



2018 Legal Placement (South Korea)

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The Human Rights Law and Policy Forum (HRLF) has, for the first year, organised internships for our students to Seoul, South Korea as part of a credit-bearing Legal Placement course. This course aims at providing students with exposure to human rights work in East Asia, thereby broadening their horizons to the breadth of human rights issues around the region and further allowing them to acquire the experience of working and living abroad. 10 students from our JD and LLB programmes were carefully selected for the placement programme. Firms and organisations participating in the programme include:

- The Refuge pNan, a Christian Non-governmental organisation established in 1999 offering protection and assistance to North Korean and other refugees seeking asylum in Korea and abroad (pNan in Korean refers to a safe haven or a place of refuge). It has been a UNHCR partner since 2014.
- Transitional Justice Working Group (TJWG), a South Korean NGO that conducts research and advocacy on transitional justice for victims of conflict-torn countries.
- KC & Lee, the oldest and one of the most established law firm in Seoul.
- IR Kudos, a consulting firm founded in 2008 which offers investor relations research service in South Korea.

The internship programme has been a success, with very positive feedbacks from students as well as their employers.

Here are some quotes from the participants:

“My internship in Seoul allowed me to explore both Korean and international laws through the guidance of my superiors, which made for an overall fruitful and memorable learning experience.” - **Melizza Ann Daluz Anievas, intern at KC & Lee**



(Zheng Xin, Katie (JD) first on the right, with refugee and staff outside of the pNan office. To her right are three other CityU LLB participants, Angeline Nicole Martin Corpus, Cheung Cheuk Hang Jacky, and Kwan Mei Ling Annabelle)

“While I was with pNan, I was tasked to research on the UN resettlement programs carried out in the UK and social integration policies in EU countries from a comparative perspective, particularly how efforts were expended to prevent the poverty of refugees. Our research group also provided a presentation about how countries, such as UK, US, Canada and Germany reviewed the applications of asylum seekers. In the end, PNan incorporated our research into their brief to the Korean government so as to advise the latter to improve their own reviewing procedures. During the research, we learned both international and Korean domestic laws concerning refugees.” – **Zheng Xin, Katie, intern at pNan**

“Internships may end, but friendships will last much longer. This is an experience I would never forget.” – **Leung Yan Yu Michelle, intern at IR KUDOS**

“We have enjoyed working with [the] students and we wish them... very best... in their future study and career.” – **Vice President, IR KUDOS.**