

An account on the Konrad-Adenauer Fellowship in European Studies

From November 2011 to March 2014, I was the first Konrad Adenauer Fellow in European Studies at the FGV International Relations Center, hosted at CPDOC. Throughout this period, in addition to deepening the work in my field of studies – immigration and security in the European Union –, I have joined different study groups in the Center and participated in diverse academic activities promoted by CPDOC/FGV and by KAS.

The Fellowship had the double objective of (1) enabling a young Brazilian researcher by endowing him with methodological and analytical tools, and (2) fomenting the field of European studies in Brazil, an area seldom explored in the academia. Thus, during the validity of the program, I had the support of Dr. Elena Lazarou (Coordinator of the FGV Center for IR) and Mr. Felix Dane (KAS representative in Brazil) to engage in numerous activities and mature academically. By the end of the program, I am convinced that my professional future will be marked by the experiences provided by both institutions.

Regarding the research on Security, field I have dedicated myself since my Masters, two facts are worth highlighting. Thanks to the Fellowship, I have participated in the *Workshop on European Union Research* in 2012, where I presented a paper that was read and commented by some of the best and most relevant names in the field: Andrew Geddes (Sheffield University), Ian Manners (Roskilde University) and Phillippe Schmitter (*European University Institute*). In the following year, I submitted a more elaborate version of the same study to the 43rd UACES (*University Association for Contemporary European Studies*), one of the most important gatherings about European studies. Having had the support of KAS I traveled to Leeds to present my paper in a panel about immigration and security. On this trip I also had the opportunity to engage in high level debates and to get to know the academic environment in Europe.

Working daily alongside professor Lazarou I became familiar with EU Foreign Policy and EU-Brazilian relations. Lazarou is a great expert on these themes; she is responsible for the expansion of the field in the last years. Since 2012, we have published some texts together in order to contribute to a better understanding of the EU in Brazil, but also of Brazil in the EU. Amongst these texts, I highlight the paper submitted to

Political Perspectives, an academic publication from Manchester University, about the EU-Brazilian strategic partnership.

Both KAS and FGV use public debate participation as a political tool. In this sense, one of the dimensions of my work was the production of situation analysis papers for newspapers and think tanks. The European Crisis, EU Foreign Policy, Summits and the protests in the Ukraine were some of the issues I have studied in the past months. Furthermore, by working towards the elaboration of the Europe Day Conference, biggest event about the EU in Brazil, I have helped both institutions to bring to the country renowned academics, such as Jolyon Howorth (Yale University), Vivien Schmidt (Boston University), Sophie Mounier (Princeton University) and Benita Ferrero-Waldner (Former EU Commissioner for Foreign Policy).



I have also had the opportunity to teach two courses at FGV Undergraduate School alongside professor Lazarou. The teaching experience was paramount to my formation. More than helping me deal with my newfound position in the classroom and giving me didactic experience, this activity has stimulated me to pursue an academic career.

The end of the Fellowship and the request from KAS have lead me to write this brief account of my period as a CPDOC/FGV researcher. Looking back the last few years, I can see I have grown academically for having engaged in different lines of research and, above all, by deepening my research object. The experiences provided by the program have contributed to my curriculum and, certainly, were decisive when making the decision to pursue a Doctorate abroad.

Lastly, I would like to thank the entire team from KAS and the FGV Center for International Relations for the excellent acquaintanceship in the last years. The lessons learned and the connections made will be taken with me to my future professional activities. I hope that in the course of my career I can give back for all the incentive and attention received.