

Young Transatlantic Leadership Program

Bringing together the next generation of leaders

Call for Applications

Deadline for applications: March 26th 2023 (10 pm EST)

The Young Transatlantic Leadership program is a truly transatlantic, annually rotating immersive leadership exchange. Six participants, four from Germany and two from Canada, will form the YTL23 cohort. Together with the YTL22 cohort, the group will consist of twelve participants and will visit Canada for a two-week study tour in September 2023. The program will continue in the following year when six new participants will join the group of young leaders for a two-week tour in Germany.

We welcome applications from young professionals between the age of 27 and 37 (exceptions are welcome) of every discipline and work background, who have already stood out through their professional or personal impact in a local or regional community and demonstrated a deep interest in promoting the transatlantic relationship.

Between September 10th and 22nd 2023, the participants will travel to Vancouver and Calgary. The study tour route will begin in Vancouver on September 10th and end in Calgary on September 22nd. The interdisciplinary program will include:

- Exchange with representatives of the civil society
- Discussions with scientists from various disciplines
- Formal discussions among the participants regarding the German-Canadian and transatlantic relationship, and other topics, with representatives from different fields
- Field trips and hands-on activities

Topics that will be covered during YTL are the following:

- Energy supply in a changing world: The demand for new and cleaner energy sources has increased in recent years. Nevertheless, the Russian war on Ukraine has shown that societies in the Western world are still highly dependent on fossil energy sources and a diversified supply chain is crucial. This tradeoff causes a lot of economic and political uncertainty but simultaneously also motivates well-established companies and founders to go new ways. We are going to shed light on the situation in Canada's energy sector, what Germany can learn from it and where crucial developments are already in full swing. Especially the last few months have shown that the bilateral relations between both countries were dominated by the issue of energy security.
- Trade politics in a new environment: International free trade agreements were long seen as a silver bullet to integrate the different world regions and fuel economic development. In the last decade, this view has changed significantly. Disrupted supply chains due to lockdowns, skepticism in the general public about new trade agreements (e.g. CETA, TPP) and offshoring of production have contributed to changed discussion which emphasizes more frequently the downsides of international trade. We want to explore whether the criticism is right, how the current situation of international trade is, and what the future of it looks like.
- Canada's society changing over time: 2023 marks several anniversaries that had and still have an impact on Canada's society (e.g. 100 years of the William Treaty, 150 years of Treaty 3, and 100 years of the Chinese Immigration Act). We want to explore which impact these anniversaries still have on Canadian society and how multiculturalism in the country is lived nowadays. What can both countries learn from each other but where there are also similarities will be a guiding motive throughout the tour.

Participation Cost:

The participation cost for the selected participants is 1,250 euros /1,750 Canadian dollars, which covers all primary costs including the following: Accommodation (for 12 nights), breakfast, all program activities, and local transportation (including transportation between Vancouver and Calgary). As the organizers aim to generate further funding, the cost might be reduced, and participants might get a refund of overpaid fees.

Travel to and from the Study Tour:

All participants are responsible for their travel to Vancouver and from Calgary. The organizers will work on a joint flight for the German participants from Germany to Vancouver and back to Germany with special discounts. Successful applicants will be informed in time about the final travel plans.

The selected participants can either cover the participation costs themselves or individually find sources of funding to cover the costs through applying to relevant foundations, universities, institutes, organizations and companies. In some cases, the young leader's employer may cover the costs for them. We welcome sponsorship by companies and employers and will provide the participants with a letter of support for this purpose.

Full details of the program as well as the application and selection criteria are available online at www.ytl-initiative.org

Applications must be submitted no later than 26th March 2023 by 10 pm (EST) via e-mail (applications@ytl-initiative.org).

For further information, please contact: Robin Arens at rarens@ytl-initiative.org or Tobias Reuter at treuter@ytl-initiative.org.