

Institute of Latin American Studies

Department of International Relations and European Integration - SNSPA

**Institute of Latin American Studies'
internship program
2st edition**

Bucharest 2015

Internship

2nd edition

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1. ISLA's description

The Institute of Latin American Studies has been established on 1 October 2012, by the decision of the Senate of the National University of Political Studies and Public Administration of Bucharest. The Institute proposes to help, develop and promote the academic relations between Latin America and Central and Eastern Europe, especially Romania, through research, mobility, debates and partnerships.

The Institute aims to provide expertise to the academics and to the relevant social, economic and political actors and to contribute to promoting the exchange of values between the two regions.

ISLA aims to create a network encompassing educational, research and scientific information institutions and relevant actors for the political and economic/trade cooperation in Central and Eastern Europe in order to coordinate and strengthen relationships with similar partners in Latin America.

Through ISLA, the National University of Political Studies and Public Administration becomes a connection point between academia in the two regions, a center of excellence for discussions and partnerships, and a major player in promoting the image and the national and regional interests of Latin America.

ISLA is a space open for the academic, political, diplomatic, economic, media and business environments and aims to promote the experience of the countries of Central and Eastern Europe in the process of Euro-Atlantic integration currently under development in EU, NAFTA and MERCOSUR.

Finally, Romania is bound to develop relations with Latin America and the Caribbean and to act as an academic pole for this region, as Bucharest is the following Latin capital of the European Union, after Madrid, Lisbon, Paris and Rome.

`We speak and think in twin languages and cultures and thus, developing the Institute of Latin American Studies is a responsibility that incumbs to us`.

(Jordan Gheorghe Barbulescu, Director of ISLA)

2. ISLA's internship program – background

2.1. Rationale

It has been acknowledged that an international internship program is an excellent opportunity to build confidence to students and to learn professional experience. In this context, the online internship program developed by ISLA constitutes a concrete way to promote economic, political and cultural relations between European Union and Latin America and Caribbean, providing students with professional confidence and allowing opportunities to gain practical skills and to observe and understand connections based on common values.

2.2. Scope

The internship program aims to closely interlink the young people both from European Union, and Latin America and Caribbean, making them aware of further ways to cooperate.

2.3. Objectives

- To support students' proactive and innovative initiatives in the field of Latin American Studies
- To offer students the opportunity to gain practical experience and to improve their knowledge in the field of Latin American Studies
- To enable students to use in practice their knowledge in the field of Latin American Studies
- To foster the dialogue between the key actors activating in higher education in both regions

2.4. Duration

The normal duration of an internship is one or two months, which can be extended by mutual consultation and consent.

2.5. Main activities

- Research and case studies in the field of Latin American Studies
- Translation of materials related to Latin American Studies
- Study of the main academic works in the field of Latin American Studies
- Writing articles for the European Journal of Latin American Studies and ISLA's newsletter
- Analytic reports on specific topics in the field of Latin American Studies
- Press monitoring
- Public policies monitoring
- Assistance for creating and updating ISLA's data bases
- Assistance in promoting ISLA's profile and activity

2.6. Eligibility criteria

To be considered for an internship with ISLA, applicants must meet the following requirements:

- Be enrolled in a degree program (undergraduate or graduate) at a university in one EU or Latin America and Caribbean country

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- Be proficient in English or Spanish. The ability to speak French, Romanian or Portuguese is an advantage.
- Have a deep interest in Latin America studies

2.7. Other terms and conditions

- The internship does not require travel or relocation and is not paid.
- At the end of the internship all interns who fulfill their tasks will receive a certificate and will become part of ISLA's Alumni network.
- All the activities will be realized online, through digital working platforms.

2.8. **Web page:** <http://www.isla.eu.com/internship/>

3. Second edition of ISLA's internship program

3.1. Duration

The first edition of ISLA's internship program took place between 11th May 2015 and 10th June 2015.

3.2. Participants

For the second edition of ISLA's online internship program were enrolled 13 students, coming both from Europe and Latin America and Caribbean, namely from Romania, Mexico, Spain and Germany.

