



**ASIA HOUSE**

HOME OF BUSINESS – CULTURE – PEOPLE

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## Shining a Light on February

*Discover this month's highlights, updates, and cultural delights.*

As you may notice the rain gently tapping on the windows, we will shine a light on what has happened the last month at Asia House.

Dive into the festive spirit with Living Asia's second event, where Young Professionals connect and explore the essence of the Lunar New Year. Discover the impact EAC Foundation scholarships had on interns in Indonesia, gaining insights into the country's culture and business landscape. Don't miss the interview with Sebastian With, a recipient of the EAC Foundation scholarship, sharing his transformative experience at A.P. Møller-Maersk in Indonesia.

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## Lunar New Year Lights Up Asia House



Lunar New Year celebrations are upon us and the festive spirit is evident at Asia House. The Embassy of Vietnam set the stage for the festivities with a vibrant reception.

Lunar New Year, known as Tết in Vietnamese, holds significant importance in Vietnamese culture.

It marks a time when families come together to celebrate the onset of spring and express their best wishes for the upcoming year. Thank you to H.E. Ambassador Lương Thanh Nghị, Hoàng Minh, and the remaining embassy staff for an arrangement that gathered the Vietnamese community in Denmark for a festive day.

## Living Asia's Second Event

Per request from the Young Professionals, Asia House's youth network, Living Asia, organized their second event in honor of the Lunar New Year.



Attendees, including students, young professionals, and embassy representatives participated in a "(Asia) House of Dialogue" aimed at fostering connections. Following this, a presentation unfolded, shedding light on the Lunar New Year as a global phenomenon. The atmosphere in the house buzzed with activity as everyone savored a variety of Lunar New Year delicacies and visited the bubble tea station.



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## YPC Gears Up: Strategy Session Begins

Asia House's Young Professionals Council (YPC) convened for their second meeting ahead of the Living Asia event. The meeting took on a hybrid format, allowing some members to connect in person.

Throughout the session, participants delved into the ongoing initiatives of Living Asia and the Young Professionals Council. Asia House staff shared updates on the progress of the youth strategy, emphasizing its potential to transcend a mere event-centric approach.



The meeting featured the introduction of Honar, a recent addition to the Asia House team. Honar will play a pivotal role in shaping the youth strategy alongside the YPC.

During the session, YPC members had the opportunity to pinpoint three keywords that encapsulate the essence of Living Asia. They went with: **Networking, Exploring, and Talent.**

Here you can see five of the members of the YPC, from left to right: Tiarni, Bolette, Sarah, Mira, and Bingham.



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## Interns in Indonesia with the EAC Foundation Scholarship



The EAC Foundation, in collaboration with the Otto Mønsted Foundation, awarded five students a collective scholarship of DKK 25,000 each for their fall internships in Indonesia, fostering educational and professional growth.

These recipients of the scholarship had diverse internship opportunities in Indonesia, ranging from the Nordic Chamber of Commerce in Jakarta to A.P. Møller-Maersk, and other significant ventures. The scholarship not only provided financial support but also facilitated unique learning experiences that transcended cultural and professional boundaries.

The interns gained insights into Indonesia's economic landscape, responsible business practices, and the intricacies of trade relations. Furthermore, the students emphasized the cultural enrichment gained through interactions with local communities, exploration of Indonesia's diverse regions, and active engagement in social events.

Read an interview below with Sebastian With, where he shares about his experiences with Internship Abroad.

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## **Interview: Sebastian's Transformative Internship in Indonesia**

Sebastian With was a recipient of the scholarship awarded by the EAC Foundation and the Otto Mønsted Foundation. Currently enrolled at Copenhagen Business School, Sebastian spent the autumn semester of 2023 at A.P. Møller-Maersk's office in Indonesia.

*Can you tell about your decision to undertake an internship abroad In Indonesia?*



I needed a break from my studies and saw this internship as a fantastic opportunity to translate my theoretical knowledge into practical experience, expand my network, and gain insight into new cultures. My goal was to develop both personally and professionally, which was highly achieved.

*How was your experience as an intern at Maersk, and how did it contribute to your professional development?*

My experience at Maersk was extremely rewarding and developmental. I had the opportunity to actively participate in investment projects and support various new growth opportunities. This significantly contributed to my professional development by providing practical experience in extensive market research, investment initiatives, and product development.

*Can you share some challenges you encountered during the work?*

Before my internship, I had no previous experience working in a global organization. As a result, I faced a challenge at the beginning of the internship in achieving effective communication between different teams and navigating the complex structure of the organization. This required in-depth dialogue and adaptability.

*What is your advice for students considering participating in similar international internships?*

For students considering similar international internships, I would recommend the following:

1. Be open to cultural differences and be willing to learn and adapt.
2. Focus on communication and responsiveness to different perspectives.



3. Be proactive and take responsibility for your tasks and projects.
4. Build business and personal relationships and be active in expanding your network.
5. Be curious and strive to maximize your learning and understanding of the industry or field you are working in.

**Thank you Sebastian for sharing your valuable insights with us!**

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## **This Just in - Your Monthly Asia Insight**



**Did you know that in South Korea and Japan, it is the women who give chocolates to men on Valentine's Day?**

In Japan, the chocolate is called Giri-choco and can be given with no romantic intentions, even to male friends and colleagues.

On March 14, they celebrate White Day, where men reciprocate by pampering women with chocolates.

Interestingly, there's also Black Day in South Korea. On April 14, singles celebrate their independence and go out and eat black bean noodles.

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