



icd - institute for cultural diplomacy



YOUNG LEADERS FORUMS^{icd}

The Institute for Cultural Diplomacy

ICD Young Leaders' Forums





Participants of the ICD Young Leaders' Forum



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ICD Young Leaders' Forums

Welcome

■ Welcome to the ICD Young Leaders Forums

The Institute for Cultural Diplomacy's Young Leaders Forums are international networks of like-minded individuals who share an interest in strengthening intercultural relations within a region or country, or between particular regions or countries. The ICD's first young leader's forum was developed in 2003 and aimed to improve relations between Canada and Germany. Over the last decade we have developed a broad range of forums focusing on diverse bi- and multi-lateral relationships within and between Africa, Asia, Europe, North and South America. Through these programs the ICD has become one of Europe's largest independent cultural exchange organizations, bringing together stakeholders from diverse cultural, academic, and professional backgrounds.

The ICD has developed these Young Leaders Forums to bring together future leaders in politics, civil society, and the private sector, as well as other interested stakeholders. Each forum organizes regular Weeklong Seminars; academic and cultural programs that provide participants with an opportunity to network with one another, learn more about the region or relationship in focus, explore the increasing importance of cultural diplomacy, and discuss how they can organize their own activity to support the forum goals. Individuals join a Young Leaders Forum by taking part in one of these Weeklong Seminars.

The overall goal of the ICD Young Leaders Forums is to provide a platform for the leaders of tomorrow to expand their personal networks and, by supporting them in the organization of leadership initiatives, help them become activists and ambassadors for stronger intercultural relations.

The Aims of the Forums Are:

- To foster international networks of likeminded individuals who have an interest in supporting and strengthening intercultural relations within or between the countries or regions in focus.
- To give forum members a greater awareness of the history, development, and future of the field of cultural diplomacy and its application to the relationship or region in focus.
- To offer forum members access to a range of informed perspectives and insights on cultural, political, and economic issues in the relationship or region in focus.
- To support forum members with the organization of their own cultural exchange programs, known as leadership initiatives, that serve to strengthen intercultural relations at the local, national, and international levels.



ICD Young Leaders' Forums

Joining A Forum

■ Joining a Forum

The principal focus of the ICD Young Leader's Forum is to develop a network of young leaders with an interest in developing, supporting and sustaining intercultural relations.

As an independently developed and organized program, the YLF offers a unique opportunity for individuals, institutions, organizations and companies and their aspiring leaders to come together and foster intercultural relations. This in turn will develop a wider understanding of intercultural issues, and promote personal global peace and stability.

Forum Objectives

- To establish a long-term, interdisciplinary network of young leaders that contributes on both a professional and personal level to dialogue and exchange between nations, communities and groups.
- To educate, enhance, and sustain intercultural relationship through the empowerment of the participants.
- To strengthen professional, economic, cultural, political, and scientific cooperation through close personal and professional relationships.
- To provide the participants with fresh insights and new perspectives to deepen their understanding of the economic, political, cultural, religious, and social frameworks of intercultural relations.
- To support valuable contributions to civil society through „Leadership Initiatives“ that the young leaders will organize as part of the program.

To join a forum you must take part in one of the Weeklong Seminars which will be held during the year.

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

Networking (More »)

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.



ICD Young Leaders' Forums

Joining A Forum

Leadership Initiatives (More »)

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 (More »)

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.





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ICD Young Leaders' Forums

Forums List

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The ICD runs the following Young Leaders Forums:

European Young Leaders Forums

-  Cultural Diplomacy in Europe www.icd-europe.org
-  The United States Meets Europe www.icd-usame.org
-  Europe Meets Latin America www.icd-emla.org
-  Europe Meets Russia www.icd-emr.org
-  Europe meets China www.icd-emc.org

Asia

-  Cultural Diplomacy in East Asia www.icd-cdea.org

Africa

-  Cultural Diplomacy in Africa www.icd-africa.org

Thematic Forums

-  Cultural Diplomacy in the Global Economy www.icd-cdec.org
-  Art as Cultural Diplomacy [www. icd-artasculturaldiplomacy.org](http://www.icd-artasculturaldiplomacy.org)

Cultural Bridges in Germany

-  Cultural Bridges in Germany www.kulturbruecken.de
-  Italy Meets Germany www.icd-img.org
-  The UK Meets Germany www.ukmeetsgermany.org
-  Canada Meets Germany www.canadameetsgermany.org
-  Germany Meets Turkey www.germanymeetsturkey.org
-  Germany meets Slovenia www.germanymeetsslovenia.org
-  Germany Meets Greece www.icd-gmg.org
-  Germany Meets Morocco www.icd-gmm.org





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ICD Young Leaders' Forums About the Weeklong Seminars

■ About the Weeklong Seminars

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

The Weeklong Seminar is an international and interdisciplinary gathering of students, young professionals, and cultural practitioners from across the world. The seminar provides an excellent opportunity for young people to expand their knowledge of current and future developments in these fields, meet with current and former key players and build sustainable networks with each other, and experience the rich and diverse cultural life of the city of Brussels.

