



Individual Career Sessions

Let us support your transition into the job market.

Career Services 2022/2023

WHO WE ARE

key2advance is a coaching and training consultancy founded in 2007. The careers branch provides key knowledge, strategies and opportunities to propel students forward during their transition to the job market. key2advance career was created in response to:

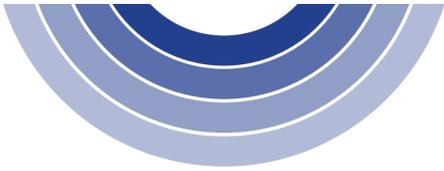
- ▶ The competition among qualified graduates for internships and jobs.
- ▶ The growing number of international students aiming to access the hidden job-market.
- ▶ The awareness of what qualified guidance can offer during phases of transition.



WHAT WE OFFER

The key2advance career team trains, coaches and advises students from transitioning into the European and international job market. We offer custom packages to our client universities, based on the profiles and needs of the students.





“Luck Is When Opportunity
Meets Preparation”

- *Seneca, Roman philosopher*



Individual Sessions

Some of the best insights for students aiming for careers in international affairs



Our Advisors

The career advice sessions are designed to help students identify career goals, review application documents and plan their next steps. Students appreciate receiving practical tips and guidance from experts who understand the European and international job market.

A team of advisors provides guidance on how to prepare for a career in a variety of sectors such as:

human rights, international and European law, EU institutions, international NGOs, the United Nations, and communication and public relations agencies.

Meet our multidisciplinary team of career advisors, trainers and experts from the field:



Martine



Marta



Sarah



Hazel



Olaf



Erica



Charbel



Auset



Chantelle



Mariana



Nadine



Nimali

Mariana Batista



Mariana Batista is a young professional with a background in project development and programme management in the humanitarian, non-profit and government sectors. Mariana leads the Capacity-Building Programme of the Green European Foundation (GEF), overseeing a work programme which promotes education and training and provides opportunities for building capacity amongst Green actors across Europe. GEF is a European level political foundation, funded by the European Parliament that contributes to the development of a European public sphere and works to create a common Green vision for Europe. Prior to her work at GEF, Mariana led an Internship programme at SB Overseas, a non-profit organisation based in Belgium dedicated to providing non formal education to refugees and victims of conflict in Lebanon. Mariana is a BSIS alumni who graduated with a Master of Arts in International Conflict and Security with a Specialisation in International Migration in 2019. Previous to her Brussels-based work, Mariana worked in Toronto for a number of governmental institutions, including the Ontario Ministry of Government and the Council of Ministries of Education.

Can advise students interested in:

European Institutions, European Parliament, working in non-profits, project management skills, networking



Olaf Deussen



Olaf Deussen started his career in the private sector as a Communications Project Manager for GOPA-Cartermill from 2007 to 2010. In 2010 Olaf had a work assignment for six months with the German Heinrich Böll Foundation in Ramallah/Palestine as Programme Coordinator. In 2011 he joined the European Institutions. His first post was: Information and Communication Officer for the EU Commission in the ICT sector on the "Digital Agenda for Europe" policy. He then joined the European External Action Service. From 2012-14 as a Policy Analyst preparing "out-of-the-box" ideas and the interventions of the Secretary General, Mr Vimont, at conferences and debates. From 2014-16 around the Paris Climate Summit Olaf was the focal point in the EEAS for climate change diplomacy. In 2016 he moved to the EU Delegation in Sarajevo, Bosnia-Herzegovina working on Human Rights issues and as Political Assistant to the EU Ambassador. In 2018 he relocated back to the EEAS HQ. His current job is in the Human Resources department where he is organising the annual EU Ambassadors' Conference and trainings for the EEAS management. He co-founded the Brussels based EuroArab Forum which was active until 2017 to provide a platform for EuroArab exchanges on socio-political topics.

Can advise students interested in:

Diplomacy, foreign policy, EU institutions, project management skills, networking, communication and PR.



Erica Hope



Since graduating in 2004, **Erica Hope** has specialized in environmental policy, in particular the fields of climate change and energy. Having worked on these topics from within the European Parliament, an NGO and a philanthropic foundation, she has a good overview of many of the types of work available to students interested to work in this field. She currently leads the Governance and Law team of the European Climate Foundation (ECF), which seeks to design, resource and grant activities that will advance Europe's low carbon transition, and ensure it acts as a positive international force on climate change. Before joining ECF, Erica was energy efficiency policy officer at the NGO network Climate Action Network Europe (CAN-E), and from 2005-2009 worked as Parliamentary Assistant for the Green MEP Caroline Lucas MEP. She enjoys drawing on her experience to try and help individuals identify a role which enables them to make best use of their strengths to contribute to an important cause, and can offer good advice about how to make the first steps on the ladder. Skills: Designing multi-actor strategies to deliver policy outcomes; network building; strategic grant-making.

Can advise students interested in:

Working in the EU and policy spheres, environmental and NGO sectors.



