



Enrique Reyes Dominguez was born in the US to Mexican parents. After his family faced deportation, he grew up in the countryside of Mexico, in the state of Veracruz, where farming and cattle raising are the main forms of living. He lived along the corridor where the train from south Mexico runs up to the border with the US, *La Bestia*. This allowed him to be in touch since an early age with the obstacles migrants face when transiting through Mexico, searching for the *American dream*.

Although he lived a happy childhood among cows and goats, he soon realized the need to move out of his hometown to pursue higher education. At age 12, he decided to study in a boarding school on the other side of the country. After spending 5 years in a boarding school, he applied for college in Mexico. He majored in social anthropology at the University of Veracruz, becoming a first-generation college student.

While in college, he spent a semester abroad in Brazil at Universidade do Sul de Santa Catarina where he took some introductory courses to international relations and international law; these classes increased his interest for international relations. In addition, Enrique was part of Talentum MX, a program that reunites outstanding students from public and private universities in Mexico and prepare them to become leaders in their fields. Throughout this program, he got to spend a summer at the University of Pittsburg and Carnegie Mellon University learning about urban planning and social transformation.

He moved to the US after finishing college, which allowed him to further understand the need for better policies to improve living conditions for migrants and refugees. He also volunteered for different human rights and racial equality commissions in Minnesota as well as in different shelters helping newly arrived refugees.

These experiences altogether led Enrique to pursue a career in international relations. He saw the need for more human-oriented policies instead of politics-oriented ones. Enrique's background in anthropology will be an excellent tool to achieve it.

At SAIS, he plans to focus on migration and refugees and to prepare himself to pursue a career in the foreign service or to work at the UN.

Enrique is fluent in Spanish, English, Portuguese, Italian, and will be learning French with the help of SAIS' strong language department.