

MARSHALL SEMINAR BUCHAREST

A decorative graphic consisting of several horizontal bars in dark teal and olive green, connected by vertical lines with circular nodes. The top bar is dark teal and contains the title. Below it is an olive green bar with the topic. Then a dark teal bar with the dates. Below that is another olive green bar with the location. The graphic is composed of several horizontal bars of varying colors (dark teal and olive green) and vertical lines with circular nodes connecting them, creating a stylized, abstract structure.

Democracy and its Future

April 6-8, 2016

Bucharest, Romania

G | M | F The German Marshall Fund
of the United States

STRENGTHENING TRANSATLANTIC COOPERATION

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WELCOME

The German Marshall Fund of the United States (GMF) warmly welcomes you to the Marshall Seminar on Democracy and its Future.

This fourth installment in GMF's Marshall Seminar series will provide you with a unique opportunity to engage civic-minded leaders on trends impacting democracies in the transatlantic region. Through panel discussions, workshops, and focused alumni interactions, we hope to provide you with a forum to discover new ideas and strategies, and to forge coalitions for the benefit of strengthening the transatlantic community.



Since 2013, Marshall Seminars have convened and mobilized GMF's smart power alumni network around critical transatlantic issues. In Washington, DC, participants examined U.S. foreign policy through the lens of diversity and inclusion. In Berlin, our focus was on innovation and economic inclusion. And most recently, in Brussels, we examined new and emerging threats to global security. GMF will continue to build upon these activities to facilitate engaging dialogue and effective policymaking. In the process, GMF will leverage more than 40 years of organizational experience to provide content of the highest quality.

The Marshall Seminar on Democracy and its Future will explore issues related to populism, rising inequality, money in politics, and how new media impacts democracy. The program will also explore solutions to strengthen democracy, through online activism, enhanced social entrepreneurship, and concrete programs to counteract social fragmentation.

The Marshall Seminar in Bucharest will also bring together GMF alumni and grantees. It is our firm belief that the exchange between these two networks will enliven the seminar's conversations.

At the heart of all of our programs is the underlying goal of strengthening the transatlantic relationship. I am confident that the seminar will inspire, motivate, and prepare you to tackle the issues our societies face and to apply lessons from the seminar to your own spheres of influence. I thank you for joining the seminar, enriching the discussions with your full engagement, and continuing to shape the trends that will drive positive change in Europe and the United States.

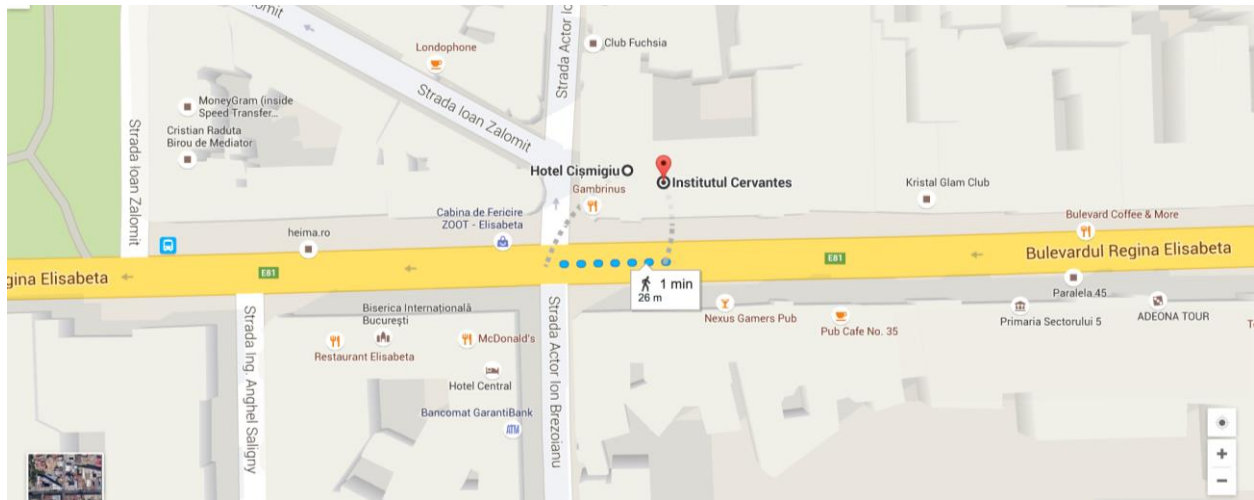
With best regards,

Kevin Cottrell

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kevin Cottrell', written in a cursive style.

Director, Transatlantic Leadership Initiatives
The German Marshall Fund of the United States

HOTEL INFORMATION



Please refer to previous correspondence with GMF regarding your hotel accommodations.

Arrival and Departure: You will be responsible for covering the expense of your ground transportation to and from the airport to the hotel, unless communicated otherwise by GMF. On-demand taxi services are available at Bucharest Henri Coandă International Airport. You may order a taxi car by using the touch screen devices in the public area of the Arrivals Terminal (right after you exit the baggage claim area). Passengers board the taxi-cabs right outside the terminal, on the first floor, by showing the ticket issued by the automatic touch screen.

The charges vary between 1.39 – 3.50 Romanian New Lei (RON)/km, and the trip to the hotel will cost approximately 35 lei, or approximately \$9.00.

***For Romanian participants: For security purposes, please come to Hotel Cișmigiu on April 7, do not go straight to the Parliament. Otherwise, you will not be able to gain access inside.**

[Hotel Cișmigiu](#)

Bulevardul Regina Elisabeta 38
București 050017, Romania
+40 31 403 0500

[Hotel Central](#)

Strada Actor Ion Brezoianu 13
București 050022, Romania
+40 21 315 5635

BACKGROUND INFORMATION – ROMANIA

Country Profile

In 1877, Romania declared independence from the Ottoman Empire, and enjoyed relative stability until World War I. Transylvania unified with Romania during the interwar period. The popularity of Fascist, anti-Semitic parties led to the replacement of the country's nascent democracy with the authoritarian rule of King Carol II and a Nazi puppet state during World War II. The return of lost territory under *de facto* Soviet occupation led to increased membership in the once-insignificant Communist Party. For 40 years, Romania was under Communist rule under Nikolai Ceausescu. The regime was overthrown over the course of a single week in 1989, and the country adopted a democratic constitution in 1991.



The 1991 Constitution established a bicameral legislature. Both the Chamber of Deputies (the lower house) and the Senate are elected for four year terms based on proportional representation within each county. Every five years, Romanian voters elect a president who officially has the power to declare martial law and appoints the prime minister and cabinet. However, most presidential decrees require the approval of both parliament and the prime minister. Below the national government, there are 41 *judet* (counties) that have an appointed prefect and an elected mayor. Romania joined NATO in 2004 and the European Union in 2007. Despite the transition to democracy, corruption is still a major issue, and Romania is one of two member states closely monitored by the EU as a result.

After World War II, the Communist government heavily expanded industrial production through price fixing and collectivization policies that drastically reduced incentives for farm workers to stay in agriculture. Economic integration with the Soviet Union provided export markets for Romanian products. Production became stagnant by the 1980s as Ceausescu adhered to Stalinist policies. Following the transition to democracy, the Romanian government remained cautious in the privatization of state industries as most Romanian citizens had very little capital to invest. In the early 2000s, Romania began to attract large amounts of foreign investment. Between 2002 and 2008, GDP quadrupled, and Bucharest became a regional financial center. However, the economy was severely hit by the financial crisis. Since accepting a \$20 billion IMF loan, the government reduced public sector wages, increased the VAT, and cut thousands of government jobs. Today, the effects of the financial crisis remain a key area of debate.

Country Data

Geography

Area: 238,391 sq km

Cities: *Capital of Romania* – Bucharest (2011) (1.88 million), *Other cities* – Cluj-Napoca (2011) (324,576), Timișoara (2011) (317,660),

Terrain: Central Transylvanian Basin is separated from the Moldavian Plateau on the east by the Eastern Carpathian Mountains and separated from the Walachian Plain on the south by the Transylvanian Alps

Climate: Temperate; cold, cloudy winters with frequent snow and fog; sunny summers with frequent showers and thunderstorms



People

Population (July 2015): 21,666,350

Population growth rate (2015 est.): -0.3%

Median age (2015 est.): 40.2 years

Ethnic groups: Romanian 83.4%, Hungarian 6.1%, Roma 3.1%, Ukrainian 0.3%, German 0.2%,

Religions: Eastern Orthodox (including all sub-denominations) 81.9%, Protestant (various denominations including Reformed and Pentecostal) 6.4%, Roman Catholic 4.3%, other (includes Muslim) 0.9% (2011 est.)

