



STAY ENGAGED: Upcoming events



GLC IN-PERSON INTERNATIONAL REUNION: 10 YEARS ANNIVERSARY

16 NOVEMBER 2022 **BUDAPEST**
17-20 NOVEMBER 2022 **PECS**



OFFICIAL REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!



16-20 November 2022, Pecs (Hungary)

Official registration for our GLC In-person International Reunion is now open!

The official registration for our in-person international reunion is now open! It will include a series of events in Budapest (November 16th 2022) and Pecs (between November 17th and 20th 2022 in Hungary!

Registration is compulsory for everyone, including people who have expressed interest in our previous form. **Deadline for registration is September 15th 2022!**

See details below!

[Register for participation here!](#)

September 20th 2022, 6 pm CET / 12 pm EST

Happy Hour: How was your summer?

Fix a drink and let's share the highlights of this summer! Did you guys finally travel for holidays and where? How was it? Did you manage to stay away from work during the holidays and how? What motivates you for the new work season? We need good practices!

While we will invite some US mentors that travelled to Europe this summer

HAPPY HOUR SERIES

TUESDAY, SEPT 20TH 2022 ONLINE ON ZOOM
12 PM US EASTERN / 6 PM CENTRAL EUROPEAN

TOPIC: **HOW WAS YOUR SUMMER?**

Moderated by
VLADISLAV PETKOV
SOFIA, BULGARIA

Happy Hour is a GLC alumni online series for non-formal socializing and fun.

GLC Professional Fellows alumni activities supported by the U.S. Department of State, Bureau of the Educational and Cultural Affairs, Global Leaders Division.

PROFESSIONAL FELLOWS
AMERICAN NATIONAL COMMITTEE FOR EUROPE
GREAT LAKES COMMUNITY ACTION

and some fellows who hosted, we want this to be a rather open discussion and we will wait for your stories and reflections!

[Join Facebook event *](#)

[Zoom link for the event](#)

20	04	06	59
Days	Hours	Minutes	Seconds

* As we strive to keep our gatherings safe, please note we are only creating private Facebook events. If you can't access the events on Facebook, but would like to mark your participation there, please reach Elizabeth Balint or any country director.

Please don't share publicly the Zoom link to these events. You are however welcome to invite trusted colleagues and friends who might be interested.

STAY INFORMED: News Bites

A Decade of Success

Don't miss to celebrate the GLC Pro Fellows 10 years anniversary in November!

This years' GLC Professional Fellows in-person international



reunion will take place between November 16th and 20th 2022 in Hungary! It will mark the 10th anniversary of our GLC Professional Fellows Program!

We plan to bring together more than 60 of our alumni and mentors, so don't miss your chance to join us and

[register here](#) before September 15th! The official registration is a must, even if you have previously filled up the form to express interest. European fellows should contact their country director for travel plans to Hungary, while U.S. mentors should communicate with Elizabeth Balint. As always, we expect co-payment of \$100 by all participants, due in advance and non-refundable.

The preliminary plan for the reunion is for participants to arrive in Budapest on November 16th where we plan an afternoon official reception, engaging the US Embassy to Hungary. On November 17th everyone will travel to Pecs for professional and cultural program on 17th, 18th and 19th of November. In Pecs, participants will stay in [Hotel Corso](#) in the center of the city. November 20th will be a departure day.

Hungarian alumni and country coordinators are working on the program and are open for support and suggestions from everyone, so that we can all leave with learning, contacts, ideas and inspiration, as we always have in previous reunions.

For everyone's safety, we will expect participants joining the reunion to provide a negative Covid-19 test (Rapid or PCR) taken at least 48 hours before arrival. While we strongly encourage vaccination, we will not request vaccination certificates.

Two strategic partnership trips already happening with the support of our Dave Beckwith Memorial Program

Two trips across the ocean with the support of our Dave Beckwith Memorial Strategic Partnerships Program are already a fact!

In August, U.S. mentor Leah Torrey travelled to Hungary and Slovakia to work with our local partners and alumni for two weeks and came back to the U.S. just days ago. Read her full story further below.

On August 28th, Bulgarian alumnus Krasimir Chervenkov (Fall 2017) left for the US and is currently undergoing an intensive professional program with the support of our US mentor Elizabeth Sammons, who is also hosting him. Krasimir will stay in Columbus (OH) until September 14th, further building competencies and contacts on disability rights and organizing.

Emil Metodiev (Bulgaria, Spring 2012) is scheduled to travel on the same program on September 23rd, visiting Toledo, Chicago, Seattle and Los Angeles. Three other European alumni are preparing their trips by the end of the year.

Each of these projects is supported with up to \$1500 for transportation and related costs by our first edition of the Dave Beckwith Memorial Strategic Partnerships Program. This is an alumni community initiative and is fully funded

by the financial contributions of our GLC family and friends during our 2021 fundraising campaign. Thank you!



