

## **UACES Scholarship 2010**

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### ***Outline of project***

My project deals with the normative question of the role of the state in the economy on the example of financial markets regulation. I am analysing the emerging financial markets regulatory framework in the EU as an example of the tension between state and market forces. After investigating main (liberal and conservative) philosophical traditions which deal with the question of the optimum size of government control of the economy, I moved on to empirical research of what concrete policy measures are being advocated and gradually implemented in the EU, both on national and EU-wide level as the response to the recent financial crisis. In the next stage of my work I will critically analyse some of these policies in the light of previously produced theoretical findings.

### ***Academic achievements***

Upon my arrival in the Netherlands I made personal contact with the Transnational Institute in Amsterdam and some of its fellows. Since one of their projects also concerns the new global financial framework, they were very helpful in directing me to many useful databases of similar projects and analyses of policy documents conducted by other research centres as well as providing contacts of some key academic activists working in this area. I had a chance to meet some of them at the TNI annual fellows' conference in Amsterdam in June 2010.

In the meantime I underwent an annual progress review at my home University of Newcastle and successfully advanced to the next stage of my research.

I have been accepted to the Summer School on Ethics and Economics which I will be attending next week (August 22-26) in Barchem, The Netherlands.

By far the most important achievement of the research trip is a valuable advice from one of the Dutch academics followed by a successful application to the international research master programme in Economics and Philosophy at the Erasmus University in Rotterdam, which I will begin in September as complimentary course for my research in order to get more comprehensive training in philosophy. As the best applicant without sufficient external funding, I have been granted financial support, which will help me fund my stay in the Netherlands in the coming year.

### ***Use made of resources, facilities abroad***

I made an extensive use of library resources in universities of Amsterdam, Leiden and Rotterdam, which substantially contributed to refinement of my theoretical framework (especially works of Professor Peter Koslowski from the Free University of Amsterdam). Some of this research resulted in 2 essays submitted for contests, results of which I am still awaiting.

I had an opportunity to present some of my research findings at the summer school on The Role of the State in the Economy organised by Dutch Centre for European Renewal and Polish Centre for Political Thought in Krakow.

I will present a paper at the above mentioned summer school on Ethics and Economics. I will also have a rare opportunity to participate in one-on-one tutorials with professors of my own choice about my ongoing research there.

### ***Positive and negative aspects of the time abroad***

I am very satisfied with the results of my research trip and find it a very productive and well-spent time. In particular I appreciate the academic contacts I made here as they significantly broadened my perspective on the researched topic. On the negative side, due to insufficient funds and a bit too optimistic projections in my original budget, I could not make the second part of my trip to Brussels. As I am going to continue my studies in the Netherlands, I hope to be able to arrange for that in near future.

I would like to express my gratitude to UACES and the European Commission for granting me the scholarship and enabling me to undertake this research trip. It has proved crucial for my future work on my project. Thank you very much.