

## Meet Matthew...

## Matthew grew up in North Shields. He graduated from Trevelyan College with a degree in Modern Languages. He is now employed by the EU in Brussels as Head of Office to an MEP.

"I found what I wanted to do during my year abroad, where I was very lucky to get an internship at a UN office in Rome. I realised I liked working in an international environment and working in politics. I also lived in Brussels on my year abroad and wanted to go back. It was my dream to work for the EU which meant a move to Brussels. I wouldn't have been confident to live abroad, and received a lot of support and encouragement to do so, thanks to Durham staff and students. Durham has an international reputation which is impressive on your CV, and knowing languages (as an English native speaker) marks you out from the crowd. I use my languages and knowledge of other countries daily at work.

I wouldn't be where I am now if I didn't have the opportunity to meet so many interesting people in college. I was President of the French Society and on the exec of Trevs Orchestra / Jazz. First of all it was lots of fun, but also prepared me for my career. I learnt things they can't teach you in lectures – putting on events and managing projects and budgets."



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