



Named in honor of NED’s principal founders, former president Ronald Reagan and the late U.S. congressman Dante Fascell (D-FL), the Reagan-Fascell Democracy Fellows Program enables democratic activists, practitioners, scholars, and journalists from around the world to deepen their understanding of democracy and enhance their ability to promote democratic change.

1. **Kwami Ahiabenu** (*Ghana, March–July 2013*) is founding president of the International Institute for ICT Journalism, an Accra-based organization that promotes journalistic professionalism across Africa through the use of information communication technologies. During his fellowship, he developed guidelines for citizens to use digital technologies to track government expenditures and launched a website, www.OpenWestAfrica.org, aimed at combating corruption and improving public service delivery across West Africa. In May 2013, he gave a presentation at NED entitled “Using Technology to Promote Good Governance and Economic Transparency in West Africa.”
2. **Ismail Alexandrani** (*Egypt, Oct. 2012–Feb. 2013*) is a freelance journalist, socio-political

researcher, and social media expert, based in Alexandria, Egypt. While in Washington, D.C., he explored how digital and traditional social media are used in Egypt for collective mobilization. In February 2013, he gave a presentation at NED entitled “Resisting Exclusion through Digital Activism: Untold Narratives from Sinai and Upper Egypt.”

3. **Abdulrazaq Alkali** (*Nigeria, March–July 2013*) is executive director of the Youth Society for the Prevention of Infectious Disease and Social Vices, an NGO that promotes civic education and peace-building initiatives among youth in Nigeria’s Kano state. During his fellowship, he engaged with local civil society organizations, including the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, gaining insights for a paper on empowering youth at the grassroots level. His June 2013 presentation at NED was entitled “Strengthening Youth Participation in Nigeria.”
4. **Eduardo Bertoni** (*Argentina, Oct. 2012–Feb. 2013*) is director of the Center for Studies on Freedom of Expression and Access to Information at Palermo University School of Law, in Buenos Aires. During his fellowship, he explored the complex dimensions of freedom of expression on the Internet in Latin America. In Feb. 2013, he gave a presentation at NED entitled “Internet Jurisdiction: The Problem of Online Defamation in Latin America.”
5. **Chanda Chisala** (*Zambia, Oct. 2012–Feb. 2013*) is founder and president of Zambia Online, the country’s first and largest online portal promoting public debate on national issues. During his fellowship, Mr. Chisala researched sustainable mobile innovations designed to streamline service delivery, strengthen citizen participation in local governance, and promote government transparency in Zambia. In Jan. 2013, he gave a presentation at NED entitled “From Donor Aid to Donor Capital: Sustaining Zambia’s Mobile Revolution.”
6. **Nadira Eshmatova** (*Kyrgyzstan, March–July 2013*) is cofounder and executive director of the Youth Human Rights Group, a Bishkek-based NGO that monitors and reports on human rights abuses in Central Asia. During her fellowship, she studied the capacity of youth to engage politically and promote reconciliation between Kyrgyz and Uzbek [in Kyrgyzstan]. In July 2013, she gave a presentation at NED entitled “Democracy and Reconciliation in Kyrgyzstan: A Case for the Mobilization of Youth.”
7. **Donald Horowitz** (*United States, Sept. 2012–Jan. 2013*) is James B. Duke Emeritus Professor of Law and Political Science at Duke University, where he has taught since 1981. During his fellowship, he conducted research and writing for his book manuscript on constitutional design for ethnically divided societies. In November 2012, he delivered a presentation at NED entitled “An Inside Job: Indonesia’s Path to Constitutional Democracy.” In July 2013, he returned to NED to become Senior Fellow at the International Forum for Democratic Studies.
8. **Matar Ebrahim Matar** (*Bahrain, March–November 2013*) served as Bahrain’s youngest elected member of parliament, representing its largest constituency. During his fellowship, he researched labor market reforms and their impact on democratization in the Gulf region. His April 25 presentation was entitled “Understanding the Struggle for Power and the Democratization Process in Bahrain.” Mr. Matar continues to speak out on behalf of the prodemocracy movement in Bahrain and has testified before the Tom Lantos Human Rights Commission of the U.S. Congress.

