

REAGAN-FASCELL

Democracy Fellows Program

INFORMATION & APPLICATION FORMS



National Endowment for Democracy

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About the Program

NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR DEMOCRACY

The National Endowment for Democracy (the Endowment) is a private, nonprofit organization created in 1983 to strengthen democratic institutions around the world through nongovernmental efforts. The Endowment is governed by an independent, bipartisan board of directors. With its annual congressional appropriation, it makes hundreds of grants each year to support pro-democracy groups in Africa, Asia, Central and Eastern Europe, Latin America, the Middle East, and the former Soviet Union.

The Endowment is guided by the belief that freedom is a universal human aspiration that can be realized through the development of democratic institutions, procedures, and values. Democracy cannot be achieved through a single election and need not be based upon the model of the United States or any other particular country. Rather, it evolves according to the needs and traditions of diverse political cultures. By supporting this process, the Endowment helps strengthen the bond between indigenous democratic movements abroad and the people of the United States—a bond based on a common commitment to representative government and freedom as a way of life.

INTERNATIONAL FORUM FOR DEMOCRATIC STUDIES

The Endowment established the International Forum for Democratic Studies (the Forum) in 1994 in response to the need for sustained and serious study of democracy's problems and prospects throughout the world. Since then, the Forum has become a leading center for analysis of the theory and practice of democratic development worldwide. It serves as a clearinghouse for information on the varied activities and experiences of groups and institutions working to achieve and maintain democracy around the world. Through its Democracy Resource Center, its publication of the quarterly *Journal of Democracy*, and its public seminars and symposia, the Forum enhances efforts to foster and improve democracy while also making important contributions to the field of comparative democratic studies.

REAGAN-FASCELL DEMOCRACY FELLOWS PROGRAM

Through a Congressionally mandated grant from the U.S. Department of State, the Endowment established the Reagan-Fascell Democracy Fellows Program in 2001. Named in honor of the Endowment's principal founders, former president Ronald Reagan and the late congressman Dante Fascell, the program enables democratic activists, policymakers, scholars, and journalists from around the world to deepen their understanding of democracy and enhance their ability to promote democratic change. Fellows are in residence at the Forum and participate in the collegial life of the Endowment and in the many opportunities for professional exchange in Washington, D.C.

The Reagan-Fascell Democracy Fellows Program is intended primarily for practitioners and scholars from emerging and aspiring democracies. Distinguished scholars from the United States and other established democracies are also eligible to apply. The program offers two tracks—a *practitioner* track (for fellowships ranging from three to five months) and a *scholarly* track (for fellowships ranging from three to ten months). While the two tracks share many common elements, they have different eligibility requirements and distinct goals, activities, and products associated with them.

About the Program

THE PRACTITIONER TRACK

The Reagan-Fascell program was established with the primary purpose of supporting democratic activists, human rights advocates, journalists, and others who work on the frontlines of building democracy in emerging and aspiring democracies. The program provides practitioners with a needed break from their daily routine so that they may reflect on their work, learn from counterparts in the United States, and reevaluate techniques for building democracy in their country of origin.

Eligibility: Applicants interested in the *practitioner track* are expected to have substantial experience working to promote democracy in their country of origin or interest. Examples of eligible candidates for the practitioner track include human rights advocates, political party activists, professional staff of civic or humanitarian organizations, lawyers, journalists, labor leaders, government policymakers and administrators, and diplomats.

Practitioner track fellowships are typically three to five months in duration. These fellowships culminate in a strategic policy memorandum, short article, or op-ed, and a presentation of the fellow's analysis and ideas.

THE SCHOLARLY TRACK

In recognition of the importance of intellectual contributions to the theory and practice of democracy, the Reagan-Fascell program offers a *scholarly track* for scholars, professors, and established writers. Applicants for this track may be promising or accomplished scholars from emerging or aspiring democracies or distinguished scholars from established democracies.

Eligibility: Applicants interested in the *scholarly track* are expected to possess a Ph.D. or academic equivalent *at the time of application*, to have published in their field of expertise, and to have developed a detailed research outline for their fellowship project. Examples of eligible candidates for the scholarly track include college and university professors, scholars, analysts at research centers and "think tanks," and independent writers.

