

2021-2022

THE YOUNG TRANSATLANTIC INNOVATION LEADERS INITIATIVE FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM



The Young Transatlantic Innovation Leaders Initiative (YTILI) is the U.S. Department of State's flagship program for emerging entrepreneurs from Europe. A cohort of young European entrepreneurs from 45 European countries will participate in a year-long fellowship program in 2021-2022.

Since its launch in 2016, approximately 300 alumni from across Europe have bolstered their business skills and transatlantic partnerships through the YTILI Fellowship Program. YTILI uses entrepreneurship as a tool for economic empowerment to promote mutual understanding, enhance business and leadership skills, and build lasting partnerships between business leaders from Europe and the United States.

In 2021 and 2022, the YTILI Fellowship Program will engage young European entrepreneurs in a series of professional development and leadership activities that are designed to strengthen the transatlantic relationship, develop sustainable partnerships between U.S. and European entrepreneurs, and encourage European businesses, governments and civil society to develop their innovation ecosystems. The fellowship includes an online and in-person entrepreneurship curriculum; a four-week placement with a business or organization in one of nine U.S. cities, opening and closing conferences in Chicago and Washington, D.C.; and a Regional Innovation Summit in Ljubljana, Slovenia.

KEY DATES

January 2021 - March 2021:

Application open

November 2021 - March 2022:

Mini MBA

March 2022 - April 2022:

Five-week U.S. Experience, including four-week U.S. fellowship placement

June 2022 - September 2022:

Mini MBA (continues)

September 2022:

Regional Innovation Summit & Reciprocal Exchange



U.S. FELLOWSHIP PLACEMENT

YTILI Fellows will experience entrepreneurship in action in one of nine U.S. cities through a four-week fellowship placement. Fellows will participate and observe the operations of a host U.S. organization from his or her business sector. Through collaboration with their fellowship host organization, Fellows will accelerate their commercial and social ventures' success by developing action plans to carry out upon their return to their home communities.



MINI MBA ENTREPRENEURSHIP CURRICULUM

The two-part Mini MBA Entrepreneurship Curriculum will provide YTILI Fellows the opportunity to enhance and connect their entrepreneurial knowledge and their leadership mindset through both virtual and in-person components. Designed by WorldChicago, DePaul University (Chicago, IL) and GEA College (Ljubljana, Slovenia), the Mini MBA will include a series of synchronous and asynchronous seminars and workshops before, during, and after the U.S. Fellowship to give practical insight for a growing business or organization.



INNOVATION SUMMIT AND RECIPROCAL EXCHANGE

Reconvening in Ljubljana, Slovenia in September 2022 for an Innovation Summit, Fellows and fellowship hosts will engage in professional development, mentorships, networking, and alumni activity. U.S. fellowship hosts will have the opportunity to participate as an American Participant to continue their entrepreneurial growth through reciprocal exchanges to their Fellows' home communities. WorldChicago will make small grants available that promote the expansion on entrepreneurship throughout Europe.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: ytili-worldchicago.org

(Launching 12/01/2020)



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