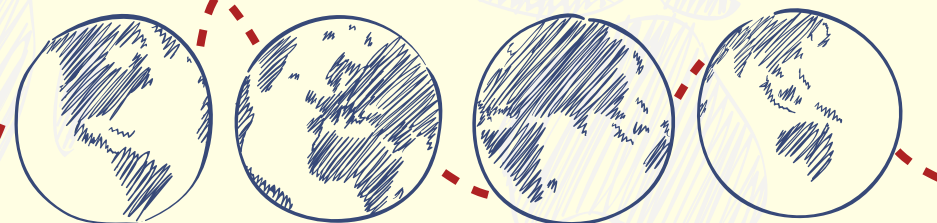
I did not have any fears before the program started because we received so much support and information. The only thing I had to find on my own was the plane tickets, everything else was arranged and organised perfectly.

My Global Agenda

It might sound as a speech of a contestant running for Miss World, but I really believe that everyone should have the right to education, health support, food and water, good living conditions, safety and security. That's what journalists should think about more often and report on these topics.

Brought from home

As it has been more than a year that I am not living in my country, I really miss reading in Lithuanian. Therefore I brought some literature in my native language. Also, I received a package from my family with Lithuanian bread, ham, sweets and pictures of my dog.





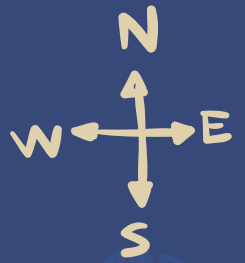
BRAZILIAN

Specialism: London
giselleogarcia@gmail.com



After 10 years of solid career in the communications field, I felt the need to expand my horizons and my knowledge. As a journalist, I've had a taste of everything as well as very diverse professional experience: press rooms, communication departments and a PR agency. Before coming to Denmark, I was working as a reporter for the Brazilian Communications Enterprise, the Brazilian governmental agency for communications. The Erasmus Mundus Master came to me first as a distant dream, which faster became a goal, and finally came true. It was everything I was looking for: high standards, theoretical knowledge together with practical discussions and the opportunity to get together with communication people from everywhere in the world.

GISELLE GARCIA



First Mundus Meeting

I got a feeling of self-realization. Also I had butterflies in my stomach, frightened by the uncertainty of what was to come. English was the very first barrier but when Hans Henrik Holm said that we all have our own ways to mistreat it, the barrier came down.

Fears and Concerns

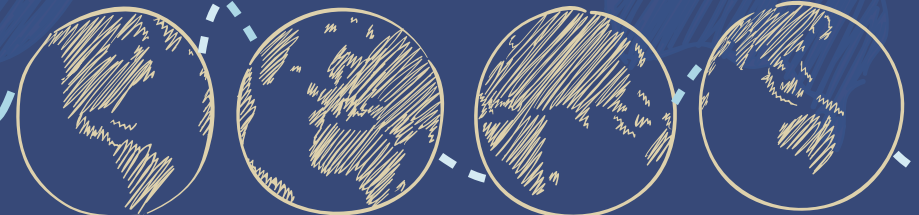
I had no fear before coming to Aarhus, really. I knew I would face some trouble with the different languages and I was totally convinced I would suffer a lot because of the cold weather. But that would not really stop me.

My Global Agenda

I would say the lack of education. Education is the key tool to reduce the vulnerable position of millions of people in the world. It gives opportunities, develops self esteem and social awareness for change. If you don't have education, inequality and marginalization will push development back.

Brought from Home

I brought my dog from Brazil, a black and white Shin Tzu, named Kahlua. I couldn't leave her behind. It was a quite long journey, but she made it! I can feel that she loves Aarhus where she can run and play with the ball in the green areas.





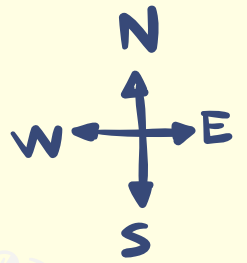
ITALIAN ARGENTINIAN

Specialism: Hamburg
ggonzalezinsua@gmail.com



I identify myself with Aristoteles' famous phrase that "all human beings by nature desire to know." Curiosity is, thus, inherent to my being and in spite of having studied History and Philosophy I've always retained a strong interest in other areas of knowledge. As a historian I have been mainly interested in social processes, cultural minorities and discrimination. In this way I came to study the subject of the conversos or Spanish Jews, who converted to Christianity in the late Middle Ages and were later persecuted under the pretext of not being sincere Christians. As a philosopher, on the other hand, I have always been keen on the ideas of the Enlightenment, and the idea to raise awareness among people in order to lay the foundations of Republicanism. My motivation as a journalist is thus to fuse both areas and relate them to current events: in particular, to make people aware of ongoing discrimination and marginalized communities. The first requirement to change a current social situation is to be aware of it, and that is what I strive to contribute to.

GUILLERMO GONZÁLEZ INSUA



First Mundus Meeting

At the first Mundus meeting I was a bit overwhelmed by the fact that I was not able to communicate with all the students of the program.

Fears and Concerns

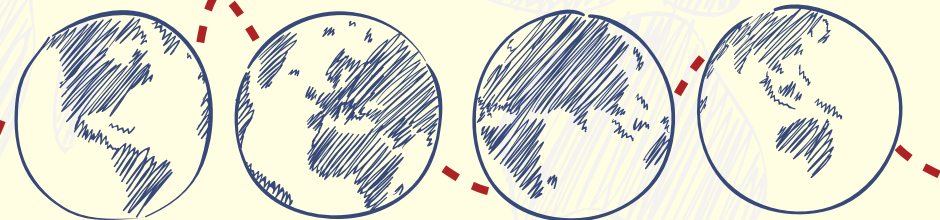
I was mostly concerned with the never-ending nights and bad weather that characterize the Scandinavian region.

My Global Agenda

I think one of the main issues affecting the global agenda is the exponential demographic growth the world is experiencing, especially in developing countries. This will have an enormous impact on global politics as countries will need to compete for nourishment and energy to sustain their own populations, thus increasing the gap between rich and poor countries. It could lead as well to the overexploitation of resources and to a large-scale environmental collapse that could change the history of humankind forever. This may be the best of all possible worlds; however, as the Jewish concept of tikkun olam dictates, it is our duty to make it better in every aspect.

Brought from home

I brought my sense of humor from back home, however, with a certain German influence.





GERMAN

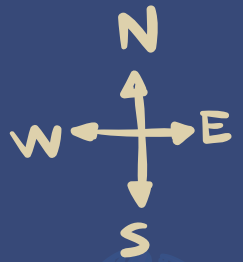
hanna-v-wolf@web.de
Specialism: Amsterdam



"It's good to have an end to journey toward; but it's the journey that matters, in the end." (Ernest Hemingway)

My journey started in Stuttgart, my hometown, but I moved to Munich for my BA in English Literature/Linguistics. My journalistic career includes working for a daily newspaper, as a theatre critic, and for television: I worked as a sports reporter as well as for the popular TV show 'Galileo'. My most important experience is the summer I spent in San Francisco, where I worked for the online journal Fair Observer, and fell in love with the city. Other than that, I love HipHop, football and I'm easily bribed with cake. My biggest passion is travelling: I've travelled extensively through North America, Europe and Southeast Asia. Now, my journey brought me to Aarhus.

HANNA VALERIE WOLF



First Mundus Meeting

First thought: This room is REALLY depressing! (There were no windows, no air, just grey walls)

Fears and Concerns

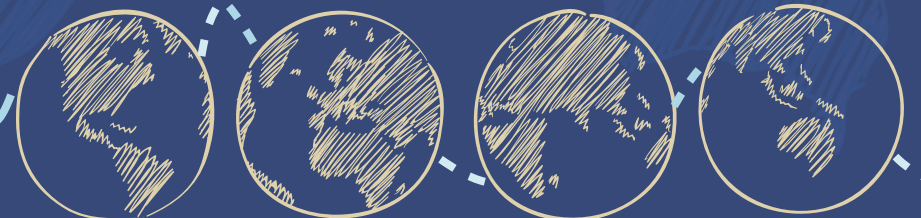
My biggest concern was the Danish weather. Rain, wind, sunset at 3pm – sounds like a loooooong winter. Thankfully, Danes have invented the concept of 'hygge'. From what I've understood so far, 'hygge' means: candles, lots of cakes, hot chocolate and a good book. I can definitely survive a hyggelig winter!

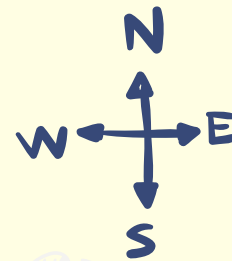
Global Citizen

I believe racism and intolerance are big issues. After all, we live in the 21st century! Have we not learnt from our past? Although I've never experienced racism myself, when I worked as a social media editor, I had to read (and delete!) racist comments under almost every post. It made me doubt humanity.

Brought From Home

I was lucky enough to get to Aarhus by car, so I brought a lot from home. Besides far too many clothes, I imported Nutella (that delicious hazelnut chocolate spread made in heaven!). Why? Well, how would I survive exam weeks without Nutella? And it's just ridiculously expensive here in Denmark!





HANS LIEDTKE



GERMAN

hans-liedtke@gmx.de
Specialism: Swansea



I filled my pre-mundus life with trips abroad and occasional jobs. When I heard about this programme I had a decent, well-respected and ridiculously paid job as a tractor driver. Suddenly, I realized that I had all the necessary skills to become a journalist and the positive sides of being a journalist seemed tempting: a short life expectancy, low wages and multiple burnouts.

First Mundus Meeting

Wow, that's such a big room - without a single window - what are they planning to do with us foreigners?

Fears and Concerns

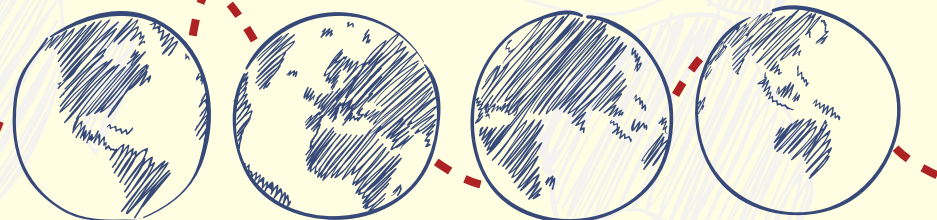
Well, Aarhus has access to open water. Just imagine an old viking horde would come and invade Aarhus and they would abduct the entire city. For that case I brought some nice skins and axes to negotiate with them.

Global Citizen

Of course there are many problems in this world. Hunger and child labour, Angela Merkel and pollution to name but a few. All those problems are not existent on Hans Island! Please contact me for your immigration application.

Brought from Home

I was born in East Germany - GDR - basically, my home country doesn't exist anymore. If it would still be there, I probably would have brought my party membership book.





NORWEGIAN

Specialism: Amsterdam
idasorbye@yahoo.no



I love the deep talks about life, the outdoors and international politics. As I spend most of my spare time in the mountains, you might question why I moved to the flattest country on earth. But Danes are so nice and relaxed I just love living here. I have a degree in political science and studied some Russian and psychology as well. One day this mix will make sense, I'm sure. I have climbed mountains in Caucasus for work, spent four months one winter skiing and living in a tent in the Norwegian mountains, travelled with the Trans-Siberian railroad to Mongolia and lived the happy hippie life in India. I like travelling! Back in Norway I have worked as a journalist and publishing director for a couple of years.

IDA ERI SORBYE

First Mundus Meeting

My first thoughts were: What are they all feeling right now? Who are they? What exciting conversations we can have about the world! And then: Can't wait to get over this first phase and really get into the good talks about life! It's just getting better from here!

Fears and Concerns

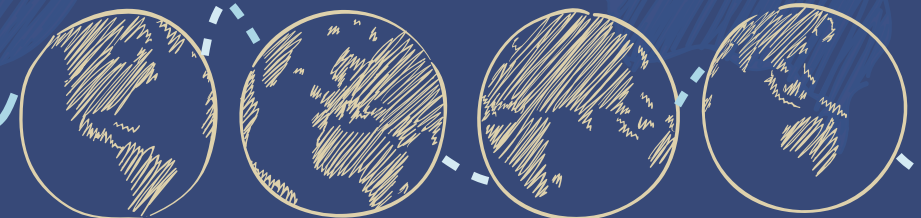
I was so happy to be accepted into the program, quitting work, travelling to Greenland over the summer, so busy moving out of my place and saying goodbye to my life at home that I forgot to be concerned. And luckily, I haven't found any reasons to be so far.

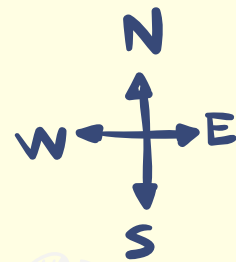
My Global Agenda

I believe that all my fellow citizens have the right to live a life free of hunger and fear. I believe in a whole lot of other rights as well, but let's start with these. As a journalist, I hope to give people knowledge, so they can make a change.

Brought from Home

I brought a panorama painting of my favorite mountains from back home to keep on the wall, just to remind me that they'll still be there when I come back. I'm also happy that I brought some experience from the long and dark winters.





IDRIS AKINBAJO



NIGERIAN

Specialism: Amsterdam
lekanfs2@gmail.com



Idris Akinbajo is a multiple award winning investigative journalist from Nigeria. Born in Lagos Nigeria, he had his primary and secondary education in Lagos before proceeding to one of Nigeria's prestigious universities, the Obafemi Awolowo University, where he bagged a Bachelor of Science in Food Science and Technology in 2006. He's been an activist ever since his university days where he held various positions including the Secretary General of the Students Union. Although he practiced campus journalism while in school, his professional foray into journalism was as a trainee and later investigative reporter with NEXT Newspapers in 2008. Since becoming an investigative journalist, he's won numerous awards including Nigerian investigative journalist of the year (2011 and 2012), CNN/Mutichoice Highly Commended Award (2012), FAIR African Investigative Journalist of the Year (2011), and Nigeria's Young Person of the Year (2012). He loves to read, discuss issues, meet people, and loves football.

First Mundus Meeting

I was impressed and posted on my facebook wall on September 3 that: "When you're in same class with 74 other students from about 40 different countries, wouldn't that be like a mini UN. Interesting".

Fears and Concerns

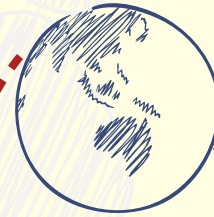
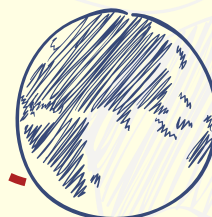
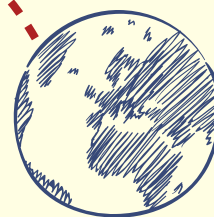
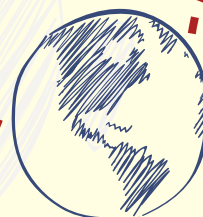
Nothing really, I was just hoping it would be as interesting and educative as I wanted it to be. And it is.

My Global Agenda

I would pick security of each individual as my priority. Security of life, property, legal choice, rights, etc. This pursuit of human freedom, liberty influenced my decision to become a journalist.

Brought from Home

A few Nigerian books, Ijebu garri, thoughts of my family and friends, and continuous contribution to the growth and development of Nigeria even while away.