Language: Romanian (official) 85.4%, Hungarian 6.3%, Romany (Gypsy) 1.2%, other 1%, unspecified 6.1%

Unemployment (November 2013 est.): 23.6%

Gini Index (2005): 27.3

Population below poverty line (2012 est.): 22.4%

Government

Type: Republic

Branches: *Executive* – chief of state: President Klaus Werner IOHANNIS (since 21 December 2014); head of government: Prime Minister Dacian CIOLOS (since 17 November 2015); Deputy Prime Ministers Costin Grigore BORG and Vasile DANCU (since 17 November 2015); cabinet: Council of Ministers appointed by the prime minister,

elections/appointments: president directly elected by absolute majority popular vote in 2 rounds if needed for a 5-year term (eligible for a second term); election last held on 2 November 2014 with a runoff on 16 November 2014 (next to be held around 16 November 2019); prime minister appointed by the president with consent of Parliament

Legislative - bicameral Parliament or Parlament consists of the Senate or Senat (176 seats; 137 members directly elected in single-seat constituencies by absolute majority vote and 39 directly elected in single-seat constituencies by proportional representation vote; members serve 4-year terms) and the Chamber of Deputies or Camera Deputatilor (412 seats; 315 members directly elected in single-seat constituencies by absolute majority vote and 97 directly elected in single-seat constituencies by proportional representation vote; members serve 4-year terms)

Judicial - High Court of Cassation and Justice (consists of 111 judges organized into civil, penal, commercial, contentious administrative and fiscal business, and joint sections); Supreme Constitutional Court (consists of 9 members)

Budget: \$ revenues: \$55.84 billion - expenditures: \$59.92 billion (2015 est.)

Budget Deficit (2015): 5.84%

Public Debt (2014): 40% of GDP

Relevant Political Parties: Social Liberal Union, Democratic Liberal Party, Social Democratic Party, Humanist Party, National Liberal Party

Principal Government Officials

Prime Minister – Prime Minister Dacian Ciolos

Federal Minister for Foreign Affairs – Lazar Comanescu

Federal Minister of National Defence – Minhea Motoc

Federal Minister of Finance – Anca Dragu

Economy

GDP official exchange Rate (2015 est.): \$411.1 billion

GDP Annual Growth Rate (2015 est.): 3.4%

Per capita GDP (2015 est.): \$20,600

Labor Force (2015 est.): 9.266 million

Commercial Prime Lending Rate (2015): 6.9%

Stock of Domestic Credit (2015): \$66.06 billion

Industries: electric machinery and equipment, textiles and footwear, light machinery, auto assembly, mining, timber, construction materials, metallurgy, chemicals, food processing, petroleum refining

Agriculture: 11.8%

Industry: 36.1%

Services: 52.1% (2015 est.)

Inflation Rate (2015): -0.6%

Trade: Exports – \$56.87 billion, Imports – \$64.07 billion (2015 est.)

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT AT GMF

Fellowships

Founded in 1982 to introduce a new generation of European leaders to the United States, the **Marshall Memorial Fellowship (MMF)** today prepares leaders from both sides of the Atlantic for transatlantic relations. The program relies on 6 months of distance learning and 24 days of travel exchange to facilitate knowledge and network development for effective transatlantic engagement. GMF awards 75 Marshall Memorial Fellowships each year to candidates from all sectors, including business, government, and civil society. The MMF alumni network now includes 2,500 leaders.

Started in 1982 as the Multiplikatoren Seminar (Multiplier Seminar) and co-sponsored by the German Marshall Fund and the Armed Forces Office of the German Defense Ministry, the annual **Manfred Wörner Seminar (MWS)** brings together 30 young Americans and Germans to examine German and European security policy and to discuss U.S.–German and U.S.–European security interests. The seminar serves to deepen understanding between participants from both countries and offers an excellent opportunity to broaden professional networks and horizons. The ten-day program takes place each year in May or June, and consists of briefings and dialogues with senior security experts and practitioners and site visits. The seminar begins with an introductory briefing in Washington, DC and ends with a debrief in Berlin. The MWS alumni community includes 600 leaders.

The **Transatlantic Inclusion leaders Network (TILN)** trains young, diverse elected leaders from the United States and Europe in the policy setting of Brussels Forum. TILN leaders form a dynamic network; are introduced to top policymakers; are empowered with the skills, confidence, and connections to compete for higher office; and are ready to engage in public service at higher levels of responsibility. Now in its fifth year, the TILN network includes over 120 civic leaders on both sides of the Atlantic.

Alumni Engagement

Alumni of GMF's leadership programs form a network of over 3,000 accomplished political, corporate, civic, and intellectual leaders from across the United States and Europe. These networks are unique in their strong history and transatlantic reach. Active engagement in the GMF alumni community is a key component of the post-fellowship experience and one of the greatest assets GMF offers. Remaining connected to GMF as an alumni provides continued access to breakthrough ideas and initiatives and potential partnerships across regions and sectors.

Transatlantic Leadership Seminars (TLS) enable leaders from business, government, and civil society to manage the rapidly changing operational environment of the 21st century. They offer lessons on how to lead with agility, deal with complexity, and reduce uncertainty, as well as respond to specific contemporary challenges. Each seminar lasts seven to nine days, is expert led, and takes place in a region in flux. Participants engage 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. The most recent seminar looked at leadership strategies for the great recession in Greece and Italy from November 1 to 7, 2015. Previous seminars examined global north-south cooperation in France and Morocco in 2014 and leadership lessons for democratization, reconciliation, and structural reform in Bosnia, Croatia, and Serbia in 2013.

Marshall Seminars are 2-3 day knowledge, network, and platform building opportunities for leaders focused on specific transatlantic issues. These place-based seminars provide insights on specific policy issues in a city that best showcases the dynamics of that issue. Seminars explore leadership strategies and allow participants to engage with the city's most innovative leaders across sectors. Participants contextualize changes in their own spheres of influence, and gain new knowledge and contacts to drive trends in Europe and the U.S. Recent seminars include the 2015 Marshall Seminar Brussels: The New Agenda for Transatlantic Security and the 2014 Marshall Seminar Berlin: Leading Toward an Inclusive Economy and Workforce.

From May 31-June 5, GMF will host two complimentary events, designed to bring together GMF's dynamic network to discuss the most pressing challenges facing the transatlantic relationship in the years ahead. **The Transatlantic Inclusion Leaders Network 5th Anniversary** will take place from May 31-June 3 in Turin, Italy and the **Triennial Transatlantic Leaders Retreat, "Transatlantic 20/20: Preparing for a New Era"** will follow from June 3-5 in Saint Vincent, Italy, a scenic destination approximately one-hour from Turin in northwest Italy.

The Transatlantic Inclusion Leaders Network 5th Anniversary (TILN 5) will commemorate the fifth year of the program for a unique opportunity to advance inclusive leadership to meet 21st century leadership requirements in response to rapid demographic change. TILN's approach is to inspire, inform, and connect rising diverse young elected and civil society leaders by equipping them to reach and excel in elected office and other leadership positions, advance inclusive policies, and work with senior policymakers. TILN reached 120 rising diverse leaders in 2016 and the 5th anniversary event will convene approximately 35 from the alumni base through a state of the art networking and leadership growth opportunity to support, encourage, and coach diverse leaders on best practices to advance inclusive leadership. TILN alumni representing diverse professional backgrounds and geographies will meet in Turin and the event will draw on the city's community of leaders to participate in the discussions.

The Triennial Transatlantic Leaders Retreat, "Transatlantic 20/20: Preparing for a New Era" will convene 100 of GMF's wider network of 3,000 GMF alumni providing an innovative opportunity to reflect on upcoming challenges for the transatlantic relationship and strengthen leadership strategies through inspirational talks by top tier leaders and focused alumni interactions. Transatlantic 20/20 will further hone the skills of leadership constituencies on leading transformative change in broad-based, cross-cultural, and cross-sector coalitions. Leading experts will share their insights and experience on cutting-edge transatlantic leadership-oriented trends and themes. Presentations will be designed to provide a reflective backdrop for GMF alumni to retreat and consider their personal leadership strategies and influence on transatlantic cooperation in their respective fields and expertise. Participants will also guide and shape a three-year working plan for GMF's existing alumni engagement and

deployment initiatives through small working groups and professionally facilitated dialogues. In particular, alumni and stakeholders will work together to imagine and develop innovative Alumni Leadership Action Project priorities (alumni driven initiatives that receive seed funding from GMF) that address the key themes of the retreat and beyond.

Deployment

GMF is committed to providing leadership alumni with opportunities to connect to issues and developments that shape the transatlantic community. **Alumni Leadership Action Project** grants provide alumni with the resources and support to make their ideas come to life. GMF has observed that some of the best alumni activities—those that attract a large audience, that speak to local concerns, and that energize the wider network—often stem from ideas generated and executed by alumni themselves. Beginning in the summer of 2013, GMF has offered alumni the entrepreneurial opportunity to submit proposals each year for projects that aim to enrich local communities, advance new policy innovations, build leadership capacity, and strengthen transatlantic relations. Through Alumni Leadership Action Projects, GMF awards grants up to \$5,000 as well as advice and support to help alumni launch and implement their ideas and vision. GMF's grants serve as seed funds that recipients can leverage in seeking additional support from other institutions and potential partners. Over three years, GMF has received nearly sixty proposals from individuals and teams of alumni, including twenty-four submissions in 2015. This area of work has continued to grow year-over-year, energized the alumni network, and has had a multiplier effect, elevating core transatlantic issues, reaching new leadership networks, and enhancing alumni connectivity on both sides of the Atlantic.

