

**Opportunities for NYU Shanghai Students
to Secure Internship and Employment Experiences
At UNICEF and Other Intergovernmental Organizations (IGOs)**

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I am writing to call your attention to two exciting new developments concerning internship and career opportunities at intergovernmental organizations (IGOs). IGOs have many attractions as work environments. They offer meaningful ways to engage in public service, to contribute to cross-cultural understanding, and to conduct problem-solving in a global context. For that reason, internships and long-term positions with IGOs have long been highly prized.

There are almost 5,000 IGOs in the world today – operating at regional and international levels and focusing on different aspects of common causes of mankind. The most well known are the components of the United Nations system (including the so-called “Bretton Woods institutions” – the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund). I attach to this document an overview of the United Nations system, as well as a list of especially attractive large and prominent IGOs that need interns and employees from all academic fields.

Needless to say, NYU Shanghai students and graduates are exceptionally well qualified to work at IGOs. During your time with us, you have become unusually adept at cross-cultural communication, negotiation, and problem-solving in a multicultural environment. These skills are especially important to the work of IGOs.

The two developments I wish to call to your attention are these:

First, the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) announced several changes to its internship program: to extend eligibility to include college freshmen and sophomores in addition to juniors and seniors; to encourage UNICEF offices to provide travel allowances and living stipends to their interns; and to cap the internship duration at 26 weeks.

See https://www.unicef.org/about/employ/files/internship-programme_-_External.pdf.

These changes to the internship programs at UNICEF are expected to foreshadow similar changes at other United Nations organizations in the future.

Second, the China Scholarship Council (CSC) in Beijing and the Shanghai Municipal Education Commission (SMEC) recently adopted policies encouraging Chinese students (Chinese passport holders) to apply for internships at IGOs. Students who receive internship offers from IGOs to serve overseas can apply to the CSC and the SMEC for travel allowances and living stipends. These policies and incentives are part of a new Chinese national strategy to address the under-representation of Chinese nationals among professional employees of IGOs to which China belongs as a member state. More details about CSC and SMEC policies will be provided in Chinese in a separate message.

Since NYU Shanghai's creation, we have been working to create special opportunities for NYU Shanghai students with IGOs. We now have in place an agreement with the Rome-headquartered "International Development Law Organization," and we are continuing our outreach to others.

See <https://shanghai.nyu.edu/news/nyu-shanghai-and-idlo-cooperate>.

If you have any questions about IGOs as institutions or places to work, please do not hesitate to contact me. If you have are interested in how to apply for an internship, please do not hesitate to contact the [Career Development Center](#).

Attachments:

- 1) [United Nations system – an overview](#)
- 2) [List of priority targets for IGOs](#)