Scholarly track fellowships can be from three to ten months in duration. Fellows on this track make at least one public presentation of their work and complete a substantial piece of writing (an article or book) for publication.

Please note: *The Reagan-Fascell Democracy Fellows Program is not intended to pay for professional training or to defray the cost of education for students working toward a degree.*

ENGLISH LANGUAGE REQUIREMENT

A working knowledge of English is an important prerequisite for participation in the Reagan-Fascell Democracy Fellows program. While the fellow's primary product may be in his/her native language, it is expected that he/she will have a solid command of written and spoken English for general communication purposes. All application materials must be submitted in English (or be accompanied by an English translation).

About the Program

PROGRAM CALENDAR, ANNUAL COMPETITION & SELECTION PROCESS

The fellowship year begins October 1 and ends July 31 of the following year, with major entry dates on October 1 (for three to ten month fellowships) and March 1 (for three to five month fellowships). In special cases (for example, three-month summer fellowships), the program may accommodate fellows in August. The program is closed during the month of September.

The Reagan-Fascell Democracy Fellows Program holds an annual competition, the deadline for which is November 1 (if the 1st falls on a weekend, the deadline is the following Monday). Notification of the outcome is in mid-February. Applications are assessed through a rigorous evaluation process, which includes expert external and internal review, culminating in the selection of finalists by the Endowment's Board of Directors.

FELLOWSHIP SUPPORT, FACILITIES & SERVICES

The Forum hosts twelve to fifteen Democracy Fellows per year, for three to ten months each. Fellows are expected to maintain full-time residence at the Forum for the duration of their fellowship and to carry out their projects in the metropolitan Washington area. Reagan-Fascell Democracy Fellowships are not designed to support fieldwork or substantial research elsewhere in the United States or abroad. Limited funds may be available for professional travel outside of Washington, D.C.

Each fellow receives a monthly stipend for living expenses, plus health insurance and reimbursement for travel to and from Washington, D.C., at the beginning and end of the fellowship period. Stipends take into account the fellow's level of experience, previous annual salary, and the cost of living in Washington, D.C. The Forum provides fellows with a fully equipped office, including access to the Internet and a limited budget for long-distance phone calls.

The Forum's Democracy Resource Center (DRC), Washington's leading center for research on democracy, includes an attractive library housing some 10,000 volumes. The DRC's expert staff assists fellows with their research and computer needs. Fellows may enjoy access to other local libraries as needed. The Forum also provides fellows with limited research assistance through its internship program.

While in residence at the Forum, fellows have the opportunity to interact with other visiting scholars and democratic activists from around the world, with Endowment staff, and with counterparts in the policymaking, media, academic and NGO communities in Washington, D.C. Fellows are encouraged to participate in the many conferences, seminars, and workshops organized by the Forum and other institutions around town.

VISA ISSUES

Prior to arrival in the United States, prospective fellows who are neither citizens nor permanent residents of the United States must secure a J-1 exchange visitor visa. The Reagan-Fascell program consults with incoming fellows and their families concerning their status and assists with the documentation needed to obtain visas. *Please note that J-1 visa holders are typically required to return to their home country for two years following their fellowship before they can apply for an H or L visa, or for permanent residence in the United States.*

APPLICATION FOR THE REAGAN-FASCELL DEMOCRACY FELLOWS PROGRAM

APPLICATION COVER SHEET

Please type or print neatly in English:

Last Name First Middle Dr. Mr. Ms. Prof.

Citizenship Date of Birth: month/day/year (*optional*)

Proposed Title of Fellowship Project

Proposed Track (*please check only one box*): Practitioner (3–5 months) Scholarly (3–10 months)

Preferred Dates of Residence: March 1–July 31, 2005 October 1, 2005–February 28, 2006

(*You may check more than one box
if you are flexible*)

(Please Note: *We have only a few
slots available during this period*)

March 1–July 31, 2006 October 1, 2005–July 31, 2006
(*scholarly track only*)

Other (*please explain special request*): _____

Summary of Proposed Project. In the space below, please summarize the project you wish to pursue while in residence at the International Forum for Democratic Studies, the professional activities in which you intend to engage while in Washington, and the nature of the final product.

