

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### A. Background

Universitas Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta, also known as UMY, is a privately-owned educational institution located in Yogyakarta, Indonesia. It is affiliated with Muhammadiyah, which is the one of the largest Islamic organizations in the country. The affiliation with Muhammadiyah reflects the university's commitment to Islamic values and principles in its educational approach. UMY offers various academic programs and degrees to students. In addition to academic programs and degrees, UMY also has activities to support student's academic improvement of students such as student exchange program and internship program.

In UMY, the Department of International Relations has made internship program as an optional course and is worth 1(one) credit. The importance of joining an internship program is also specified, in that by joining a program like this, students in the Department of International Relations will have the chance to improve their abilities and apply their knowledge. Furthermore, the department hopes to provide students with opportunities to develop their interests and abilities in a work environment directly related to the topic of international relations.

An internship is a professional learning experience that offers meaningful, practical work related to a student's field of study or career interest. An internship gives a student the opportunity for career exploration and development, and to learn new skills. As an international relations student, in the writer's case, by joining an internship program in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia (or otherwise known as MoFA or Kemlu), the writer wanted to have a closer look on what it is like working as a diplomat being a representative of Indonesia in the international world. In conducting the internship, the writer can apply lessons learned from classes as an International Relations student in the day-to-day implementation of interning in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Not only acquiring the knowledge of diplomatic affairs related jobs, but the writer also wanted to have a hands-on experience to experience working in a professional environment such as in the government and wants to learn new professional skills and improve what is already learned in university.

According to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, students or recent graduates who are interested in getting real-world experience in the domains of diplomacy, international relations, and foreign policy can apply for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia internship program. The purpose of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs internship program is to better prepare aspiring diplomats, give an inside look at what it's like to work there, and help the Indonesian government and other entities-like universities or international organizations-exchange knowledge and experience. It is Ministry of Foreign Affairs' field of work to be conducting international relations building by any means possible. By being an intern, the writer can get real time knowledge on how an international relation between countries are build and kept, especially in a multilateral setting which is the interest of the writer. Hence, this is what led to the development of the relationship and importance between international relations and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia's Directorate General of Multilateral Cooperation.

### B. Objectives

#### 1. Main Objectives

- a. To hone skills already developed by the writer that is learnt throughout university, such as diplomacy, negotiation, communication, teamwork, and public speaking, as well as learning new skills.
- b. To enhance the relationship between the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Indonesia (specifically the Directorate General of Multilateral Cooperation) and Universitas Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta.

#### 2. Special Objectives

- a. To professionally prepare for the workplace in line with the vision, objective, and goals of the Department of International Relations at Universitas Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta.

- b. To conduct research in accordance to the writer's Final Paper as an exchange for Undergraduate Thesis.

## **C. Internship Benefits**

### **1. For Student**

Internship activities are carried out to enhance students' professional work experience, delve deeper into the practices of international relations, and improve students' skills in the workplace.

### **2. For Institution**

This internship activity is beneficial for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia by increasing the workforce to carry out its duties and strengthening the relationship with the International Relations Program at Universitas Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta.

### **3. For Home University**

Encourage mutually beneficial cooperation with the Republic of Indonesia's Ministry of Foreign Affairs.