

## **Ruha Said**

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I am studying Radiology Nursing, a three-year bachelor program, at Lund University. In 2013, due to the war, I had to leave Damascus University only a month before completing my bachelor's degree in English literature. For several reasons, I now chose a program that has to do with medicine (totally different from my interests). The decisive factor was that I have very good chances to find a job in this field. This fact could improve my legal status in Sweden which is still provisory for a duration of 2 years only. Another reason is that I was very inspired by how the medical staff around the world fought and is still fighting the Covid-19 crises.



I have many plans for my future, but the reasonable steps are to first and foremost finish my studies and find a job which could help me change my temporary residency permit into a permanent one. Not knowing if I can stay in Sweden, where the rest of my family has found a permanent second home is a burden that accompanies me permanently. After securing myself legally and financially, I plan to go back to Greece as a volunteer for SAO and be able to help the people there, just like I did during my time on Lesvos.

I had the last exam of the third semester on January 14 and I'm starting my fourth semester soon. The third semester was divided in four parts (courses) and a practical period of two months in the hospital of Kristianstad. In this practical period, I was thought to take x-ray pictures and introduced to computed tomography. I finished all these courses with success and I'm looking forward to the fourth semester which is starting soon.

SAO has helped me a lot during my journey to Sweden, they were the first to find us when we landed on a deserted beach on the Greek island of Lesvos in March 2016, they provided us with shelter, food, clothes, and even legal help. Now I am a part of their amazing program, Back on Track. The program's name says a lot about it, SAO helps us get back on the road of education, provides us with a scholarship that covers our finance expenses and even legal issues.