AGENDA

Wednesday, April 6

Participants arrive in Bucharest, Romania

- 14:45** **Participants meet in the Hotel Cișmigiu lobby**
Bulevardul Regina Elisabeta 38, București 050017, Romania
- Walk to Cervantes Institute**
Bd. Regina Elisabeta nr. 38, 050017 Bucharest
- 15:00-16:30** **Welcome to the Marshall Seminar Bucharest – Scene Setter and Ice Breaker**
- Alina Inayeh**, Director, Black Sea Trust for Regional Cooperation, Bucharest Office, GMF
- Filip Vojvodic Medic**, Senior Program Officer, Transatlantic Leadership Initiatives, GMF
- 16:30-17:00** **Coffee Break**
- 17:00-18:30** **Return of Populism**
- Dr. John H. Eaves** (MMF '01), Chairman, Fulton County Board of Commissioners
- Jerome Guedj** (MMF'06), Member of the National Board, French Socialist Party
- Zsuzsanna Szelenyi** (MMF'93), Member of the Parliament and Member of the Presidency, "Together" Party, Hungary
- Moderator: Daniela Schwarzer, Director, Europe Program, GMF*
- 18:30-19:00** **Transfer to Athenee Palace Hilton**
- 19:30-21:30** **Welcome Reception**
- Networking with local alumni**

Interview/Keynote with Minister Violeta Alexandru, Ministry for Social Dialogue and Public Consultation

Moderator: Ivan Vejdoda, Senior Vice President, GMF

Thursday, April 7

- 8:15** **Participants meet in the Hotel Cișmigiu lobby**
Bulevardul Regina Elisabeta 38, București 050017, Romania
- 8:30-8:40** **Transfer to Palace of Parliament**
Palace of the Parliament, Duca Room, Strada Izvor 2-4, București, Romania
- 9:00-9:10** **Welcome Remarks by Valeriu Zgonea**, Speaker, Chamber of Deputies, Romanian Parliament
- 9:00-10:15** **Where is the Agora Today?**
Sewell Chan (MMF'12), International News Editor, New York Times
Vlada Ciobanu, Blogger and Program Manager, NDI Moldova
Slobodan DjinoVIC (BTD Grantee), Co-Founder and Chairman, Center for Applied Nonviolent Action and Strategies, Serbia
Moderator: Ivan Vejdoda, Senior Vice President, GMF
- 10:15-10:30** **Coffee Break**
- 10:30-13:00** **Hashtag Activism and its Limits – Panel Discussion and Strategic Training Simulation plus Workshop**
Mounir Mahjoubi (MMF'14), Deputy CEO, BETC
Nicoleta Chirita (BST Grantee), Programs Coordinator, Resource Center for Public Participation
Moderator: Adnan Kifayat, Senior Resident Fellow, GMF
- 13:00-13:30** **Transfer to the lunch venue**
Zaiafet Restaurant, Drumul Sabareni, nr, 101-125, district 6, Bucharest

- 13:30-15:30** **Scaling Up Your Social Business – Working Lunch**
Khalid Inayah, Director, Zaiafet, RomanoButiQ
Patrick Ouriaghli, Director, Ateliere fara Frontiere
Mike Medow (MMF '13), Chief Operating Officer, Allied Media Project
Moderator: Oana Toiu (MMF '14), Founder, Social Innovation Solutions
- 15:30-16:00** **Break**
- 16:00-17:30** **Is Money the Mother's Milk of Politics?**
Reta Jo Lewis, Director, Congressional Affairs, GMF
Daniel Smilov (BTD/BST Grantee), Program Director, Political and Legal Research, Center for Liberal Strategies, Bulgaria
Moderator: Elena Calistru (BST Grantee), Founder, Funky Citizens
- 17:30 – 18:00** **Transfer to the Hotel Cișmigiu**
Bulevardul Regina Elisabeta 38, București 050017, Romania
- 18:00-18:45** **Break**
- 18:45-19:00** **Meet in the Hotel Cișmigiu lobby**
Bulevardul Regina Elisabeta 38, București 050017, Romania
- 19:00-19:30** **Transfer to Romanian American Foundation**
Strada Gina Patrichi 6, București 010449, Romania
- 19:30-21:30** **Evening Reception**
Welcome remarks by Roxana Vitan, President, Romanian American Foundation
- The Future of Democratization**
Koert Debeuf (TLS'13), International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance
Dean Thompson, Deputy Chief of Mission, US Embassy
Daniela Schwarzer, Director, Europe Program, GMF
Moderator: Vlad Mixich (MMF'13), Senior Editor, Hotnews.ro

Friday, April 8

- 8:45** **Participants meet in the Hotel Cișmigiu lobby**
Bulevardul Regina Elisabeta 38, București 050017, Romania
- Walk to Cervantes Institute**
Bd. Regina Elisabeta nr. 38, 050017 Bucharest
- 9:00-10:00** **Including the Underrepresented**
- Gabriele Gun Tank** (TILN'13), Commissioner for Integration in Berlin
Tempelhof-Schöneberg
- Ciprian Necula**, State Secretary, Ministry for EU Funds
- Slawomir Sierakowski** (MMF'08), Editor-in-Chief, Krytyka Polityczna
- Moderator: Lora Berg, Senior Transatlantic Fellow, Transatlantic Leadership Initiatives, GMF*
- 10:00-10:15** **Coffee Break**
- 10:30-11:50** **Balancing Liberty with Security**
- Thomas Grumke** (MMF'97), Professor, University of Applied Sciences
for Public Administration, NRW
- Jean Joseph Lévy** (MMF'85), Ambassador and Senior Advisor for
International Relations
- Melanie Smith**, Researcher and Program Coordinator, Institute for
Strategic Dialogue
- Moderator: Adnan Kifayat, Senior Resident Fellow, GMF*
- 12:00-14:00** **Lunch Debrief**

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

Violeta Alexandru, Minister for Civic Dialogue and Public Consultation, Romania



Violeta Alexandru is the Minister for Civic Dialogue and Public Consultation. Before joining the government in November 2015, she led one of Romania's strongest NGOs, the Institute for Public Policy, which advocates for improving the quality of public policy-making processes in Romania.

Elena Calistru, Founder, Funky Citizens



Elena Calistru is the chair and founder of Funky Citizens, a Romanian NGO. Funky Citizens builds research-based, data-driven online advocacy tools. Funky Citizens' tools aim to be educational and actionable, encouraging citizens to engage in accountability and government responsibility initiatives in which they can see an impact. Elena has more than 5 years of experience in civil society projects, both at national and international level. Her expertise is mainly in the area of good governance, transparency, public finance and advocacy. She strongly believes that data and online tools can empower

citizens to influence public sector reform.

Sewell Chan, International News Editor, The New York Times



Sewell Chan (MMF '12) is the international news editor in the London office of The New York Times where he focuses on coverage of breaking news in Europe, the Middle East and Africa. He was previously the deputy editor of the Op-Ed page and Sunday Review section. From 2011 to 2015 Chan was a Washington metropolitan reporter and economic correspondent covering the Federal Reserve. Before joining The New York Times, in 2004, he was a reporter at The Washington Post. A native of New York City, Mr. Chan graduated from Harvard University with a degree in social studies before receiving a master's degree in politics from the University of Oxford,

where he studied on a British Marshall scholarship. As a Marshall Memorial Fellow in 2012, he traveled to Brussels, Amsterdam, Athens, Tirana and Berlin.

Nicoleta Chirita, Programs Coordinator, Resource Center for Public Participation (CeRe)



Nicoleta Chiriță started working for the non-governmental sector in Romania in 2009, when she joined CeRe: the Resource Centre for Public Participation. From 2011 to 2015, she ran CeRe's Community Organizing Programme in an effort to stimulate grassroots activism and participation in several Bucharest neighbourhoods. From 2016, she is leading CeRe's effort to build a city wide network of civic groups. Nicoleta is also a board member of the European Community Organizing Network – ECON, an informal group of organizations from 10 European countries that use community organizing methodology as a means to strengthen democracy and empower people to stand up for their rights. Nicoleta has a BA in Political Sciences in French from the University of Bucharest and a MA in Social and Political Communication from the University Paris 1 Pantheon-Sorbonne.

Vlada Ciobanu, Program Manager, National Democratic Institute (Moldova)



Vlada Ciobanu is currently program manager at the National Democratic Institute in Moldova. She specializes in youth programs, voter education campaigns, community organizing and online and advocacy campaigns. She has maintained a blog for 9 years that focuses on political and social issues. Vlada is a well-known civic activist in urban and community issues. She has a Master of Arts in Global Media and Communications

from the University of Warwick and a Bachelor degree in Political Science from the Moldovan State University.

Koert Debeuf, Visiting Research Fellow, Oxford University, Centre for the Resolution of Intractable Conflict, Democratization consultant, International IDEA.