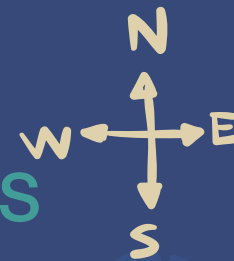
GERMAN FRENCH

Specialism: Swansea
jan.frederic.willems@gmail.com



What I have isn't what I would call a career. As a matter of fact I'm still a bit startled that I made it to this point. All I did was to work as a local journalist after school and then I just stumbled from one job to the other and – tadah – here I am. In fact, my initial reason to become a journalist was because I wanted to be Spider-Man (and I still do!). I really like working as a journalist but if this doesn't work out, I'm gonna open my own little cinema with adjacent restaurant! Or I'll become a house husband. That would be the greatest thing!

JAN FREDERIC WILLEMS



First Mundus Meeting

I was smiling politely and engaged in small talk with some people. All the while I was tightly clutching my wallet in my pocket so I wouldn't get robbed by these foreigners.

Fears and Concerns

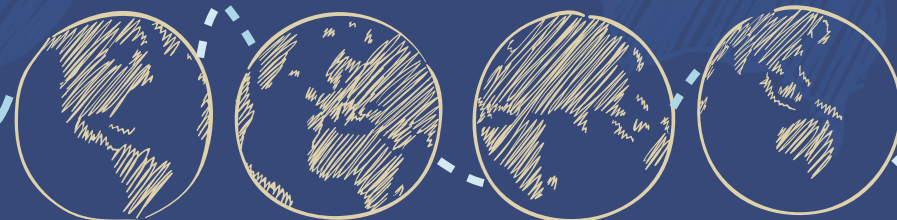
I was afraid I would be too handsome for anyone to dare to speak to me. Apparently, my fear was unsubstantiated.

My Global Agenda

It fills me with anger and sadness to see that even though we live in the 21st century, it's still almost impossible to get decent Mexican food in Germany. Also: Why don't we have Cracker Jack? Why aren't there more Japanese restaurants in Germany? If I, with my work as a journalist, can help bridge these culinary gaps I would die a happy man.

Brought from home

I brought my German flag, my mixtape of hardcore techno, Sauerkraut and Bratwurst, leather pants and some nagging criticism for every other country in the world with me.





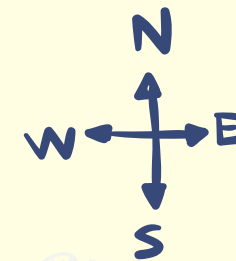
FILIPINO

Specialism: Hamburg
jabnizm@gmail.com



In 2005, I obtained my bachelor's degree in mass communication at the University of the Philippines Cebu. Journalism claimed me years earlier, when world-renowned scribe Eileen Mangubat invited me to write about the 2001 Edsa People Power Revolution. My works appear in print and online via Cebu Daily News, Philippine Daily Inquirer, Thomson Reuters Foundation and Dappled Things. God willing, with an Erasmus Mundus MA, I shall grow as a global journalist and academic. First among my treasures are the three Fs—faith, family and friends. Close behind are pet dogs Light and Pancho, dishes like pork dumplings and mutton shawarma, flora in general, the poetry of J.R.R. Tolkien and the prose of Dean Koontz and Randy David. I listen to Johann Sebastian Bach, Matchbox 20 and others in between. Whitney Houston is the golden mean. Apologies in advance: Should we converse and the occasion beckons, I will interrupt you so that we can watch the sunset, moonrise or the glittering stars.

JASON BAGUIA



First Mundus Meeting

The ladies at my rectangle table look familiar. Oriental. Just like me. People from places I visited. Many more from elsewhere. Long after this class, I will have warm memories of learning from and with some of the finest sons and daughters born to the family of nations.

Fears and Concerns

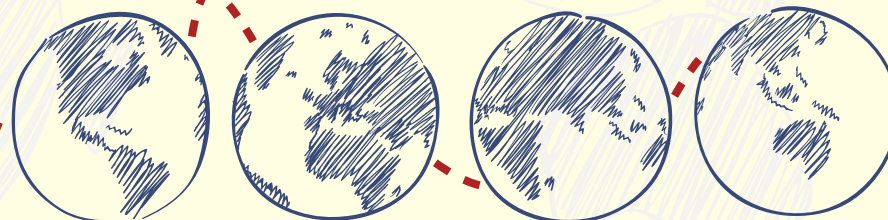
My greatest concern is about making these two years really meaningful and worthwhile. An important part of that, beyond striving for optimum academic performance is forming long-lasting friendships.

My Global Agenda

The questions of belief, secularization and relativism are the most important in our time. Everyone believes in someone or something. Understanding people's beliefs helps journalists better report about and interpret events in our world.

Brought from Home

I have wooden rosary beads, which I bought from a religious goods store at an alley near an almost 500-year-old church—one of the oldest in the Philippines. A friend who is a monsignor in another church where I served as lector when I was in college blessed the beads. Praying using these beads, I remember with love wherever I go my family, house mates, friends, colleagues, former students—in short, everyone who touched my life.





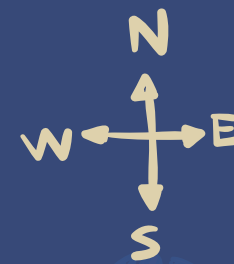
SERBIAN

Specialism: London
jelena_askovic@hotmail.com



I was born and raised in Belgrade. I graduated from the Faculty of Political Sciences in Belgrade where I obtained my BA in Journalism. However, my academic background is rooted more in social sciences. I am interested in fashion, architecture and design, therefore I enjoy being a contributor to the design magazine Design42Day. Apart from that, I did internships in the Serbian daily newspaper Večernje Novosti (the sports section) and in the fashion magazine Grazia. I heard about the Mundus Programme as a promising multicultural experience, the chance to live abroad and expand your knowledge: all together a siren song for me! TMI: I love traveling, taking photos (not selfies!), playing tennis and clubbing. I am a huge movie buff. Oh, and I almost forgot – I cannot ride a bike! ;)

JELENA AŠKOVIĆ



First Mundus Meeting

Strange as it may sound, during our first Mundus meeting I tried to imagine all of us in two years time – friendships, highs and lows, unforgettable memories, how much we would learn about each other...

Fears and Concerns

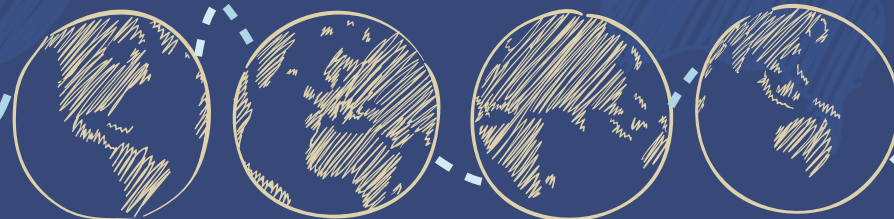
The weather. The prices. That's it.

My Global Agenda

I believe that everybody should be treated equally, regardless of their nationality, the color of their skin, and any other noticeable difference that you can think of. I try to fight against prejudice and discrimination in all possible ways.

Brought from Home

I brought the stories about my country, and not a lot of material things because of the baggage allowance. Is it just me, or does anyone else find these limits annoying?





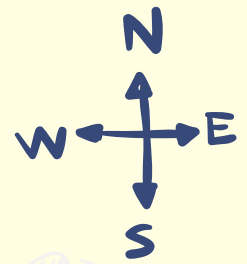
CANADIAN

Specialism: Hamburg



I knew I wanted to join the Mundus program a year before I applied - and a few months before I applied for my first exchange program in Denmark. I have a lot of hands on experience working as a journalist, both from studying and interning, but I wanted to continue with something entirely different – joining the Mundus program was probably the best decision I've made in a long time.

JELENA SUBOTIC



First Mundus Meeting

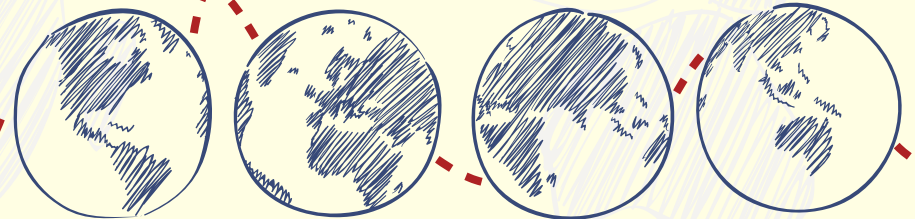
It was an eye-opening and daunting first impression. Both because it was a lot of new faces and people from all over the world sitting in one room together, but also because it was at that moment that I realized the program was actually starting and that I got myself in that room with all of those people. It was a very exciting moment.

Fears and Concerns

I was very fortunate to have lived and studied in Aarhus for a year prior to the Mundus program. It helped a lot that I didn't have to move out of my residence but stay somewhere familiar and focus on a fresh start at school and meeting classmates.

Brought from Home

Peanut butter! It's really expensive in Denmark and I tried to bring with me as much as I could.





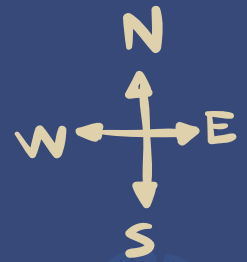
CANADIAN

Specialism: London
jenfmg@gmail.com



I come from New York, where I worked at the United Nations as a correspondent and editor for two online publications and a magazine focused on developing world and climate change. I grew up in Montreal, Canada, and moved to the United States to pursue a bachelor's degree in journalism, during which time I worked for USA TODAY, Boston's NBC News affiliate, and had publications in Prague and Dublin, among others. I chose the Mundus program because I loved the idea of studying journalism, political science, and the media in two fascinating cities with persons from all over the world.

JENNIFER GUAY



First Mundus Meeting

It was exciting - and overwhelming! To realize that I was about to meet the 76 people who would challenge and shape my worldview for the next two years. It only took a couple of weeks for me to realize that some of these former strangers had become my new family.

Fears and Concerns

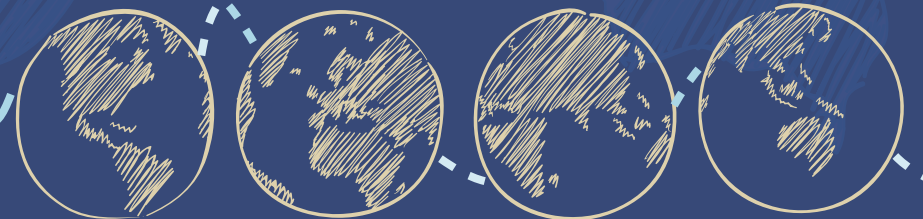
Learning how to bike in the rain.

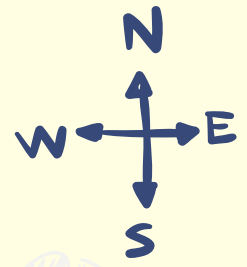
My Global Agenda

As a journalist, I hope to help give a voice to the world's underrepresented populations in some small way. The driving motivation for me to become an international correspondent has always been the idea of writing stories that reflect the views of people in the developing world, particularly in the realms of human rights and gender parity.

Brought from Home

A propensity for the cold - thanks, Canada!





JIALU ZHANG



CHINESE

Specialism: Amsterdam
shadow.222@qq.com



After my graduation from Communication University of China, majoring in TV editing and directing (specialism in Documentary), I started my TV production career in CCTV6, which brought me chances of covering the most prestigious international film festivals and working under transnational environment to shoot overseas, making intercultural dialogues with people from diverse culture contexts. My very personal experience helped me to have a clear understanding about the role of media, which played as a bridge in communication, especially in reducing misunderstandings and conflicts, earning mutual respects between people from different nationalities and religions. Globalized media impact became the keyword that led my shooting in the last 4 years. Therefore, when I came to this idea of getting some further study, nothing suits me better than Mundus Journalism Programme.

First Mundus Meeting

I got over excited and just can't remember my first impression now. It took me more than a month to figure out who is who, and who comes from where. My Chinese tongue just refuses to pronounce their names in the right way.

Fears and Concerns

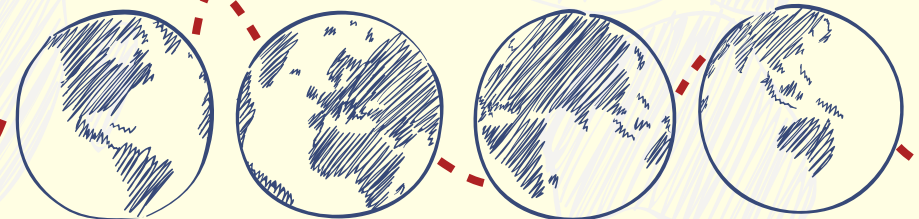
My biggest concern is about my academic writing and my reading speed in English, especially due to lack of the common vocabulary in political sciences. And my second concern relates to transportation facility in Aarhus. I got used to travel and I might easily get bored living in such a tiny city with just a few direct flights.

My Global Agenda

My answer to this question changes everyday. The five keywords I saw regarding to world agenda in my first assignment are tolerance, diversity, forgiveness, responsibility and sharing.

Brought from Home

I fully equipped myself before I came to Aarhus with skiing facial mask for riding bikes, 10kg Asian seasonings, waterproof clothes and three umbrellas, a 27-inch iMac, and Qipao for Aarhus summer (Chinese dress). And I guess I can drink the winter away like Vikings do.





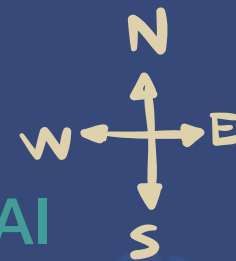
THAI

Specialism: Hamburg
jintamas.sch@gmail.com



I graduated from Slipakorn University in Bangkok with BA major in English and minor in History. I had worked for Thai newspaper for one and a half year after my graduation in the international news department. After that, I have worked as a freelance translator for a television company. Although I didn't have any journalistic academic background, I've been interested in media since university, partly because of political situation in Thailand. I heard about Erasmus Mundus programme from my friend, and found this course very interesting. I feel that the modules can really answer lots of my questions about this field, and also fulfill my need in both theoretical and practical knowledge.

JINTAMAS SAKSORNCHAI



First Mundus Meeting
Exciting and super overwhelming!

Fears and Concerns

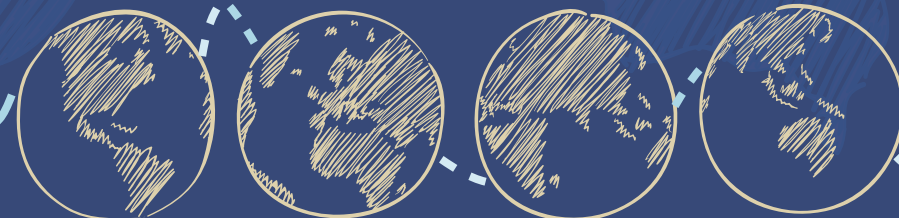
This is one was one of the biggest changes in my entire life, since living in Asia is very different from Europe. Therefore, I was a bit worried that I wouldn't be able to fit in. I'm grateful that people are very nice to me, and this has made things easier.

