

Statement of Purpose

My personal mission is twofold: 1) to find new diplomatic and unofficial means of enhancing XX's international recognition; and 2) to solve the intense Taiwan Strait situation. On a broader, global level, I want to accelerate cooperation and communication between countries to address such important issues as Third World debt and regional integration into the global economy. I'm a firm believer that there are always peaceable means to solving any international problem, and I hope to acquire the specialized knowledge and frameworks to find them.

Having graduated from the Department of Diplomacy at XXX University, my goal now is to pursue a Master of Arts degree in XX at [name of university you're applying to], with an eye toward a leadership role in a global non-government organization where I may facilitate interactions between multiple NGOs. Within your esteemed program, I hope to equip myself with the intensive knowledge and professional relationships in international relations, political science and economics that will enable me to achieve my long-term XX goals.

My interest in international relations was fuelled heavily by broad-based classes in International Political Economy and XX Analysis. As a concerned XXnese seeing my country grapple with diplomatic issues that could determine its very survival, it is critical for me to learn every nuance of international relations. XX's ability to join the World Trade Organization (WTO) in the name of the Separate Customs Territory of XX, XX, XX and XX (XX) greatly inspired me to seek creative economic solutions and international NGO interventions to meet our diplomatic challenges.

My professional experience already includes some work in these areas. As a Research Assistant at the Taiwan XXX Research, I analyze the markets of Central America to provide strategic direction to XX nese companies. I discuss regional integration issues, such as the influence of the United States and the potential trade and economic impact of the Central America Free Trade Agreement (CAFTA) and Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA). These experiences have strengthened my belief that domestic politics and the global economy greatly influence each other, with the product of their interaction forming the foundation of every country's foreign policy. I have always had a strong interest in this relationship, and in addition to taking numerous political science courses, I regularly read *The Economist* and *Business Week* to stay abreast of all developments. In my future graduate study, I hope to conduct intensive research into International Political Economy and International Economics.

In a previous experience with The Cross-Strait Association of Cultural, Educational and Economical Exchanges in China in 200X, I XX a week-long visit to Peking University and Inner XXX Agricultural University. I interacted with local students and learned their perspectives toward Taiwan and the world beyond. I strongly felt China's speed of economic growth; at the same time, I obtained first-hand exposure to China's extreme poverty gap. This experience, along with the knowledge gained from researching and writing two papers — *The Rise of China and Its Impact on Japan and Foreign Policy in the Deng Xiao Ping Era* — has motivated me to further delve into interactions between China and its Asian neighbors. I will also soon complete my current paper, *The Sino-Indian Strategic Partnership and Its Impact on the World Economy*.

Outside of academics, I served as the XXX in the Youth Diplomacy Economics and Trade Seminar. I led my team in procuring famous lecturers, scheduling the curriculum, and planning the simulation of a United Nations conference. We successfully attracted over one hundred student participants from across Taiwan and stimulated their interest in global affairs, economics and trade issues.

In addition, I participated in the International Communication and Negotiation Simulations (ICONS) Project held by the University of XX. This intensive simulation featured teams assuming the roles of various nations to discuss global issues. My team represented Japan and its Official Development Assistance (ODA). This event provided invaluable, hands-on experience in teamwork and negotiations.

On a more regular basis, I volunteer with XX's largest NGO, the Tzu Chi Foundation, which assists the poor, the elderly, the disabled and disaster victims in our country. I have found my work with the Foundation inspiring and rewarding, and it has also educated me on the value and power of NGOs.

In sum, I believe I have singular insights and experiences in international politics, business, and economics, as well as strong professional skills in project management, communications, research and analysis. My various leadership roles in seminar planning, student organizations, and my school's public relations have sharpened my proposal writing and negotiations ability, from obtaining financial sponsorship from local companies, to my award-winning marketing PowerPoint presentations. Finally, I am also learning Japanese to facilitate my research into Asian relations.

There is, of course, much more I hope to learn and discover. I look forward to being an active, contributing member of your department and the vibrant academic community at [university]. Having completed both my degree in diplomacy and a minor in XXX with a 3.8 GPA, I am confident that I will demonstrate the same dedication and diligence within a challenging graduate program. I began my life XXX years ago as a country girl, and through my efforts and passion, have moved rapidly to the big city and foreign shores. I have always striven for excellence and have compiled a few accomplishments along the way. Now I am ready to contribute more to the world, and I hope you will grant me the opportunity to achieve my goals and, ultimately, make a difference.

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