

15 Years of The MIDS

LOOKING BACK



MIDS

GENEVA LL.M.
IN INTERNATIONAL
DISPUTE SETTLEMENT

Celebrating 15 Years of Excellence and Vision in International Dispute Settlement

As we mark the 15th anniversary of the Master in International Dispute Settlement (MIDS) program, it is time to celebrate a journey of innovation, a journey of knowledge and of collaboration.

Established through the visionary collaboration of the University of Geneva Faculty of Law and the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, MIDS has evolved into a beacon of legal education renowned for its comprehensive approach to international dispute resolution. Their unwavering support and belief in the program's potential have been instrumental in shaping the journey we celebrate today. Their commitment has been a cornerstone of its success, fostering an environment where legal minds can thrive and grow.

Our journey has also been enriched by the invaluable contributions of

various international organizations, arbitral institutions, law firms, and our generous sponsors who have offered scholarships and support. Their involvement has not only strengthened the MIDS program but also fortified our resolve to create a more just and equitable world.

The essence of the MIDS lies in its community - a vibrant, diverse, and ever-expanding global network. With over 530 alumni from more than 90 countries, MIDS has become a place where cultures, ideas and dreams connect.

The balanced representation of women and men in our alumni reflects our commitment to gender equality and empowerment. Emerging and developing countries form a significant part of our student body, bringing unique perspectives that enrich our learning environment. This diversity is



mirrored in our faculty, whose members come from various corners of the globe, adding depth and breadth to our academic discourse.

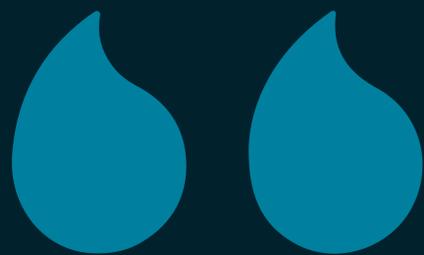
As we look back on these 15 years, we also acknowledge that the MIDS program is a living, evolving entity. It adapts, grows, and transforms, mirroring the dynamism of international dispute resolution itself. This fluidity ensures that our curriculum remains relevant, rigorous, and responsive to the changing global landscape.

As we step into the future, let us continue to be united by the ideals of the MIDS. Our shared dream of a world governed by the rule of law, where international conflicts find peaceful resolution, remains as relevant today as it was 15 years ago. The MIDS community, with its global reach and diverse perspectives, is ideally positioned to drive this vision forward.

As we mark the 15th anniversary of the MIDS, let us celebrate our achievements, cherish our present endeavours, and eagerly look forward to the future successes that await us. United in our purpose and passion, we continue our journey towards excellence in international dispute settlement.

Professor L. Boisson de Chazournes
MIDS and CIDS Director
September 2023





Sometimes it's the smallest decisions,
like pursuing an LL.M. that can change
your life forever.

Andreea Nica
MIDS 2017-2018





The MIDS Experience

After 15 years and with over 530 alumni, the MIDS has become the preeminent program for specialized higher education and practical training in international dispute settlement.

The MIDS Experience



The single most valuable and memorable highlight of the program for me was the people involved. I am referring to both my fellow students and the faculty/administration. The truth is that the MIDS program is uniquely superb and outstanding not simply because of its academics, but because of the quality of students it attracts and of instruction it offers. As someone who has completed (and continues to do so) a number of graduate programs at various institutions, I can comfortably attest to the foregoing. My personal challenges were unique to my circumstance - as a partner at a law firm in the US, I found myself managing my workload from Geneva while engaging in one of the most rigorous and intensive course of legal studies out there. Yet, with much doubt, my intense year+ at MIDS was one of the best decisions made and experiences lived in my professional and personal life.



Alec Orudjev
MIDS 2018-2019



A wholesome master's programme that contributes to professional and personal growth.



Aparna Nagabhushana
MIDS 2022-2023



The MIDS experience was a masterclass in cultural appreciation and intellectual rigor, complemented by a newfound fondness for Nespresso—it was challenging, yet profoundly rewarding.



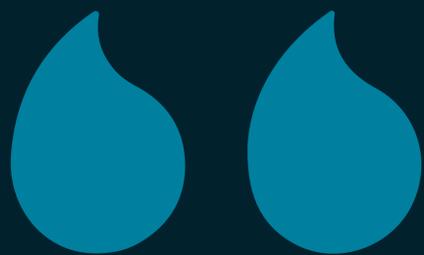
Blanca del Carmen Martínez Mendoza
MIDS 2015-2016



The MIDS program was intense and enriching; it was more than academic excellence. It was a gateway to lifelong connections and a deep understanding of the intricacies of international dispute settlement, all within the inspiring corridors of Geneva and Paris.