My Global Agenda

What influenced me the most to become a journalist is my curiosity in media framing and manipulation, and I want this situation in Thailand to be improved and start using a better approach in reporting. As media can highly modify perceptions, this practice's outcome could be a huge problem and awfully disturbing.

Brought from Home

Definitely food! I dare to say that Thai food is one of the best, and I cannot live without the taste of my home country.





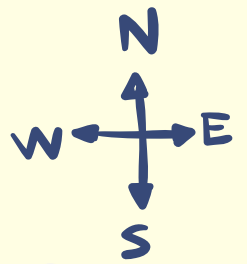
BRITISH

Specialism: Amsterdam
john.aing@hotmail.co.uk



Being 22 and born and raised in Camden Town, London, I have naturally had a passion for expanding my horizons and that is why I chose the Mundus Journalism Programme. I was educated at William Ellis, Camden School for Girls (with a mixed sixth-form!) before attending the University of Sussex; obtaining a BA (hons.) in Economics and International Relations. My main claim to fame journalistically, was writing a series of blogs on Sri Lanka that were published on the Discovery Channel Website. I have also always had a keen interest in presenting both in front of camera and on the radio.

JOHN AINGER



First Mundus Meeting

I immediately started looking for the sandwiches and eyeing up which ones would be the favourites. It is not what the sandwich looks like from the outside, but what its filling consists of. My first impression was that the overall standard of the filling was high, but it would take a longer period of analysis to see which ingredients would be my favourite...

Fears and Concerns

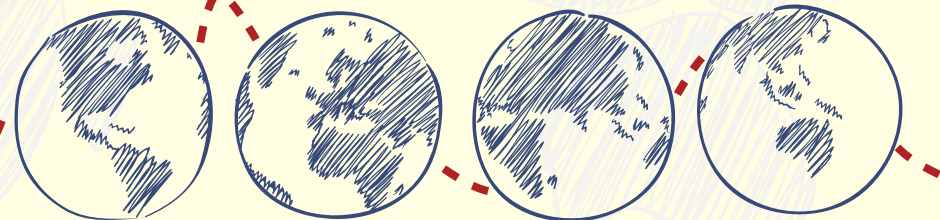
I was petrified that the price of beer would be too high in Denmark. Thankfully, from the perspective of a Londoner, the beer is cheap in supermarkets and reasonable in bars. Also I was scared being the only Brit and having to uphold all the gentlemanly stereotypes people have about us! I have now fulfilled the role of being the Mundus Hugh Grant (or maybe that's just in my own head...)!

My Global Agenda

The future. This may sound incredibly vague but I have also learnt that many of the world's problems are interlinked and so no-one particular issue stands out for me. All I know, is that the 21st century could well be one of the most challenging for the human race, but will undoubtedly throw up some fascinating events to report. I certainly hope this century will not be boring!!!

Brought from Home

I brought with me some After Eight chocolates. Whilst that may seem indulgent there is nothing better than savouring one of these minty delights after a stressful day at the Danish School of Media and Journalism!!





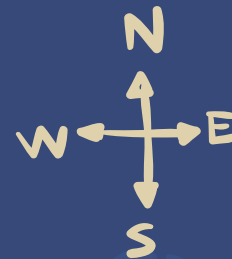
BRAZILIAN

Specialism: Hamburg
julia.mandil@gmail.com



I've had the experience of calling different cities "home". I was born in Belo Horizonte and when I was a teenager I moved to the beautiful city of Rio. Most recently I spent three months in São Paulo. I also had the opportunity to live in other countries like Canada and Spain (and now, Denmark!). In Brazil, I worked as an intern at the UN Information Centre and also as a freelancer. Before coming to Denmark I was part of a trainee program in economic journalism held by a major Brazilian newspaper. I am passionate about other cultures: learning new languages, tasting new food and, of course, traveling and meeting people with different backgrounds. I've always had an interest in international journalism, especially reports on themes related to conflict mediation.

JULIA LACERDA MANDIL



First Mundus Meeting

"It is like a mini United Nations". Where else would I have had the opportunity to try Thai food with Danish and Dutch friends, while all speaking in English as at our first mundus party? That's globalization!

Fears and Concerns

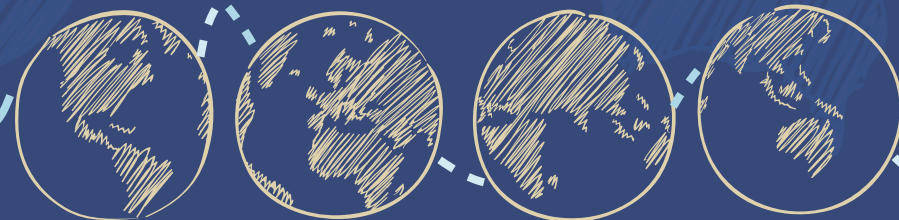
Before taking part in the program I was afraid not to be able to continue working as a journalist while doing my studies, as if I was going to stay out of the job market. Fortunately I saw that it is possible to ally work and studies! The bad weather during winter also scared me.

My Global Agenda

In my view, there is still much prejudice and fear and these aspects are particularly relevant in times of conflicts and war. When people don't know much about other cultures, historical backgrounds etc., they can end up being closed. Sometimes governments may use this lack of information to make people support conflicts or attacks towards others. Mainstream and social media can be seen as powerful tools to break this silence and connect people

Brought from Home

One of the things that I like the most about Brazil is the landscape. I have a friend who has a photographic series with scenes of Rio. I have a small picture of a very beautiful sky, which is hanging on my wall right now. It reminds me that beauty can be seen wherever you go, you just have to look at it.





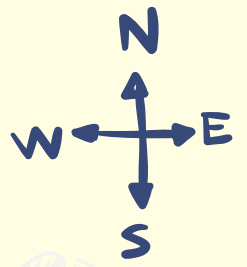
Belgian

Specialism: London
julieaelbrecht@gmail.com



I like words, that's the most important thing about me. I love the power and the presence of a good word. My favorite word in English is "buxom," in case you were interested. In fact, I like words so much that, before coming to Denmark, I got my Master's degree in English and Spanish Literature and Linguistics. I do not have the aspiration and burden of a dream such as wanting to change the world with words, but I believe that if I can install the slightest sliver of joy or knowledge in someone's brain with mine, I'll consider my life a success.

JULIE ANN AELBRECHT



First Mundus Meeting

I met a couple of people from the program before our official start, we went out for a couple of beers by the canal. Not everyone was there, but I was extremely impressed with the variety of conversation and experience around me.

Fears and Concerns

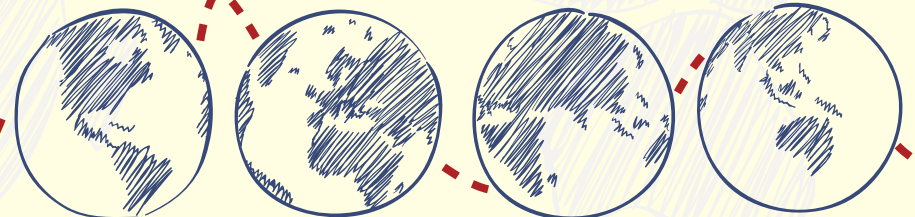
I was honestly worried that all of the other kids would be very studious and boring, totally focused on school and not much else, like hypersmart genetically-engineered writer-robots with all the experience I'd never be able to acquire in a lifetime. I was very relieved to see that people could talk about other stuff, that wasn't related to their respective specialisms.

My Global Agenda

Overpopulation. It is a very new problem, which gave birth to all sorts of little baby-problems and any solution to the problem would go against the very things which make us human.

Brought from Home

I brought my ostrich with me, a 4-foot tall magnetic wall sticker that I use as a pinboard (which is like the old-fashioned, IRL version of having a Pinterest account). It combines the practical with the whimsical. It keeps me from forgetting stuff, looks very cool and reminds me never to stick my head in the sand.





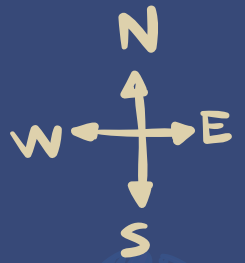
GERMAN

Specialism: Hamburg
katharina.kueh@gmail.com



During my studies of Theatre and Media at the University of Bochum I found out that I am not only privately an artist, by taking pictures, writing and filming, but that I want to be a professional journalist. That is because I am very interested in topics that are left behind by media. In future I want to combine artistic production with stories that I find are very important to be published. After interning at several television production companies I decided that I would like to make a Master in Journalism in order to specify my studies. This Mundus Master is the best opportunity to learn about the world and its order, to live abroad and especially in Denmark and to learn more about Journalism.

KATHARINA KUCKE



First Mundus Meeting

For me it was a very special event, because I had never been in a room with so many people from all around the world. That is why I was really excited to meet my classmates.

Fears and Concerns

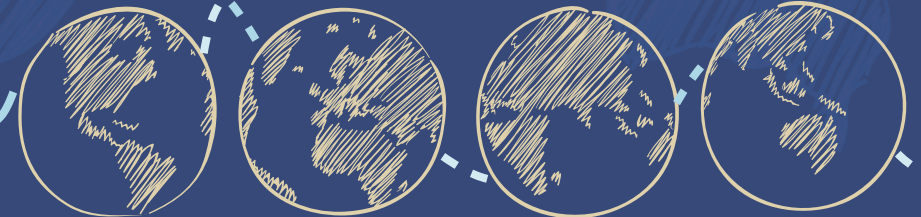
I didn't have concerns about the program, but I feared that it wouldn't be easy for me to survive in Aarhus – as a vegan :) But it turns out they have really nice shops and Cafés here!

My Global Agenda

It is the way we treat our environment and every living creature on this planet that we didn't define as "human being". I am an activist and journalist at the same time. And I will fight for animal (and environmental) rights as a journalist. That is why for me the most relevant issue in the world is environmental change – because for me it is directly correlated with the ignorant way human beings inhabit this world.

Brought from Home

I brought many fairy lights, because even if Danes think it is a Danish thing: In Germany we also have people like me practicing "hygge" :))





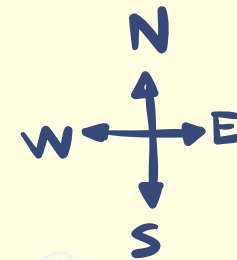
GERMAN

Specialism: London
kim.schoenrock@hotmail.de



I am a sports-loving outdoor girl who is addicted to coffee and enjoys sitting in the park with sun in the face. For my Bachelor Degree I studied Sport Management and Communication at the German Sport University Cologne. After doing several internships, I worked as a freelance radio-reporter and completed a 15 month journalistic training (Volontariat) at an editorial office, reporting mainly about foreign and national educational topics. I chose this program because of its international focus with the chance to study in two different countries together with people from all over the world.

KIM LAURA SCHÖNROCK



First Mundus Meeting

It was like being part of a “Mundus-Family” right away. So, I felt really excited about getting to know everybody and their culture and I realized that I will probably learn as much from my fellow students as from the professors during lecture.

Fears and Concerns

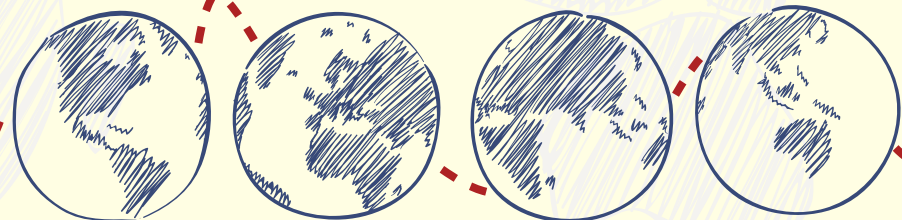
I have not been studying for 3 years, so I was really eager to get back but also quite terrified. Also, I did not study something specifically related to journalism or my second year specialism before. Therefore I was a bit concerned about other students' backgrounds and if I would be able to keep up.

My Global Agenda

I think there is not one most relevant global issue. The world is full of topics that need to be tackled: hunger, human rights, global warming, wars... As a journalist you need to see them as global issues and not only through “national lenses”. The change of perspectives is crucial.

Brought from Home

I came with an entire carload of stuff since Germany is basically “next door”. So apart from far too many clothes and shoes, sports gear, a guitar and a bike, I brought from home pictures from friends and family. Now my room actually looks a bit like home.





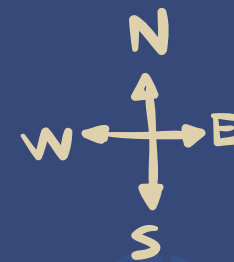
SWISS
GERMAN

Specialism: Amsterdam
k_staehelin@hotmail.com



I studied Political Sciences and Media Sciences as a BA at the University of Zurich. The programme not being too time-consuming, I quite soon took the opportunity to take some first steps in journalism by either freelancing or doing internships. The topics I wrote about were football and local issues. As the years went by I more and more made my way into the national newspapers, and finally got offered a position as a page designer at one of Switzerland's major dailies. After finishing my BA in summer 2013 I decided to take a year off and travel through South America. I published articles from the countries I was travelling in the Swiss dailies. Topics were tourism, politics and, again, football. The effort did not only pay off economically: by meeting other Swiss journalists I was able to spread my name and got asked by them to publish articles in their media as well, with the highlight being a contract at the biggest Swiss daily ("Blick") during the World Cup in Brazil.

KONRAD PAUL STÄHELIN



First Mundus Meeting

I was overwhelmed by the feeling that this was the moment when we were about to meet people that would play an important role in our lives for the upcoming two years if not for much longer.

Fears and Concerns

Only one concern: I am still worried about the weather in winter. In order to survive these months I totally rely on my very nice flatmates to feel "hygge" (the typical Danish cosiness) together as often as possible.

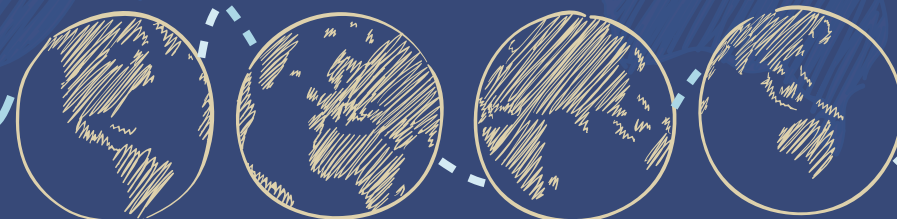
My Global Agenda

It's hard to prioritize. When having to choose I'd pick global warming since it is the issue that most substantially changes the planet we live on.

It is not that global warming as a particular issue influences me in my work or ambitions as a journalist, but political problems in general do, whether they are global or local: among other factors they were the reason for me to become a journalist.

Brought from Home

My beloved bike, something very useful in Denmark where bicycles are equally respected in traffic as cars (a new experience for a Swiss) and public transport is horrendously expensive (not a new experience for a Swiss). And a flag of the football team I support, it hangs on my room's wall wherever I live.





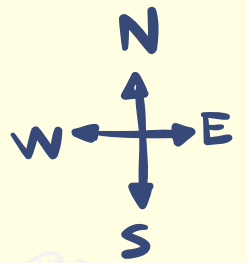
DANISH

Specialism: Amsterdam
kristian-gs@hotmail.com



I am an island boy. I was born on Funen in the middle of Denmark, and as most islanders I have always been struck by an urge to see what goes on beyond the coastlines. At first, this urge merely drove me to live in the capital of the tiny country that I call home, but it also brought me to visit many parts of the world. I have worked as a video journalist in Buenos Aires and for different NGOs all over the world. Believing that what I really lacked were communication skills, I started (and finished) a Bachelor's degree in Film and Media Studies. My longing for the unknown became a personal interest in different cultures and foreign politics, and I wanted to pursue this interest professionally.

