

My experience at CIFE Summer Programme

On the 1st of August 2017 I've attended as a speaker the international summer school Romania/Bulgaria organized by CIFE, programme focused on migration and refugee rights across Europe, taught in French. CIFE is a private institution of higher education and research, founded in 1954 with its head office in Nice and branch offices in Berlin, Brussels and Istanbul.

I was invited at this summer school by Laura Spataru-Negura, one of the founding members of Issues Without Borders, who is teaching at Nicolae Titulescu University (the university where I am currently enrolled in a PHD programme). Nicolae Titulescu University is one of the organizing partners of the summer school, besides CIFE, and the European Law Institute of Sofia.

Due to this partnership, the summer school took place in several locations:

July 31 – August 1st in Bucharest (Romania), August 1st – 3rd in Slobozia (Romania) and August 3rd – 6th in Silistra (Bulgaria). The programme gathered students from different countries, such as Bulgaria, France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Romania, Turkey, and it was held in French. The participants had the chance to discover all the cities where they attended lectures, discover the culture of the area and exchange ideas thus creating lasting memories.

The programme included interesting lectures among which I mention (in a chronological order): *"The inviolability of human rights in migration. Different types of rights in favour of migrants"* (held by Laura Spataru-Negura, University of Nicolae Titulescu), *"The contribution of civil aviation in the migration process and the protection of the right to life"* (held by Sorana Paun-Pop, Politehnica University), *"The Route to the Balkans. Geographic aspects concerning the history of migrants in the Balkans"* (held by professor Michael Hermans, HEC Liege in Belgium), *"Migrations, law and barriers: two-speed Europe or two-truths Europe?"* (held by professor Atanas Semov, University of Sofia, Director of the European Law Institute of Sofia), *"Human Rights in Europe"* (held by professor Evgeni Tanchev, University of

Sofia, Attorney General at the European Union's Court of Justice).

My lecture's topic was on "*Debates on migration management. The role of NGOs*". Because I wanted my presentation to be more interesting for students, I've presented my experience at Brussels in the European Parliament, where I've attended a conference on migration management as the president of the NGO Issues Without Borders.

In addition to the Power Point presentation I also initiated a debate with the students, a long Q&A session and I was very happy to see a lot of positive feedback.

The programme was very well-organized, I was given the opportunity to attend a lovely dinner at Caru' cu Bere in Bucharest (the most iconic restaurant in Bucharest, in my opinion), one evening before my lecture.

I must confess that I felt very good in this program and that I will attend it next year for sure, if I will be invite it. I highly recommend it!

Congratulations to all the organizers, especially to Marie France Perdigon (director of CIFE's summer programmes –

http://www.cife.eu/en/4/summer-university-programmes_6-1) and to Laura – thank you for inviting me!