Name	University	City
Anaida Lucia Ovanez	National University of Political Studies and Public Administration	Bucharest
Anca Croitoru	Complutense University	Madrid
Andreea Oana Marian	Babeş Bolyai University	Cluj-Napoca
Andrei Pistritu	National University of Political Studies and Public Administration	Bucharest
Aurora Florentina Sindrilaru	University of Bucharest	Bucharest
Carlos Marcos Cremades	Ramon Llull University	Barcelona
Felipe Garcia	Autonomous University of Ciudad Juárez	Ciudad Juarez
Horia Tudor Vaidean	Babeş-Bolyai University	Cluj-Napoca
Ioana-Alexandra Bacioiu	National University of Political Studies and Public Administration	Bucharest
Iuliana Mihaela Ionescu	Polytechnic Institute " Gheorghe Asachi" of Iasi	Iasi
Madalina Miu	University of Münster	Münster
Mariela Vasquez	Autonomous University of Ciudad Juárez	Ciudad Juarez
Mihaela Cernei	Babeş Bolyai University	Cluj-Napoca

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3.3. Topics and example of work

Our interns had to fulfill a variety of tasks in order to complete the ISLA internship program. We are pleased to present the tasks they had to solve and some of their contributions to the ISLA activities.

The tasks were as follows:

Task 1 – Knowing each other

The interns have created their own visit cards, customizing them with a motto reflecting their interest in Latin American Studies.

Motto examples:

"America Latina
Actor en la Geopolitica Mundial"

" We all do better when we work together. Our differences do matter, but our common humanity matters more."

For me, Latin America is not only a land inhabited by people that speak Spanish or Portuguese. Latin America represents also a way of living, thinking and overcoming the hardships of life, therefore the Latin American Studies give us an insightful perspective in understanding the world we live in.

LAC-a way to connect with people all over the world!

"ISLA... Through a globalized society for achieving a sustainable development"

ISLA , um sonho cumprido

Study other cultures to understand your own one better

"Latin American Studies- extensive analytical tools."

Task 2 – Presenting Latin American Studies

The interns have made presentations on Latin American Studies, choosing a specific topic. The presentations were published on [ISLA Facebook Page](#).

Task 3- Translation

The interns were introduced the main topics of the Second EU-LAC Academic Summit through a translation activity related to the Preparatory Seminar for the Second EU-LAC Academic Summit.

Task 4 – Press article writing

The interns have monitored the local and international press and, based on the information found, they have written 5 articles about EU and one Latin American country following the next structure:

Title of article
Main content
Link to the source

Task 5 – Promoting ISLA

The interns have shared the call for paper for ISLA Journal – EJLAS- on their countries.

Task 6 – Position Papers

The interns have written position papers on one of the topics of the Second Academic Summit EU-LAC:

1. Foster the bi-regional integration of Higher Education (includes topics such as universal values and cultural diversity);
2. Promoting the bi-regional integration of systems for scientific research, technology and innovation (with sub-topics such as Universities as promoters of innovation and creativity, with the aim of sustainable development);
3. Bi-regional Collaboration between Institutions of Higher Education and their relations to society, in particular the productive sector (with sub-topics such as Innovation and IPR; technologies as enablers and facilitators; social roles of universities in the XXI-st century);
4. Academic world and public sector and policies (with sub-topics such as Education for social inclusion: pre-scholar and pre-university pedagogies, teachers 'training and lifelong).

(Source: <http://www.americasportal.eu/content/academic-summit-2015>)

Task 7 – Mapping universities in Latin America, institutes and research centers from EU activating in the field of Latin American Studies and Latin American Study Programs in EU.

The interns have mapped universities in Latin America, institutes and research centers from EU activating in the field of Latin American Studies and Latin American Study Programs in EU in order to learn where are situated the actors who provide training in the Latin American Studies.

4. Closing speech

Dear colleagues, friends and students,

I am very glad to announce you that our second internship edition was completed successfully. This time, also, we had students from both Latin American and European countries that worked professionally and completed their task responsibly. In this context, I want to thank them for their involvement and the interest showed to our Institute.

We are proud that in less than one year we succeed to bring together students from both continents and to offer them the possibility to know each other and to communicate.

Also, I am proud that ISLA is a connecting bridge between these young people and I kindly invite them to stay close to us and to deepen their knowledge in Latin American Studies following the MA in Latin American Studies provided by the Department of International Relations in European Integration (SNSPA).

I want to reassure all those interested in Latin American Studies that at ISLA we worked to foster the relation between EU and LAC to facilitate the communication between people coming from both continents and to invite you to stay close to our activity.

Iordan Gheorghe Barbulescu

Director of ISLA

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