

HUNTER ZHAO | GREECE & BELGIUM, 2016

- History and Sociology at the University of Michigan
- Studied the complexity and challenges within the governance of irregular migration
- Learned firsthand from humanitarian assistance and migration stakeholders
- Presented about the ongoing European migration crisis and the role of international education

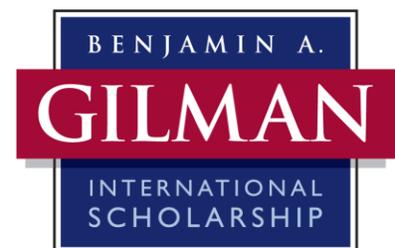


Gilman Alumni Ambassador

Arriving in Greece in the summer of 2016, Hunter found himself in a country under enormous pressure due to unprecedented migration and financial crises. Through the International Center for Hellenic and Mediterranean Studies, he studied the nuances of irregular migration as well as different models of governance and response. While abroad, he traveled to the island of Lesbos where he visited Kara Tepe refugee camp and also to Brussels where he spoke with officials from the European Union.

Consulting various actors – but most importantly, meeting migrants and refugees – his experience abroad reaffirmed his passion for migration studies. Though the economic benefits of migration should be considered, policies must be, above all else, humane. Hunter has worked as a journalism intern focusing on migration trends in Bosnia and Herzegovina and has interned for the Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration in the US Department of State. Finishing up his final year of undergraduate, he sets his sight on graduate school for migration studies.

“With the support of my community and the Gilman Scholarship, I can proudly say that I am both the first person in my family to attend university and to study abroad.”



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