Cultural Diplomacy in Europe: A Forum for Young Leaders (CDE)

The next CDE Weeklong Seminar will take place from July 4th – 10th, 2011

Cultural Diplomacy in Europe: A Forum for Young Leaders (CDE) is a network of young, influential people from across the world, who have an interest in exploring and strengthening relations between European States. The program is based on the recognition that the increasing economic and political integration of the European Union must be accompanied by sustained activity to ensure that public opinion and relations between individual member states, and between member-states and non members states, remain positive and constructive at the grass roots level.

Individuals can join the CDE Forum by taking part in one of the CDE Weeklong Seminars, which are held in Berlin every 4 months. Each CDE Weeklong Seminar will be focused on a specific theme related to Europe and the goals of the Forum. These Weeklong Seminars include lectures, seminars, and workshops lead by experts from the fields of politics, academia, and civil society, as well as cultural and social activities and provides an opportunity to network and experience Berlin.

Once they have joined the CDE Forum, members are supported by the ICD in organizing leadership initiatives, conducting academic research, and are invited to join the ICD Online Forum - enabling them to share information and communicate with likeminded individuals across the world.

Joining the Forum

Cultural Diplomacy in Europe: A Forum for Young Leaders (CDE) is open to all individuals with an interest in international affairs in general, and Europe in particular.

To join the forum you must take part in one of the CDE Weeklong Seminars, which will be held every 4 months in Berlin. The next CDE Weeklong Seminar will run from July 4th – 10th, 2011. If you would like to be considered for a place in the Weeklong Seminar please complete the online application form.

Weeklong Seminar - Program Agenda

The Forthcoming Weeklong Seminar for „Cultural Diplomacy in Europe: A Forum for Young Leaders“ (CDE) will take place in Berlin, July 4th – 10th, 2011. In addition to looking in greater detail at the history and development of cultural diplomacy, the next CDE Weeklong Seminar will focus in particular on the following theme

The EU as a Global Actor – „From the Inside Out: The Internal Development of the European Union and its Future Role in an Interdependent World“
The following issues will be mentioned and explored:

**The European Project: Enlargement, Integration, and Reform**

- **The Expansion of the European Union: Where, and When?**  
  (Focus: Turkey, the Balkans, Northern Africa, EU principles)

- **The Future of European Integration and Migration**  
  (Focus: Schengen, policy making, legal issues, EU budget, culture, the Lisbon Treaty)

- **Democratic Deficit: Myth or Reality?**  
  (Focus: The European Parliament, The European Commission, EU elections, National Governments and the EU)

- **The Euro and the Eurozone: Stability or Fragility?**  
  (Focus: Greece, Portugal, Germany, Euro-bonds, the IMF, Ireland)

- **The Future of Europe’s Economies**  
  (Focus: The service industry, information technology, manufacturing, economic interdependence)

- **The Challenges Ahead for Europe and the European Union**  
  (Focus: Religious extremism, far-right political parties, EU policy making, immigration)

- **The European Public Sphere: is Europeanization taking place?**  
  (Focus: communication, media’s role in building „the European identity”, national vs. EU interest, role of Russia)

**Europe’s Role as an International Political Player**

- **The Foreign Policy Innovations of the Lisbon Treaty**  
  (Focus: EU decision-making, the External Action Service, the High Representative)

- **Europe’s Approach to Political Instability in Northern Africa and the Middle East**  
  (Focus: The EU and NATO, political relations, humanitarian aid, democracy promotion)

- **The Challenges and Opportunities Ahead for the Transatlantic Relationship**  
  (Focus: NATO, Afghanistan and Central Asia, climate change, military intervention, UN reform)

- **Europe’s Responsibility in Preventing and Responding to Climate Change**  
  (Focus: Carbon offsetting, renewable energy, international regulation, pollution control)

- **Europe as Global Peacekeeper**  
  (Focus: Aid, peacekeeping, humanitarian intervention, the Capability of NATO and the UN)

- **Strengthening the Global Economy and Supporting Developing Countries**  
  (Focus: Free trade areas, the World Bank and the IMF, aid vs. trade, international investment)