Koert Debeuf (TLS'13) is the representative of the ALDE Group in the Arab World and the author of the latest book on current events in North Africa and the Middle East – [Inside the Arab Revolution](#). Previously, Mr. Debeuf served the current president of the ALDE Group in the European Parliament and former prime minister of Belgium, Guy Verhofstadt, as his chief of cabinet at the European level and speechwriter, political advisor, and spokesperson at the national level. Mr. Debeuf was also a political advisor for the Mayor of Leuven,

the Flemish Parliament, and the Belgian Parliament. He studied history at the universities of Leuven and Bologna. In 2008 and 2009, he founded a liberal think-tank, Prometheus, of which he served as Director.

Slobodan Djinovic, Founder, CANVAS



Slobodan Djinovic started his work in activism as a representative of the Belgrade University Student's Parliament, which he helped establish OTPOR, a democratic, student-run movement beginning in 1998. OTPOR, the Serbian word for "resistance", was a grassroots campaign aimed at deposing Slobodan Milosevic. In 2001 Mr. Djinovic founded MediaWorks, the first wireless internet company in Serbia, which later became the Orion Telekom Company. During that time, he co-founded CANVAS – the Center for Applied Nonviolent Action and Strategies. The goal of this new organization was to educate and train activists from around the world on nonviolent social and political change. CANVAS has been featured in many articles in prestigious international media outlets such as Foreign Policy magazine, Financial Times, The New York Times as well as in several books. On behalf of CANVAS, Djinovic received several awards throughout his career including the Poul Lauritzen award in human rights and, most recently and notably, the Tufts University Global Citizenship Award.

John Eaves, Ph. D., Chairman, Fulton County



John Eaves, Ph.D. is the three-term Chairman of the Fulton County Commission. He leads the most populous county in Georgia, with 1.1 million residents and 14 municipalities including the City of Atlanta. His career encompasses the academic and educational worlds, the international arena, business spheres and significant community service. John Eaves is an international specialist who has visited and met with citizens of more than 50 nations around the globe. He received the Marshall Memorial Fellowship from the German Marshall Fund and two Fulbright scholarships: the Fulbright Senior Specialist Grant and the Fulbright International Educators Administrators Program. As Regional Director of the Peace Corps for seven years, he helped to bring educational and healthcare assistance to South Africa, Sierra Leone, Paraguay, Jamaica, Haiti, and the Dominican Republic. Most recently, John Eaves has worked in partnership with the Brazilian state of Bahia to structure a bilateral cooperative agreement in economic development, healthcare, education, the arts and human rights.

Thomas Grumke, University of Applied Sciences for Business Administration of Nordrhein-Westfalen, Germany



Thomas Grumke studied political science and German literature in Osnabrück, Ottawa, Berlin, New York and Frankfurt/Oder. He wrote his Doctoral thesis on „Right-Wing Extremism in the United States“. From 2000 to 2004, he worked at the Bertelsmann Foundation, Gütersloh, and the Center for Democratic Culture, Berlin. From 2004 to 2012, he worked as a specialist on right-wing extremism at the Agency for the Protection of the Constitution (Verfassungsschutz) at the Interior Ministry of the State of Nordrhein-Westfalen. Since 2012, he has served as Professor of politics and sociology

in the Dept. of Police at the University of Applied Sciences for Business Administration of Nordrhein-Westfalen (Germany). Thomas Grumke is the author of various publications and articles on political extremism in German and English.

Jerome Guedj, Member of the National Board, French Socialist Party



Jerome Guedj, MMF'06, is a member of the National Board of the French Socialist Party. He is also Conseiller Departmental of Essonne region (of which he has been President from 2011 to 2015). He is a former MP, member of the French National Assembly. For the last 20 years, after his scholarship at the ENA (National School of Administration), he has been working at the IGAS (Inspection générale des affaires sociales), specialized in health policies and social matters. He has specifically worked on ageing populations and published "Plaidoyer pour les vieux" (Plea for elderly persons) in 2013.

Khalid Inayeh, Owner, K Consulting Management and Coordination



Khalid Inayeh is an architect and a civic activist. He leads K Consulting Management and Coordination. He supports local development and raises awareness about the Roma culture through various projects like Meștешukar ButiQ (MBQ) - a network of social economy enterprises and an active supporter of Roma traditional crafts, Roma Culture Museum – the first museum in Romania dedicated to Roma culture, and Zaiafet – a restaurant which serves Romani food.

Mounir Mahjoubi, Deputy Managing Director, BETC Digital



Mounir Mahjoubi currently serves as deputy managing director at BETC Digital, one of the leading digital agencies in Europe where he's in charge of business development and works with major international companies to help them embrace the digital revolution. Prior to this experience, he was part of François Hollande's 2012 Presidential campaign team as digital manager in charge of online-offline engagement tactics. His previous experiences include the co-creation of the start-up "LaRucheQuiDitOui.fr", a site that allows users to group and buy directly from local farmers, and now reaches more than 500 communities and has

20+ employees. After graduation, he worked with Google France for three years, on an e-learning platform for aspiring entrepreneurs. Mahjoubi holds a business law degree from the Sorbonne and an Economy & Finance master's from Sciences-Po.

Mike Medow, Chief Operating Officer, Allied Media Project



Mike Medow serves as Allied Media Projects' Chief Operating Officer. He oversees finances, is active in major fundraising efforts, and has coordinated many special projects and strategic initiatives over a decade of working at Allied Media Projects (AMP). He led the process of bringing the organization and its Allied Media Conference to a new permanent home in Detroit in 2007. In the years following, Mike diversified conference programming and promotional strategies that helped grow the AMC's attendance to over 2,500 participants annually. Mike developed AMP's Sponsored Projects program, which currently

offers a range of fiscal management and capacity building services to a portfolio of 37 nonprofit media, art, and technology projects. Mike serves as president of the board of directors of FoodLab Detroit, an organization supporting the development of triple-bottom-line food businesses in Detroit. He is the founder of the award-winning art and music production company Emergence Media. He is a 2013 Marshall Memorial Fellow of the German Marshall Fund.

Vlad Mixich, Journalist, Hotnews.ro, Romania



Vlad Mixich is a journalist and a doctor, and is now specializing in health policies at the London School of Economics. In 2013, he co-founded MedAlert, a group of citizens who advocate for changes in the Romanian health system. In 2014, Vlad was a recipient of the Eisenhower Foundation for Innovation program, and in previous years of the Carter Center in Atlanta (US). Vlad coordinates a weekly medical editorial, Medical Life, and was for six years the Deutsche Welle correspondent in

Romania. He used to write for both Romanian and international media outlets such as Foreign Policy, BBC, Esquire, NPR and Freakonomics. Vlad published a book, *Fanatics*, which gathers portraits of well accomplished Romanians.

Ciprian Necula, State Secretary, Ministry of EU Funds



Ciprian Necula is a State Secretary with the Ministry of EU Funds. Before that he served as coordinator of the Romano Butiq Association, as national coordinator of Council of Europe's ROMED2/ ROMACT project, Public Awareness Key Expert of Phare Project SPER, TV host of an investigation show on Roma issues and expert on minorities within Media Monitoring Agency. Ciprian has focused on two issues, public communication and minorities' issues. He started working in these fields in 1997 when he started his career as a volunteer of a Roma NGO. Over the time, Ciprian was a consultant to the Council of Europe in the Republic of Moldova and minorities' analyst within OSCE/ODIHR - Election Observation Missions in SE Europe and CIS states.

Patrick Ouriaghli, Executive Director, Workshops without Borders (Ateliere fara Frontiere)



Patrick Ouriaghli is the Executive Director of Workshops without Borders (Ateliere fara Frontiere). He launched the organization in May 2009 with the aim to promote and facilitate the social, professional and civic integration of disadvantaged people to protect the environment and support local development in disadvantaged communities. Before moving to Romania, Patrick served as the general manager of Ateliers Sans Frontieres branch in Morocco, which he helped create and organize.

Slawomir Sierakowski, Contributing Writer, The New York Times



Slawomir Sierakowski became a contributing opinion writer for The International New York Times in the fall of 2013. Mr. Sierakowski, born in 1979, is a Polish sociologist and political commentator. He is a founder and leader of Krytyka Polityczna (Political Critique), an Eastern European movement of liberal intellectuals, artists and activists, with branches in Ukraine and Russia. He is also the director of the Institute for Advanced Study in Warsaw and the president of the Stanislaw Brzozowski Association, overseeing its publishing house; its online opinion site; cultural centers in Warsaw, Gdansk, Lodz and Cieszyn, in Poland, and in Kiev, Ukraine; and 20

local clubs. Slawomir is a graduate of the University of Warsaw, and has been awarded fellowships from Yale, Princeton, Harvard, and the Institute for Human Sciences in Vienna.

Daniel Smilov, Programme Director, Center for Liberal Strategies



Daniel Smilov is a comparative constitutional lawyer and political scientist. He is Programme Director at the Centre for Liberal Strategies in Sofia, Recurrent Visiting Professor of Comparative Constitutional Law at the Central European University, Budapest, and Associate Professor at the Political Science Department at the University of Sofia. He holds doctorates from the University of Oxford (DPhil, 2003) and the Central European University, Budapest. Together with Jurij Toplak he published the volume *Political Finance and Corruption in Eastern Europe*, Ashgate, 2007. He has authored numerous articles and book chapters on political corruption, party funding and comparative constitutional law.