Rashid Sultan
MIDS 2018-2019



**Without competition - the best LL.M.
program in international dispute
settlement.**

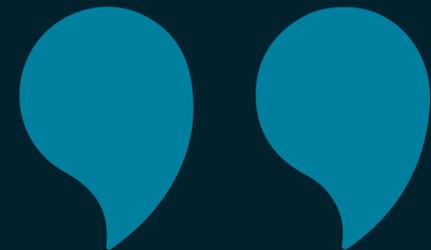
Tadas Varapnickas
MIDS 2021-2023





Great learning experience.

Opemipo Omoyen
MIDS 2019-2020





The MIDS In A Nutshell

With a curriculum carefully tailored to meet educational and practical needs of the job market, the MIDS approaches international dispute settlement from a holistic perspective, covering both private and public aspects, with particular emphasis on international arbitration.

The MIDS In A Nutshell



MIDS was the best learning in comparative procedures of arbitration, both domestic and international. It has helped me to understand in-depth procedures and best practices in arbitration, which I put to use on a daily basis. Highlight was being taught by the best arbitrators and practitioners of arbitration in a highly competitive and healthy environment. The only challenge was to cope up with the huge load of everyday reading material before the class.



Naman Maheshwari

MIDS 2016-2017



The biggest highlights of the MIDS are the faculty (both regular and guest), who are among the biggest names in their field, and the uniquely comprehensive course structure, that gives students a wide overview of all the major kinds of dispute settlement (both public and private).



Rukmini Das

MIDS 2012-2013



The scope of the MIDS curriculum enabled me to transition from aspiring commercial arbitration practitioner to public international law academic, while developing perspective on inter-State dispute settlement through our Professors' work in practice. I gave back to MIDS when I returned as a Lecturer, where I benefited from working with diverse groups of bright and talented students. My teaching and practice in this field would not be possible without knowledge and experience gained through MIDS.



Brian McGarry

MIDS 2010-2011



The class of 2010-2011 was the third promotion of the MIDS. We were a very small group of students from 4 continents who had the opportunity to learn about dispute resolution's theory and practice from the best. Having had the opportunity to work closely with partners and senior associates of 8 international law firms in big international arbitration cases, I can attest to the quality of the training I received.



Elizabeth Prado

MIDS 2010-2011

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The MIDS was academically the most challenging thing I had done so far. I had to spend a lot of time reading and catching up with legal concepts that were unknown to me at that point. Nevertheless, it is still one of the most rewarding experiences I have had. I would absolutely do it all over again!

Greta Rios
MIDS 2008-2009



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I absolutely enjoyed the MIDS. It provided excellent resources to enhance my legal knowledge, both theoretical and practical. I valued the focus on international dispute resolution and the depth of the courses and co-curricular activities that is not provided in general LL.M.s. Importantly, a small cohort ensured that interactions with instructors and batchmates were stimulating and enriching. The attentive administrative support and sophisticated university infrastructure is much appreciated.

Aparna Nagabhushana
MIDS 2022-2023

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When I first saw how much we have to read every week to prepare for Dafina's and Lorenzo's tutorials I thought they are all mad - who can read that much. But week after week spending my weekends reading those awards, I now understand how balanced this program was when eventually everything is put in place and the knowledge is acquired. MIDS is a great program and the people involved in creating this program make it so special and tailor-made.

Thank you all for doing this!

Tadas Varapnickas
MIDS 2021-2023

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MIDS was a wonderful experience, allowing me to immerse myself for a year in a stimulating environment where I was able to deepen my knowledge of international law and international trade law. My knowledge of litigation and international law is due to MIDS, I have learned to look at problems from different angles and I know where to find sources when I need them.

Pietro Acerbi
MIDS 2009-2010



Intensely enriching.

Courtney Furner
MIDS 2016-2017





Faculty & Skills

A faculty comprised of world-class experts, academics, and practitioners in various fields of international dispute settlement provide students with unparalleled academic instruction, not only at the MIDS' headquarters in Geneva, but also on carefully designed study trips to arbitral institutions and international tribunals abroad. With an offer of hands-on training and workshops designed to develop oral advocacy, case management and other practical skills necessary for the practice of international dispute settlement, faculty also focus on the training of practical skills key to building a successful career in international dispute settlement.

Faculty & Skills



The 10 months at the MIDS (apart from teaching IDS) armed me with a diverse set of skills, and created and cemented connections and friendships for a lifetime.