STAY INSPIRED: Alumni stories



5th National Meeting of community organizers took place in Hungary

Between August 17th and August 20th, our partners Civil College Foundation held the 5th National Meeting of Community Organizers. The meeting took place in Kunbabony, Hungary, and brought together a variety of organizers in different fields. Our U.S. mentor Leah

Torrey was a special guest of the meeting, as she travelled to Europe with support from our Dave Beckwith Memorial Strategic Partnerships Program (see her full story below).

Elizabeth Balint's European tour reunites alumni and friends of the program!

Our GLC program manager Elizabeth Balint is in Hungary in August and you should know about it by now if you are on Facebook!

We should all learn from Elizabeth how to plan a schedule, as the number of meetings with alumni and friends of the program is more than impressive! She met with the Hungarian fellows who were in the U.S. this spring (photo below) and the ones that will travel to the U.S. this fall. Her tour around Hungary brought together not only a big number of Hungarian alumni, but also alumni from other countries. A real rock star!



STAY Reflective: The Long Read



U.S. mentor Leah Torrey: I'm hopeful that these connections will continue to bear good fruit

This year, I was a lucky recipient of the new Dave Beckwith Memorial Strategic Partnerships Program. This grant allowed me to travel to Hungary and Slovakia and work productively with GLC alumni partners making a real difference in the local, regional, and national communities through organizing.

I first travelled to Hungary and joined Monika Balint and her amazing CKA ([Civil College Foundation](#)) crew for their annual organizing camp in Kunbabony. It was heartening to see so many amazing organizers travel from across the country to this small village and learn shoulder-to-shoulder about organizing. At the camp, I offered multiple trainings on topics ranging from best practice in rural organizing, making a case for adapted tactics given the unique power dynamics that characterize a rural place, to 1:1s, helping those new to organizing understand this basic unit of organizing and why they are essential for growing grassroots power. It was an honor to interact with and train such dedicated people.

After my time in Hungary, I visited Slovakia and worked with CKO ([Center for Community Organizing](#)). CKO has planned an ambitious action focused on affordable housing this fall and I worked with Maros Chmelik and his dedicated team to strategize the building blocks of their campaign. Together we imagined different cascading features of the campaign that would lead to a successful action. We strategized and created a map of organizational activities based upon individual community capacity that will lead to a surge of interest and involvement for a final action prior to a regional election at the end of October. I also had the pleasure of meeting with Maros a number of times to talk about best practices in organizational management. Maros is a thoughtful leader and I appreciated brainstorming with him how to invest in processes that ensure a healthy and robust CKO.

I am so grateful for this trip. It has re-energized me in my own social justice work and the conversations I began in Europe have continued since my return to the USA. I'm hopeful that these connections will continue to bear good fruit and the work will flourish for years to come.

**STAY COMPETITIVE: Apply for a
Executive Entrepreneurial Leadership
Workshop**



Are you currently employed in the private sector or involved in a start-up and/or corporate and business environment? Maybe you are a community activist working on entrepreneurship development in your country? If you said yes to any of these, then you should apply to this opportunity! American Councils for International Education is organizing an **Executive Entrepreneurial Leadership Workshop** for 25 PFP alumni from Europe and Eurasia. The workshop will be held in Yerevan, Armenia on **November 4-7, 2022**.

Workshop Overview: Whether you are an aspiring entrepreneur or a seasoned corporate executive, this fast-paced, dynamic, and hands-on workshop taught by a duo team of U.S. facilitators will inspire you to take your business to the next level. Developed on concepts from successful multi-millionaire entrepreneurs, this engaging series will show you how to:

- Discover successful mindsets entrepreneurs use to start, build and grow thriving businesses.
- Learn effective networking skills to achieve personal and professional goals.
- Gain crucial insights into American business culture and practices.
- Build sales processes to take budding businesses to the next level.
- Create effective customer communication and engagement strategies.
- Develop transformative, sustainable business models.
- Leverage relationships to create entrepreneurial communities and much more!

TO APPLY: <https://ais.americancouncils.org/pfpalumni>

Please submit your application by **Monday, Sep 12, 2022 9:00 AM** U.S. Eastern Time to be considered for the Executive Entrepreneurial Leadership Workshop. Applications submitted after the deadline will not be considered.

Cost: The workshop is funded by U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs. Transportation, accommodation, and meals will be covered by American Councils.

Eligibility Requirements: To be eligible for the Executive Entrepreneurial Leadership Workshop, applicants must be:

- PFP alum from one of the following countries: Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Georgia, Hungary, Moldova, North Macedonia, Romania, Slovenia, Slovakia, Turkey, and Ukraine;
- Working in the private sector in a start-up and/or corporate and business environment. If you work in the non-governmental sector addressing private sector and business development issues, you are also encouraged to apply.

Questions: Please contact Ms. Natia Sharikadze at nsharikadze@americancouncils.org

[Apply here](#)



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alumna/us/i or a friend of the GLC Teach
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see you go, but you can always:

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The GLC Alumni Network is administratively managed in Europe by our Bulgarian partner Pro European Network.



PROFESSIONAL
FELLOWS