Melanie Smith, Researcher and Programme Coordinator, Institute for Strategic Dialogue



Melanie Smith is a Researcher and Programme Coordinator at the Institute for Strategic Dialogue in London. Her research focuses upon the involvement of women in violent conflict, Islamist extremism and lone-actor terrorism. She joined the Institute for Strategic Dialogue in March 2015. She was previously a researcher at the International Centre for the Study of Radicalisation (ICSR) at King's College London, where she helped create the largest online database of female migrants from ISIS territory. Melanie has co-authored reports on the subject and her work has been featured in national and international press. Melanie holds an M.A. in Geopolitics, Territory & Security from King's College London and a BA in Geography with Spanish and Portuguese from the University of Exeter.

Zsuzsanna Szelényi, Member of Parliament, Hungary



Zsuzsanna Szelényi is a Member of Parliament in Hungary representing the party Együtt (Together). She is on the party's Presidential Board where she covers foreign policy, education, human resource policy and gender issues. For fourteen years, she served at the Council of Europe advising governments and NGOs on conflict management, human rights and human development issues. Between 2010 and 2013, she worked as a human development consultant for international organizations in various Central European and North African countries. Ms. Szelényi started her

career as founder of Fidesz, a youth party during the regime change in 1988 in Hungary. She became Member of Parliament of the first freely elected Parliament, where she dealt with international and migration affairs. In 2013, she returned to politics as an Együtt member to challenge Victor Orban.

Gabriele Gün Tank, Commissioner for Integration, City of Berlin



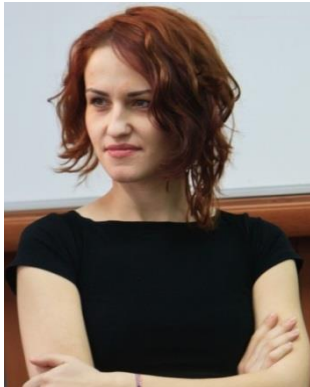
As Commissioner for Integration for Berlin (Tempelhof-Schöneberg), Gabriele Gün Tank advises the city government in all matters regarding migration policies within the district. She graduated in 2001 from Marmara University in Istanbul with a Master Degree in journalism. From 2000 – 2001 she served as an editor and freelancer at "apparat multimedia GmbH" in Berlin. In 2002, she entered a traineeship in Public Relations with the DGB (Confederation of German Trade Unions), followed by a traineeship in the office of Member of Parliament Eckhardt Barthel from 2002-2003. She advanced to become Eckhardt Barthel's advisor from 2003-2004. In 2005, she served the Social Democratic Party (SPD) of Germany group in the German Parliament as Junior Counselor at the chairman's planning group for domestic policy issues, integration and culture. From 2006 – 2007, she served as policy advisor to Parliament Member Mechthild Rawert. In 2007, she became Commissioner for Integration, the position she holds today.

Dean Thomson, Deputy Chief of Mission, US Embassy



Dean Thompson is a member of the Senior Foreign Service and has 20 years of experience in U.S. diplomacy. Most recently, Mr. Thompson served as the U.S. Consul General in Kolkata, India and the Chief of the Economic and Commercial Affairs section of the U.S. Embassy in Colombo, Sri Lanka. He has also served at the U.S. Embassies in Paraguay and Bangladesh. While stationed in Washington, Mr. Thompson has led several teams in direct support of the U.S. Secretary of State and served as Director of the Executive Secretariat Staff, the Deputy Director of the Department's 24 hour Operations Center and the Director of the Department's Crisis Management Staff. Prior to joining the Foreign Service, he worked in the Office of the Secretary of Defense on European Security Negotiations

Oana Toiu, Partner, Business Models Inc.



Oana is a social entrepreneur at Mesteshukar ButiQ and a consultant at the social innovation boutique she founded, Social Innovation Solution (SIS), with a focus on the financing, business models and education of social entrepreneurship and strategic planning and solution design for NGOs and start-ups. Mesteshukar ButiQ, a network of craftsmen and designers with shops in downtown Bucharest and a presence in Vienna Design Week and Stockholm Design Week has been awarded by the European Commission as among the top 10 best social innovation ideas on employment in Europe. She works with youth to encourage and prepare them to pursue an impact driven career, being a founding member of Global Shapers Bucharest Hub, an initiative of the World Economic Forum, and currently serving as a Board Member of The Entrepreneurship Academy - the first entrepreneurship faculty in CEE and co-chair local on the largest student competition on social business ideas. In 2013, she was included by Foreign Policy Romania in the list of 101 thinkers and doers that move Romania. She is an Aspen Fellow, a Marshall Memorial Fellow class of 2014 and part of AIESEC Romania Alumni Hall of Fame.

Roxana Vitan, Executive Director, Romanian-American Foundation



Quebec, Montreal.

Roxana Vitan is an accomplished senior executive with over 25 years of experience in developing and managing high-performing programs, companies and investments in transitional economies. After 12 years of experience as a senior member of the investment and management teams of the Romanian-American Enterprise Fund, she was appointed to manage the start-up of the Romanian-American Foundation. She holds a Master's Degree in Cybernetics, Statistics and Planning from the Academy of Economic Studies of Bucharest and an MBA from the Romanian-Canadian MBA Program administrated by the University of

PARTICIPANTS

Cristian Adomnitei, President of Iasi County, Romania



Cristian Adomnitei currently serves as President of Iasi County, Romania, the country's second most populated administrative unit after Bucharest. Prior to his current service, he was a Member of the Parliament, Minister of Education and Research, and Member of the National Liberal Party. His previous experience includes consulting and management in construction and land development. Adomnitei was also the president of the "Siret Prut Nistru Euroregion," an NGO comprising three counties in Romania and 26 *raioane* (districts) of the Republic of Moldova, including the Municipality of Balti. He also conducted other public diplomacy activities in the Ukrainian border-regions of Chernivtsi, Vinnytsia, and Ivano-Frankivsk. He is a member of the Committee of the Regions in Brussels and serves as the vice-president of the EPP Group. He completed his Ph.D in Geotechnical Engineering at Iasi Technical University in 2010.

Mpanzu Bamenga, Co-founder and Coordinator Inclusion Leaders Network and Member of the City Council Eindhoven for the Democrats 66 Party



Mpanzu was elected to the city council of Eindhoven in March 2014. He focuses on the support for homeless people, refugees, (hidden) discrimination, diversity, security policy and social inclusion. Mpanzu is also the leader of a civil society organization and works as a human rights expert advising illegal immigrants in The Hague. He studied law in Tilburg and Brussels. He is dedicated to contribute to a more just and fair society, without poverty and where all citizens have equal rights and opportunities. Mpanzu was selected by his party for a national talent program for high potentials and participated on the 4th Transatlantic Inclusion Leaders Network workshop of the German Marshall Fund in 2015. Because of his authenticity, initiatives, debating style, sincere commitment and ability to dominate the political agenda, Mpanzu was elected in Eindhoven as the political talent of the year 2015. As co-founder and coordinator of the Inclusion Leaders Network (Incleaders) he aims for more diversity and inclusion within all sectors of society.

Allison Binns, Senior Advisor, Chevron, Office of Global Diversity, Ombuds and University Affairs



Allison joined Chevron’s Office of Global Diversity in September 2013 after working in Chevron’s Global Security department as a senior geopolitical threat analyst, with responsibility for the Western Hemisphere and Global NGO activism. In her role as a threat analyst she followed anti-shale gas activism in Eastern Europe. Prior to joining Chevron, Allison spent three years in Major League Baseball’s Executive Development Program, where she worked in the Labor Relations and International Baseball Departments for the Commissioner’s Office and in Baseball Operations for the Boston Red Sox. From 2003 to 2008, she worked for the US Government while completing her master’s and doctoral degrees in Sociology at Harvard University. She completed her bachelor’s degree in Sociology at Princeton University in 2003. Allison currently serves as Vice President of the Board of Governors for the Poetry Society of America and also volunteers with Play Global!, an organization dedicated to teaching baseball, sportsmanship, and leadership skills in ethnic conflict zones.

Victoria Bucataru, Program Director, Foreign Policy Association of Moldova



Victoria Bucataru is Programme Director with the Foreign Policy Association of Moldova. She holds a bachelor and MA degree in international relations, political and administrative sciences from the Moldova State University. From 2005 to 2010, Ms. Bucataru worked as a lecturer at the International Relations Department and was involved in the activity of the Institute for Development and Social Initiatives, Information and Documentation Centre on NATO, and the European Institute for Political Studies. Following this, Ms. Bucataru was involved in the Joint research consortium “Security and Development Research within the Wider Europe Initiative Security Cluster” supported by Finland’s Ministry of Foreign Affairs. She is the author of several publications on foreign and security policies, as well as Moldova’s relations with the European Union. Ms. Bucataru provides expertise in the field of foreign and security policies to national and international organizations in the framework of various thematic programs.

