THE BRUGES-NATOLIN UK EUROPEAN SCHOLARSHIPS FUND
The College of Europe
Established in 1949, the College of Europe in Bruges (Belgium) now with a second campus in Natolin (Poland, opened in 1992) is Europe’s oldest and most renowned centre of postgraduate European studies, each year bringing together more than 400 students from some 55 countries. Its postgraduate programmes in European law, politics, economics and international affairs last for one academic year and are taught – in English and in French – by leading practitioners and academics from around the world.

The College’s small size and vibrant residential life are unique and are central to its reputation. By living and working together, students from across Europe and beyond learn to appreciate the continent’s cultural and social diversity and gain broader perspectives beyond their own national experiences.

Although the College of Europe is sometimes described as the EU’s “finishing school”, post-Brexit it will no longer be possible for Britons to aspire to a career within the EU institutions. However, the College still offers students an in-depth understanding of European affairs as well as a privileged network of European leaders and policymakers, with former students occupying leading positions in politics, business and academia. Whatever the UK’s future relationship, the EU will remain pivotal to its future success and the UK will continue to need young people with a fundamental understanding of how the EU operates and with a strong network of contacts across Europe.

“A YEAR STUDying AT THE COLLEGE OF EUROPE IS A WONDERFUL EXPERIENCE. IT PROVIDES A SUPERB FOUNDATION FOR A CAREER WORKING ON EUROPEAN POLICY.”

The scholarships
Our scholarships, covering tuition fees only, help to fund talented applicants from the UK, keen to acquire the expertise necessary to pursue international careers, and notably careers related to UK-EU affairs, and who would otherwise have difficulty paying to study at the College of Europe.

The scholarships were initially established in memory of Sir Roy Denman, KCB, CMG (1924-2006), whose distinguished career with the British government and the European Commission was dedicated to developing a close relationship between the UK and the European Communities (later the EU). He is the author of two books: ‘Missed Chances, Britain & Europe in the Twentieth Century’ and ‘The Mandarin’s Tale’.

Scholarships have subsequently also been named for major donors to the Fund, including the Thomson family in memory of Lord Thomson (1921-2008) who served as one of Britain’s first European Commissioners, and Grace, his wife; and for Simon Nuttall, who worked for many years in the European Commission, and helped to develop the Common Foreign and Security Policy.
"THE COLLEGE OPENS DOORS TO VARIOUS INTERNATIONAL CAREERS, AND HONES THE SKILLS YOU NEED TO FLOURISH IN THEM.... THE CLICHÉ OF GETTING TO ‘LIVE EUROPE’ AT THE COLLEGE REALLY IS TRUE - IT IS A UNIQUE MELTING POT WHERE YOU WILL BE CHALLENGED BUT ARE SURE TO STUDY, LIVE AND LAUGH ALONGSIDE FRIENDS FOR LIFE.”

SOPHIE BUCKINGHAM / ALUMNA, BRUNAT SCHOLAR (2016-2017) (UK)

The Fund
The Bruges-Natolin UK European Scholarships Fund (Brunat) was created in 2010 after the British government stopped offering scholarships for the College of Europe other than to civil servants. Students from Scotland continue to be eligible for Scottish government scholarships and there are a handful of other scholarships awarded through the College.

The Fund hopes to provide at least four scholarships a year. College of Europe alumni and other concerned Europeans have already been extremely generous. But more is always required. Endowments, legacies and multi-annual donations are particularly welcome. If you believe that the maintenance of strong links with the EU depends on a depth of understanding of European law, politics and economics and you would like to help, further information is available at brunatscholars.org.uk or email: brunatscholars@gmail.com.
Application and selection procedure

Scholarships are available to applicants ordinarily resident in the UK who satisfy the academic criteria of the College of Europe. These include an ability to follow courses in both English and French (though fluent French is essential only for those wishing to specialise in law, and is less necessary on the Polish Natolin campus). Details can be found on the admissions pages of the College’s website, www.coleurope.eu.

Applicants from the UK whom the College short-lists are interviewed (usually in London in March) by the UK Selection Committee for the College which includes a Trustee of the Brunat Fund. Scholarships are offered to those successful candidates who, in the opinion of the Fund’s Trustees, are most deserving. Candidates should therefore be prepared to justify their need for such support.

Trustees
Prof Dame Helen Wallace › DBE, CMG, FBA (Chair)
Sir Brian Crowe › KCMG (Hon. Secretary)
Mrs Doreen Kinsler › (Hon. Treasurer)
Mr Anthony Cary › CMG
Lady (Moya) Denman
Miss Marie Louise Kinsler › QC
Mr Andrew Renshaw

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