APPLICATION FOR THE REAGAN-FASCELL DEMOCRACY FELLOWS PROGRAM

APPLICANT INFORMATION FORM

Full Name

Citizenship

Date of Birth: month/day/year *(optional)*

Sex *(optional)*

Current Profession

Job Title

Department

Institution

Work Address

Street

Apartment No.

City

State

Country

Zip/Postal code

Home Address

Street

Apartment No.

City

State

Country

Zip/Postal code

Home Phone *(including country & city codes)*

Office Phone *(including country & city codes)*

Fax

E-mail 1

E-mail 2

Preferred Mailing Address: Home Work

A working knowledge of English is an important prerequisite for participation in the program. Please indicate your level of Fluency in English (excellent, good, or fair):

Speaking

Reading

Writing

APPLICATION FOR THE REAGAN-FASCELL DEMOCRACY FELLOWS PROGRAM

Three letters of recommendation are required of all applicants. Please include below the names and institutional affiliations of those writing recommendation letters for you:

1st Referee's Name _____ Institutional Affiliation _____

2nd Referee's Name _____ Institutional Affiliation _____

3rd Referee's Name _____ Institutional Affiliation _____

How did you hear about the Reagan-Fascell Democracy Fellows Program?

- Advertisement: _____ E-mail listserv: _____
Name of Publication *Name of Listserv*
- Internet: _____ Flyer Friend _____
Website *Name*
- Other: _____
Please explain

Are you or have you been affiliated with organizations that receive funding from the National Endowment for Democracy? (*Affiliation with organizations that receive NED funding does not adversely affect fellowship opportunities at the International Forum for Democratic Studies.*)

- Yes _____ No
- Name of Organization*

Please list any other fellowship programs to which you are currently applying: _____

I certify that the statements made in this application are true and complete to the best of my knowledge, that I am not delinquent in repaying any federal debt, and that I will not engage in the unlawful manufacture, distribution, possession, or use of a controlled substance while conducting any fellowship activity.

Signature of Applicant _____ Date _____

APPLICATION FOR THE REAGAN-FASCELL DEMOCRACY FELLOWS PROGRAM

Project Proposal Guidelines

The Reagan-Fascell Democracy Fellows Program offers two tracks, a *practitioner* track (for democratic activists and practitioners), and a *scholarly* track (for professors and scholars). Please select *either* the practitioner track (see below) *or* the scholarly track (see page 10) and address the questions that follow.

PRACTITIONER TRACK

The practitioner project proposal is an important part of your fellowship application. It should be clear, concise, and understandable to individuals outside your own field. A proposal will be stronger if it shows specifically how the fellowship at the Forum will strengthen your ability to conduct your work. In 5–10 typewritten, double-spaced pages, please address the following questions:

1) PRIOR WORK EXPERIENCE

Describe the work that you have been doing to advance democracy in your country or region.

2) PROPOSED FELLOWSHIP PROJECT & ITS SIGNIFICANCE

- a) If offered a Reagan-Fascell fellowship, what issue related to democracy would you propose to examine?
- b) Why is this issue important?

3) ACTIVITIES

- a) How do you plan to carry out your proposed fellowship project?
- b) With what organizations and people do you hope to interact?
- c) In what other ways will your time at the International Forum in Washington, D.C. enhance your work?

4) FELLOWSHIP PRODUCT

- a) In what form will the results of your project be disseminated (article, policy memorandum, public presentation, etc.)?
- b) How will the results of your proposed project contribute to the more effective promotion of democracy in your country or region of interest?

RESUMÉ/CURRICULUM VITAE

Please attach a recent resumé or curriculum vitae to your application. The resumé should list, in reverse chronological order, your education, including all degrees earned, professional appointments and experiences, awards and honors, and publications (if any).

APPLICATION FOR THE REAGAN-FASCELL DEMOCRACY FELLOWS PROGRAM

Project Proposal Guidelines

The Reagan-Fascell Democracy Fellows Program offers two tracks, a *practitioner* track (for democratic activists and practitioners), and a *scholarly* track (for professors and scholars). Please select *either* the practitioner track (see page 9) *or* the scholarly track (see below) and address the questions that follow.

