



International Visitor Leadership Program



As the **foundational professional exchange program of the U.S. government**, the International Visitor Leadership Program (IVLP) advances U.S. national security priorities and builds long-term relationships between Americans and international leaders in government, business, academia, and other fields.

Since the launch of the program in 1940, **more than 500 IVLP exchange alumni have become heads of state or government**, including Margaret Thatcher, Anwar El-Sadat, and current Jamaican Prime Minister Andrew Holness.

Exchange alumni also include **12 Nobel Laureates, 1,600+ Cabinet Ministers, 1,000+ Members of Parliament, and numerous leaders in industry, science, and academia**.

These people are part of the IVLP exchange alumni network of more than 230,000 influential international leaders in a variety of fields who have experienced America up close, expanded professional networks, and formed meaningful relationships with Americans across the country.



IVLP Benefits the American People

Through the Global Ties Network, **the IVLP provided an 11:1 return on investment for U.S. local economies in the last reporting year**, benefiting businesses including the travel and hospitality industries of cities and towns across the United States.

International exchange programs strengthen American communities. IVLP exchanges boost global knowledge, skills, and connections that benefit U.S. businesses and workforces.

Showcasing America's Strength

The U.S. Department of State works with 75+ members of the Global Ties Network, **the largest citizen diplomacy network in the United States**, to build lasting connections between international leaders and Americans across the country. The Department also works closely with eight nonprofit organizations in Washington, D.C. to nationally implement and design IVLP exchanges.





International Visitor Leadership Program



IVLP Snapshot

Each year, the U.S. Department of State hosts over 400 IVLP exchanges, bringing about 4,000 foreign professionals to more than 115 U.S. communities to expand their understanding of American society, history, culture, innovation, and economic dynamism.

These exchanges, customized to reflect U.S. foreign policy and participant professional backgrounds, range from two days to three weeks. There is no application process for IVLP. Instead, participants are nominated by U.S. Embassies worldwide.

During their program, international visitor liaisons or language interpreters accompany IVLP participants. They also facilitate travel and help answer general questions about American society, history, and culture.

How Can Americans Get Involved?

For those who live in the United States, please visit the Global Ties U.S. website (www.GlobalTiesUS.org) for more information on how you can get involved in your community.

By sharing your ideas and perspectives with international leaders, you can help make America safer, stronger, and more prosperous while building a more peaceful world.

For media requests, please contact the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA) at
ECA-Press@state.gov.



IVLP Themes

- *America250*
- *Agriculture*
- *Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Emerging Technologies*
- *Combating Trafficking in Persons*
- *Countering Illegal Migration*
- *Cybersecurity*
- *Energy Security*
- *Entrepreneurship*
- *Free Speech*
- *National Security*
- *Preventing Drug Trafficking*
- *Rural Economic Development*
- *Safe Communities*
- *STEM Education*
- *Space Policy*
- *U.S. Foreign Policy*
- *U.S. History and Civics Education*
- *And More!*