



## ACADEMIC ILLUMINATION IN A GLOOMY CITY

*Ever since I spent a couple of months during my school years in London, I have adored its rich cultural scene, often gloomy and misty weather, and the Brits' chic classical style. Coming back to London has therefore always been my dream. Being able to do so studying at one of the world's most renowned universities, the London School of Economics and Political Science, is pure bliss.*

*After finishing my law studies in Germany, I knew there was yet something more to the study of law. Leaving aside their own strengths, German universities rarely offer small group seminars on topics like Cyberlaw, Taxation of Wealth and Terrorism and the Rule of Law. Because the lecturers here take a broad and interdisciplinary approach, I am able to draw from my experiences as a student of General Studies at Leibniz Kolleg Tübingen and my study of legal history and philosophy at the University of Passau.*

*During the seminars, the international student body enriches legal discussions immensely because everyone brings their experiences from their own jurisdictions to the table. Teachers actually do bother getting to know their students on a personal level during coffee breaks before or after class, which promotes a great teaching atmosphere. In one course, we even took a trip to Paris to participate in an academic conference! LSE is also able to attract very high-profile speakers for talks available to the student body. Almost every day, you can meet leading people from politics, culture and business at public events. Indeed, I have trouble keeping up with all the interesting topics that are on offer. Due to all this, studying at LSE is a truly unique and rewarding experience, both academically and personally.*

*Even with the very demanding study programme, I enjoy trying out cosy pubs with my new friends from all over the world. Since my student hall is located just behind the Tate Modern, I have basically made it my living room. And whenever the buzz of the city gets too loud, the beautiful English countryside is only a short train-ride away.*

*For their support of my most enjoyable (study) year, I am truly thankful to the BCCG Foundation. I am surely trying to make the most out of it!*

**Sophie Westhof, Vellmar**  
*(currently London School of Economics)*