

Dear Ms. Slavik and Mr. Senko,

My name is Miriama Svetkovska and I received one of your scholarships to attend the Engalitcheff Institute of Comparative Political and Economy Systems with The Fund for American Studies. I wanted to formally extend my gratitude for helping me attend this program. Truly, I would not be here without your help. I also wanted to share with you a little bit about myself and my experience in Washington D.C.

After graduating this year from University of Economics in Bratislava with degree in public finance, I decided to apply for this program, because I knew that it would be one of the most essential educational experiences in my personal development. And I was right. During my studies at the University of Economics I was responsible for some activities in the student union, where I held the position of the President of Student Union at the Faculty of National Economy and Vice-President of Student Union at whole university after four years of my active performance there. I was responsible for the management of 14 people, fundraising, project management and cooperation with external environment, primarily commercial sector. During my studies in Brussels I also worked for a member of the European Economic and Social Committee and was responsible for the preparation of monthly legislative monitoring from EU and partial projects in Brussels and in Slovakia. A few months before I came here, I was dedicated to Public-Private-Partnership projects and Education Development projects in public sector.

When I first realized that I was interning with Global Insight and checked all the information about them, I knew that it would be one of the best opportunities for my future career. It has brought me so much in all kind of aspects. Sharon Fisher was a marvelous supervisor, who led me from project to project and gave me lots of space for self-realization. I had a chance to participate in developing one special product, attend many international meetings for example with Lithuanian Prime Minister, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Croatia and many other VIPs, who left one special impression on me. They showed me how much contact building and networking is important, especially when I want to work in public policy area and lobbying.

Not everybody has a chance to visit White House, Capitol Hill and the Federal Reserve Bank in their entire lives. But I did. I had a chance to meet Senators, Congressmen and FED bankers and other important people. The Fund for American Studies is an opportunity; which also offers a solid education in economics and international affairs. For me as the European, it was really interesting to see and to understand the American prospective of view on many key international issues. I can tell that right now I can compare and I understand US Foreign Policy. The chance to hear speakers, panelists and people working in the political and economic field really provides good prospective.

Again, I would like to thank you for this opportunity and helping me through this program. I know that with this great experience I won't have any problem finding an interesting job after my return home. And I appreciate all invitations I received through Friends of Slovakia to the many events in these two months, which gave me not only an opportunity to meet interesting people, but also brought me a little bit of my home to my heart.

Sincerely,

Miriama Svetkovska