SCHOLARLY TRACK

The scholarly research proposal is the most important aspect of your fellowship application. It should be clear, concise, and understandable to individuals outside your own field. A proposal will be stronger if it is original; articulates a clear hypothesis and suitable methods for testing it; outlines a realistic work schedule; offers comparative potential; and contributes to knowledge of democracy and democratization. In 5–10 typewritten, double-spaced pages, please address the following questions:

1) RESEARCH TOPIC & RELEVANCE

- a) What issue related to democracy do you propose to research?
- b) Why is this issue important?
- c) How does the proposed research relate to or extend existing literature on the subject?
- d) How would a fellowship at the International Forum facilitate this research?
- e) How will the results of your proposed research project advance public understanding of the theory and practice of democracy?

2) FELLOWSHIP PRODUCT

- a) In what form will the results of your project be disseminated: article, monograph, or book?
- b) Provide a detailed outline of the proposed written product.

RESUMÉ/CURRICULUM VITAE

Please attach a recent resumé or curriculum vitae to your application. The resumé should list, in reverse chronological order, your education, including all degrees earned, professional appointments and experiences, awards and honors, and publications (if any).

APPLICATION FOR THE REAGAN-FASCELL DEMOCRACY FELLOWS PROGRAM

FINANCIAL INFORMATION FORM

The International Forum for Democratic Studies provides each fellow with a stipend for living expenses. Stipends take into account the fellow's previous annual income, level of experience, and the cost of living in Washington, D.C. The Forum also provides basic health insurance and reimbursement for travel to and from Washington, D.C. for each fellow and for **up to two** members of his/her immediate family who qualify as dependents and who will reside with the fellow for the duration of the fellowship. Fellows who wish to bring additional dependents will be responsible for covering their cost of travel and health insurance. The information requested below will help us in determining your stipend. Please complete the form as accurately as possible.

Full Name _____ Date of Birth: month / day / year (optional) _____

Present Position / Institutional Affiliation _____

Preferred Dates of Residence: March 1–July 31, 2005 October 1, 2005–February 28, 2006
(You may check more than one box if you are flexible) (Please Note: We have only a few slots available during this period)

March 1–July 31, 2006 October 1, 2005–July 31, 2006
(scholarly track only)

Other (please explain special request): _____

Annual Salary (in U.S. dollars) 2003: _____ 2002: _____

Please note: If selected for a fellowship, you will need to provide official documentation of your income.

Additional support you may receive during fellowship period:

	Source	Amount
	Source	Amount

Members of your immediate family who plan to accompany you:

Spouse _____

Name(s) & Age(s) of Child(ren) _____

Please note: The program will pay for roundtrip travel and health insurance for **up to two** members of the fellow's immediate family who qualify as dependents and who will reside with the fellow for the duration of the fellowship. Fellows will be responsible for covering the cost of travel and health insurance for any additional dependents they may wish to bring.

Please use a separate sheet if you wish to provide us with additional information concerning your financial situation.

APPLICATION FOR THE REAGAN-FASCELL DEMOCRACY FELLOWS PROGRAM

INSTRUCTIONS FOR REFEREES

Thank you for agreeing to write a reference letter to the Reagan-Fascell Democracy Fellows Program at the National Endowment for Democracy (NED). Your frank appraisal of the applicant and his or her suitability for a fellowship will greatly help us in our selection process. For further information about the program, please refer to page 13.

We would greatly appreciate your candid comments on the following:

- the length of time and the context in which you have known the applicant;
- your opinion of his or her background, qualifications, professional accomplishments, and experiences;
- your appraisal of the proposed project and the applicant's ability to complete it in time;
- your assessment of the project's potential for advancing democratic theory and/or practice;
- your views on the suitability of the applicant and his or her project to the mandate of the Reagan-Fascell program and National Endowment for Democracy; and
- any other information you feel is important to share concerning the candidate.

Using a separate sheet of paper for your comments, please mail or fax your reference letter to the address below. To expedite your correspondence with us, you may also e-mail your comments to fellowships@ned.org.

Please note: The deadline for all application materials is **November 1** (or, if the 1st falls on a weekend, the following Monday).

