

CITIZEN DIPLOMACY PROGRAM UPCOMING VISITORS

March 26-29 – Russia – Countering Violent Extremism (6 visitors)

- Provide insight into how the actions of clergy, government officials, academics, law enforcement, journalists, and community leaders in the United States can contribute to an environment that nurtures acceptance and discourages expressions of extremism;
- Offer exposure to the work of Muslim organizations in the United States in promoting best practices for the development and management of programs to counter violent extremism; and
- Demonstrate the United States' example of interethnic and interreligious tolerance as an alternative to hate, violence, and radicalization.

March 29 – April 1 – Ukraine - Combatting Financial Fraud (5 visitors)

- Examine U.S. legislation and policy designed to prevent and combat credit card and ATM fraud;
- Observe best practices at the federal, state and local levels in addressing credit card and ATM fraud;
- Examine academic curricula designed for criminal justice professionals focused on detecting and investigating financial fraud;
- Learn about anti-fraud strategies and technologies employed by private sector companies; and
- Explore government-sponsored initiatives designed to educate and protect consumers.

April 6 – 11 – RP (Near East and North Africa) – WISE – Women's Innovations in Science and Entrepreneurship (9 visitors)

- Review the evolution and advancement of U.S. women in scientific research and innovation;
- Illustrate policies, organizations, and educational institutions that champion the interests of women in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics;
- Provide opportunities for delegation to network with professional counterparts at scientific academies, associations, universities and agencies across the United States; and
- Showcase the scientific accomplishments of the visitors through speaking engagements and/or participation in a conference/workshop/symposium.

CITIZEN DIPLOMACY PROGRAM UPCOMING VISITORS

May 6 – 11 – RP (Near East and North Africa) – Interfaith Dialogue (9 visitors)

- Review the moral and philosophical basis of religious life in the U.S., the historic origins of religious freedom, and how immigration has impacted religious life in America;
- Explore the role of religious leaders in the community and their cooperative efforts with leaders of other religious traditions;
- Examine the impact of religion on political life in the U.S. and the reasoning for separation of religion and state; and
- Visit religious based primary/secondary schools and universities to meet with students, teachers, professors and faith-based groups.

May 9 – 13 – Germany – Demographic Change and Integration in Multicultural Society (4 visitors)

- Explore population changes in the United States by investigating such demographic components as gender, age, ethnicity, mobility, language knowledge, employment status, and location.
- Compare and contrast demographic trends in the United States and Germany from government, community, private sector, think tank, NGO, and academic perspectives.
- Examine how the United States foster notions of citizenship and nationhood
- Study initiatives that broaden immigrants' and minorities' employment opportunities, access to education and health services, and civic participation; and
- Explore immigration, integration, and diversity in the United States.

May 10 – 16 – MRP – Promoting Social Change through Arts (6 visitors)

This project will examine the link between cultural engagement and community well-being by focusing on the arts as a vehicle for promoting social change. The project supports the Department's strategic goal of supporting democracy through outreach to disaffected youth. Participants will visit established art centers and learn about community-supported arts programs that focus on disenfranchised populations. They will look at an array of models, including those focused on traditional and folk arts, painting, graphic arts and photography, as well as others that emphasize performing arts, such as dance and street theater. The project will include an array of social media and this medium's role as a stage for the video and film arts. In broad stroke terms, the program will examine the critical and constructive roles that art plays in the socio-political context and in civic dialogue. It will look at the use of art in confronting social issues such as problems associated with ethnic diversity, sexual orientation and economic stratification, and reveal the particular power that the arts can have in environments where there are few venues for political speech. The project will also explore such practical themes as establishing and administering arts programs, fundraising and sustainability.