

APPLY FOR THE



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YOUNG TRANSATLANTIC
INNOVATION LEADERS
INITIATIVE

AMERICAN
COUNCILS
FOR INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION



Ytili Fellowship Program in the U.S.

We are seeking young business or social entrepreneurs interested in participating in a U.S. Department of State-funded professional development exchange program in Fall 2024!

The **Young Transatlantic Innovation Leaders Initiative (Ytili) Fellowship Program** will engage a cohort of young European entrepreneurs in program activities to enhance the transatlantic dialogue between business leaders from Europe and the United States and create sustained cross-cultural collaboration.

Visit www.ytili.org to learn more and apply!

Applications are open until **January 30, 2024**.

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

The Young Transatlantic Innovation Leaders Initiative (Ytili) Fellowship Program is an opportunity for young European business professionals to expand their networks, gain perspective, and engage with the U.S. business sector to exchange innovative ideas and best practices.

The program includes a virtual component, a four-week Fellowship in the United States, and the opportunity for continued engagement after Fellows return home.



HOW WILL THE PROGRAM BENEFIT ME?

Each selected Ytili Fellow will:

- Partake in virtual leadership and professional development activities throughout the program.
- Be matched with a four week, full-time fellowship placement host in a U.S. organization focused on issues relating to the Fellow's work at home.
- Gain first-hand knowledge about U.S. business institutions and build relationships with American counterparts.
- Receive comprehensive on-program support. Travel and living arrangements will be covered as well as emergency health benefit on program.
- Become part of a prestigious alumni network with access to valuable resources and an international network of like-minded professionals.

ELIGIBILITY

To apply, you must:

- Be a mid-level professional, **25-35 years old**
- Be a citizen and current resident of Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Kosovo, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Moldova, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, North Macedonia, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russia, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Türkiye, Ukraine, or the United Kingdom
- Demonstrate proficiency in written and spoken English
- Have at least **two years relevant work experience** and be currently employed
- Have demonstrated **leadership** and collaborative skills



PROGRAM DATES

The Ytili Fellowship Program will be implemented using a hybrid model, with virtual activities leading up to an in-person, U.S.-based exchange. The U.S.-based portion of the exchange will take place for six weeks in Fall of 2024. Tentative dates are **September 17 - October 25, 2024**.

TO APPLY
and for more information,
visit www.ytili.org

The Ytili Fellowship Program is a program of the U.S. Department of State and is supported in its implementation by American Councils for International Education



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Frequently Asked Questions

What is the YTILI Fellowship Program? The YTILI Fellowship Program is the U.S. Department of State's flagship program for emerging entrepreneurs from Europe. Fellows are young (25-35 year-old) mid-level professionals who have active and innovative roles in their local business economy or entrepreneurial community. The Fellowship Program is administered in a hybrid format, with virtual activities preceding a four-week U.S. based exchange. For more information on the program, please visit www.ytili.org.

Do I need to pay for the program? What are the costs? If selected as a finalist, the U.S. Department of State will cover costs associated with your international travel, visa, and living costs in the U.S. There are no required costs to Fellows.

How do I apply? Apply online at www.ytili.org.

How are Fellows selected? Fellows are selected through a competitive nationwide search that involves a merit-based selection process. This includes an extensive written application and in-person interview. The selection of finalists is determined in collaboration with the U.S. Department of State.

How will I get a U.S. visa? American Councils will assist Fellows in applying for a J-1 visa. All visa fees will be covered through the program as well as travel costs to attend the visa interview. Fellows must be granted a J-1 visa by the consular section at the U.S. Embassy in order to be eligible to participate in YTILI. Failure to obtain a J-1 visa will result in termination from the program. American Councils will assist Fellows in the application process but holds no sway over visa granting decisions made by the U.S. Embassy.

Where will I live? In fall 2024, YTILI Fellows will be housed in corporate apartments, university housing, or extended stay hotels in their U.S. host communities.

How will my fellowship placement be assigned? Fellows will be placed in a non-profit, public, or private sector organization in the United States for the duration of the fellowship placement using information provided in your application, interview, and other materials.

What will I do at my fellowship placement? While at your U.S. fellowship placement, you will engage in a wide range of activities which may include joining projects, shadowing important meetings, conducting research, presenting on relevant topics, participating in office events, and many other activities. YTILI is a Fellow-driven experience. Fellows who are most successful set goals and objectives for the program in advance of their arrival and proactively share them with their U.S. placement host, along with information about their background and experiences at home.

What happens after the program? Upon completion of the program, Fellows are considered YTILI alumni and are eligible for further alumni programming and opportunities through the alumni network. The post-U.S. components are as important to the YTILI Fellowship Program as the U.S.-based components. **This includes implementation of follow-on Action Plans to address challenges encountered in Fellows' home communities.** Select Fellows may receive funding to implement their Action Plan or invite a U.S. placement host from their fellowship placement to implement a Reciprocal Exchange Project in the Fellow's country. Additionally, YTILI alumni will be eligible to participate in alumni activities.

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