KRISTIAN GOTTHELF SCHMIDT ANDERSEN



First Mundus Meeting

I felt excited about the time ahead. It was an unique chance to be confronted with new perspectives and knowledge about countries all over the world.

Fears and Concerns

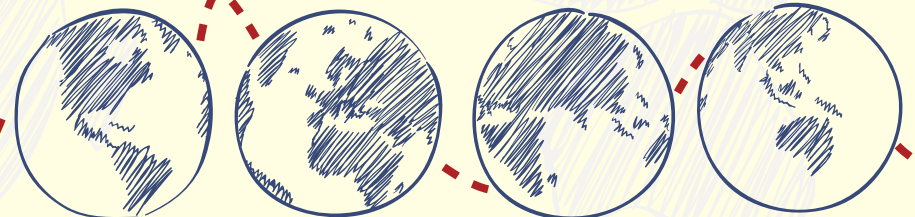
That I would not be introduced to globalization as the respatialization of social life. Luckily, my fear proved unwarranted.

My Global Agenda

There are many significant issues that required a collective response. However, with the rise of national populism and a preference of national interests stories I fear that global solidarity is at risk. As a journalist this challenges me to engage public interest in global issues.

Bringing to Amsterdam

I have my father's eyes and my mother's calm temper - I am planning on bringing both.





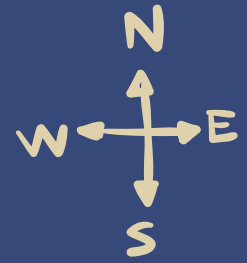
GERMAN

Specialism: London
koenig.madleen@t-online.de



I have always wanted to be a journalist. When I was seven years old and saw the news for the first time the decision for my career aspiration was made. To inform people what happens in the world amazed me, and it still does. I spent a high school year abroad in Mexico and after school I did an internship at a local TV station. Afterwards, I studied Journalism in Germany and in London. I did internships at a regional TV station in Germany, the foreign bureau of Germany's National Broadcaster ZDF in New York City and at the ZDF Talk show "Markus Lanz." I applied for the Mundus Programme because it makes you understand the world better, not just through the academic programme, also through the people from all around the world.

MADLEEN KÖNIG



First Mundus Meeting

When we were together in one room I knew that I was at the right place. To talk and discuss with journalists from around the world is an amazing experience, and this is what makes this programme unique. It feels like the world gets a little closer.

Fears and Concerns

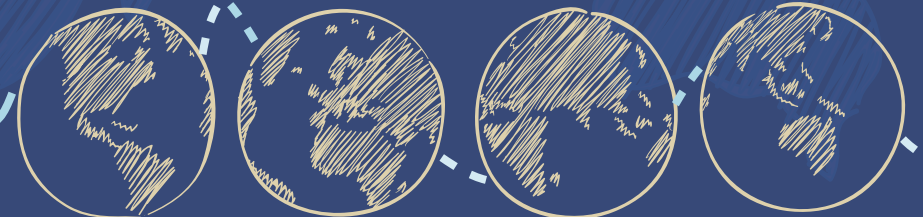
I did not have any fears or concerns before coming to Aarhus. Journalists are usually very open-minded and like to hear people's stories. We all might be very different but the reason we are in this programme is our common interests. That's why I wasn't concerned at all – instead, I was just excited to meet everyone.

My Global Agenda

I do not have a first and most relevant issue in the world agenda because the complexity and connections between all global issues are too interconnected. I want to show and explain those connections so that people attain a more global mind-set.

Brought from Home

I did not bring anything specific from home, but I do not call it a day when I do not watch German news daily on my laptop.





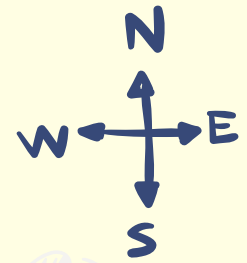
SPANISH CUBAN

Specialism: Hamburg
mara.landa.m@gmail.com



I started my professional experience in Holland, in the former International Broadcasting, Radio Netherlands, working in the Latin America department. It was very interesting but, unfortunately, the crisis happened and budget cuts forced a change of strategy 2 years ago. Luckily, I could collaborate in a wonderful project about Sex and Sexual Rights called Love Matters, which I'm still doing at present. I chose the Mundus Programme because of the international environment and the possibility to study in two different countries.

MARA LANDA MARTINEZ



First Mundus Meeting

I was very excited. I'm used to work and meet people from different countries and cultures, but more than 40 nationalities, boy, that's going to be hard work, I thought.

Fear and Concern

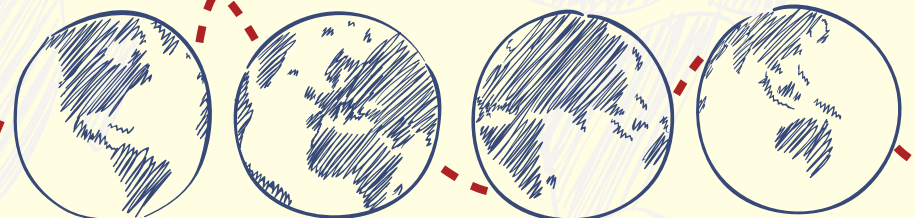
My previous months before coming to Aarhus were so crazy that I just wanted to get there and have some peace. What comes will come and it will be solved.

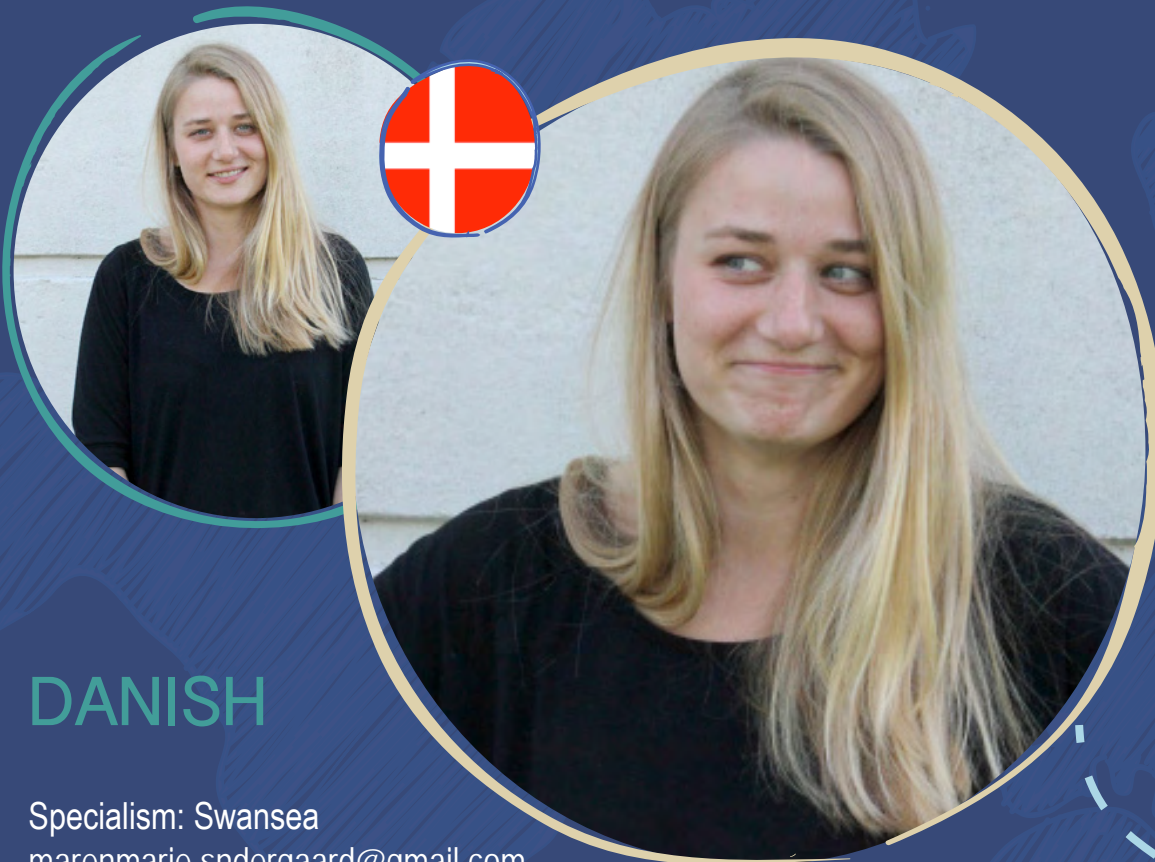
My Global Agenda

Violence. As an Argentinian comic character, Mafalda - one of my heroes - said: "Are all the injustices in the world already solved? No? Then wake me up to have lunch". It's a disappointment to see that no matter how many communication systems we invent or how fast and good they are, governments always solve some problems the same way.

Brought from Home

A jewelry box with a Cuban landscape and a couple dancing handpainted on it. My aunt gave it to me for my birthday last year and I carry it with me to have some Caribbean warmth during the cold and dark wintertime.





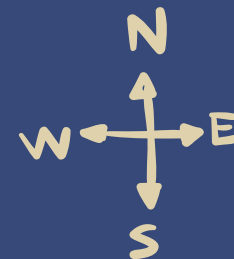
DANISH

Specialism: Swansea
marenmarie.sndergaard@gmail.com



I have a Bachelor in Mass Communication with an emphasis in Public Relations from Sam Houston University in Texas. I've interned and worked as a reporter for newspapers in Nakuru and Medellin. A friend brought the Mundus program to my attention and I became instantly intrigued by the specialism in War and Conflict at Swansea University. Moreover, I was keen on the diversity and multiplicity of cultures in the program and I wanted to be a part of it.

MAREN MARIE SOENDERGAARD



First Mundus Meeting

I was amazed and slightly overwhelmed, but happy to be a part of such an incredible and diverse group of people.

Fears and Concerns

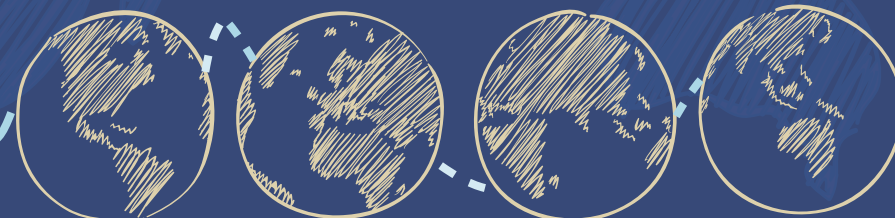
I was mostly excited to start the program, but had heard some rumors about the intensity of Hans-Henrik's course. I survived.

My Global Agenda

Human rights violation. We continue to witness human trafficking, discrimination against the LGBT community, gender inequality, unsafe labor conditions. The list goes on, and so should our efforts.

Bringing to Swansea

Easy! Danish licorice, obviously. Mmm.





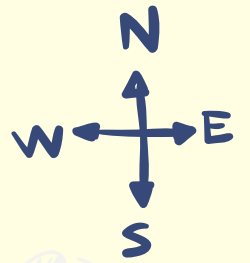
NORWEGIAN

Specialism: Swansea
vee.marthe@gmail.com



I did my bachelor's in journalism in Oslo and a study abroad program in San Francisco. I have been working for a local newspaper, a radio channel, and as a culture journalist writing for a festival. I wanted to do a master's in journalism, and I wanted it to be in English to increase my work opportunities. The Mundus program seemed like a unique way to learn and discuss with people from all over the world. The classes seemed interesting, as they are a mix of journalism and politics, which are closely interrelated. It was also really tempting to study abroad again, to experience new places and make new friends. So far, the program has exceeded all my expectations, and even more so.

MARTHE VEE



First Mundus Meeting

It was a bit overwhelming sitting in a room with so many new people, and not knowing a single soul. Even though I have been in that situation before, it felt even more exciting when there were people from all across the globe.

Fears and Concerns

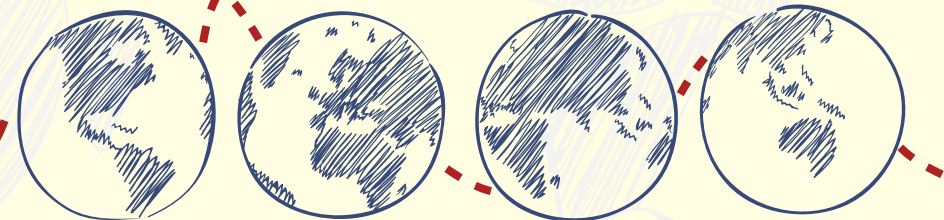
My biggest fear was that everyone had their plans figured out in terms of where and what to work with except for me. I am still unsure of what I want with this degree, but I still think it is the best choice I have made for my education.

My Global Agenda

Fighting world poverty. Coming from Norway, I was raised in the believe that we should share our goods. I want everyone to have the same opportunities, whether you are a woman or man, and regardless what social class you were born in.

Brought from Home

I brought my handball, because, just as in Norway, it is really popular in Denmark.. The first week I joined a handball team and it is super fun. It has made my stay in Aarhus really nice and has given me the opportunity to meet a lot of cool Danes.