Ana Bulgar, Senior Department Manager Strategy & Corporate Development, OMV Petrom SA, Romania



Ana Bulgar joined OMV Petrom in 2007 as Online Communication Manager and is now Senior Department Manager Strategy & Corporate Development. Before joining OMV Petrom, Ana was the chairwoman for the Lions Club International, District 124 and has been involved in many civic projects. Ana is a Aspen Institute fellow (2014) and a Marshall Memorial Fellow (2016).

Mihai Cazacu, Senior Expert for Loss Protection, OMV Petrom SA, Romania



Mihai Cazacu is a senior expert for loss protection at OMV Petrom SA. Previously, he worked as an asset protection & recovery executive for CHEP, Brambles Limited. Before joining the corporate sector, Mr. Cazacu had a distinguished career at the Ministry of Administration and Interior, where he specialized in cases involving human trafficking. For two years, he was seconded by the New Scotland Yard for the first European Joint Investigation Team, serving as the Romanian Coordinator on major human trafficking case. Cazacu graduated in Law from the Alexandru Ioan Cuza Academy in Bucharest. He is active in civil society, as a member of both advisory

boards and project teams.

Frank Denton, Editor, The Florida Times-Union and Jacksonville.com



Frank Denton is editor of The Florida Times-Union and Jacksonville.com and vice president for journalism of the parent company; Morris Publishing Group. Previously, he was executive editor of the Wisconsin State Journal in Madison and The Tampa Tribune in Florida. Before that, he was an editor in various roles at the Detroit Free Press. He is a board member of the First Amendment Foundation and has served in the leadership of numerous journalism organizations and reform and renewal efforts.

His work as an editor has included a focus on democracy and community-building. In 2014, he was a Jefferson Fellow of the East-West Center where he studied emerging democracies in Indonesia and Myanmar. Denton holds a BA in government from the University of Texas at Austin, an MS in journalism from Columbia University and his MBA and PhD from the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Şakir Dinçşahin, Associate Professor, Department of Political Science, Yeditepe University



Şakir Dinçşahin is an associate professor in the Department of Political Science and International Relations at Yeditepe University in Istanbul, Turkey. He concluded his doctoral dissertation on Turkish political thought under supervision of Professor Feroz Ahmad. He holds a master's degree in international economics from Yeditepe University and a bachelor's degree in political science from Boğaziçi University. He is the author of *State and Intellectuals in Turkey: The Life and Times of Niyazi Berkes, 1908-1988* (Rowman -Lexington, 2015). His other works on populism, nationalism, ethnicity and the intellectual history of Turkey were published in *Nations and Nationalism*, *Government and Opposition*, and *History of Sport*. Dinçşahin is an alumnus of the Marshall Memorial Fellowship of GMFUS in 2008. He was a visiting scholar at SOAS at the University of London Between 2013 and 2014. He was among the first group of Turkish scholars participating in Yad-Vashem Museum's Holocaust Program for Turkish scholars in Jerusalem, in 2014.

Milos Djukelic, Managing Director, Red Production



Milos Djukelic is the managing director and the owner of the group of 5 film production companies called Red Production based in Serbia, Croatia, Montenegro, Albania, and Greece. This company does both contract work and fully produces projects for local and international clients. In addition to managing the group, he is also the creative producer and director for the company's projects and other production companies across Europe. Prior to this, Djukelic worked for advertising agencies like DDB and Saatchi and directed programs for Serbian National TV. He is one of the founders of the mobile phone movies and new media festival "Nova Svetlost," one of the founders of Art Directors Club of Serbia, and serves on the governing board of the Festival of Short Movies and Documentaries in Belgrade. He also sits on the governing board of the theatre "Dusko Radovic". He is president of the Serbian Film Association and vice president of Serbian Association of the Producers in Advertising.

Stefano Feltri, Journalist, Il Fatto Quotidiano



Stefano Feltri is an Italian journalist for the daily *Il Fatto Quotidiano* where he has been in charge of the Economics and Finance section since 2009. He also is a TV political commentator on Italian policy and the Eurocrisis. He is a regular contributor to *Otto e Mezzo*, the most popular Italian political talk show, and *La7*, a private TV network. In recent years, he worked for the business radio network *Radio24* as well as the national daily newspapers *il Foglio* and *il Riformista*. He published several books

including “Il candidato”, “Il giorno in cui l'euro morì” and “La lunga notte dell'euro”. He holds a bachelor’s and master’s degree in Economics from Bocconi University in Milan. He also spent some months at Sciences Po in Paris during an Erasmus program. He is a 2012 alumnus of the U.S. State Department International Visitors Leadership Program for European Young Leaders.

Igor Goncharenko, Manager on Anti-Corruption Reform, National Reforms Council of Ukraine



Igor Goncharenko is a Manager on Anti-Corruption Reform at the National Reforms Council of Ukraine. His role is to facilitate the implementation of the anti-corruption reform in the country. He previously served as a Chief of Staff to the Deputy Head of the Presidential Administration of Ukraine where he took part in development of the 2014 Coalition Agreement and establishment of the National Reforms Council. His previous experience includes six years of work in a Ukrainian NGO which provided technical assistance to the government in drafting and implementing economic development strategies. He led three regional development projects, including a complex strategy for the city of Kiev. Under Goncharenko’s three issues of Ukrainian National Competitiveness Report (2011-2013) were published using the methodology of the World Economic Forum. Igor graduated from the National Technical University of Ukraine with a master degree in Management in 2000.

Hasan Huseynli, Director, “Intelligent Citizen” ECPU



Azerbaijan.

Hasan Huseynli is a chairman and founder of the “Intelligent Citizen” Enlightenment Center Public Union in Azerbaijan. Prior to this he was a program coordinator (1997-1998) and a director of the Ganja branch (1999-2009) of the Open Society Assistance Foundation – Azerbaijan. Between 1992 and 1993 he worked as a consultant in the administration of the President of Azerbaijan. He is an author and manager of dozens of projects in the fields of democracy development, civil society, and human rights in the country. Huseynli completed his Ph.D. in physics in Moscow in 1987. He is currently a monitoring and evaluation consultant at the UNDP in

Maria Karapetyan, Development Director, Imagine Center for Conflict Transformation



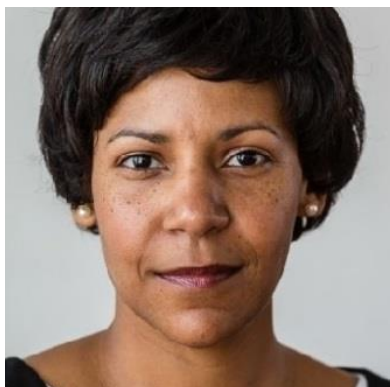
Maria Karapetyan has been the Development Director of the Imagine Center for Conflict Transformation since 2012. She was a fellow with Rondine Citadel of Peace in Arezzo, Italy, where between 2013 and 2015 she engaged in designing and implementing educational and training programs for Italian and international students. She simultaneously concluded her Master’s degree in Peace Studies at the University of Rome with a research focus on Mediation of Historical Narratives and Critical Discourse Analysis. In the past several years, Maria has been involved in designing and implementing Azerbaijani-Armenian, Turkish-Armenian, Georgian-South Ossetian, and Caucasus-wide regional dialogues. These included workshops, trainings, and other cross-divide initiatives with journalists, educators, historians, political actors, academics, and youth. As one of the editors of the online analytical publication the Caucasus Edition, Maria also coordinates the work of journalists, analysts, and researchers from the South Caucasus and Turkey to contribute to the Journal.

Rozalina Laskova, Executive Director, Education without Backpacks



Rozalina Laskova currently serves as executive director of the Bulgarian non-profit “Education without Backpacks”. She is also founder and manager of Shar Zhar, an organization working in the field of culture and creative industries, art management and art initiatives on relevant socio-political issues. Laskova is also second chairwoman of MitOst, a Berlin-based network active in Europe in the spheres of active citizenship, cultural exchange, social innovation and urban development. Her prior experience includes executive director of the Iliev Dance Art Foundation and senior officer at the Bulgarian Ministries of Finance, State Administration and Administrative Reform. There she served as priority manager for a program for modernizing the Bulgarian administration, judiciary and NGO sector. As a fellow of the Goerdeler-Kolleg of the Robert Bosch Stiftung between 2009 and 2010, Laskova worked at the German Federal Foreign Office and Federal Ministry of Interior. She completed her law degree at Humboldt University in Berlin and her MBA at the University of National and World Economy in Sofia. Laskova is also a member of the Association of European Journalists – Bulgaria.

Niombo Lomba, Policy Officer, Seconded National Expert, European Commission



Since 2015, Niombo Lomba has been a Policy Officer at the European Commission Directorate General for Communications Networks, Content and Technology, where she is a Seconded National Expert. Previously, she was Head of Staff of the State Counsellor for Civil Society and Civic Participation of the government of the state of Baden-Württemberg, followed by the Staff Unit Committee of the Regions, Civic Participation, and Trade Agreements in the Representation of Baden-Württemberg to the European Union. Prior to that, Lomba was a public relations and public affairs

consultant and Corporate External Affairs Manager at Celesio AG, a pharmaceutical trader and service provider. She is a member of the Alliance 90/The Greens and was actively involved within the party, e.g. as a member of the national executive committee and as an elected City Councilor of Stuttgart, the capital of Baden-Württemberg. Besides that, she supports civil society and culture. Lomba holds a master's degree in political science, communication science and psychology.

