

### **Working at Leiden International Centre – Raúl Kalb, May 22<sup>nd</sup> 2023**

In my last year of European Studies at the Hague University of Applied Sciences, I applied for an internship at Leiden International Centre (LIC) because I was interested in helping internationals and working in an international work environment.

Right away, during my job interview, I noticed that the team was very friendly and open to hear about my ideas and experiences. And that friendly and casual work environment is certainly one of the appealing parts of an internship at LIC.

In my first weeks I learned how to work with different content management tools, and pretty soon I was tasked with creating and scheduling posts for various social media platforms. I received great help and feedback from my colleagues, and quickly improved my social media management skills, as well as my ability to write various kinds of texts – from research-based articles to more playful Facebook posts.

Eventually, I was charged with the monthly newsletter – filled with relevant information for internationals – and writing articles on important topics and developments.

You can also ask to work on specific products or projects to lean in on your strengths. For instance, by writing articles, conducting research, or taking pictures for our photo database. Personally, I expressed an interest in videocreation, so I got to work on a couple of videos for marketing and informative purposes, which I enjoyed very much.

To conclude, my internship taught me to work with different kinds of people on a professional level and in an international setting. I was able to sharpen existing skills – like writing and video editing - but also hone new ones – like co-organising events and managing social media. My time at Leiden International Centre was filled with valuable lessons and experiences. I am grateful for the people I have met, and the time I have got to spend here.