

# CHINA WTO ACCESSION INTERNSHIP PROGRAMME ALUMNI STORY

### Trang, please tell us...



# Where are you from, and what have you studied before joining the China Programme?

I am from Hanoi, Viet Nam. I completed my Bachelor's in International Studies at Soka University of America in California, US, and my Master's in International Affairs at the Geneva Graduate Institute.

#### Why did you apply?

I grew up witnessing the social and economic advancements of Viet Nam following its accession to the WTO, along with the multifaceted socio-economic implications upon changing to an open market regime as my country looks to trade as a gateway to build

peace and stability. I carried this observation with me and integrated it in my education and my career path, which has motivated me to apply to this program.

#### What kind of work were you assigned to during your internship?

During my internship, I assisted with the development of and activities under the Trade for Peace Program. I am very lucky to be in a team that is so open-minded, leaving spaces for us to develop and take the lead. I was able to contribute to some rejuvenation efforts in our communications strategies and outputs, event conceptualising, designing the workstream on Trade for Peace and Youth Engagement, as well as stakeholder management. I also had the opportunity to assist the Secretariat in our services of WTO committees working on accession negotiations of Bhutan, Iran, Libya, Syria, Timor-Leste, Uzbekistan, and the g7+WTO Accessions Group.

## Looking back, what do you think of your work experience at the WTO, and as participant of the China Programme?

My work experience at the WTO provided me with professionalism by surrounding ourselves and observing the experts from both the Secretariat, and our stakeholders. Being given the

trust to assist with high-level events, producing reports to senior management with the support of professionals with decades of expertise, gave me trust in myself as well.

#### What have you done since?

I am currently furthering my learning journey of multilateralism at the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe, at the Innovative Policies Development Section. With the knowledge and skills that I gain from my time at the Division as the foundation, I am further developing myself in the impact space, working with developing countries to leverage innovation in achieving sustainable development and address issues such as innovation-driven procurement, diversifying economies, or constructing more resilient supply chains.

### Thank you!