**The Influence of Culture on Europe’s Foreign Policy and the Development of the EU**

- **Culture and European Integration**  
  (Focus: European cultural capitals, immigration and integration, Islam in Europe, European history)
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- The Application of Cultural Diplomacy in EU Foreign Policy
  (Focus: The External Action Service, national cultural institutions, academic exchange, innovation in cultural exchange)

- The Role of Soft and Normative Power in European Foreign Policy
  (Focus: Hard, smart, and soft power; national branding; human rights; democracy promotion)

- Nation Branding and the Benefits of a Positive International Image
  (Focus: History and development of nation branding, tourism, investment, soft power)

Joining the Forum
Cultural Diplomacy in Europe: A Forum for Young Leaders (CDE) is open to all individuals with an interest in Europe and its role in the world. Individuals join the Forum by taking part in one of the CDE Weeklong Seminars, which are held regularly in Berlin.

The Benefits of CDE Weeklong Seminar

CDE Weeklong Seminars offer participants the following:

New Perspectives

Each Weeklong Seminar will feature lectures, seminars, and workshops lead by experts from the fields of politics, economics, academia, civil society, and the private sector. These components will give participants the opportunity to discuss salient issues with high-profile figures, and each other, and gain fresh perspectives on the topics in focus.

Networking

Program participants will have the opportunity throughout the course of the Weeklong Seminar to develop relationships with each other, with the program speakers, and with the ICD staff, helping to create a personal network of like-minded individuals for their future careers.

Experience Berlin

During the program participants will have the chance to experience Berlin’s diverse cultural landscape and learn more about the city’s remarkable history. The ICD will take the groups to a number of important political and cultural locations across the city and ensure they are able to sample the city that never sleeps.

Certification

All participants are presented with a certificate upon completion of the program, confirming their involvement and welcoming them to the CDE Forum.
The Advantages of Joining the CDE Forum

Once individuals have taken part in a CDE Weeklong Seminar and joined the CDE Forum they will have support in the following areas:

Leadership Initiatives

Program participants are encouraged to organize their own “leadership initiatives” after the program, which can help to spread the principles of cultural diplomacy much further. The ICD is able to support Forum members in the areas of research, marketing, event management, and audio-visual documentation, as well as general guidance.

Academic Research

Forum members are supported by the ICD in conducting research studies into issues relating to the Forum. The ICD offers guidance in the preparation of research proposals and is able to publish studies completed to a large, international audience through the ICD website.

Networking

Once individuals join the Forum they are invited to join the ICD Online Forum. This Forum represents the perfect location to network and share information on job and internship opportunities, related events, reunions, and to gain support for your leadership initiative.

Every 4 months the ICD will organize a Weeklong Seminar, which offers individuals the opportunity to join CDE by participating in a 5/6-day program in Berlin.

Seminar Methodology

CDE Weeklong Seminars are weeklong inter-disciplinary programs that including the following components:

Lectures

A range of lectures will be held by experts from the fields of politics, economics, diplomacy, academia, civil society, and the private sector. These components will inform the participants about key perspectives related to the themes of the Weeklong Seminar, raise their awareness of other salient issues in Europe, and introduce them to the field of cultural diplomacy. Each lecture will be followed by a question and answer session with the speaker.

Workshops

The timetable of each Weeklong Seminar will include interactive workshops that offer participants the opportunity to take part in structured discussions on subjects related to the Seminar themes. Workshops provide a valuable counterbalance to lectures by providing an opportunity for participants to express their own opinions and learn from each other.
Social and Cultural Activities

Each Weeklong Seminar will include social and cultural activities for the participants. These components give participants the opportunity to see a different side to the city of Berlin, help to provide a more informal environment for the participants to get to know each other, and allow the participants to see cultural exchange initiatives that are already being organized.

CDE Leadership Initiatives

Leadership initiatives are cultural exchange initiatives organized by members of ICD Forums with the support of the ICD.

