

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1. Background

The university as a higher education institution becomes a place to provide knowledge, values, and norms to students as the young generation so that they can meet the expectations of the nation, as well as its great and strategic role in actualizing the ideals of the nation. The young generations have inevitably become the hope of the future of the nation which expectedly to be the future leaders, change-makers, and strategic human capital in general. In this case, university students would be the best entity to fulfill the ideals and they have a very pivotal role in shaping the future of the nation as they are learned and trained to be the potential future human capital. Therefore, in the end, students are expected to be able to prepare themselves to be resilient and be able to compete in life after university by applying the knowledge obtained in university to the world of professionalism in the future.

Internship activities are part of the learning process in the field for students to know their skills by feeling and knowing first-hand the service process that occurs in the field and its relation to the theories that have been studied in the lecture. In the applicant's context, the international relations major objectives of its study focus more on theoretical matters such as diplomacy, international politics, social and cross-border societies, and economics. The applicant realizes that the objective scope of International Relations studies is very broad so it has an impact on broad employment prospects as well, but ideally, graduates of International Relations are expected to become diplomats under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia.

Diplomats serve the country in making good relations between countries, carrying out state interests in the international sphere, protecting Indonesian citizens, and promoting Indonesia in the international arena. Therefore, the

applicant wants to be able to experience the world of work as a diplomat during the period of study at the university so that the applicant can apply the theoretical understanding obtained for four semesters and see the diplomacy carried out by Indonesian diplomats through the Field Work Practice (Internship Program) program at the Embassy of the Republic of Indonesia in Bucharest, Romania.

1.2. Goals of Internship

The university, as a higher education institution, becomes a place to provide knowledge, values, and norms to students as the young generation so that they can meet the nation's expectations, as well as its tremendous and strategic role in actualizing the ideals of the country. The young ages have inevitably become the hope of the nation's future, which are expected to be the future leaders, change-makers, and strategic human capital in general. In this case, university students would be the best entity to fulfill the ideals and have a pivotal role in shaping the nation's future, as they are learned and trained to be the potential future human capital. Therefore, in the end, students are expected to be able to prepare themselves to be resilient and compete in life after university by applying the knowledge obtained in university to the world of professionalism in the future.

Internship activities are part of the learning process in the field for students to explore their skills by experiencing and knowing first-hand the service process that occurs in the area and its relation to the theories studied in class. In the applicant's context, the international relations major's study objectives focus more on theoretical matters such as diplomacy, global politics, social and cross-border societies, and economics. The applicant realizes that the objective scope of International Relations studies is extensive, leading to broad employment prospects. However, ideally, International Relations graduates are expected to become diplomats under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia.

Diplomats serve the country as agents to form good relations between nations, carry out state interests in the international sphere, protect Indonesian citizens, and promote Indonesia in the international arena. Therefore, the applicant wants to be able to experience the world of work as a diplomat during the period of study at the university so that the applicant can apply the theoretical understanding obtained over four semesters and see the diplomacy carried out by Indonesian diplomats through the Field Work Practice (Internship Program) at the Embassy of the Republic of Indonesia in Bucharest, Romania.

An internship is part of the learning process in the field for students to know their skills by feeling and knowing first-hand the service process that occurs in the area and its relation to the theories studied in the lecture. Here are the expected goals of this internship:

- a) To attain first-hand experience in the professional work field, especially at an embassy, as students of the international relations major are mostly expected to be future diplomats;
- b) To conduct in-depth research about the diplomatic relations between Indonesia and Romania and/or Indonesia and Moldova;
- c) To gain comprehensive knowledge and experience about the embassy as a diplomatic institution;
- d) To actualize the learned coursework from the university, including the theories and concepts, in the professional setting;
- e) To practice the relevant interpersonal skills such as teamwork, communication, and adaptability in the scope of professional work;
- f) Lastly, to gain a valuable network from the embassy and other related institutions.

1.3. Benefits of Internship

Through this internship, there are several expected benefits, which are:

- a) For the internee, this internship will be a great platform to gain awareness about the scene of how the professional field works. Secondly, it can give professional knowledge and an arena for the internee to prepare themselves for the real world of professionalism after college. Thirdly, as the internee is a student from the international relations major, this internship will be a perfect place to apply relevant theories and concepts learned from the university. Fourth of all, this internship is an ideal institution for the internee to conduct research in international relations and affairs with relevant data and sources from the embassy.
- b) For the community, this internship will greatly contribute to the people by showing that the students of Universitas Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta, in general are contributively involved in the mission to support the people's aspirations and needs by working in the government institutions.
- c) For the institutions this internship will be an ideal bridge for both institutions, Universitas Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta and the Embassy of the Republic of Indonesia in Bucharest. As for Universitas Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta, this internship will be a great platform to establish good relations or cooperation for future academic advancement. On the other hand, for the Embassy of the Republic of Indonesia in Bucharest, the addition of internees in their institution would ease their work through the given task assignments.
- d) For the academic world, this internship can be an excellent addition to advancing knowledge in the field of international relations and affairs in Indonesia through research, published journal proceedings, or internship report, in which the output documents can later be a reference for future studies.