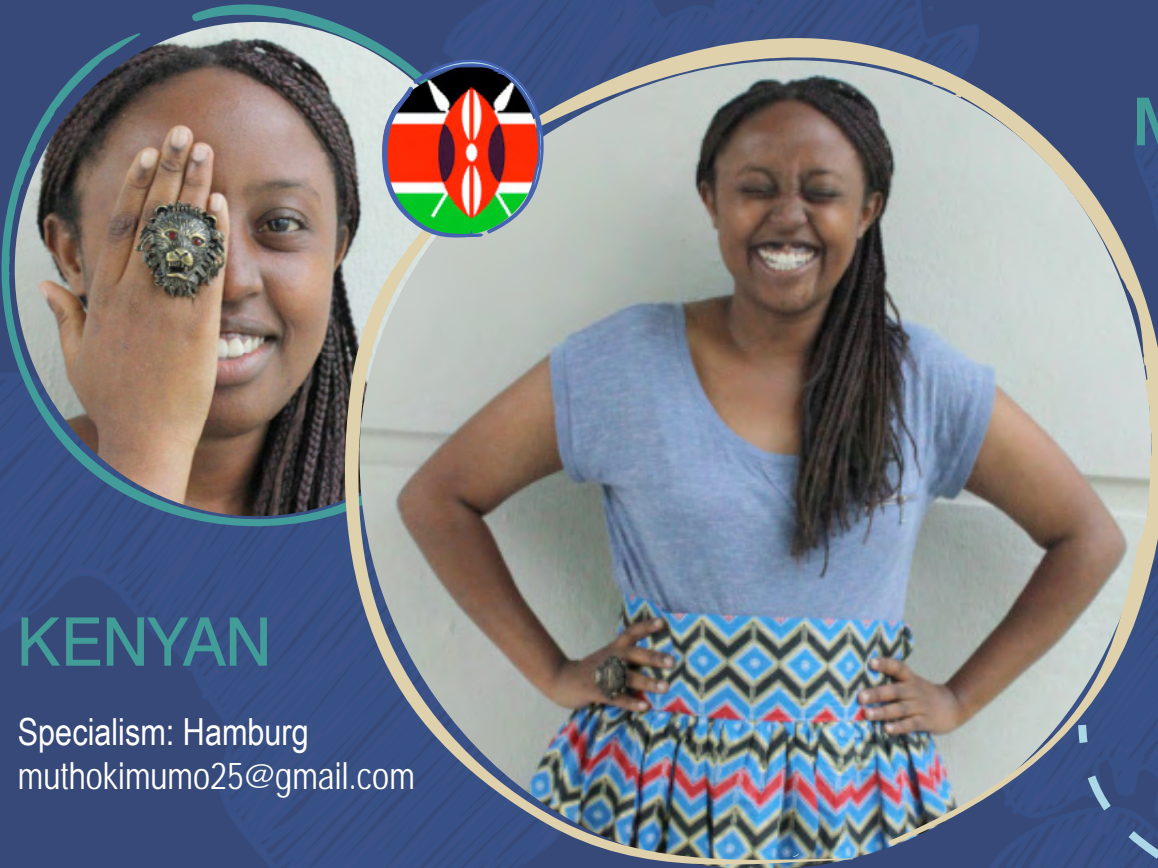


KENYAN

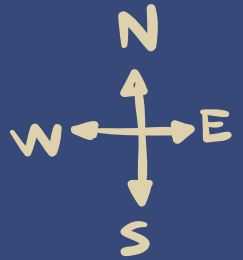
Specialism: Hamburg
muthokimumo25@gmail.com



I am a writer who also happens to have a passion for journalism. I am endlessly curious and I love learning new things. I also love to read and I am most at peace when I am exploring a world between the covers of a new book. My academic background is in journalism and international relations. I spent the years between 2011 and 2014 practising my craft at a Kenyan newspaper, the Daily Nation. I think the Mundus program is an opportunity for me to combine all my passions while exploring my recently discovered wanderlust.



MUTHOKI MUMO



First Mundus Meeting

The vastness of the world and sheer variety of different cultures is a concept that I understood intellectually when I came to Aarhus. I think anyone who has been to a foundational geography class knows that the world is a big place. However, I didn't fully comprehend the implications of this vastness until I met 72 new people from at least 40 different countries. I immediately wanted to learn more about each one of them.

Fears and Concerns

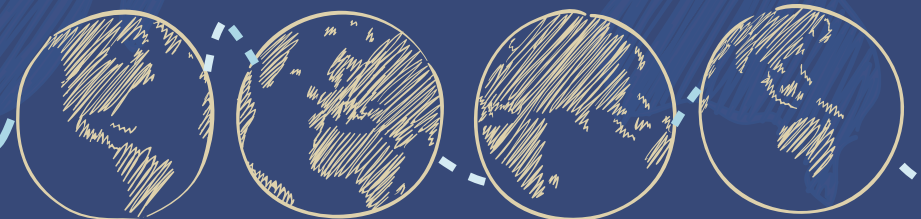
My biggest concern was the weather. And it is still.

My Global Agenda

I think the biggest problem continues to be how stubbornly blind we are remain to the fact that none of these problems can be addressed without real commitment to transnational cooperation. In my writing, I want to try to illuminate how intertwined our survival is and perhaps do my part in curing this chronic blindness.

Brought from home

I brought books that my best friend bought me and delivered at the last minute at the airport. They were my companions during that first lonely week in Aarhus. I truly cherish them. I also brought a lot of bright, coloured clothes. I didn't realize how bright they were and how much they would remind me of home until I was confronted with the monochrome, understated landscape that is Aarhus fashion.





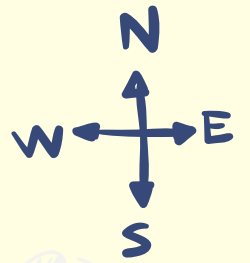
CHINESE

Specialism: London
xumuyu@hotmail.com



I was born and raised in Beijing, the capital of China with 20 million people. I studied Journalism as major and Law as minor in Nanjing University, 1162km away from my hometown. During my study, I worked as editor of the university newspaper and intern-journalist in the investigative report department of China Youth Daily, one of the largest state newspapers. I would like to continue doing media-related jobs, since I believe Journalism is a profession that could make a better world. In the senior year of my bachelor, I went to Sweden as exchange student and was fascinated with the life in Scandinavian countries. There, I first heard about Erasmus Mundus Journalism program. I felt the program fits me perfectly because of the professional courses, the global background and the opportunity to come back to Scandinavia.

MUYU XU



First Mundus Meeting

To be honest, I was freaked out. Almost 80 people sat in a small, closed room. I felt even worse when people started to introduce themselves. I felt weak and just wanted to get out of this meeting. But, since I knew I had to stay for the following two years, I changed my attitude. I will take the program as an opportunity to challenge myself.

Fears and Concerns

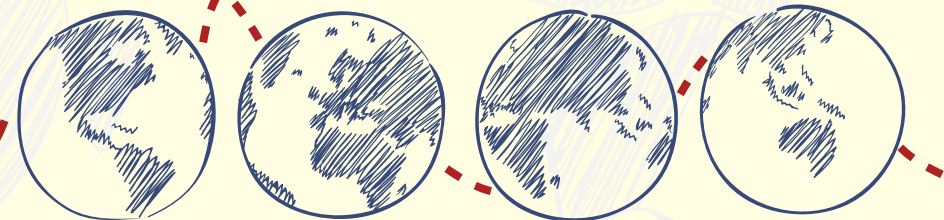
Lack of working experience. I got my bachelor degree only two months before starting this program. Even though I did some short internships in newspapers before, still I was not acquainted with practical news business.

My Global Agenda

The destruction of ecological environment has no territorial boundaries and endangers the survival of both human beings and other species. In China I saw many reports about food security crisis, pollution and species at risk due to man-made destruction. The ignorance, greed and short sight of people makes me really worried about the future of my country and our planet.

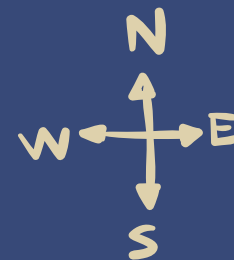
Brough from Home

Jasmine tea. As a typical Chinese, I am used to drinking hot water in winter. A cup of hot tea with faint scent is the best beverage for me to survive the long dark winter in Denmark. Every time I smell the aroma and taste the sweet I feel I never left home.





NEHAL ELSHERIF



EGYPTIAN

Specialism: London
nehalelsherif@gmail.com



I studied English Literature back in Cairo, and never imagined I'd be a journalist. But I got the chance to get training at The Egyptian Gazette newspaper after graduation, and loved journalism so bad since then. Besides the paper, I freelanced for some local magazines and websites, and also worked as a communications assistant at IFC. For around five years, I worked for dpa news wire, covering the uprisings across the Middle East. Then I decided it is time for new challenges, learning new things and meeting new people, which is what brought me here to awesome Aarhus and the Erasmus Mundus program.

First Mundus Meeting

I think I was too overwhelmed thinking about all the names I will need to memorize. But then it was ok, not easier than I expected but definitely faster.

Fears and Concerns

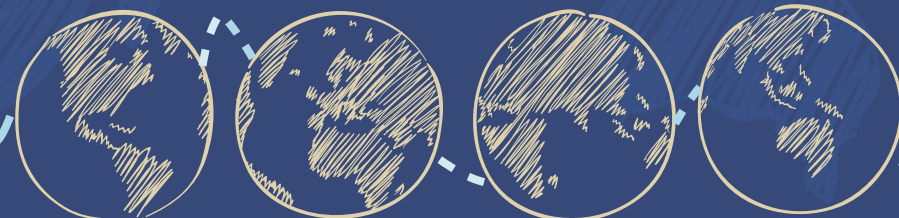
I was too much concerned about the weight of my bags. Yet, I think if we go back in time two months, I would be concerned about how I am going to respatialize my life and whether I have the right transplanetary things in my bag for it.

My Global Agenda

Social justice and women's rights. I try to grab the chance whenever I can to write about them, it was not easy while working for mainstream media, but I got to do it every once in a while and these few stories gave me the push to always try to find time to write more on these issues.

Brought from Home

My coffee pot, a small sign with Tahrir Square written on it and three books that remind me of my three best friends.





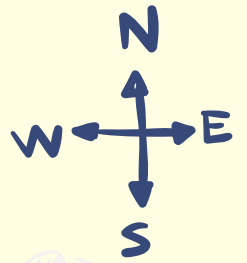
PAKISTANI AMERICAN

Specialism: Amsterdam
noor.anwar89@gmail.com



I fell in love with Europe when I went to Paris for my exchange year during my bachelor's. I knew I had to come back here for my master's. It's so cool that I get the opportunity to live in two different countries through one masters program! I'm a writer, that's how I express myself. My bachelors is in creative writing and politics from Hampshire College in the US. I want to approach the way I can report through telling people's personal stories which allow us to relate and connect to them, even though we may not share the same background, nationality or religion. The Mundus program is not just about journalism, but also about globalization and how the media world is changing, something we are witnessing first-hand.

NOOR ANWAR



First Mundus Meeting

It was overwhelming and very exciting. I immediately realized how much I was going to be able to learn from each person in that room. That's a really empowering feeling, and it restored some of my faith in humanity.

Fears and Concerns

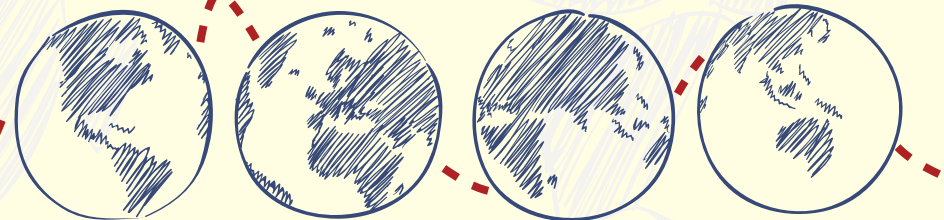
I was most scared that no one would understand my lame sense of humor! I was anxious that I wouldn't find people I could relate to. But as soon as I got here, I felt like we are all the same person, just from different parts of the world!

My Global Agenda

Mentality is the underlying problem facing all societies. We need to change our preconceptions and rid ourselves of judgmental attitudes. I feel all other issues related like education, religious or ethnic divisions, corruption, all circle back to this problem of a stagnated mentality that is destroying possibilities of progression.

Brought from Home

I brought spices, although I don't even cook. But I figured I would make friends who like to cook Pakistani/Indian food (and of course there's a difference, Pakistani is way better). I also brought a few of my Mama's pashmina shawls to keep me warm here.





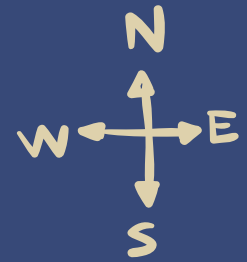
DANISH

Specialism: Hamburg
ole.krogsgaard@gmail.com



Growing up in a quiet part of Denmark, I started planning my future from an early age. I distinctively remember having given a very young me three career choices: Journalist, Minister of Culture (they got to go to all the football games!) or designer of Lego. In Denmark only the very best and brightest get to design Lego and only the dumbest get to be ministers so I went with journalism. I have a bachelor in History and German and I've been working for the Danish Broadcasting Corporation. Besides studies and work, I play music, swim naked in oceans all year round and drink beers.

OLE KROGSGAARD



First Mundus Meeting

I did the math: 53 girls from about 40 different countries. If I get a child with all of them my kids and I can have mini-UN meetings at my house! We can field test solutions to each and every one of the world's most pressing issues: Should we save the whales? Just a sec, I'll check in with the General Assembly in the backyard! Should we ban burkas? Sorry, vetoed by my Security Council! And all in the interest of a peaceful world order! Right, girls? ... Girls?

Fears and Concerns

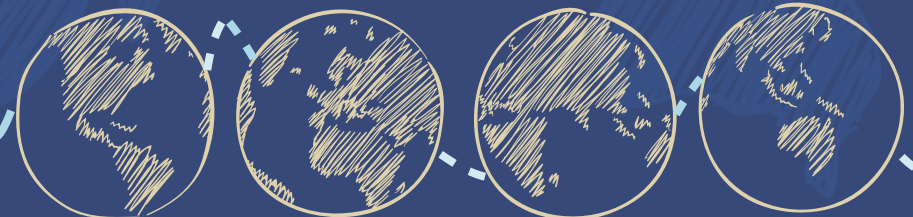
I like to plan my life years ahead. It never works out, but I just can't help it. So taking a theoretic journalistic degree without internships, to get into an industry characterized by networking – it's either the best or the worst career move ever.

My Global Agenda

I'm pretty sure one of the points of our first course was that the idea of a world agenda is bogus. But if I could dictate a world agenda it would be about the basic welfare of people. And the welfare of me.

Bringing to Hamburg

Hamburg is close to Denmark, so luckily I won't need to worry about acquiring rugbrød for the Danish smørrebrød, that I absolutely need for my lunches. I'm gonna bring my accordion, my computer and a pack of rugbrød, and then I'm gonna be all set. And travel.





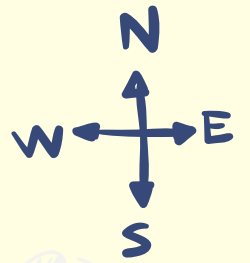
ARGENTINIAN

Specialism: Hamburg
pleivajacquelin@gmail.com



My leitmotiv: impossible is a word to avoid the way to success. I studied Journalism at a practical school where teachers were journalists working in the media landscape of the "city that never sleeps" and marked our productions as editors. They taught me all I know and made me fall in love with the craft journalism is. After graduating, I moved to South Africa, where I wrote for a business magazine and taught English in a primary school. I had the chance to walk bare feet after work while facing the social impacts of the Apartheid. Lucky enough, I lived with an indigenous community in Namibia, travel alone and discovered my self to then get reunited with my Danish boyfriend for an epic saga: one year living, studying and working in Mother Denmark!

PAMELA LEIVA JACQUELIN



First Mundus Meeting

Being with other people that experienced the world in similar ways is always touching. Moments when we can recognize ourselves in others' dreams are memorable. I realized that a long way has come to the perfect end...or beginning.

Fears and Concerns

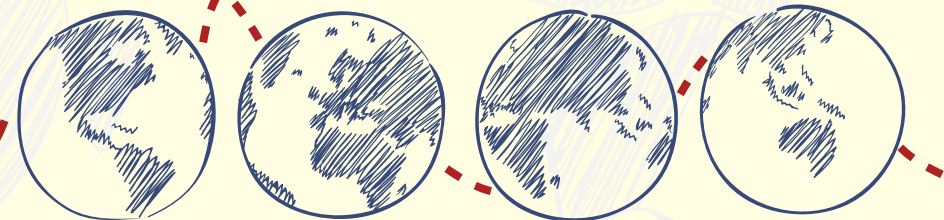
Fears? We wouldn't be here if they won either if we did not experience them. I was afraid I wouldn't manage with all of it: classes, 2 jobs, Danish lessons, travels and social events. Yes, journalists need to be busy and always have something to complain about!