Nadine Kolloczek



Nadine Kolloczek is an official at the European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF), which is part of the European Commission. With twelve years of experience in the European institutions, she has extensive knowledge of working on the European level and in an international environment. Over the years, she has helped numerous individuals to obtain their dream job by helping them to prepare successful applications in various languages – German, English, French and Spanish -, while at the same time moving forward in her own career. Following her Master in European Law (LL.M.), she originally started out as a lawyer for competition law in an international law firm, moved on to being the legal adviser for Europe of a global US based insurance company and briefly worked as an Assistant to a Member of the European Parliament, before deciding to settle on a career in the European Commission, including 4 years of experience in a European Executive Agency. Happy to pass on her practical experience, she is the right contact person for you to bounce off ideas on a possible future career in the legal or European field.

Can advise students interested in:

Law, legal careers, European institutions.



Auset Mitchell



Auset Mitchell is a dynamic young professional with a background in government, NATO, and the private sector. She has worked in conflict environments within peacekeeping and capacity building missions, practiced international relations at the strategic level, and gained expertise in security related geo-politics in Europe, South Asia, Eastern Africa, and the United States. Her professional experience is complemented by varied military training and a Master of Laws from BSIS. Her present professional focus is as a trainer and consultant in engagements, civil-military cooperation, political - security analysis, field research, and project management. Other interests include climate security and gender in conflict.

Can advise students interested in:

Defence, Security & NATO.



Charbel Raji



Charbel Raji is a Lebanese journalist and political analyst. He began his career in Beirut as a talk-show Host and Correspondent for some of the Middle East's top-rated networks, while simultaneously reporting for CNN and MSNBC, on political and cultural trends throughout the region, including the 2006 war in Lebanon. In 2007, Charbel joined the United Nations and had since managed and overseen regional and international political and social files, including counter-terrorism, migration and conflict resolution.

Can advise students interested in:

Working with the United Nations and NGOs, crisis communication, peacebuilding agreements, social and humanitarian affairs, advocacy and international relations.



Nimali Samarsinha



Nimali Samarsinha has over 12 years of experience as a strategic communications professional in the corporate, non-profit and government sectors. As Head of Communications at the European Food Information Council, Nimali currently leads a team of science communicators in their work to advance the European conversation on food, health and sustainability. Previously at the European Climate Foundation, she co-directed a global network of communications experts dedicated to strengthening the public discourse on climate change and provided strategic communications advice to the wider European climate action community. At the foundation, Nimali also coordinated the media operations around major international summits and conferences. Throughout earlier roles in the private sector and at the Maldives Government Tourism Board, Nimali built a well-rounded expertise in running integrated consumer and trade marketing campaigns, effective brand management and strategic crisis communications. Born in Frankfurt/Main, Germany, Nimali pursued her academic and early professional career in the UK and spent the past 7 years living and working in the Brussels “EU Bubble”. She has a Master’s Degree in Management from West London University (focus on crisis communication) and a Bachelor’s Degree in International Tourism and Travel Management from the University of Brighton (focus on sustainability).

Can advise students interested in:

Political communication, science communication, media relations, brand management and marketing, across public, private and non-profit sectors.



Sarah Sommer



Sarah Sommer has led the European Programme for Integration and Migration (EPIM) of the Network of European Foundations (NEF) as Programme Director for eight years. EPIM is a collaborative programme of private foundations which funds European NGOs for their advocacy work on migration issues. Sarah is based in Berlin but well-connected to public and private organisations and institutions working on migration, human and social rights in Brussels as well. Previously, Sarah worked in Berlin for a number of governmental and non-governmental institutions, including the Ministry for Labour and Social Affairs and the German Parliament.

Can advise students interested in:

Migration and human rights, non-governmental/advocacy work, management.



Martin van de Pas



Martin van de Pas is a growth facilitator with the mission to support young people in shaping their unique life journey.

At key2advance he uses his academic business background to develop content around various topics including leadership. As certified coach and trainer he also works closely with clients in their development.

Martin is the founder of Realize, a company that works with educational institutions to support adolescence in creating their life through workshops and coaching. With programme's such as the 'Vision Workshop' and 'Your Career Path' he has helped many to identify their authentic career path.

Can advise students interested in:

In our session, I won't be giving you advice. I believe that YOU are the one holding the answers. Therefore, as a certified coach, I will create the space for you to come to your own conclusions. You will leave feeling empowered and clear.



Connect with us via

Our Platform

You will receive instructions to log onto our platform in order to book individual sessions and apply for internships provided through us.

All details in email from k2a

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the 'key2advance' logo in the top right corner. The main heading is 'Register Your Account'. Below the heading, there is a link: 'If you already have an account, please login [here](#)'. The form contains the following fields:

- Username/Email:**
- Full name:**
- University:**
- Phone number:**
- Candidate:**
- Begin of program:**
- Password:**
- Password confirmation:**

At the bottom of the form is a 'Register' button.

key2advance

We look forward to supporting you! *Career*