

UiT, Application Scholarship for Research Stay

Purpose

My supervisors and I discussed the benefits of me spending time abroad for the completion of my PhD project. Given that my main supervisor James Harrison is situated in Edinburgh, we decided that it would be beneficial for the completion of my PhD to visit James Harrison and the University of Edinburgh after the completion of my midterm assessment. Staying in Edinburgh will allow me to continue working on my PhD project in close cooperation with James Harrison and to benefit from more frequent exchanges with him on a daily basis.

In addition to spending time in Edinburgh, my supervisors and I concluded that it would be beneficial for me to also spend some time at the Lauterpacht Centre for International Law at the University of Cambridge. One of the main reasons for the idea of spending time at the Lauterpacht Centre is that Dr. Surabhi Ranganathan is situated there. As stated on the home page of the University of Cambridge, in her research Dr. Surabhi Ranganathan focuses, among other approaches, on legal geography and in doing so she 'traces the co-constitution of international law and the ocean from 1945 to now, unsettling what we take as the givens in relation to the spatial zones, resource allocations and functional jurisdictions effected by the law of the sea'. A research stay at the University of Cambridge would allow me to learn from Dr. Surabhi Ranganathan's critical approach to international law and the law of the sea more specifically, as well as from her reliance on legal geography. Especially the latter point of legal geography is highly relevant for my PhD project, in which I analyse the limits of international law to mitigate ocean acidification at the intersection of land and sea, and thus focus on the spatial division between land and sea. Staying at the Lauterpacht Centre for International Law at the University of Cambridge will in addition allow me to benefit from the vibrant research environment at the centre, where I will *inter alia* be able to participate in the centre activities, such as regular Friday lunchtime lectures.

Planning

As mentioned above, the plan is to spend time in Edinburgh following my midterm assessment in May 2022 and stay in Edinburgh for about two months. The application for a stay at the Lauterpacht Centre for International Law at the University of Cambridge is still ongoing but the idea is to spend up to four months in Cambridge starting in either autumn 2022 or at the beginning of 2023. The exact time for a stay in Cambridge depends among other things on when a spot as a visiting research fellow will be available, which means that it is at this point not possible to plan my stay in Edinburgh and Cambridge as a continuous stay. Another reason for this is that I need to teach in the NOMPEL course in Tromsø in the fall seminar. This is why

it makes sense to spend time in Edinburgh after the mid-term and then hopefully in Cambridge in autumn later this year or at the latest starting in the beginning of 2023.

Budget

The following outlines the rough budget requirements, which can be divided into fees, accommodation and travel. While I am still in the process of determining the precise amount for each, it is important to stress that the plan to stay in Edinburgh as well as in Cambridge will not require additional funding compared to me only staying either in Edinburgh or Cambridge (see remarks on travel costs below). The budget is calculated for me as I will be travelling without my girlfriend. As indicated in the recommendation letter by Vito De Lucia, my supervisors support the decision to visit both the University of Edinburgh and the University of Cambridge.

a. Fees

The University of Cambridge requires a fee for all visiting researchers at the Lauterpacht Centre for International Law. The fee will depend on how long I will be staying there. The fee for one term is £1,380.00 for a shared office. My plan is to stay for one term (three months) or four months, in which case the fee would be slightly higher than that. To my knowledge, the University of Edinburgh does not charge a fee for a stay under 12 weeks, which would be the case for me, since I am planning to stay for two months.

b. Accommodation

The University of Cambridge offers housing at a guesthouse for which the rent is £192.00 incl. VAT per week. The ultimate cost for housing will depend on whether I will stay for three or four months. The University of Edinburgh also offers housing, and I am in the process of clarifying how expensive this would be for a period of roughly two months this summer.

c. Overall funding period and travel costs

With the plan to stay two months in Edinburgh and potentially four months in Cambridge the funding period would not exceed the six months funding period that is to my knowledge the maximum period of the scholarship. That said, given that the scholarship is in principle designed for one research stay at one university, I could cover any additional costs that would arise from travelling to another research stay location with my annum. The scholarship would thus only need to cover the travel costs to either Edinburgh or Cambridge, which should not be too expensive. For example, there are currently flights available with SAS from Tromsø to Edinburgh for roughly 1500 NOK on 1 June and from Edinburgh to Tromsø for around 3000 NOK on 30 July.

Budget Research Stay Abroad		Total Costs in NOK¹
Accommodation	<p>The plan is to spend two months in Edinburgh before Christmas in 2022, and four months in Cambridge starting in January 2023.</p> <p>37 000 NOK for four months' rent at the guesthouse of the Lauterpacht Centre for International Law.²</p> <p>36116 NOK for two months short term rent in Edinburgh.³</p>	73116 NOK
Fee	<p>There is a fee for visiting researchers in Cambridge. The fee is £1,614.00 for one term (3 months) plus 688£ for the additional fourth months.⁴</p> <p>There is no fee in Edinburgh.</p>	27738 NOK
Travels	<p>Flights are ca. 3500 NOK to London.⁵</p> <p>Taxi/Train 600 NOK</p>	4100 NOK
Communication	6 x 30£/month for sim card only mobile phone plan.	2165 NOK
		107119 NOK

¹ The conversion rate from Pounds to NOK was checked on 15 February 2022.

² The Lauterpacht Centre for International Law has a guesthouse for visiting researchers, where the rent is 192 £/week.

³ In Edinburgh, there is no guarantee that visiting PhD candidates will get accommodation from the University and prices vary. I am in the process of clarifying whether I will be able to get a place there, but private short-term rent in Edinburgh costs roughly 1500 £ per month.

⁴ The fourth month roughly costs 4/12 of £1,614.00 = £ 538 plus an administrative fee of £150.

⁵ Travel costs to Edinburgh will be covered by my annum.

Recommendation Research Stay for Philipp Nickels

Tromsø, 8 February 2021

Together with James Harrison and Nele Matz-Lück, I am supervising Philipp's PhD project with the title *Bridging the Land-Sea-Interface: A Study of the Limits and Possibilities of International Law to Mitigate Ocean Acidification*. In our last supervision meeting, we discussed together with Philipp his options for spending time abroad as part of his PhD project. Based on our discussion, our recommendation is that Philipp will be spending time at the University of Edinburgh, where James Harrison is located, as well as at the Lauterpacht Centre for International Law at the University of Cambridge.

Visiting the University of Edinburgh will allow Philipp to work more closely together with James Harrison on his PhD project (James is Philipp's main supervisor), which will be very beneficial for his progress. Ideally he would visit Edinburgh sometime after his mid-term, which is scheduled for 16 May 2022. Besides visiting Edinburgh, it is also recommend, that Philipp visits the Lauterpacht Centre for International Law at the University of Cambridge, where Dr. Surabhi Ranganathan, a partner to the NCLOS Aurora project, is the Deputy-Director. Dr. Surabhi Ranganathan takes a critical approach towards the law of the sea in her research and uses for this purpose *inter alia* legal geography. Such an approach is very relevant for Philipp's research project, which problematizes ocean acidification as a problem of the land-sea-interface.

The University of Edinburgh as well as the University of Cambridge are finally both two excellent research institutions for the study of international law, which means that Philipp would in addition benefit from participating in the respective research activities at the Edinburgh Law School as well as the Lauterpacht Centre for International Law in Cambridge.

Vito De Lucia

