

When I reflect on my academic and professional journey, I realize that each step has been a brick in the foundation leading me to pursue legal studies. I have studied and worked in a variety of academic disciplines, beginning from a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration and English Linguistics at Hankuk University of Foreign Studies to my recent role as a Climate and ESG Research and Company Valuation Analyst at MSCI. It became clear to me through this path, that behind any meaningful change are legal professionals steering and executing it, especially within corporate governance, sustainability, and regulatory frameworks.

After graduating at the top of my class during my undergraduate studies, I continued my academic pursuit as a Fulbright Scholar at Columbia University's Quantitative Methods in Social Sciences (QMSS) program, where I honed my research methodologies. And the doctoral studies in finance at the University of Rochester broadened my understanding of the complexity involved in corporate governance and sustainability research.

It was the transition to the corporate sphere, in particular to MSCI's research department, which was instrumental in providing me with a unique perspective on the impact of legal infrastructures on business valuations and investment decisions. In my role, I was able to lay the foundation for an array of important contributions to the company valuation process, helping corporations to embrace a range of sustainable management practices. This profession provided me with the intriguing challenge of deciphering international legal regulations and standards, including those developed by the Sustainability Accounting Standards Board, Climate Disclosure Standards Board, and Global Reporting Initiative. I have found that these standards play a critical role in practically assessing the financially material risks and opportunities for businesses and the broader economy. A deeper understanding of the interplay of case law and these structures and applying the principles of law has

been integral to refining the counsel I offered to clients, corporate representatives, as well as policymakers, and governmental bodies.

Now, after more than three years in the corporate realm, I face a critical juncture in my career. While my analytical contributions have been significant, my ambition to directly impact the formulation and enforcement of corporate governance laws has become more compelling. As I contemplate my career, the recognition that legal professionals – legislators, regulators, and lawyers – have exerted the greatest influence over my professional trajectory further validates the decision to apply to law school.

I am convinced that acquiring a legal education will arm me with the essential skills to deeply engage with, interpret, and shape the legal frameworks that govern corporate regulations. The opportunity to join a community committed to fostering positive change through legal acumen is extraordinarily appealing. Upon admission to law school, I plan to specialize in international, labor, corporate, and environmental law, with a specific focus on corporate regulation. This specialization not only aligns with my academic and professional background but also offers a synergistic blend of legal and financial expertise. My goal is to collaborate with business school professors to delve into corporate sustainability, acknowledging the crucial nexus between legal expertise and sustainable business practices.

In essence, my desire to pursue legal studies is rooted in my belief in the transformative power that a legal education can have on corporate sustainability initiatives. I am interested in immersing myself in legal doctrine, specifically corporate regulations, in order to contribute to a more responsible and sustainable way of conducting business. This is not an exercise in simply personal growth but an effort to grow a more sustainable and equitable corporate landscape.