

When I graduated from the high school in 2006 I wasn't completely sure what I want to do next. Since graduating I have spent time travelling around the world. I had the opportunity to work in several countries gaining life experiences, which helped me to realize how the world really looks like. My travels have brought me to countries like the USA, Poland, the Czech Republic, the UK, Estonia, Finland and etc. Honestly, I wasn't surprised at what I saw and learned – the environmental welfare of the planet is tragic. Human activities have taken a heavy toll on nature. Many of Wildlife (both land and marine) species are threatened with extinction.

The oceans and seas are not just the places we take food and energy resources from, but also home for thousands of animal and plant species and the main source of Oxygen on Earth. Humans have destroyed much freshwater and coastal habitat, sacrificing clean water, flood control, and biodiversity in the process. Most oceanic communities have been damaged by overfishing, habitat destruction, pollution and global warming. These and many other impacts have highlighted the importance of understanding the marine ecosystems' function at all levels, from molecular to the global. That is why I think the conservation of the seas is absolutely requireable. It is these factors that have led to me developing a keen interest in Marine Biology.

I graduated from the Professional High School of Economics in Varna. In spite of my economic education I have always been interested in Science. My favourite subjects at school were Biology and Geography. I was born on the Black Sea coast and have an interest in and an appreciation for the importance of the preservation of our seas and their inhabitants. I have also been going swimming for about 10 years. The swimming has really changed my life. It taught me to be independent, ambitious and self-confident. I began to realize I can achieve anything if I work hard for it. During the swimming competitions I have taken part in, I met a lot of new friends from different countries, who helped me to learn new languages. Then my travels have stimulated me to improve my English, Spanish and Polish.

Last year I worked at a big fish company, which has a fish restaurant as well, in New Jersey, USA. This is probably the best place where you can see what the real consequences of the commercial fishing are. The work experiences that I gained there is very important to me, because it taught me to be more responsible to the natural resources and to respect the seas and their inhabitants. I chose to study Marine Biology, because one day I would like to play main role in the conservation of the seas. And if you ask me now what I would like to do in 10 years, my answer would be: I want to work for environmental organizations like United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN), World Wildlife Fund or the National Geographic Society, doing scientific researches or field work. I believe I will be very helpful in the field of Marine Biology, because I do really care what is going on with the Wildlife of the planet.

I chose to further my education at the United Kingdom, because I'm greatly impressed by its long history and academic traditions. I'm also attracted by the research opportunities, student exchange programmes and student support the British universities provide. I strongly believe obtaining a Degree in Marine Biology, offered at your university, would provide the perfect opportunity to further develop any knowledge and interest in this subject and eventually help me achieve my long term goal of a career in the field of Marine Biology.