

I would like to express my deepest gratitude to the DAAD and Johns Hopkins University, particularly the School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS), for the exceptional fellowship I was fortunate to receive. It is with immense appreciation that I acknowledge the chance to work alongside distinguished scholars in the field of political science and history.

This experience has been exceptionally transformative, impacting not only my professional growth but also my personal development in significant ways. As an economist with a specialization in the complex realm of conflict-related topics, this fellowship has proven to be truly groundbreaking. The opportunity to collaborate closely with experts in political science and history has provided me with a novel and enriching outlook. However, navigating this interdisciplinary collaboration has been both rewarding and challenging. It has been a remarkable journey where diverse perspectives from political science, economics, and history have intersected. The challenge has been to find constructive ways to engage in discussions on complex and contentious topics, where varying viewpoints sometimes collide. However, it is in these constructive dialogues that I have not only expanded my understanding but also fostered a more holistic and nuanced approach to addressing the intricate conflict-related issues at hand.

Thus, I firmly believe that fostering interdisciplinary collaborations in the realm of academia is essential. It enables us to challenge and expand our perspectives and, more importantly, question the often rigid and dogmatic narratives and beliefs within our respective disciplines. This experience has reinforced my commitment to such collaborations and has strengthened my conviction that they are essential for advancing our understanding of complex issues. Once again, I extend my heartfelt gratitude to the DAAD and Johns Hopkins University for this extraordinary opportunity. It has been a privilege to be a part of this community of scholars, and I look forward to the continued exploration and innovation that this collaboration will undoubtedly inspire.

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