My Global Agenda

For me the most relevant issues in the global agenda are: minority rights, migration and human trafficking. Minorities rights questions powers in terms of identities and integration, migrations processes questions supra-territorial institutions' discriminatory policies and the figures of human trafficking are larger than those of drugs and weapons trafficking.

Brought from Home

I brought the only 2 suitcases I have, a postcard I bought in Paris for my mom, pictures of my family, a travel book from Africa, my recorder and my yoga mat. And the most precious: the company of my sweet Kristian, now also roommate and colleague.





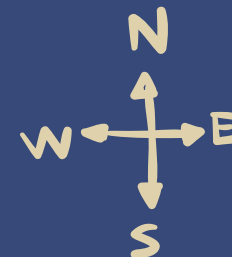
BRAZILIAN

Specialism: London
pedrohcbarreto@gmail.com



I was born in Brazil and have graduated in Journalism – Social Communications at the University of Brasília. After working in communication agencies and websites first as a reporter and then as an editor, I have joined the country's Ministry of Tourism. I was responsible for the relationship with international and national media outlets. My last job was at the International Secretariat for Social Communication at the Presidency of Brazil. During the 2014 World Cup, our office took the lead to plan, organize and implement the Open Media Centre, in Rio de Janeiro – an unprecedented project that provided full time support to all journalists that were in Brazil to cover the event. After years building a career, I knew it was time to refresh all the knowledge. Studying in a different country was the objective and the Erasmus Mundus Programme seemed the perfect choice. To live in another continent and to have the opportunity to engage in an experience like this for more than one year is thrilling. One thing was certain: academically and culturally, the experience to become a Mundusian would be a sensational achievement in my life.

PEDRO HENRIQUE DE CASTRO BARRETO



First Mundus Meeting

Faces, smiles, names, accents. All new, all in the same room. It was a different feeling, not knowing how to act. Initially, there was hesitation. Soon it turned into a smooth sense of happiness: everyone was being kind in the same way they wanted the new colleague to be.

Fears and Concerns

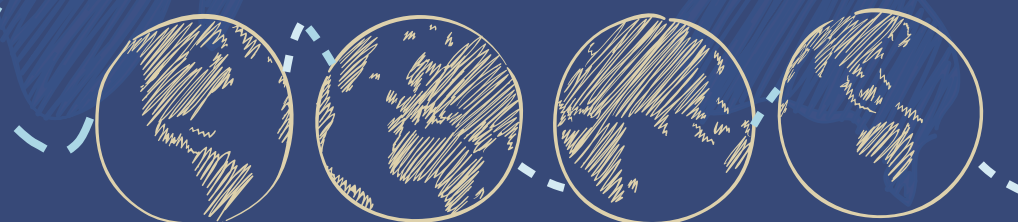
Living in a very different country was my major concern. Cold weather, difficult language, different society – I was coming not only from another country, but from another continent.

My Global Agenda

Education. In all nations and even more in the under development ones, this is a theme that is always under debate. Journalism has a great work to do in this matter: one of its true responsibilities is to help monitoring if authorities within the state are correctly addressing the issue of basic and professional education.

Brought from Home

My vinyl player! Music is with me during the whole day and I thought it would be an awesome experience to get to know Denmark from this view. Vinyl shops are always filled with rarities and good surprises, but one of the most interesting things are the owners and the shoppers. You can start a conversation about music and end up knowing half of the life of your new friend.





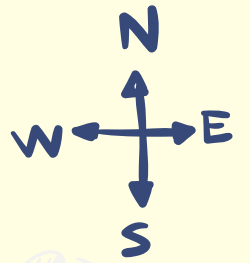
CHINESE

Specialism: Amsterdam
kadlqbetty@126.com



I studied journalism as bachelor's degree in Wuhan University in China and had an exchange experience in Hong Kong Baptist University for 4 months. After graduation, I worked for the Southern Metropolis Daily in Guangdong Province for one year and a half. Then I started getting bored because of the strict restriction of press in mainland. I felt myself as nothing but part of the mouthpiece of the central government. I hate this feeling. Besides, I missed the student life, and looking forward to an abroad study programme. The Erasmus Mundus programme has a really high reputation and good feedback from former students. I loved the idea of studying journalism with people around the world and getting a chance to live and study in two different countries.

QING LI



First Mundus Meeting

I was greatly impressed by the fellow classmates for sure. Being surrounded by people from all over the world, I pushed myself to stand out of the comfort zone and talk. I felt so much relieved after finding out that I was surrounded by so many nice and talented people.

Fears and Concerns

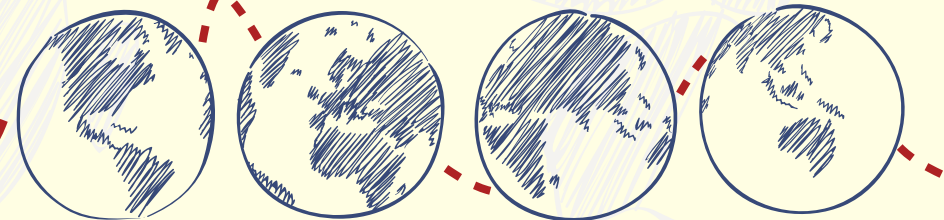
For me it's financial problems. I had to consider about the overall cost since it's really a huge expense to study and live abroad. Other than that, I was really excited to start a new chapter of my life.

My Global Agenda

The Tian'anmen Square protest in 1989 is definitely my world agenda concerning human rights and the freedom of speech. I didn't know the details until I studied in HongKong where I got free internet to read more facts, which strengthened my determination to become a journalist and speak for those who can't.

Brought from Home

I brought one suitcase and one backpack from China with Chinese spices that my father bought for me. He is a cook and knows exactly what I need to make Chinese food. The spices help me to recall the dishes at home.





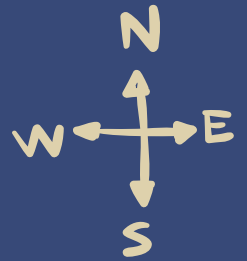
KENYAN

Specialism: Swansea



A totally laid-back young woman who delights in travelling and being outdoors swimming, biking, hiking, running and camping. A published writer, experienced editor, and avid photographer. A “lazy” cook, she enjoys making quick, tasty, wholesome recipes. She is a multi-skilled, interactive, quiet but confident person with a balanced personality. Values life and health, family and friends; and is open to meeting people from different walks of life. Understands “giving” (time, skills, ideas) and volunteers whenever this is possible. The Mundus program not only adds the global perspective to her background in English language, journalism (print), conflict and humanitarian action, it also fits her career goals and plans perfectly. The bonus is the opportunity for a continuous realistic evaluation of how “global” individuals react to apparent in-your-face differences (of cultural background, skin tone, outlook on life) evident in international settings.

ROSELYNE OMONDI OGAO



First Mundus Meeting

After waiting to join the program for years, walking into the Danish Media and Journalism School the first time was totally special. It seemed like an out-of-this-world experience. I was nervous and excited at the same time, and happy to bring a bit of “dark chocolate” to the international family.

Fears and Concerns

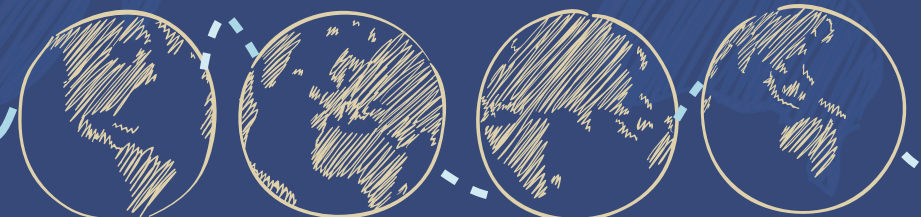
I had given up on ever joining the programme. That changed last June when my mother (biggest supporter) was murdered, senselessly, brutally; dumped. I am also here for her, and for all the girls and women who die senselessly, with their stories, around the world. Will I represent them well?

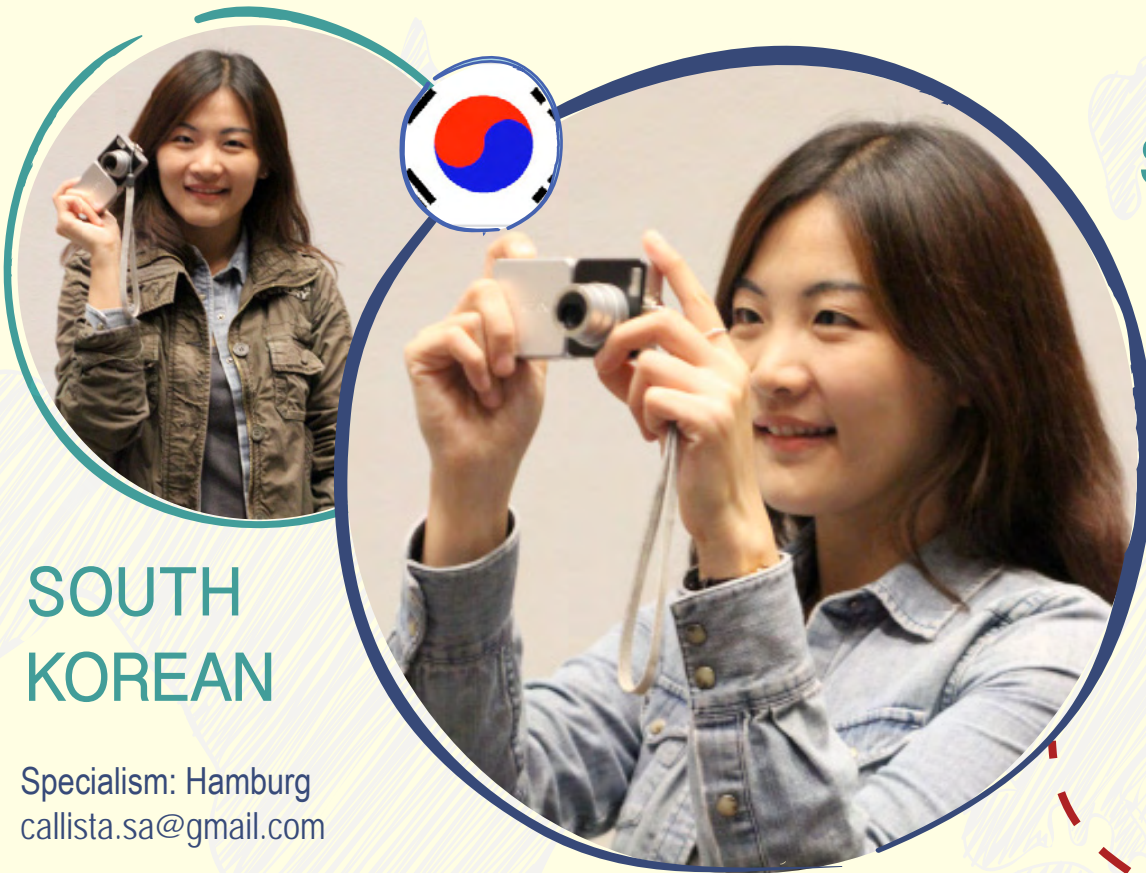
My Global Agenda

Insecurity turns fear, a normal human emotion, into a powerful enfeebling force. An aspiring war correspondent, researcher, terror attacks spooks me big time. So while many stories need telling, I do not want to put the lives of my kin, friends, colleagues, and me at risk.

Brought from Home

My orange lessa (khanga) always makes my must-bring list. Khanga is a light rectangular cotton fabric worn as a wrap. Its bright earthy colour reflects the sun’s warmth, which is totally uplifting on dull grey days. It also keep the memories of my loved ones alive.





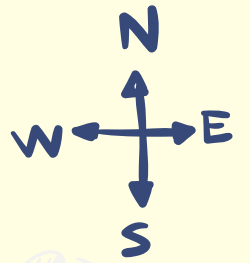
SOUTH KOREAN

Specialism: Hamburg
callista.sa@gmail.com



I used to be a book editor who loved travelling and always had a craving for good coffee. After burning up several years sitting all day in my small but cozy cubicle, quite suddenly, I decided to walk out of my beloved editorial team and started a new life as a freelance editor. Before long, I realized that I needed a certain level of journalism and media training in order to continue my career as a decent editor (or journalist). I then, started finding ways that I could get a quality education and there was Erasmus Mundus Journalism Master's. I thought it was something that I was searching for and I applied without hesitation. People told me that reality might be really hard, but anyway, I chose 'the road not taken.' That's the story how I came here.

SEON AH CHO



First Mundus Meeting

Literally, so overwhelmed by almost everything including you!

Fears and Concerns

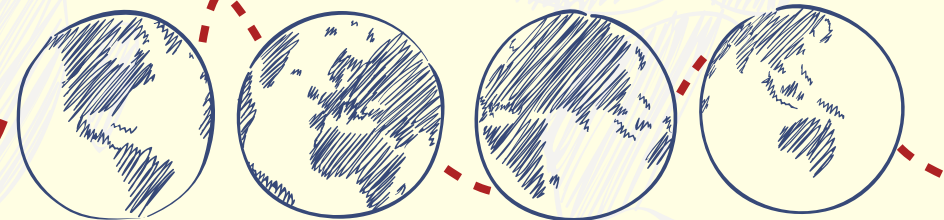
1. My extreme laziness
2. An air of indifference
3. Missing the comforts of home
4. Language barriers in communication
5. The cost of living in Denmark

My Global Agenda

Is there a world agenda, really? Moreover, I am not enough to call myself a journalist. I will answer this question when I can get eyes to see, ears to listen, and a heart to feel.

Brought from Home

My laptop, journals and suitcase. I can 'respatialize' myself wherever I go as long as I have them.





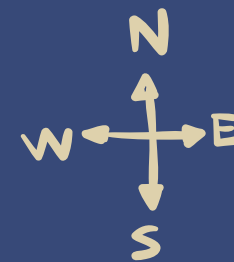
AMERICAN

Specialism: Amsterdam
sdaphne.henning@gmail.com



I received my Bachelor of Arts in International Studies from UNC-Wilmington in 2013, specializing in Globalization and minoring in International Affairs. Most of my courses involved regional studies, revolutions, and the role of religious ideology. I did a semester abroad at Swansea University where I interned as an Under-Secretary for the Member of Parliament for Swansea West. Other professional experience I have involves catering, data entry, teaching children, and working as a photography editor for a creative magazine. I chose the Mundus program because it sounded too good to be true (fun fact: it does exist).

SHELLEY DAPHNE HENNING



First Mundus Meeting

My first thought when I realized I was in such a diverse room was wondering how many people would peg me as a stereotypical American sorority girl. My second thought was, why should I care?

Fears and Concerns

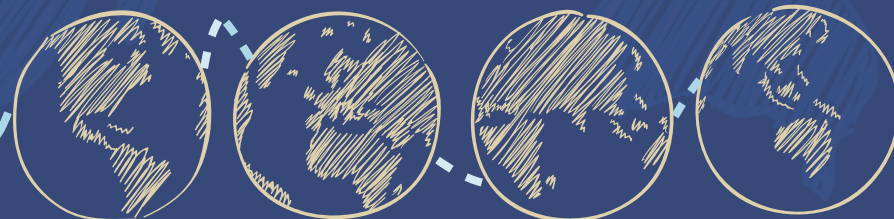
The biggest fear was that I would be grossly under-prepared. Having spent the entirety of my academic career focusing on international politics and sifting through counter-factuals, I have little to no experience in hard news, although my ultimate dream of a career involves careening down the road in the back of a humvee snapping photos of whoever is shooting at me.

