

**Jens Hartmann | Technical University of Darmstadt**

**M.A. Candidate Governance and Public Policy**

**Internship as Visiting Student Researcher**

**Institute of European, Russian and Eurasian Studies (EURUS) | Carleton University**

**Jean Monnet Network on EU-Canada Relations | August 2022 – October 2022**

From August to October I had the opportunity to undertake the Visiting Researcher position at EURUS, Carleton University. During this internship and my participation at the War Observatory Project for the war in Ukraine under the supervision of Prof. Crina Viju-Miljusevic, I gained valuable experiences for my academic and personal development. In addition, I attended the Jean Monnet Network on EU-Canada Relations summer study course on EU-Canada relations from the end of July to early August 2022 at Carleton University, so I had the great pleasure of spending close to three months in Ottawa at the University.

From an academic point of view, my time in Ottawa allowed me to pursue a research topic of great personal interest to me in an unseen depth. At first the summer course offered me the opportunity to achieve not just a broad overview of EU-Canada relations, but also a very profound knowledge on current topics in EU-Canada relations. During the internship at the War Observatory Project, I needed to address topics I haven't been working on and this really broadened my view. Also I had the opportunity to talk with experts on their respective topics to acquire even more knowledge, especially in topics which have already been my research focus like international relations and energy.

From a personal perspective, my participation in the War Observatory Project also provided me with very useful experiences where I could conduct interviews with experts from various academic fields on topics regarding the war in Ukraine, which is likely to help me for my professional development. The creation and development of the War Observatory Project also helped me to get even more knowledge on how to set up a project, to shape a website and to create content for this website. But on top of the professional developments, I was lucky enough to learn a lot about Canadian politics and cultural affairs, which offered at least as much value for me personally as the professionally. In addition with the language skills I gained and the people I met, the internship exceeded my expectations.

In conclusion, this internship and the summer course offered me extraordinary opportunities to learn a lot about Canada and many other topics regarding the war in Ukraine. Just this academic aspects would have been a remarkable experience, but the opportunity to live and work in Canada really provided professional and personal values for me. All this lets me come to the conclusion that there is no way of spending a summer better than – with the kind help of the Jean Monnet Network on EU-Canada Relations - doing an internship at Carleton University.