

Brussels and The Hague

Caleb Akers , Jillian Cordial, Connor Herbert,
Cody Rakoff, Alex Suer, Christina Szigety, and
Emily Walburn

Saturday, May 4th

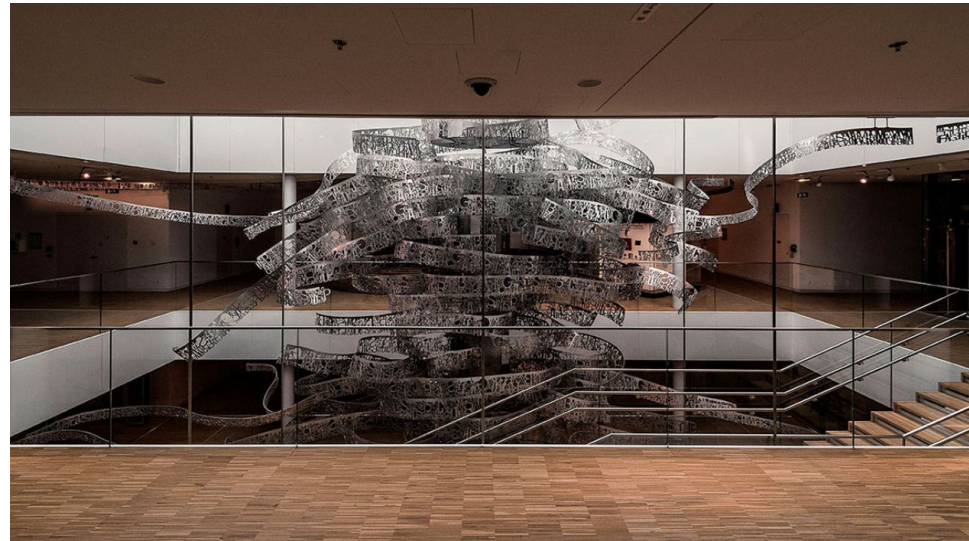


On our first day in Brussels, we made our way to the European Commission for Open Doors Day. The event was held at the European Council building with representatives from every country in the European Union. We made our way around lobby interacting with each nations stand and speaking with the representatives. Soon after we were toured around the council building and filled in on how the council operates.

Sunday, May 5th



On Sunday morning, the group was able to visit the House of European History to take a closer look at history from a European perspective. The museum focuses on events that shaped the continent and uses shared experiences and diverse interpretations to do so. Starting with the museum gave us the perfect lens to utilize throughout the rest of our trip.



Sunday, May 5th cont.

Arcades du Cinquantenaire



On Sunday Afternoon, we took a bus tour of Brussels and were able to see the landscape of the city as well as its largest monuments and attractions!

The atomium is designed to look like nine iron atoms and has been in Belgium since 1958.



Monday, May 6th

On Monday we spent the morning at the EU Commission. At the Commission, we had three speakers tell us about their area of expertise including an overview of the commission's tasks, immigration policy and economic policy.

In the afternoon, we went to the European Council for an information session. Here, we heard about what goes on behind closed doors when the heads of state of the EU meet with one another.

Photos (left to right): the wall of the Commission, the information session on immigration, the information session overview of the commission, the class sitting at the designated seats for each nation in the European council session, our group photo from the Council and our information session on economy at the council.



Tuesday,
May 7th



Wednesday,
May 8th

NATO SHAPE and Travel Day



Supreme Headquarters
Allied Powers Europe



Benelux Countryside

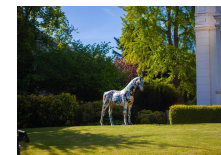
Resting...



Thursday, May 9th

A visit to the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons, the International Mechanism for Residual Criminal Tribunals, and a canal tour of The Hague

Pictured (left to right): EuroJust; OPCW; Statenkwartier near the OPCW; IRMCT; Mauritskade; Smidswater; Koningskade



Friday, May 10th

On our final planned academic day of the trip, we spent time in The Hague, Netherlands learning about international law institutions.

Our first stop was the Peace Palace (top left) where we toured the beautiful historical grounds and learned about the International Court of Justice. Thanks to our guide we were able to see parts of the court that are off limits to the general public, such as the Green Room and the Red Room, where judges spend their final few minutes before entering the courtroom pictured on the top right to make decisions.

Following the ICJ, we traveled to the International Criminal Court (bottom left) where we were lectured about the workings of the court and learned about its jurisdiction.

To end our day, we enjoyed a delicious farewell dinner on the beach!





Overall,

The experience was amazing. We all learned a lot and experienced global institutions at their finest. We were all able to learn through this experience by being able to attend the presentations we did and by having the opportunity to ask so many questions. Some of us were influenced to explore other career options since being able to witness first-hand the impact of international organizations.

