



**Marius Wiggert, the 2018-2019
Joan and Egon von Kaschnitz Gateway Fellow
at International House, UC Berkeley**



After graduating high school, I self-organized and funded a travel through thirteen countries around the globe, getting involved into volunteering projects, a yoga and a martial arts school. These travels sparked a relentless fire in me to always search for and create an international, multicultural environment where everyone can learn from and be inspired by people and ideas from other cultures. Consequently, this led me to do multiple semesters abroad during my studies as well as internships on different continents, always aiming to learn from the culture I immersed myself in and build friendships.

I'm incredibly grateful that the Joan and Egon von Kaschnitz fellowship allows me to live at the International House which gives me the opportunity to further fuel this fire of international exchange and make friends with students from all over the world. I am especially excited to participate and organize cultural events, connect with others in the hallways and common areas and organize trips and activities together.

My academic interests developed from an intellectual curiosity about the working mechanisms of nature and how we can utilize them to develop powerful technologies. That's why I studied Engineering Science at the Technical University of Munich. Besides that I was always yearning for a deeper understanding of the world which drew me towards philosophical questions about the structures of our scientific, political and economic system. Following this passion I studied philosophy at the Ludwig-Maximilians University and wrote my Thesis on an "Ethical Assessment of Artificial Intelligence".

At Berkeley I will do my PhD in Robotics and Artificial Intelligence aiming to use the power of these technologies for the flourishing of society and each individual human being.



The Joan and Egon von Kaschnitz Gateway Fellowship was established in 2011, with the goal of supporting incoming international PhD. students with financial need, in any academic discipline.