



Admission

Student's Name

Institutional Affiliation



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Introduction

International Affairs relates to international communities and inter-governmental, as well as non-governmental organizations. Being one of the most important branches of political science, it includes a large range of fields. They range from history to common studies. Therefore, it is considerably advantageous when one is familiar with culture, history, and so on.

One of the ways that can let do it, is travelling. Visiting foreign countries gives a lot of benefits for those who plan to study the international affairs. In 17 years, I have visited numerous European, Asian, and African countries. Below, I will describe some of my traveling experiences.

For instance, while visiting England and Italy I paid a great attention to their culture. I was astonished by the architecture of the Anglo-Saxons, especially by the churches of those times; works of art of the Renaissance by famous artists such as John Constable and J.M.W. Turner. In addition, listening to the opera in San Carlo in Naples has made a good impression. Knowing these things has helped me to grow spiritually, which is an essential aspect in the work of the diplomat. Spiritual development increases chances to succeed and look respectable in the eyes of an opponent. Being aware of such facts as that in the UK people have a tradition to drink a couple cups of coffee during the breakfast; handshaking is forbidden in Islam countries; and in Japan, it is necessary to exchange cards while meeting each other (it is a sign of respect) plays a key role in conducting negotiations.

Besides all the things mentioned above, travelling has given me the knowledge of history of many countries. For example, knowing that a lot of Afro-Americans were colonized by England to America helps to find out about unstable conditions. They can be connected to racial contradictions. It can be

an important factor to realize the purpose by looking at the possible conflicts. While being in the South Africa, it was possible to become familiar with the economic, social, and political conditions. Realizing that the unemployment rate in the South Africa is very high, over 25%, and noticing that country has been destroyed by crime and bad investments helps to build up a clear picture of the diplomacy, look deeper at the problem, try to find more appropriate ways to improve the diplomatic skills. It gives chances to understand possible and current hot spots in the international relations, and find ways to solve the problems.

When dealing with international representatives, one should not forget about religion. While visiting India, I have noticed that one-third of Indians prefer to eat vegetarian food due to their religion, Buddhism. In Muslim countries, it is banned not expose intimate parts of the body. These things should be taken into consideration, especially when communicating or, for instance, asking for a dinner someone who is vegetarian due to religious views.

Everyone who conducts negotiations with international partners cannot succeed if he/she does not understand a language and cannot be understood by foreigners. Travelling abroad gives a great experience when it comes to practising one's communication skills. Being in different corners of the world makes a person familiar with local accents. Solving international problems without knowing the language will not give good results. However, with the travelling experience, it will be the other way around.

Some experience that is also essential is saving people in emergency situations. When travelling to Mexico, I experienced the Hurricane Wilma, therefore, I learned how to survive a hurricane. Nobody knows what one has to wait for. A person who works with international organizations and visits places with the danger of natural disasters should know what he/she has to do in case of contingencies.

Conclusion

It is necessary to say that experience gained while travelling abroad can become very useful in the future profession. Knowing cultural, language, historical, and other differences prevents from making mistakes while conducting negotiations. It allows to increase one's chances for success.