



Ministry of Foreign Affairs
of the Czech Republic



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Vaclav Havel Journalism Fellowship

The Vaclav Havel Journalism Fellowship is an initiative of [RFE/RL](#) and the [Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic](#), and is generously supported by the [Prague Freedom Foundation](#) and the [Dagmar and Vaclav Havel Foundation VIZE97](#). Launched in 2011, it is inspired by the late Czech leader's belief in the transformational power of free speech and builds on RFE/RL's legacy of promoting more open societies through journalism.

Goal

The goal of the program is to strengthen the capacity of aspiring journalists to use their journalism in support of pluralism. Selected Fellows will be placed with a language service in the company's Prague headquarters, where they will receive on-the-job training and mentoring while working alongside RFE/RL's seasoned professionals. The program will equip them with cutting edge multi-media skills, while involving them in the daily editorial debates and discussions that inform a professional and independent press. The program will help position them be both standard-bearers of their profession and leaders in their communities, on-line, on air, and in the world. Fellows will be selected from countries in RFE/RL's broadcast region, where media freedom is stifled and independent journalists often work at risk.

Program Description

Fellowships are for a term of nine months, with seven months spent at RFE/RL's Prague headquarters and the first and last month spent with a local RFE/RL bureau. Consistent with the Czech Republic's leadership in forging a "European partnership" with its newest neighbors, the program will focus foremost on journalists from Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova, the Russian Federation and Ukraine. In addition to their training in Prague, Fellows will participate in a week-long professional development program in Washington, Brussels or Geneva. Documentation, round-trip travel, housing, insurance and a stipend are provided for the term of the Fellowship.

Selection

Candidates are sought in RFE/RL target countries from a wide range of sources, and are selected on a competitive basis consistent with a standard application procedure. Interested journalists can download the application on RFE/RL's website. The strongest candidates would demonstrate a record of independent journalism, professionalism, local impact, active connections with their audience, and a commitment to pluralism. English-language proficiency is required.

For more information or to apply, visit:

http://www.rferl.org/havel_journalism_fellowship.html