

My time at René Cassin – Hannah Richter

During the three months I spent at René Cassin, my interest to pursue a career in human rights grew, as I was given a valuable insight into the work that goes on within the sector. From day one, I undertook a large amount of responsibility, from running their social media accounts to extending their reach by building relationships with universities and schools throughout the country. I spent time researching into a number of different areas in order to assist with their policy and campaigning work, and took the lead on inquiries and submissions to Parliament with regards to Gypsy, Roma and Traveller inequalities and asylum seekers in detention. This enabled me to develop my writing skills and expand my knowledge in these areas.

Over the course of my internship, I worked on a personal research project on the laws of modern day slavery. I became enthralled by the topic, as slavery affects so many millions of people around the world, and I know that it is something I will continue to work on in the future. It was also very exciting to have the project published on the René Cassin website, as my first published article.

René Cassin gave me the opportunity to attend a number of different lectures and seminars that I otherwise would never have heard about. From a seminar on hate crime by the UK Race and Europe Network to a meeting on detention by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, not only did they help to build on the work I was doing at René Cassin, but they also allowed me to meet and connect with different people within the human rights sector. I thoroughly enjoyed my time spent at René Cassin. As a law graduate, I was able to use the skills I gained from my degree, as well as expanding them and developing new ones, which will be essential as I continue my work in the human rights world.