

Visiting Fellowships in the U.S. for European Journalists

The goal of the Transatlantic Media Fellowship program is to promote excellence in transatlantic media coverage, and mutual understanding between Europeans and Americans, by allowing select European journalists to spend three months visiting widely differing areas of the United States. Fellows will usually spend around two weeks in Washington, D.C. and then travel to various locations throughout the United States, in order to gain firsthand experience of the United States and of a broad range of American values and opinions.

Transatlantic Media Fellows will be provided with office facilities in Washington, D.C. by the Center for Strategic & International Studies (CSIS), home of the Transatlantic Media Network (TMN), the organizer and administrator of the fellowship program. Fellows will be granted similar facilities by schools of journalism in other parts of the United States.

Expenses will be covered by TMN, which receives funding from independent private foundations in the United States and Europe. The program covers round-trip economy class air travel from Europe to the United States, travel within the United States, the cost of accommodation, and other related expenses.

The aim is not to enable journalists to engage in daily coverage of events, such as the presidential election campaign, but to help them gain insights into the diverse attitudes of Americans, including ordinary Americans and their families, and the way these attitudes influence the formation of U.S. social and political viewpoints, and domestic and foreign policies. Arrangements will be made for fellows to stay with American families at certain points in their visits, if so desired.

Fellows will be expected to produce articles or broadcast reports while in the United States, and partner organizations will help with advice and local contacts if requested. There will be no effort to influence the conclusions drawn by the visiting journalists or the manner of their reporting.

A key aspect of the program is the independence it offers participants to draw their own conclusions about the United States on the basis of wide-ranging, on-the-spot investigations. The program gives journalists the chance, and the time, to research reports and features on different aspects of the United States, including political, economic, business, and social trends that are not normally covered in depth in the European media.

Fellows may also be asked to give talks to U.S. journalism students at their host organizations. On their return to Europe, they will be invited to become part of an expanding TMN network of journalists with an interest in U.S., European, and transatlantic issues.

Fellowships are offered on an individual basis and may be applied for at any time. Candidates are asked to explain what they hope to achieve from their visits to the United States, the main themes they would like to pursue and the general kind of reporting they wish to undertake during a phone interview. Candidates may come from any European country, must speak fluent English, hold a valid driver's license, and will preferably work for an influential media outlet at a national or regional level. Fellowships will usually be awarded to journalists with little previous direct experience in the United States. TMN reserves the right to terminate fellowships at any time if it considers a fellow to have behaved in an inappropriate manner or failed to conform to the high standards and goals of the program.

The Transatlantic Media Network is directed by Reginald Dale, a former senior editor, commentator, and foreign correspondent for the *Financial Times* and the *International Herald Tribune*, and a former president of the Organization of European Journalists in Brussels. For more information, please contact Sarah Bellotti at sbellotti@csis.org or +1.202.775.3226.