András Lőke, Founder and Editor-in-Chief, Ittlakunk.hu



András Lőke is the Founder and Editor-in-Chief of the leading Budapest local online media website Ittlakunk.hu a group of 23 hyperlocal websites covering 23 Budapest neighborhoods, viewed by 850.000 unique visitors a month. In 2009-10, he assisted the project of the Swiss Ringier Group for creating a quality Sunday paper in Hungary. Before that he spent more than two decades with HVG, a Hungarian economic weekly writing on international affairs and later editing the Trend and Interview sections of the weekly. Since 2001, he has been serving as the chairman of the Góbbölyös Soma Foundation for investigative journalism. Since 2010, he has served the chairman of

the board of Transparency International Hungary, an anti-corruption NGO.

Valentin Lozovanu, Research and Programme Coordinator, Institute for Development and Social Initiative



Valentin currently works as a Research and Programme Coordinator at the Institute for Development and Social Initiative in Moldova. There he deals with foreign policy analysis, assessment of the progress of European integration of Moldova, development policies and aid coordination. Before this, he was a consultant in areas related to policy planning and international development cooperation with the State Chancellery and Ministry of Economy, UNDP Moldova, Altair Asesores. His studies include a Master degree at the University of Kassel (Germany) in global political economy, postgraduate studies of

International Relations and European Integration at the Estonian School of Diplomacy and a Bachelor of international relations at the State University of Moldova.

Nezar Mahmoud, Senior Manager, T-Systems



Nezar Mahmoud is a senior manager for T-Systems in Frankfurt, Deutsche Telekom's IT subsidiary. Within the corporate steering department he drives the development of digital business models and partnerships with startups. In 2014, he started Frimeo: a two-sided marketplace in the farm to table space, allowing consumers to connect directly with local food producers via an app. Prior to this, he advised various industry and government clients as a strategy consultant for A.T. Kearney in the Middle East. He obtained his master's in Industrial Engineering from Darmstadt University of Technology in Germany in 2008 with a research appointment at the University of St. Gallen. He also spent time on exchange at the National University of Singapore.

Veronica Marin, President, Urban Transport Association



Vera Marin is currently project coordinator and president of ATU - Urban Transition Association in Bucharest, Romania. Her projects are focused on topics such as good governance, education for sustainable development, participatory planning, urban policies (housing, heritage protection, transport). Since 2001, she has taught housing policy and housing theory at "Ion Mincu" University of Architecture and Urban Planning. Between 2001 and 2005, she was completing her PhD studies at Institut d'Urbanisme de Lyon, Universite Lyon 2 Lumiere with a French Government Scholarship. She completed her PhD in urbanism at "Ion Mincu" University of Architecture and Urban Planning in 2009. Her professional experience includes planning expert local development strategies for several communities in Romania, data gathering and diagnosis methods for sustainable urban development and applied research on urban regeneration for developing methodological tools together with the Ministry of Regional Development and Tourism for local public administrations. She is affiliated with the Romanian Register of Urban Planners, with Romanian Order of Architects, and with Romanian Union of Architects.

Anar Orujov, General Manager, Chanel 13 (Azerbaijan)



Anar Orujov is Channel 13's general manager and Caucasus Media Investigations Center's chairman. For the past ten years, Anar has been working with various media organizations in Azerbaijan.

Florin Pasatoiu, Lecturer, University of Craiova, Faculty of Law and Social Sciences



Florin Pasatoiu lectures on Comparative Security Policies, EU Common Foreign and Security Policy, Eurasia Studies, and Analysis of International Conflicts at the Department of History and International Relations at the University of Craiova. At the moment, Florin Pasatoiu is the chairman of the Institute for Development Policies in Romania. He is engaged in drafting various research projects on the new security architecture in Europe with the National University of Political Science and leads as Deputy Director the Center for Regional and Global Studies, at the Romanian Scientific Society for Interdisciplinary Research.

Recently, Florin was the leader of two transnational research and development projects co-financed via the European Social Fund and the European Regional Development Fund: *University- pole for growth and development*; and *Maximizing Comparative Advantages in Cross Border Regions*.

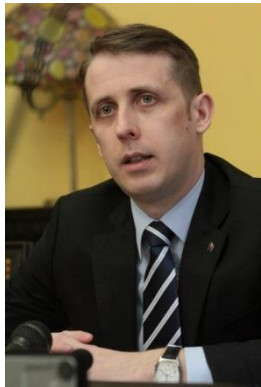
Oana Preda, Executive Director, Resource Center for Public Participation, Romania



Oana Preda is one of the founders of the Resource Center for Public Participation (CeRe). Working in the NGO sector since 1996, Oana started at the Pro Democracy Association, where she gained a lot of experience and a better understanding what democracy; then she worked with the National Democratic Institute.

Now, at CeRe, Oana is working with public institutions and NGOs on assistance programs on advocacy and public participation. Together with her team, she's trying to bring to Romania and show new and interesting ways of involving people in decision public. Meanwhile, she works as a trainer and consultant for many organizations: PACT Foundation, National Association of Citizens Advice Bureau, the Foundation for Civil Society Development etc.

Ovidiu Portariuc, Mayor of Botosani, Romania



Ovidiu Portariuc currently serves as the Mayor of Botosani, located on the Romanian border with Ukraine and Moldova. He previously worked in the private sector for more than 10 years where he was involved in managing some EU co-funded development projects in agribusiness and food industry in the Botosani County area. After being elected mayor, he became a member of the Steering Committee of the Romanian Municipalities Association. He represented the Association in events like the Mayors 2014 Conference in Brussels and the 2015 National Energy Forum in Bucharest. Mayor Portariuc is interested in urban development and creating an economic environment attractive for investors. He is an economist who specialized in Public and Private Finance but he also studied Social Psychology.

Wolfgang Schmitt, Director, GOPA Consultants



Wolfgang Schmitt currently works as a director for GOPA Consultants; one of the leading European contractors in development cooperation. From 2000 to 2010 he was managing director for German Technical Cooperation (now GIZ). His involvement in development affairs began while he was a member of the German Bundestag (parliament) from 1994 to 1998. During his stint in Parliament he was the Green Party's parliamentary spokesperson for development cooperation, trade affairs and international finance and served as a member of the respective committees. Wolfgang graduated as social worker from the Catholic University for Applied Sciences in Cologne. He studied history, political science and philosophy in Dusseldorf. In the 1980s, he started his professional career within the Green Party in various capacities. Wolfgang is a former Marshall Memorial Fellow (1990), and he has since maintained his links to the GMF. Wolfgang lives with his family in the Frankfurt metropolitan area. In his hometown of Oberursel, he serves as a city councilor.

Vassilios Theodossiou, Board Member, International Journalists Programmes



Vassilios Theodossiou currently serves as member of the board of directors of International Journalists Programmes (IJP), a Berlin-based NGO running exchange programmes for journalists between Germany and 45 countries worldwide. Prior to this, he worked as a lawyer in Berlin and Brussels for places such as Baker & McKenzie and as a freelance journalist for several German newspapers and magazines. He holds degrees in law, economics and philosophy from the universities of Göttingen and the London School of Economics (LSE).

Takahiro Yamasaki, Seconded, European Central Bank



Takahiro Yamasaki is currently on secondment from the bank of Japan working on financial integration issues from a market infrastructure perspective at the European Central Bank. Previously, he was responsible for a design of market operations of the BoJ. From 2010-12, he was a financial manager for an aircraft leasing subsidiary of Mitsubishi Corporation. Yamasaki also serves as President of a non-profit think tank focusing on developing leadership programs for Japanese youth. He earned master's degree in public policy from Harvard Kennedy School in 2008 and bachelor's degree in law from Kyoto University in 2002. He joined the German Marshall Fund's Young Strategist Forum in 2014.

PROGRAM STAFF

Ana Aelenei, Program Officer, Black Sea Trust for Regional Cooperation, German Marshall Fund



Ana Aelenei is the Black Sea Trust's program officer; she manages the Confidence Building program and BST's activities in Bulgaria and Ukraine, as well as the MMF programming in Romania, Moldova and Ukraine. Ana has a master's in Security Studies from the University of Bucharest and a Certificate d'Etudes Politiques from the Institute of Political Science of Lyon. Ana is also a fellow of the Japan Foundation. She is fluent in English, French and Spanish in addition to her native Romanian.

Kristel Ba, Program Officer, Transatlantic Leadership Initiatives, The German Marshall Fund of the United States



Kristel Ba is a program officer for the Transatlantic Leadership Initiatives program. She prepares, executes and coordinates leadership programs across markets in Europe. She also designs programs for young leaders around major events. Ba is also the Marshall Memorial Fellowship (MMF) city coordinator for Brussels and Paris. She joined GMF in May 2012 as Outreach Coordinator for the Paris Office and Paris Coordinator for MMF. She specializes in public relations and development initiatives including creating and implementing fundraising and communication strategies for the Paris Office, providing outreach to partners to develop and reinforce GMF's connections and network in France. Ba previously worked as a communication service provider for French local governments and for a film festival. She is a graduate of Sciences Po Bordeaux and holds a Masters of Arts in Public and Political Communication. Ba studied Marketing, International Management and Organizational Behavior at Laval University (Québec, Canada), and International Business at Haas School of Business at UC Berkeley. She is fluent in French and English and proficient in German and Bulgarian.