The program will consist of speeches, panel discussions and seminars held by leading figures from the fields of politics, economics, diplomacy, academia, civil society, and the private sector. Speakers will offer a range of perspectives on current and conceptual issues within an international context, and the current and future potential of the European-Russian relationship.

In addition to the academic components, participants will take part in a range of social and cultural activities that will allow them to experience Brussel's unique cultural landscape. These activities will include group dinners and drinks, trips to artistic performances, concerts, and literary readings, and visits to important cultural and artistic landmarks.

Certificate of Attendance - All weeklong seminar participants will be awarded an official certificate of attendance upon completion of the program, which will provide details of the speakers who took part and the topics discussed. Each certificate will be signed by members of the ICD's Advisory Board (The ICD Advisory Board list can be found [\(here\)](#)).

Seminar Methodology

The Weeklong Seminars are weeklong interdisciplinary programs that include the following components:

Lectures & Discussions - 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 Russia, and introduce them to the field of cultural diplomacy. Each lecture will be followed by a question and answer session with the speaker.

EUROPASAAL



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ICD Young Leaders' Forums About the Weeklong Seminars

Workshops & Role play - 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.

Round Table Discussions and Debates - These discussions offer a more intimate setting for speakers and participants to converse and debate openly. They also allow the participants to interact more directly with the speakers and their fellow participants in a more neutral, equal, and interactive manner. Not only are participants able to pose questions to the speakers in these discussions, but the speakers may also pose questions to the participants, all while enjoying a more comfortable, informal, and interactive setting.

Group Visits - During the ICD events, participants are able to see the cities from a different perspective.

They will be able to experience all that Brussels has to offer, as well as partake in visits to top Brussels organizations, including: the Foreign Office, European House, the Olympic Stadium, City Hall and various embassies throughout the city.

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 beyond the members of the Forum. At the beginning of the 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 participants will then have the opportunity to present their projects to the group at the end of the weeklong seminar. In addition, the ICD will outline how it can help to support the realization of these initiatives through its network and resources.

Experience Brussels - During the program participants will have the chance to experience Brussels' 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 cities and ensure they are able to sample the city that never sleeps.



ICD Young Leaders' Forums

About the Weeklong Seminars

Networking, 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 of the city, helping to provide a more informal environment for the participants to get to know each other, and allowing the participants to see cultural exchange initiatives that are already being organized. The ICD offers an expansive social agenda including: interactive panel discussions, roundtable discussions, workshops, debates, parties, film nights, conference concerts, embassy receptions, group dinners, and visits to cultural and historical sites:

Embassy Receptions - The ICD partners with embassies for every conference in order to offer evening receptions as well as lectures and events during the day. These receptions are held both at the ICD House, when in Berlin, and at various embassies, and offer the opportunity to network with foreign diplomats. Participants are able to fully immerse themselves in the culture of the host embassy through the traditional song and dance performances, traditional cuisine, and a uniquely international atmosphere.

Film Nights - In addition to running a weekly Film Night the Institute for Cultural Diplomacy often invites representatives of the film industry to participate in events. These individuals are then able to share their expertise and productions with the audience. It is through these Film Nights which the participants are able to visually and acoustically experience the cultures of others.

Conference Concerts - Conference Concerts are a way for participants to experience the culture and art of foreign countries. In the past, the ICD has sponsored world-renowned performers who have shared their artistic mediums and talents with the audience. These concerts vary in nature, and include: traditional dance, interpretive dance, violin concerts, choir performances, piano concertos, symphonies, hip hop and jazz performances, and more.

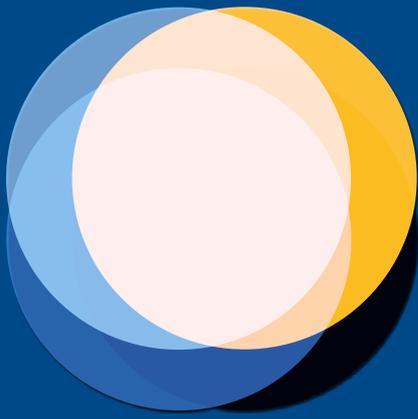
Group Dinners - Conference participants are able to dine with fellow participants and speakers at a wide assortment of restaurants, where they are exposed to new and exotic cuisines, including: German, British, Greek, French, Russian, Italian, Oriental, Baltic, African, Indian, Turkish, Latin American, Spanish, Mediterranean, Caribbean, and more.

Parties - The ICD hosts a large number of parties in different indoor and outdoor locations each year, to which all the conference participants are invited. These parties include themed evenings, embassy receptions, cultural celebrations, language exchanges, historical commemorations, film nights, conference concerts, boat parties and more. Each of these events allows the ICD participants to casually interact with fellow participants and speakers in a more relaxed and informal manner, as well as meet others from the international community.





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