

Distinguished Admissions Office of the European Humanities University,

My name is Ms. Palina Kozarava, I work at the Human Rights Centre "[Viasna](#)" and have a Bachelor's degree in Philosophy. I have a significant work experience in human rights area, conducting analytical research and interviewing survivors of torture and ill-treatment. I have been trained by organizations such as [Bellingcat](#) and [Partners in Justice](#), worked together with prosecutors and international tribunal experts – and received an unforgettable experience from them. Also I spend a lot of time on my own studying jurisprudence, international law and various court cases. My work career to this date has created a solid foundation that makes applying to the International Law and Security Studies Master's programme a natural and necessary step in my professional growth.

Over the past four years, in addition to the training already mentioned (which is also reflected in my CV), I have independently studied and successfully put into practice:

- *Istanbul Protocol*,
- *International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights*,
- *Declaration on the Protection of All Persons from Being Subjected to Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment*,
- *UN Declarations on Standards of Treatment of Prisoners*,
- *Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court*,
- *Bangalore Principles of Judicial Conduct*,
- *Various materials from Yugoslavia, Rwanda Tribunal*,
- *The Hague Principles on Sexual Violence*,
- *and much more.*

Over the past four years, I have received a number of training courses on medical documenting of the consequences of torture and have myself learnt the basics of Roman law, as well as studying a number of normative documents of the Republic of Belarus. I have received training from organizations such as [Dignity](#) and [Redress](#). My high level of motivation in learning is accompanied by clear goals and ambitions. Despite the lack of basic education in the field of law, I am ready to learn the fundamentals of law additionally and actively develop in this field.

For the past four years I have been fixing offenses and their consequences as part of the [International Platform for Accountability for Belarus](#), which has given me direct experience of violent and unjust events requiring legal intervention. Unfortunately, due to a signed NDA, I am unable to disclose the specific facts and results of my work. However, I am willing to provide contacts of my **colleague*** who can confirm my competences. I see my future in working in international tribunals, where I will be able to defend the interests of victims and promote international justice. I strongly believe that justice should be available to everyone, regardless of their nationality or social status and I am committed to contributing to this important work. I am confident that studying on the "International Law and Security Studies" programme will provide me with the necessary knowledge and competences to achieve this goal and that this programme will provide me with unique knowledge and skills that will help me to realize my professional and academic ambitions.

My philosophical education was obtained in an environment where academic freedom and diversity of philosophical topics were often limited. Nevertheless, it gave me valuable analytical thinking skills, the ability to delve deeply into topics, to work with extensive data and to constantly be in doubt, critically evaluating all aspects of our lives. I believe that the study of ethical and moral aspects played a significant role in my education in philosophy, and it gives me a deeper understanding of the essence of legal rules and principles.

I also request you to consider my candidature for a grant of financial assistance. Your financial support will be critical to my further studies and professional development. I promise that I will do my best to fulfill your trust and become a worthy representative of your university.

Thank you for your attention to my letter. I look forward to being part of the academic community of the European Humanities University and to studying international law.

Sincerely,
Kozarava Palina.

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