Lora Berg, Senior Fellow, Leadership, German Marshall Fund



Lora Berg, an innovator in the field of transatlantic and global diversity and inclusion, oversees the Leadership, Diversity and Inclusion Initiative of the German Marshall Fund's Transatlantic Leadership Initiatives team. In this capacity, she develops partnerships on the international stage to strengthen diversity and inclusion, and designs leadership programs such as the Transatlantic Inclusion Leaders Network (TILN), which builds the capacity of rising diverse young leaders from both sides of the Atlantic who hold or plan to run for public office. Berg's areas of leadership include strategies and best practices that create economic, political, and social inclusion for transatlantic communities across race, religion, age, gender, sexual orientation, and other markers at a time of significant demographic shifts in the United States and Europe. She also examines impacts of the economic crisis on social cohesion and civic participation, and the leadership challenges and opportunities resulting from intergroup tensions and breakthroughs on both sides of the Atlantic.

Michael Cohen, Operations Coordinator, Transatlantic Leadership Initiatives, The German Marshall Fund of the United States



Michael Cohen is the Operations Coordinator for Transatlantic Leadership Initiatives at GMF's office in Washington, D.C. In this role, he supports senior TLI staff and coordinates finance and program planning efforts for the department. Prior to joining GMF, Cohen attended the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, where he attained a bachelor's degree in History. He also studied abroad at King's College London, which sparked his interest in working at an organization dedicated to strengthening the transatlantic relationship through fellowship and exchange programs.

Maria Florea, Program Assistant, Black Sea Trust & GMF Bucharest Office



Maria Florea is Black Sea Trust's and GMF Bucharest office's Program Assistant. She assists in grant making for the wider Black Sea area projects and in the Marshall Memorial Fellowship programming for the Black Sea. Maria has a Master in European Governance from the University of Bristol and a Degree in Political Science from the University of Vienna. She is fluent in English, French and German in addition to her native Romanian.

Alina Inayeh, Director, Black Sea Trust for Regional Cooperation, German Marshall Fund



Alina Inayeh joined GMF in 2007 as the director of the Black Sea Trust for Regional Cooperation, a project dedicated to strengthening cooperation and fostering development in the Black Sea Region. She is an active practitioner in the field of international development and democratization, having run the Freedom House office in Ukraine in 2004 and the NDI office in Russia between 2000-03, with a focus on civic education and political processes. She has trained NGOs throughout Central and Eastern Europe and the Former Soviet

Union on issues related to NGO development and democratization. Inayeh has been a leading civic activist in the 1990s in her own country, Romania, and an active promoter of the NGO sector in the country. Inayeh received her bachelor's degree in geology from the University of Bucharest and a master's in public policy from the Woodrow Wilson School, University of Princeton. She is fluent in English and Russian in addition to her native Romanian.

Adnan Kifayat, Senior Resident Fellow, The German Marshall Fund of the United States



Adnan Kifayat is a senior resident fellow at GMF, where he advises on GMF programs to strengthen leadership development and strategies for engagement in the transatlantic region along with GMF's Leadership, Diversity, and Inclusion Initiative. Kifayat has held senior positions in public service, including at the White House, State Department, and Treasury Department. Kifayat served as Secretary of State John Kerry's acting special representative to Muslim communities where he created programs to broaden U.S. diplomatic engagement with Muslim communities worldwide. He served as an alternate executive director of the African Development

Bank Group, shaping Bank activities on the African continent. He served twice on the National Security Council staff coordinating counterterrorism and economic issues across the Middle East and Africa. Kifayat is an adviser to Public Affairs Engagement, a Washington DC-based communications advisory firm, and the London-based Institute for Strategic Dialogue. He serves on the Board of Advisers of the Center for Sanctions and Illicit Finance (CSIF) at the Foundation for the Defense of Democracy. There he leads the Future of Economic Power Task Force. He is also an adviser to the Harvard University Berkman Center's Project on Countering Youth Online Hate Speech. Kifayat Co-Chairs the U.S. Homeland Security Advisory Committee's Countering Violent Extremism Subcommittee.

Reta Jo Lewis, Director, Congressional Affairs, German Marshall Fund



Reta Jo Lewis serves as GMF's director of Congressional Affairs. Since January 2015, she has served as a senior resident fellow with GMF's Transatlantic Leadership Initiatives based at the Washington office. Previously, she served as the State Department's special representative for global intergovernmental affairs from 2010 to 2013. During that time, she also led the U.S. delegation to the Transatlantic Leaders Conference that launched GMF's Transatlantic Inclusion Leaders Network. In 2013, she was awarded the Secretary's Distinguished Service Award. Prior to the State Department, Lewis served in senior positions in the public and private sectors. She was vice president and counselor at the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, and directed the Chamber's efforts focused on small business and outreach to women and minority-owned businesses. Lewis was the special assistant to the president for political affairs in the Clinton White House from 1993 to 1995 and the director of the Northeast and Southern Regions. She was counsel at Edward Widman Palmer LLP prior to joining the Obama Administration and a 2014 mayoral candidate in Washington, D.C. Lewis holds a bachelor's in political science from University of Georgia, a master's from American University, and a J.D. from Emory University School of Law.

Martins Murnieks, Program Officer, Black Sea Trust & GMF Bucharest Office



Martins Murnieks is Black Sea Trust's and GMF Bucharest Office's Program Officer, Russia and Turkey are in his grant-making portfolio. He comes to BST directly from Riga, his hometown, where he was Director for Wider Europe with the Soros Foundation. Prior to this, Martins was Secretary General of Latvian Transatlantic Organization. He speaks Latvian (native), English and Russian.

Daniela Schwarzer, Senior Director for Research and Director of the Europe Program, German Marshall Fund



Dr. Daniela Schwarzer is senior director of research and the director of the Europe Program at the German Marshall Fund of the United States (GMF). She joined GMF's Berlin office in January 2014. Schwarzer previously headed the European Integration Division at the Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik (SWP, the German Institute for International and Security Affairs), from 2008 to 2014. Schwarzer has focused on Euro area issues, financial and debt crises, democratic legitimacy and transition, France, and Germany. She has held advisory positions for the French and Polish governments. From 2007 to 2008, she was a member of the "Europe" working group of the Whitebook Commission on Foreign and European Policy in the French Foreign Ministry. Schwarzer is a non-executive board member of BNP Paribas as well as a board member of the Paris-based think tank Notre Europe - Jacques Delors Institute

and United Europe. Schwarzer holds a Ph.D. in political economy from Freie Universität Berlin, co-supervised by the London School of Economics. She completed her master's in political science and linguistics at the University of Tübingen after having studied in Germany, the U.K., and France. In addition to her native German, Schwarzer speaks fluent French and English along with having a working knowledge of Italian.

Ivan Vejvoda, Senior Vice President of Programs, German Marshall Fund



Ivan Vejvoda is the senior vice president for Programs. From 2003 to 2010, he served as executive director of the Balkan Trust for Democracy, a project of the German Marshall Fund dedicated to strengthening democratic institutions in Southeastern Europe. Mr. Vejvoda came to GMF in 2003 following distinguished service in Serbia as senior advisor on foreign policy and European integration to Prime Ministers Zoran Djindjic and Zoran Zivkovic. He previously served as executive director of the Belgrade-based Fund for an Open Society from 1998 to 2002. During the mid-1990s, Mr. Vejvoda held various academic posts in the United States and the United Kingdom, including one-year appointments at Smith College in Massachusetts and Macalester College in Minnesota. He also had a three-year research fellowship at the University of Sussex in England. Mr. Vejvoda was a key figure in the democratic opposition movement in Yugoslavia throughout the 1990s. He is widely published on the subjects of civic movements, democratic transition, and totalitarianism. He is a member of the Serbian Pen Club and is a board member of American social science journals *Constellations* and *Philosophy and Social Criticism*. Mr. Vejvoda holds a diploma from Institut d'Etudes Politiques de Paris and completed postgraduate studies in philosophy at Belgrade University.

Filip Vojvodic Medic, Senior Program Officer, Transatlantic Leadership Initiatives, German Marshall Fund



Filip Vojvodic Medic is a program officer at the Transatlantic Leadership Initiatives Department of the German Marshall Fund. He manages programming for leadership development fellowships and lifelong learning, including the Marshall Memorial Fellowship, the Manfred Wörner Seminar, and the Transatlantic Leadership Seminar. Previously, Mr. Medic was a program officer at the Balkan Trust for Democracy, where he worked on democracy grant making in Bulgaria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Moldova, Montenegro, and Serbia and fellowship programs in the Balkans. Before joining the Balkan Trust, he was an assistant manager at Red Art Workshop, a radio, film, and television production company. Mr. Medic graduated in history and politics from the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences at the University of Adelaide, Australia.

NOTES

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