Frank Rusa Nyakaana (*Uganda, March–July 2013*) is a senior program officer at the Democratic Governance Facility, a basket fund initiative established by eight European countries to support democracy, human rights, peacebuilding, anti-corruption, and access to justice in Uganda. During his fellowship, he assessed the challenges facing democracy in his country, focusing on the role of civil society in promoting political and social accountability. In June 2013, he gave a presentation at NED entitled “Civil Society and the Quest for Democracy in Uganda: Threats and Opportunities.”

9. **Irma Sandoval-Ballesteros** (*Mexico, March–July 2013*) is a professor at the Institute for Social Research and director of the Laboratory for the Documentation and Analysis of Corruption and Transparency at the National Autonomous University of Mexico. During her fellowship, she worked on a book proposing a new “structural” approach to understanding and combatting corruption in the context of democratic transitions. In May 2013, she delivered a presentation at NED entitled “Transparency and the Struggle for Accountability in Mexico.”
10. **Thet Sambath** (*Cambodia, Jan.–Aug. 2013*) is a renowned documentary filmmaker and former journalist with the *Phnom Penh Post*. His 2009 documentary “Enemies of the People” was shortlisted for an Oscar and awarded the Sundance Special Jury Prize. During his fellowship, he conducted research for a sequel to his film, which further explores the legacy of the Khmer Rouge. Following his fellowship at NED, he continued his research as a “Scholar at Risk” at Harvard University.
11. **Jayaprakash Tissainayagam** (*Sri Lanka, October 2012–February 2013*) is a seasoned journalist covering ethnic conflicts, sociopolitical

issues, and the peace process in Sri Lanka. In 2009, he was sentenced to twenty years imprisonment for criticizing the Sri Lankan government’s handling of its war against the Tamil Tigers, and was released two years later following an international outcry. During his fellowship, he focused on how international forces affect democratization in South Asia. He gave a February 2013 presentation at NED entitled “Post-War Reconciliation in Sri Lanka: Hopes, Pitfalls, and Engagements.”

12. **Alexander Verkhovsky** (*Russia, Oct. 2012–Feb. 2013*) is founding director of the SOVA Center for Information and Analysis, a Moscow-based NGO that monitors political extremism and counter-extremism measures in Russia. During his fellowship, he conducted a comparative study of anti-hate legislation passed in OSCE countries, identifying commonalities and developing methods to enhance the legal framework in Russia and other OSCE countries. In December 2012, he led a working group discussion at NED entitled “Enhancing the Legal Framework to Combat Hate Crimes, Hate Speech, and Related Activity.”
13. **Nang Lao Liang Won** (*Burma, March–July 2013*), also known as Tay Tay, is co-founder of the Migrant Assistance Programme (MAP), a grassroots NGO that works with migrant workers from Burma. During her fellowship, she explored strategies for protecting women’s human rights and worked on a paper with recommendations for strengthening the women’s movement in a more open Burma. Her June 2013 presentation at NED was entitled “Can Democracy Work for Women in Burma?”

VISITING FELLOWS PROGRAM

In addition to the Reagan-Fascell Democracy Fellows Program, the International Forum for



NED President Carl Gershman (left) speaks with Reagan-Fascell Fellow Jitman Basnet (right) and Dave Peterson, NED Senior Director for Africa (center).

Democratic Studies hosts a small Visiting Fellows Program for scholars and practitioners with outside funding who wish to be affiliated with the Forum.

15. Fouzia Saeed (*Pakistan, Oct. 2012–July 2013*) is a prominent social activist who has served as director of Mehergarh, an Islamabad-based human rights and democracy center that conducts training and research on youth activism and empowerment. During her fellowship, she gave a December 2012 presentation at NED entitled “Signs of a Maturing Democracy: Passing Pro-Women Legislation in Pakistan.” She also published the U.S. edition of her book, *Working with Sharks: A Pakistani Woman’s Story of Sexual Harassment in the United Nations—From Personal Grievance to Public Law*, and spoke at a book launch hosted by the International Forum in April 2013.

16. Joseph Tucker (*United States, March–July 2013*) served most recently as the negotiations team leader in the Office of the U.S. Special Envoy for Sudan and South Sudan at the U.S. Department of State. During his fellowship, he conducted research on the history and evolution of political parties in South Sudan and gave a July 2013 presentation at NED entitled “Political Parties, Nation-Building, & Democracy in South Sudan.”

HURFORD YOUTH FELLOWS PROGRAM

In 2013, the International Forum for Democratic Studies continued its partnership with the World Youth Movement for Democracy in hosting the Hurford Youth Fellows Program.