My Global Agenda

I don't think there necessarily is a world agenda. Personally I am interested in conflict zones and the perpetration of war crimes, and the unequal application of law and humanitarian intervention.

Brought from Home

I brought a couple of hula hoops with me to Denmark with the intention to possibly engage in some busking, because we all know how affordable everything is in Aarhus. But really, hooping is incredibly fun and has been a stellar way to kill time and stay in shape.





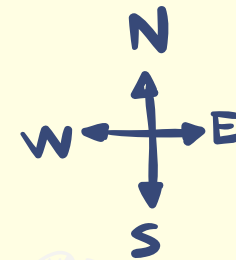
CHINESE

Specialism: London
huangshulun@hotmail.com



I graduated from South China University of Technology in Guangzhou. My undergraduate study is in Business Administration. I am fascinated by the combination of financial and social science studies. A vivid business world is exactly what I want to dig. With covering entrepreneurs' stories, I have realized that the conflict between Chinese private sectors and the administrative system seems only a tip of the iceberg. I am willing to be a business reporter who can promote a fair, uniform, open market environment in China. Also it is very important that Chinese business issues need to be analyzed on an international scale during the globalization process. Mundus Program's international study environment and academic educational way with combination of professional journalism and business studies are exactly what I want.

SHULUN HUANG



First Mundus Meeting

Both excited and overwhelming. You are sitting with people from over 40 nationalities, a mini UN! I am really curious about every classmate's life story and experience and to learn about different cultures, jokes and especially good food!

Fears and Concerns

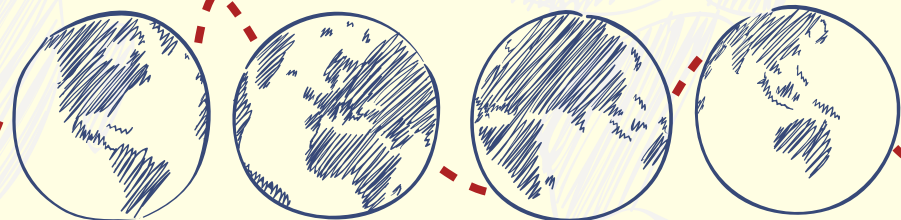
My biggest fear is my "broken" English. Language is a big barrier to global "Respatialization". And by the way, are there rice cookers to be found in Aarhus?

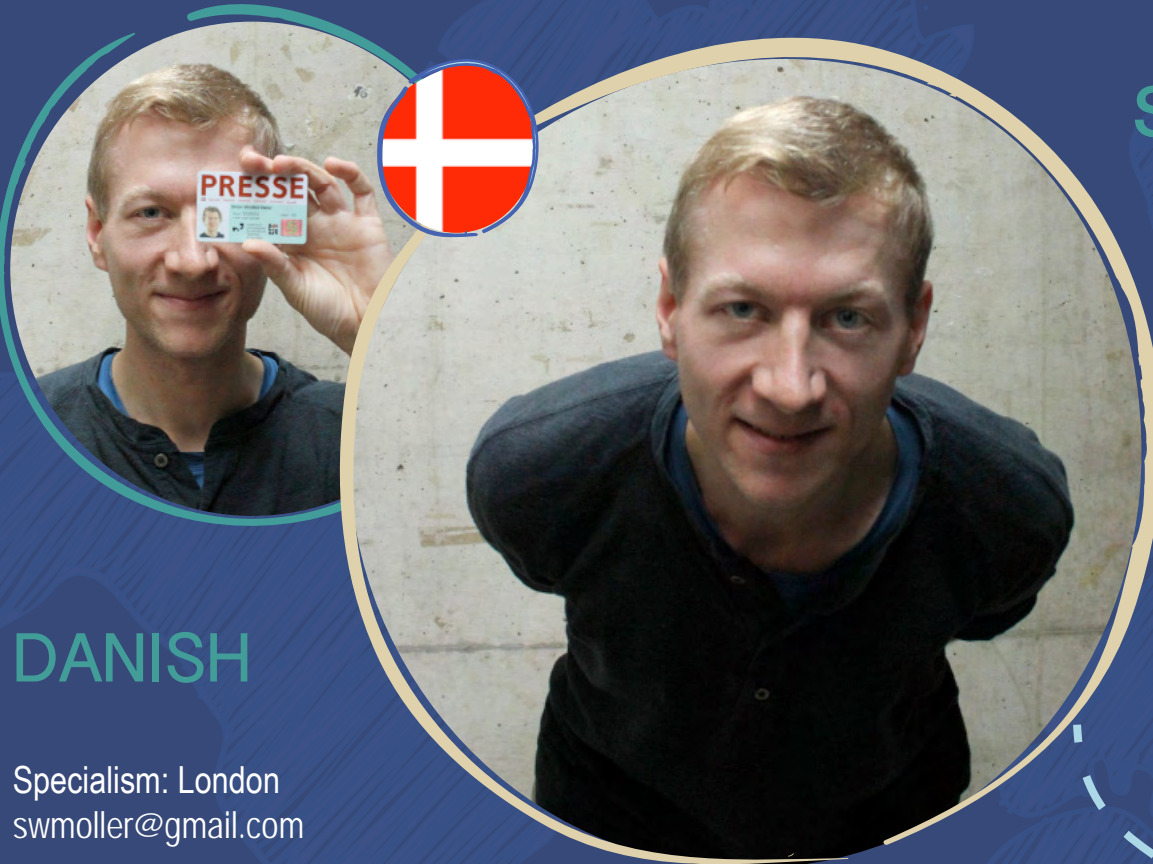
My Global Agenda

I want to be a journalist to discover the people who are easily forgotten during the economic development process. China becomes a world factory in the globalization age, creating "migrant workers". The concern of the stories of them cultivates my interest in exploring the different life stories of people. The stories of influential people are worth reading as well as those of ordinary citizens, for the ups and downs in these people lives and the moral choices involved inspire me to do reports on them.

Brought from Home

A photo of me and my boyfriend from Xian, the ancient capital of China. We know each other for a long time and we are each other's best friends. But this makes me feel "home-sick" sometimes. Anyway, it's good to know that someone will always stand by your side across space and time.





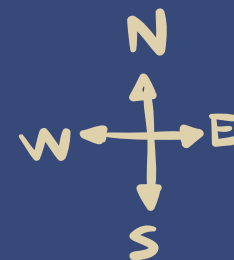
DANISH

Specialism: London
swmoller@gmail.com



Headed into journalism after exploring my limits in a uniform (I'm still wearing one from time to time. Photos are available upon request) and I have increasingly fallen in love with that choice ever since. So far my profession have taken me from the shores of Nuuk, Greenland, to the Boeing Corp.'s assemble line in Seattle, WA, USA. I always feel bad about myself whenever I forget all the opportunities being a journalist offers.

SIMON MØLLER



First Mundus Meeting

I don't like surprises so I guess I'm going to be boring and say that it was exactly as I expected it to be. It was 40 percent too much talking by old men (hello Mr. HHH), 30 percent "where are we supposed to be now? Is this the Frøbert's Auditorium?" and the rest was shared between "my name is Simon and I'm from Denmark" and a tiny portion of awkwardness.

Fears and Concerns

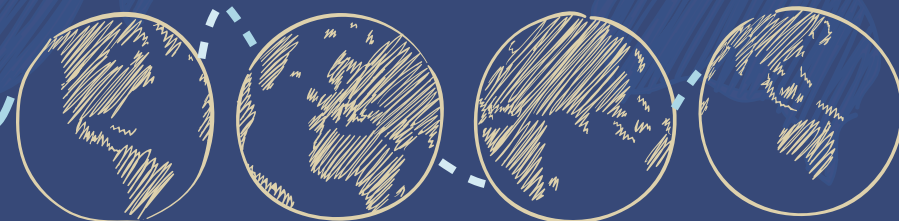
That's easy: Becoming an academic. My 4 year degree from the DMJX is pretty much hands on with 18 months of paid internship included. Now I have to prepare myself to compose 10+ pages of assignments with paragraphs like "conclusion" and "methodology". That could potentially kill me. Or at least mastering the art of delivering news fast as I learned it at the news wire I worked for.

My Global Agenda

After getting into journalism I must say that the biggest threat towards our mission is the news industry's inability to make a positive turnover. The abacus became our enemy as the Internet developed. Now we all have to figure out how to mitigate this shift, which you can argue is the biggest change for the freedom of speech since Gutenberg got a brilliant idea.

Bringing to London

I'll bring: my Leica, three different styles of running shoes for racing in the London Marathon and a t-shirt from the fire department. My camera follows me anywhere, except when I'm wearing a pair of the mentioned running shoes.





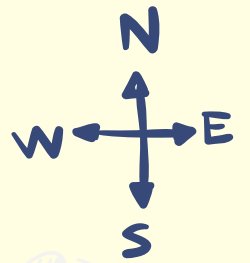
DANISH

Specialism: London
sisse@andreasen.as



I was born in Aarhus, in a department of the hospital right in the university park. However, I grew up on a tiny island in the northern part of Denmark and now I am a city person with sudden cravings for nature and quietness. To capture all of me in few words, let's just say, I love life! I am outgoing, always seeking adventures - which partly explains why I chose this master and journalism as a profession. I graduated as a journalist from DMJX in 2013 and have working experiences from the Danish newspaper Berlingske and as a freelancer. Previously I did Italian studies at Aarhus University, I consider Italy as my second home as I have lived, worked and studied there several times. I run off to Rome whenever I can. Professionally this master will help increase my international profile as a journalist.

SISSE KATRINE ANDREASEN



First Mundus Meeting

I felt that the entire world had come to me, literally! Since Aarhus – the city, the school, etc. is my usual environment, where I am around other Danes speaking Danish, I just suddenly sat there like in an international capsule. It is amazing and having the whole world in my hometown makes me experience life here from entirely new and unknown angles.

Fears and Concerns

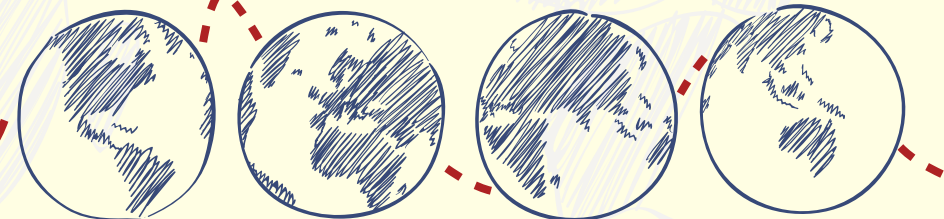
I was already in Aarhus and used to biking and the weather ;)

My Global Agenda

There are too many important and urgent agendas. However, a field where I see myself as a journalist concretely being able to make a difference, is in the enlightening of citizens about how intertwined economies and politics already are internationally and how we need to adapt in the process and act of becoming globally conscious. E.g. the average Dane has very little knowledge about how much legislation affecting Denmark actually comes from the EU. On the road of progressing together as nations on international scale much education has yet to be done.

Bringing to London

I am working on convincing my boyfriend to come with me to London. He is the best piece of Denmark to me and makes me feel closer to home wherever. When in buzzy London, I will recall the peaceful feeling that I only get when walking alone with my dog along the beaches at the island where I grew up.





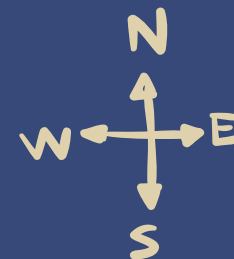
CAMBODIAN

Specialism: London
s.kunthea.hang@gmail.com



Possessing strong passion in field of Media Communication I have finished my bachelor study majoring in Mass Media and minor in International Relations. During my bachelor study I have had my professional work experiences and some internship in different field of media from event management to media market research, communication and of course Journalism. I love writing in every forms, and I want to devote to a lifelong learning in both verbal and written communication because I love how ideas be expressed in words. The biggest motivation of study Mundus Journalism program is to strengthen my Journalism and writing skill and be able to see the world in a global perspective for journalism.

SOKUNTHEA HANG



First Mundus Meeting

I was lost in wonderland. Everything from coming here to living and the program even the street signs are so “overwhelming”. It was really exciting to see so many different nationalities from all over the world.

Fears and Concerns

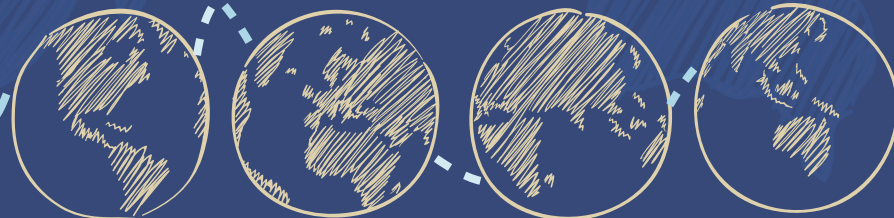
They came from everywhere as little did I know about Europe or Denmark in particular. I was told to get ready for the cold weather though. And another concern was with the big cultural difference as this is my first time travel to Europe. I was just sort of like decided to throw myself into the middle of the ocean and see if I would get drown or able to struggle to survive that kind of attitude to come here.

My Global Agenda

Human Rights and Peace. Maybe this sounds abit old school or even boring, but if everybody respect other's rights to live and embrace peaceful relations among states we may be able to build a better world to live. I often see myself as a development or social journalist, who like to find stories about different lives and how that impact the society as a whole.

Brought from Home

My duck slipper! I found it in a store 4 days before I came here. My Khmer name (official Cambodian language) “Kunthea” can be mispronounce easily as other word that mean duckling, so when I saw the slipper I thought it was quite funny. Now everyone in the house even the landlord found it really cute and it almost has become my “trademark”!





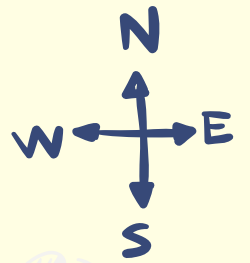
SOUTH KOREAN

Specialism: Hamburg
dwsychristina@gmail.com



I always aspire to be a creative person. To do so, I think I need to experience as much and various as possible. So my academic as well as career backgrounds have had a rainbow spectrum, from working in the field of media production to the governmental party and foreign embassy to working as photographer and accountant. I did my main bachelor in film and TV production and minor in business administration. After having travelled abroad, I prepared for my graduation and at that time I became fascinated with the scholar Geert Hofstede. I wanted to study more about trans-cultural aspects in terms of media, so I applied for the Mundus programme. To sum up, the keywords of my life have been Media, Culture, and Foreign Affairs.

SOYOUN PARK



First Mundus Meeting

Honestly, I couldn't concentrate on the students' self-introduction at all, since I was so nervous thinking what I had to say. After I have had introduced myself, I thought whether I spoke properly or not (typical me). However, I fell in love with the Mundus programme at first sight!