Rukmini Das

MIDS 2012-2013



Being part of the MIDS program was an undoubtedly extremely valuable experience in mainly fronts, but more precisely the intellectual level of the professors and students allows us to witness and participate in deep legal analysis of international current matters that helped me to evolve both, as a professional and as a citizen of this tumultuous world.



Delfina Isoard

MIDS 2020-2022



For me, the most crucial skill the MIDS teaches is rigorous academic and legal writing.



Trishna Menon

MIDS 2022-2023





I had a wonderful time during the MIDS. I was particularly pleased with the exposure to high-caliber arbitration practitioners and the multi-culture environment of the program. The intra-MIDS moot-arbitration resort was perhaps my favorite highlight of the program. Putting legal knowledge to test under a pressed hearing-like environment was no easy task, but in my view it summed up the work of an arbitration practitioner and strengthened the ties among class mates.



Yuri Mantilla
MIDS 2011-2012



MIDS has given me educational and professional opportunities that I would not have had otherwise. The international scope, the quality of teaching are exemplary.



Pietro Acerbi
MIDS 2009-2010



MIDS gave me a comprehensive knowledge of the theoretical and practical aspects of international dispute settlement, which definitely helped me in my professional career as a diplomat.



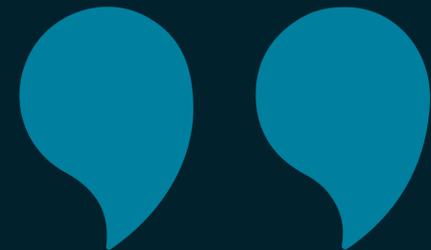
Sashia Diandra Anindita
MIDS 2022-2023





An enriching life/career-changing
experience.

Yuri Mantilla
MIDS 2011-2012





Careers

Building a career in international dispute settlement not only requires sound knowledge and skills, but also career support. From the day that MIDS students arrive in Geneva, the MIDS supports its students through individualized meetings to strategize on professional goals and development, mock job interviews and the facilitation of networking opportunities, all of which ensure that students are assisted in designing their next steps after their life at the MIDS.

Careers



This programme stands out in terms of the personal attention given to each student in terms of their future career plans, and the networks it helps build for these students, both in terms of faculty or guest speakers and through the MIDS alumni network.



Rukmini Das
MIDS 2012-2013



It's provided a very strong backing to my CV and interest in the field of international arbitration. It's a world-renowned program that carries a lot of weight with law firms and practitioners.



Vamika Puri
MIDS 2020-2021



The MIDS provides you the essentials for you to forge keys to open many doors, including doors you did not know existed. And in the process you make life-long friends while lectures/professors ultimately become colleagues. For this opportunity I will be forever grateful.



Yuri Mantilla
MIDS 2011-2012





The knowledge and tools acquired at the MIDS program have been fundamental for my career. Since I started the MIDS, I wanted to practice international investment arbitration. However, it is a very small and competitive niche, specially if you do it starting from a local perspective, as I did. Thanks to the tools the MIDS gave me, I swam like a swan.



Elizabeth Prado

MIDS 2010-2011



My overall experience was very fulfilling. I pushed my limits in the best way possible. The aspect of being able to communicate with professionals and network was a highlight for me. A challenge for me was to open up initially but the environment and people encouraged me to.



Sanskriti Sharma

MIDS 2022-2023



The MIDS not only paved the way to my current job in international arbitration in Switzerland; it also gave me access to a huge network of international disputes lawyers, many of whom I now call friends. It was a career- and life-changing experience.



Courtney Furner

MIDS 2016-2017



The MIDS was pivotal to my career, steering me towards a role in international arbitration with a prestigious Big-4 law firm in Singapore. The program's rigorous training and global outlook sharpened my legal acumen and instilled a confidence that permeates my professional and personal life.



Rashid Sultan

MIDS 2018-2019



Intense, delightful, fun and
eye-opening.

Sashia Diandra Anindita
MIDS 2022-2023





The MIDS A Community

More than a program, a community.

Joining the MIDS also means joining its community, which is the gateway to a network comprised of its alumni and leading professionals active in the field. Spread all over the world, MIDS alumni hold positions in top law firms, international courts and organizations, arbitral institutions, justice and trade industries, as well as law departments at universities.

The MIDS – A Community



Personally, it is the warmth and human connection that are so rare these days. The faculty, the administration and, certainly, my fellow students were all truly remarkable. It is the sense of common purpose and pride in each other's individual successes and achievements. I am exceedingly proud and privileged to have been a part of this remarkable experience.