These initiatives are the foundation of the ICD’s work, because they allow the principles of cultural diplomacy to be spread further than the members of the Forum. At the beginning of the CDE Weeklong Seminar participants will be given guidance on how to plan, develop, and execute leadership initiatives that have a constructive, sustainable influence on intercultural relations. The ICD will also outline how it can help to support the realisation of these initiatives through its network and resources.

During the week participants will have the opportunity to develop and discuss leadership initiatives with each other and present them to the other members of the group and the ICD for feedback.

Seminar Location: Why Berlin?

Berlin represents the ideal location for the CDE Weeklong Seminars due to its position as capital city of Europe’s largest economy, its large and vibrant international community, and the vast array of resources to learn from and be inspired by. Politicians, businessmen, and artists live side-by-side, cultures from all over the world communicate and work with each other in their daily lives, and the defiant traces of socialism in the former East Berlin are just a short train journey from the dazzling skyscrapers of Potsdamer Platz.

During the program participants will have the opportunity to visit remaining segments of the Berlin Wall including the famous East Side Gallery, see Berlin’s historic political institutions the Reichstag and the German Foreign Office, and visit other historic buildings and locations across Berlin including the TV Tower, the Brandenburg Gate, Berlin’s famous artistic district, and Berlin’s Kreuzberg district.

As the capital city of Europe’s largest economy, the home of three prestigious universities, and a city bubbling with diverse culture and art, Berlin has lots to offer the participants, who will be given the opportunity to take advantage of this unique city.
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German Foreign Office (Auswärtiges Amt)

Few buildings have experienced Berlin’s turbulent history to the extent of the German Foreign Ministry. Built between 1934 and 1940 as an extension of the German Reichsbank, the building was used by the National Socialists to formulate economic policy and the financing of the Second World War. More recently, it was here that the treaty for the reunification of Germany was signed. Although the building has been modernised and expanded, care has been taken to preserve its character and unique history.

European House Berlin

Berlin’s European House is located in the heart of the city, on the famous boulevard Unter den Linden. The building is situated opposite the Adalon, one of the world’s most exclusive hotels, and a short walk from Pariser Platz, the Brandenburg Gate, and the Reichstag. The location is home to the European Commission representation in Germany.

Berlin City Hall

Located in the heart of East Berlin, close to the TV Tower and a short walk from the famous Unter den Linden Boulevard, Berlin’s City Hall is an impressive building. Home to the Berlin Senate and the offices of the Berlin Mayor, the „Red“ City Hall has been in use since 1869 and holds a unique place in the city’s history.

German Parliament

The seat of the German Parliament, the Reichstag, is closely linked to the modern history of Berlin. Burnt down under suspicious circumstances in 1933, stranded in No-Man’s Land during the Cold War, and then “unwrapped” as the home of the German Parliament once again in 1995.

The glass dome on the roof of the building, designed by British architect Sir Norman Foster, symbolizes the transparency of modern German government institutions.
The House of World Cultures

The House of World Cultures is a leading centre for the contemporary arts and a venue for projects breaking through artistic boundaries.

The House of World Cultures has set itself the task of presenting non-European cultures through their fine arts, theatre, music, literature, film and the media and engaging them in a public discourse with European cultures.

The House of World Cultures’ program focuses on the contemporary arts and current developments in the cultures of Africa, Asia and Latin America as well as on the artistic and cultural consequences of globalization. It gives priority to projects that explore the possibilities of both intercultural co-operation and its presentation.

Berlin Theatre on Kurfürstendamm

Opened on 8th October 1921, The Theatre am Kurfürstendamm is an important cultural venue in the heart of West Berlin. Badly damaged during the Second World War, the theatre was rebuilt in 1946 and reopened the following year.

Since then it has housed performances starring some of Germany’s most revered actors and is one of the best-known and most well-respected private theatres in the country.

ICD House for Arts & Culture

The ICD House of Arts & Culture (ICD House) is a multi-purpose location that has been designed to support Berlin’s civil society and the city’s diverse cultural communities by providing a platform for their activities.

Run by the Institute for Cultural Diplomacy, its purpose is to raise awareness of and celebrate the city’s cultural diversity amongst the general public as well as providing a forum for discussion on salient political and cultural issues from across the world.