Development and International Relations (DIR) is an intensive two-year (four semesters) Master’s program under the Study Board of International Affairs at Aalborg University, Denmark.

The Master’s program in Development and International Relations (DIR) aims at providing an interdisciplinary insight into studies of development and international relations from a social sciences’ perspective. DIR gives you the opportunity to become a dynamic practitioner in your field, whether your interests are strategic, managerial, policy-related, or all of the above. You will achieve knowledge about various theoretical approaches to the study of Development and International Relations, learn to analyse aspects of economic, cultural, political and social developments from an interdisciplinary perspective and benefit from the experience of working in an intercultural environment derived both from participation in the international degree programme at Aalborg University and from an internship.

ACADEMIC CONTENT

In the first semester at Development and International Relations at Aalborg University, students attend a wide range of lectures related to modern-day concerns in international relations. The second semester focuses predominantly on development problems, challenges and possibilities.

Third semester consists either of a study period within the field of development and international relations at a foreign university or an internship in an institution or organisation having an international relations or development dimension in its activities.

Finally each student writes a Master’s thesis the last fourth semester.

STUDY ABROAD

On the third semester, students choose between a minimum of 3 months internship in an international organisation in Denmark/abroad or a study period at a foreign university or research institution. Internship or studying abroad is arranged individually.
Both internship and studying abroad must be related to the field of development and international relations.

Your study period abroad must be at a university or research institution in collaboration with Aalborg University within the field of development and international relations. Students must apply for preliminary approval at the Faculty before departure.

Upon return, students must apply for credit transfer. In cooperation with their supervisor at Aalborg University and the university abroad, students must choose courses/seminars within the field of development studies and international relations in accordance with the courses/seminars in which they already have participated at Aalborg University.

**TRAINEESHIP**

On the third semester, students choose between a minimum of 3 months internship at an international organisation in Denmark/abroad or a study period at a foreign university or research institution. Internship or studying abroad is arranged individually. Both internship and studying abroad must be related to the field of development and international relations.

With regards to internships, Development and International Relations has formal connections with a range of organisations such as the various UN agencies, NGOs like CARE and IBIS, and also grassroots organisations, and we continue to increase our international partnership relations with host organisations around the globe.

**SPECIALISATIONS WITHIN DIR**

- Chinese Area Studies
- China and International Relations (7. og 8. semester in Aalborg, 9. og 10. semester in Beijing)
- Latin American Studies
- Global Refugee Studies (Copenhagen)
- Arctic Studies
- Global Gender Studies.

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**GROUP WORK - A VERY CONSTRUCTIVE EXPERIENCE**

"The group work offered me the chance to interact with people from different academic backgrounds and different countries. The experience was very constructive because I could learn a lot from the others and share my knowledge with them. Likewise, I have gained a lot in terms of interpersonal skills and taking responsibility. And last but not least, group work can lead to beautiful friendships."

_ COSMINA IONELA PULBERE, DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS_