

Transatlantic Leadership Seminar on Education and Workforce Development

Berlin, Amsterdam, and Tallinn

November 10th to 17th, 2019

Thematic Agenda

Please note that the agenda is still subject to change.

Transformative change on both sides of the Atlantic is generating calls to "future proof" education so as to provide today's youth with the skills to succeed tomorrow.

Technological advances are also radically transforming the way we perceive reality and engage with fellow citizens, renewing calls for new forms of civic education.

The 2019 Transatlantic Leadership Seminar on Education and Workforce Development will take a cohort of 20 to 25 leaders from Europe and the United States to Berlin, Amsterdam, and Tallinn to explore growing trends surrounding education, accessibility, and reform.

Participants will have a unique opportunity to engage with more than 40 leaders in intimate, frank, and open conversations and leave the program with new strategies and practices to strengthen competitiveness and democracy in their communities.

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Act I - Vocation

Day 1 to 3

The program will begin in the city of Berlin, which as the capital of the Federal Republic of Germany, stands at the apex of an economic and educational system that brings together government officials, employers, and employees to successfully meet the demands of an advanced economy. Our program in Berlin will focus on the contemporary priorities of this system, the ways these priorities are being met, and the educational practices that account for the exceptional competitiveness of the Germany economy, both with regard to its high-quality products and near full employment. Special attention will be given to Germany's secondary system of education which channels talent early towards academic or vocational training - the advantages of this system, its consequences for minorities and lower social strata, and its ability to adjust to the demands of the fourth industrial revolution and new forms of work.

Act II - Inclusion

Day 3 to 5

The program will continue in Amsterdam, the capital of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, which for the last fifty years has been experiencing successive waves of immigration, so much so that today, more than 60 percent of the city's primary school children are of immigrant background. Our program in Amsterdam will explore a whole range of inclusion initiatives, such as pipelines to assist minorities in making appropriate educational choices and smooth their transition into the workforce. The program will also focus on highly successful initiatives to provide teachers with expertise to deal with contemporary challenges of discrimination and extremism, as well as a cluster of innovative efforts to facilitate life-long civic education and produce an active and informed citizenry.

Act III - Digitalization

Day 5 to 7

Our seven-day program will end in Tallinn, the capital of the highly dynamic Baltic republic of Estonia, where nearly three decades ago, the national government launched a bold and ambitious reform effort to create the world's first digital society. Through a range of e-Estonia investments, successive governments have seen through a full introduction of digital infrastructure in the educational system and digitalization of citizenship and government services, making Estonia a hub of digital innovation and business in Europe. Our program in Tallinn will focus on these and other accomplishments, as well as Estonia's contemporary efforts to introduce a fully digital education and export its best practices worldwide. The program in Estonia will also deal with the downside of technology and its corrosive impact on civic rights and liberties.

GMF's Transatlantic Leadership Seminar enables leaders from business, government, and civil society to stay at the forefront of trends in the 21st century. Each rendition lasts seven to nine days, is expert led, and takes place in a region experiencing rapid change. Participants engage with more than 40 leaders in open, frank, and dynamic conversations, and benefit from firsthand experience and group reflection. The Seminars rely on GMF's extensive network of partners and 40-plus years of strategic convening to offer programs of the highest quality.

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Previous seminars examined the interrelation of leadership, faith and power in Rome, Istanbul, and London in 2018; the future of global engagement in California and Mexico in 2017; strategies for recovery from austerity in Greece and Italy in 2015; developments in global north-south cooperation in France and Morocco in 2014; and post-conflict reconciliation and reform in Bosnia, Croatia, and Serbia in 2013.

Transatlantic Leadership Seminars are exclusive to members of GMF's transatlantic leadership network, which includes alumni of the following programs: the **Marshall Memorial Fellowship**, **Manfred Wörner Seminar**, **Transatlantic Inclusion Leaders Network**, Asmus Policy Entrepreneurs Fellowship, APSA Congressional Fellowship, and New Länder Fellowship.