Fears and Concerns

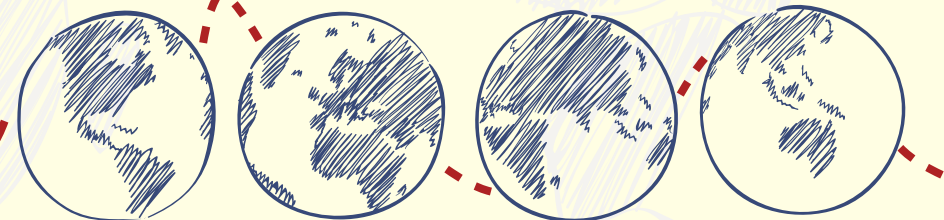
The biggest concern was whether I chose the right path for my dream. However, I've become more convinced with my decision as time goes by. From the programme I want to get knowledge of how to examine the world and an insight about our future.

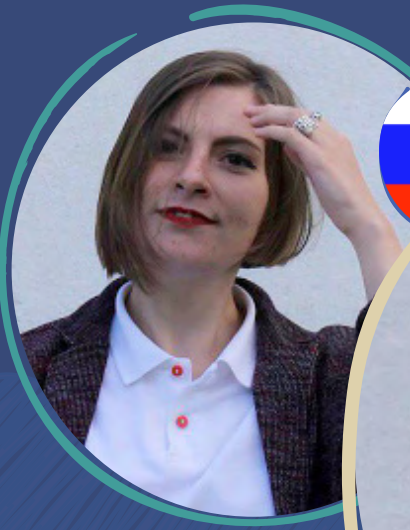
My Global Agenda

The shift of world order is the main issue for me. In Korea, we are politically between China and the US. The Korean government seems like keeping its balance, but the increasing coverage about China, makes us to be aware of current international relations. Therefore, I'm glad to be part of this programme.

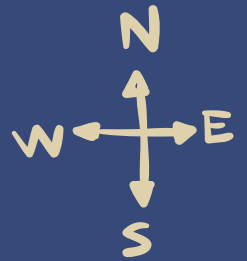
Brought from Home

Myself is the only Korean thing I brought. When I go abroad, I try to disconnect myself from my home country. That's why I didn't bring any Korean objects only except some clothes.





VARVARA MOROZOVA



RUSSIAN

Specialism: Hamburg
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I am the text girl - a girl who believes that words have the actual ability to change things and finds comfort in peculiar combinations of grammatical constructions. With my background in linguistics and cross-cultural communication, I was working as a translator and teaching at the State University, combining my academic career with freelance article writing. My passion for texts and writing together with the insatiable curiosity about life have brought me to the city of Aarhus where I am hoping to fulfill my dream of becoming a fulltime journalist.

First Mundus Meeting

I was the one who nearly dropped the chair when standing up to tell the class my own story. To tell the truth, I tend to do awkward things all the time. This one was no exception.

Fears and Concerns

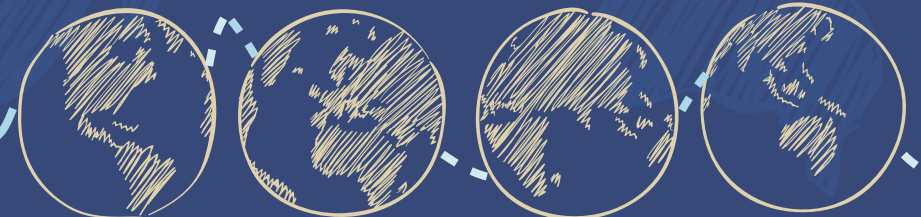
I took the risk and started this journey which means a whole lot to me. I hope not to lose this meaning.

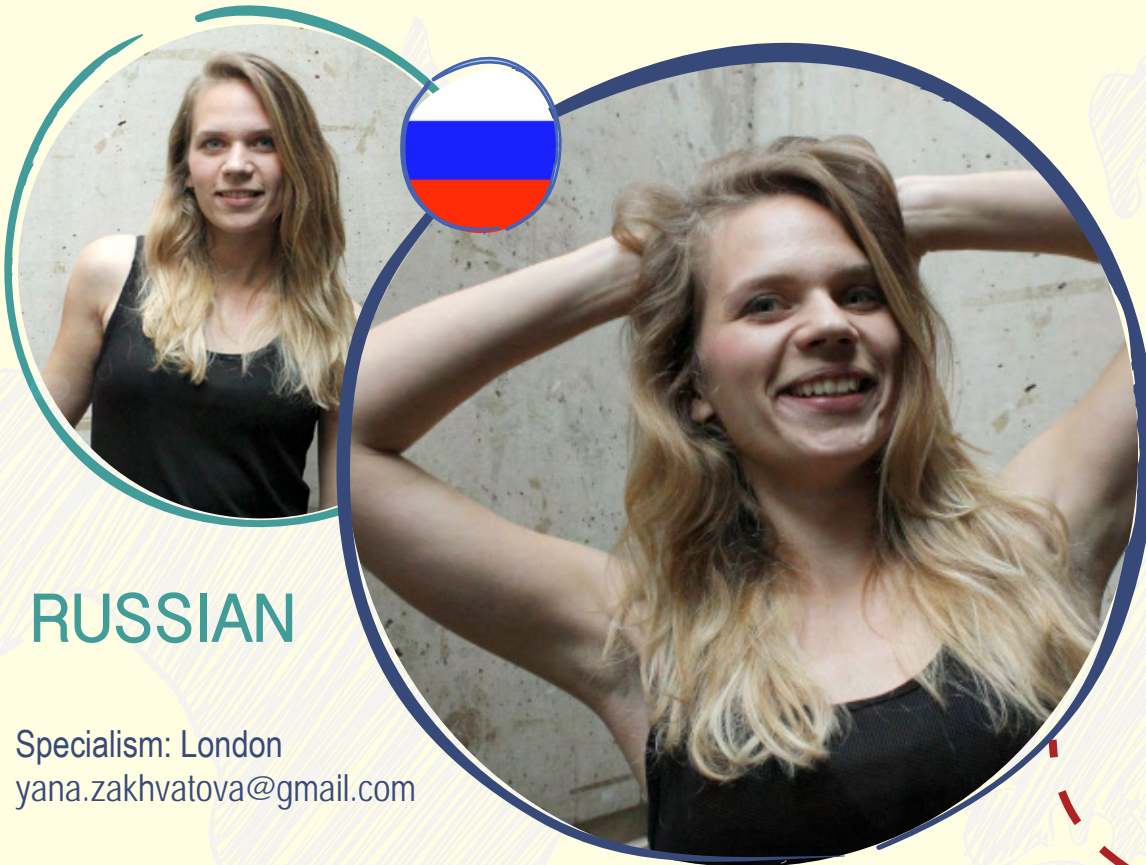
My Global Agenda

Any world agenda is useless unless people finally learn how to listen to each other. This is when the real dialogue begins.

Brought from Home

1 kg of buckwheat ("гречка") - a grain-like seeds used as a side dish in Russia, the 1st book of Maks Frai's series, and a photo of me at the age of 7 typing on a typewriter.





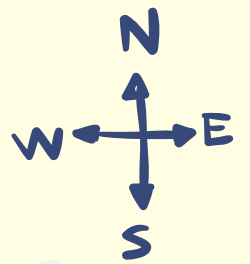
RUSSIAN

Specialism: London
yana.zakhvatova@gmail.com



When I was 17 years old I entered Saint Petersburg State University, The Graduate School of Journalism and Mass Communications, and started to live in the north capital of Russia. I have a BA in International Journalism and, fortunately, part of my educational programme was an internship at the University of Oslo, Norway, where I stayed for one semester. Studying for a BA, I have tried myself in many spheres of journalistic profession: I had a job as an editor-in-chief at the faculty newspaper, co-founded university's radio station, covered several news for university's TV station, had a long internship at the radio "Echo Moscow". In the beginning of 2014 I spent two lovely months in Sochi being employed as a liaison officer and TV-journalist for Olympic Broadcasting Services during the XXII Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games. I worked at the biathlon and cross-country skiing venues up in the mountains that gave me self-reliance as a journalist and wonderful views from my work place.

YANA ZAKHVATOVA



First Mundus Meeting

As I am definitely not a person with strong orientation skills, the first challenge for me was to find the right building and right auditorium, which was overcrowded. But only while everybody was standing up and introducing, I finally understood how different my new experience would be in comparison with my past education.

Fears and Concerns

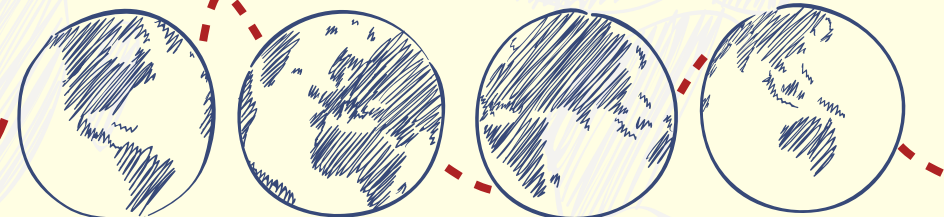
My main fear was a separation from my family and friends back in Russia. Staying alone somewhere in the center of Europe for two years seemed to be a significant trouble to me. Everything changed the moment I saw my dormitory – new place to live means new people to live with.

My Global Agenda

Even thinking as a global citizen I am not able to forget my nationality. Therefore I would put the Ukrainian crisis at the first place in the world agenda. From the journalistic point of view this problem opened for me the existence of great concernment even among the professional journalists working for big corporations. Of course, objective news coverage has many obstacles related to the background of the worker. Still, the most notable impact is the side a journalist takes when telling about the problem.

Brought from Home

My e-book with thousands of volumes of Russian literature in it. The Master Programme is fully in English and all the materials are in English as well, so sometimes I just relax reading books in my mother tongue.





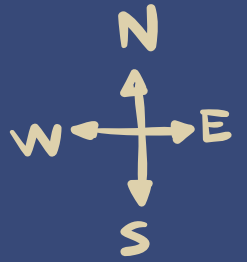
CHINESE

Specialism: Hamburg
zizhang9044@gmail.com



I see no barriers in life and try to explore unlimited possibilities. I studied media and culture at the University of Birmingham and graduated in 2012. I have taken every opportunity to travel, improving many personal skills throughout trips and broadening my experience of culture and attitudes. Being an observer and storyteller is my way of discovering the world. I have been working as a freelance interpreter and volunteering for different projects. The more I get to know this world, the more I want to learn about it. Mundus Journalism is a two-year carnival for my mind, which will definitely push me to take a big leap.

ZI ZHANG



First Mundus Meeting

I must have jumped into the right melting pot! Everyone is so unique yet we share the same passion.

Fears and Concerns

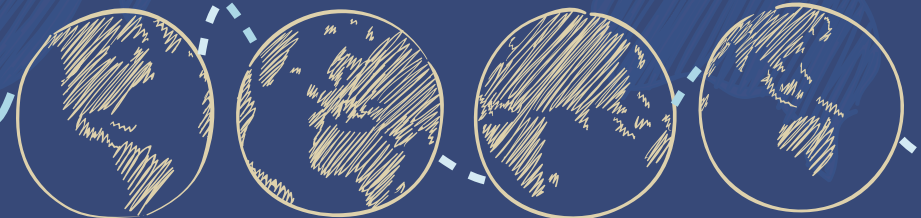
It is always exciting to try something new. Don't think too much and believe everything will be fine. Whenever, wherever, just keep moving on.

My Global Agenda

Inequality is the first thing that comes to my mind. It is shocking to see people suffering from inequality and everyone could be the victim. 'Comment is free but facts are sacred' sums up my deepest conviction of journalism. As journalists, we should make more voices to be heard and facts be known.

Brought from Home

Mini pillowcases handmade by my grandma, photos with loved ones, color pencils to paint my imagination and plush toy to hold and weep. They will help me stay calm and carry on. I see them as the extension of home.





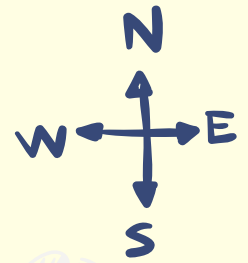
BRAZILIAN

Specialism: London



You know, I'm a lucky dog. I am one year old, having an amazing life in a lovely family, and I had the fantastic opportunity to live abroad when my Mom and Dad (Giselle and Pedro) decided to come to join the Mundus program. I knew this experience would be awesome! New friends, new accents on the barkings, new places to run and play... I am not the kind of pet full of crying wishes, so I knew I'd be happy as ever. Love being spoiled, though! Mom and Dad seem to know exactly when I am being too whiny, so it's hard for me to get beyond that. Buuut, I knew since the beginning I had one card up my sleeve: my cuteness! Could anyone resist a cute face pretending to be sad?

KAHLUA



First Mundus Meeting

When I met everyone in the University park, I felt like the luckiest pet in the world. Everybody running with me, throwing balls and inviting me to their arms. Oh, the different languages? Never mind! I feel like I'm part of the family. I'm a Mundusian, the first one of my kind.

Fears and Concerns

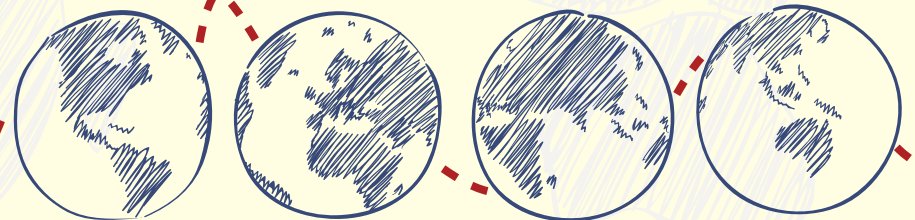
The cold weather! I was afraid of rain, snow and low temperatures. Would I be able to run freely on the grass? But I'm trying something new. Awesome warm clothes! Long sleeve little jackets are doing perfect up to now... I am still not used to rainproof boots though, but I promise I'll try to use them!

My Global Agenda

Can respect be on the global agenda? Maybe it is a value above all. I try to be respectful here – no crying in the night, no yelling for food. I see Mom and Dad trying to do their best too, walking me as many times as possible. Happiness comes with that, ahn?

Brought from Home

My toys! I have lots of them, but two of them are really special, Paco and Monkey. But guess what! First week we were here I got surprised with my first Danish toy, named Benny. Paco and Monkey might be a little jealous buuut – they know I still love them both!



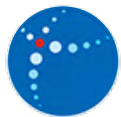
POSTCARD

From Mundus with Love

<http://globalisationisyou.eu/>

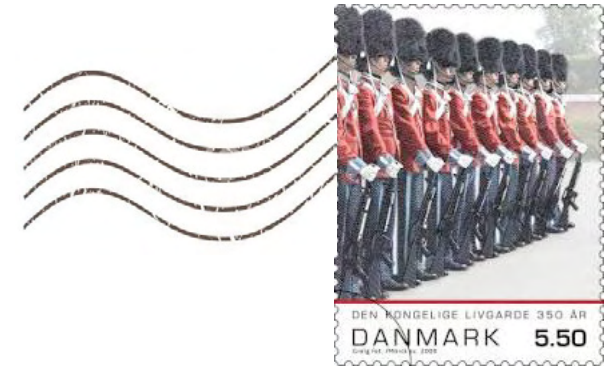
 @globalisyou

 globalisationisyou



Erasmus Mundus Master's
Journalism, Media and Globalisation

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To:

Future Mundus Journalism Students

Worldwide