

YOUR NAME

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STATEMENT OF INTEREST

In applying for a summer internship with the State Department's Bureau of South and Central Asian Affairs or Bureau of East Asian and Pacific Affairs, I hope to gain professional experience articulating and implementing U.S. foreign policy and to explore a career in the U.S. Foreign Service. I am confident that my professional background in international affairs and strong speaking and writing skills would enable me to contribute meaningfully to the work of a mission.

I am currently a joint Master in Public Affairs and Juris Doctor degree candidate at Princeton's Woodrow Wilson School and New York University's School of Law. I have already completed two years at NYU concentrating on international law, including International Human Rights Law and Chinese Attitudes Toward International Law. My law school thesis will examine China's views on sovereignty in the context of peacekeeping operations and humanitarian intervention. I am now in my first year studying International Affairs at Princeton.

Before graduate school, I developed leadership, political analysis, and research and writing skills as a Research Associate with the Center for International Trade and Security, an independent think-tank that studies weapons of mass destruction proliferation. There I led fieldwork on behalf of the State Department in Eastern Europe and the Former Soviet Union, including Central Asia, interviewing foreign government officials and visiting proliferation-sensitive borders, including those with Iran and Afghanistan. The reports I wrote assessing foreign nonproliferation export control systems were circulated throughout the government. I also briefed government officials upon return, and wrote a comprehensive report on China's nonproliferation export control system, which has been cited by the U.S.-China Economic and Security Review Commission.

Within the SCA, I would like to work in the political section of a U.S. Embassy in any country, such as Afghanistan, Nepal, or Uzbekistan, where conflict or post-conflict political and legal development, including human rights issues, are important. Within EAP, I am interested in working in the political section of the U.S. Embassy in China, Burma or in any country where I can build on my experience working on and studying China's foreign policy and growing influence in the region. However, my interests are not restricted by country, and I would like to be considered for any representation in South, Central or East Asia.

[2,495 characters and spaces]

[Unless rules have changed, the State Department will only allow 2,500 characters with spaces on your statement of interest. Be sure to check in advance]