

Job shadowing

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Do you sometimes have the impression you are being followed?



Well [Thomas Dudrap](#) press officer working for the Press Unit (DG COMM) got to choose his shadow: for two days it was to be Marta Skrobisz, a young official from Poland, a lawyer who works back home in the area of competition and consumer protection.

It's actually the first time a staff member of the EP is overseeing a participant in the Erasmus for public administration programme, EPA, although EPA participants have already visited the EP in the past.

Last week, the 9 February, in Strasbourg, we met the director of the [European Administrative School](#) (EAS), David Walker, who is responsible for the organisation of the EPA training programme. "EPA, he explained, is a series of two-week long traineeships. Currently we run four a year and they enable young officials from Member States to come and learn how the institutions work from the inside. So far it has been a pilot project, the result of an initiative by EP Vice-President Gianni Pittella".

David Walker added: "In the first four editions of the programme it was only possible to do job shadowing in the Commission. The EAS is a great believer in inter-institutional collaboration and we persuaded the Commission to open job shadowing to other institutions. Now we have one person doing it in the EP, three going to the Council and one to the Court of Justice".

To make it work in practice our colleague Erika Landi, head of the Professional Training Unit contacted Marjory Van Den Broeke, head of the Press Unit. Together they found Press Officer Thomas Dudrap to show Marta Skrobisz, the young official from Poland, the ins and outs of the EP.

We talked to Marta Skrobisz, here is what she had to say about her experience: "I work in the department of international relations and communication of the Office of Competition and Consumer Protection ([UOKIK](#)). This is why it was very interesting for me to follow the work of the Parliament's press service. I had the opportunity to meet up with an MEP, Andreas Schwab (EPP, DE) who is a member of the internal market and consumer protection committee. I found out more about the work of the committee and followed the debates of the February plenary session. I met nice and helpful people; the organisation of the job shadowing period was excellent. Thomas [Dudrap] did his best to show me as much of the EP as possible. It's hard to get back to normal work now! (laughter)".

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