For further information, please contact:

Program Assistant, Fellowship Programs
International Forum for Democratic Studies
National Endowment for Democracy
1101 15th Street, N.W., Suite 800
Washington, DC 20005
Tel: 202-293-0300
Fax: 202-293-0258
E-mail: fellowships@ned.org
Website: www.ned.org

BACKGROUND INFORMATION FOR REFEREES

The National Endowment for Democracy is a private, bipartisan, nongovernmental organization that aids in the establishment and maintenance of democratic institutions worldwide. In 2001, the Endowment established the Reagan-Fascell Democracy Fellows Program to enable democratic activists, practitioners, policymakers, scholars, and journalists from around the world to deepen their understanding of and enhance their ability to promote democracy through a fellowship in Washington, D.C.

Applicants to the Reagan-Fascell Democracy Fellows Program may apply for one of two tracks: the *practitioner track* and the *scholarly track*. While the two tracks share important basic elements, they have distinct goals, activities, and products associated with them. Applications from *practitioners* warrant special attention to the applicant as a *person* (i.e., his or her background and practical achievements and goals), whereas applications from *scholars* will warrant special attention to the *research proposal* (i.e., its academic rigor and potential contribution to the field).

The Practitioner Track. The Reagan-Fascell program was established with the goal of supporting democratic activists, human rights advocates, journalists, and others who work on the frontlines of building democracy in emerging and aspiring democracies. A central purpose of the program is to provide practitioners who have substantial experience working to promote democracy with a needed break from their daily work so that they may reflect, learn from counterparts in the United States, and reevaluate techniques for building democracy back home. These fellowships are typically three to five months in duration and culminate in a strategy memorandum, short article or op-ed, and a presentation of the fellow's analysis and ideas.

Applicants interested in the practitioner track are expected to have substantial experience working to promote democracy in their country of origin or interest. Examples of eligible candidates for the practitioner track include human rights advocates, political party activists, professional staff of civic or humanitarian organizations, lawyers, journalists, labor leaders, government policymakers and administrators, and diplomats.

The Scholarly Track. Recognizing the importance of intellectual contributions to the theory and practice of democracy, the Reagan-Fascell program includes a scholarly track for scholars, professors, and established writers to be in residence for three- to ten-month fellowships. Applicants for this track may be promising or accomplished scholars from emerging or aspiring democracies, or distinguished scholars from established democracies. They make at least one public presentation of their work during their stay at the Forum and complete a substantial piece of writing (an article or book) for publication.

Applicants interested in the *scholarly track* are expected to possess a Ph.D. or academic equivalent *at the time of application*, to have published in their field of expertise, and to have developed a rigorous research outline for their fellowship project. Examples of eligible candidates for the scholarly track include college and university professors, analysts at research centers and "think tanks," and independent writers.

APPLICATION FOR THE REAGAN-FASCELL DEMOCRACY FELLOWS PROGRAM

APPLICATION CHECKLIST

To be sent by the applicant:

- 1. Cover Sheet (see page 6)
- 2. Applicant Information (see page 7–8)
- 3. Project Proposal (*practitioner or scholarly track*, see page 9–10)
- 4. Resumé or Curriculum Vitae (see page 9–10)
- 5. Financial Information Form (see page 11)

To be sent by the referees:

- 6. Three letters of recommendation, *sent directly to the fellowship program by the individual referees* (see pages 12–13)

Please note: All application materials must be typewritten and in English (or be accompanied by an English translation).

MAILING INSTRUCTIONS & CONTACT INFORMATION

Once you have assembled items 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 above in that order, please make at least six photocopies and send them by airmail to the address below. If possible, please also send items 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 above as e-mail attachments (formatted in Microsoft Word) to fellowships@ned.org. When it is not possible to make copies or to airmail applications, electronic versions only will be accepted. In all cases, reference letters and e-mails must be sent directly to the program by individual referees.

Please note: The deadline for all application materials is **November 1** (or, if the 1st falls on a weekend, the following Monday).

For further information, please contact:

PROGRAM ASSISTANT, FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMS
INTERNATIONAL FORUM FOR DEMOCRATIC STUDIES
NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR DEMOCRACY
1101 15TH STREET, N.W., SUITE 800
WASHINGTON, DC 20005
TEL: 202-293-0300
FAX: 202-293-0258
E-MAIL: fellowships@ned.org
INTERNET: www.ned.org