Alec Orudjev

MIDS 2018-2019



The MIDS program is a gateway to a worldwide network that's enriched my life immeasurably. More than a Master's degree, it's a bastion of diversity and enduring bonds. The academic excellence, connections and lifelong friendships formed have granted me a sense of belonging that transcends borders. Thankful for a global family, I celebrate this journey and the transformative experiences it has fostered. Here's to the memories and unity in the MIDS community.



Martínez Mendoza

MIDS 2015-2016



The MIDS helped me realize how to focus my professional career on making this world a better place (...) I will always remember my classmates and the great time we had together during the program.



Greta Rios

MIDS 2008-2009

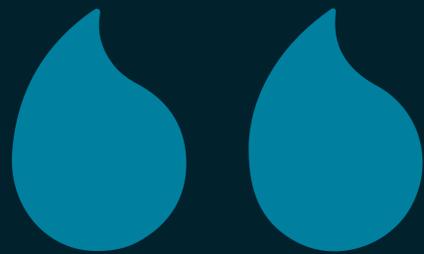


MIDS allowed me to have an incredible learning experience by meeting most of my academic role models and having in-depth legal discussions with them and my classmates. More importantly, I will always cherish the great long-lasting friendships from all over the world that I made during my time in MIDS.



Laura Denise Jaroslavsky Consoli

MIDS 2022-2023

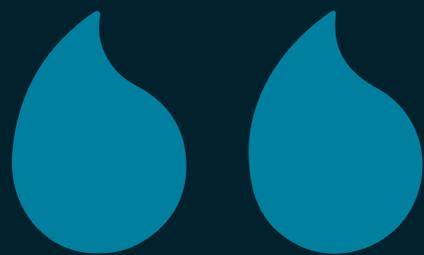


I set my expectations very differently before coming to the MIDS, but what I experienced was so much more than an academic program. I truly grew as an individual and I feel I have a better sense of navigation now.

Sanskriti Sharma
MIDS 2022-2023







A learning process that was enjoyable
and worthy from start to end.

Delfina Isoardi
MIDS 2020-2022





Scholarships

The MIDS is lucky to have found a number of precious partners that have, over the years, made it possible for outstanding students to join the MIDS program and community.

Scholarships



The Lévy Kaufmann-Kohler scholarship was fundamental for me. Without it I would have not been able to attend to the MIDS and to have such an enriching and complete learning experience. I come from a country with constant economic crisis, and the scholarship allowed me to focus only on the substance, not having to think of the financial aspect of my decision. For that I will be always deeply grateful. Being a scholar allowed me to focus on my studies and learn from my colleagues while also providing my insight. I believe that scholarships allow to have a quite diverse pool of students that enriches the discussion, a quite distinctive feature of MIDS.



Laura Denise Jaroslavsky Consoli

MIDS 2022-2023



I am grateful for having an opportunity to spend a year on such a high quality program (...) Without a scholarship I would not have been able to come to Geneva.



Milica Novakovic

MIDS 2012-2013



Receiving the MIDS-Young ICCA scholarship allowed me to come to the MIDS; without it, I would never have been able to attend the MIDS, and my professional and personal life today would have taken a very different course.



Courtney Furner

MIDS 2016-2017



The scholarship made all this happen. I would not be able to attend the MIDS without it; I will be eternally grateful for it. The opportunity that the scholarship provided brought me hope for a better future as a lawyer aspiring to practice in the field of international dispute settlement.



Yuri Mantilla

MIDS 2011-2012



Having a scholarship while studying the MIDS meant for me that I could participate in any of the activities offered to all the students, regardless of the costs associated to them. This enhanced my experience greatly. I would not have been able to attend the MIDS if I had not received a scholarship from the Karl Popper Foundation. I will be forever grateful for this.



Greta Rios
MIDS 2008-2009



Without exaggerating, I can honestly say that the scholarship was life-changing for me. It took some of the pressure to pay back an educational loan off and allowed me to explore more academic and career opportunities than I might have otherwise considered. The financial aid gave me the freedom to prioritize academics, and to study as much and as widely as I wanted to. I felt very much like I was given an opportunity that I had to make the most of, and that helped me push myself academically.



Trishna Menon
MIDS 2022-2023



I was a recipient of the LALIVE Scholarship and it was very helpful in getting me through my studies at the MIDS, I will always be grateful to the good people of Lalive.



Opemipo Omoyeni
MIDS 2019-2020



MIDS is like a fun rollercoaster ride,
full of new and challenging learning
experiences in all aspects of life. By the
end of it, you get to say, -what an
incredible ride! I would love to jump in
again!

Laura Denise Jaroslausky Consoli
MIDS 2022-2023

