



An Exchange Program for Albania, Bulgaria, Hungary, Romania, Slovakia and the United States of America



## APPLICATION OPEN FOR EUROPEAN CANDIDATES: FALL 2023 AND SPRING 2024

**DEADLINE: JANUARY 31ST 2023**

## STAY ENGAGED: Upcoming events

**EXCLUSIVE ALUMNI COMMUNITY OFFER:**

# SEARCH INSIDE YOURSELF

**MINDFULNESS & NEUROSCIENCE-BASED EMOTIONAL INTELLIGENCE COURSE**

**DEC 8TH 2022**  
6 PM CET / 12 PM EST

**DEC 15TH 2022**  
6 PM CET / 12 PM EST

**JAN 12TH 2023**  
6 PM CET / 12 PM EST

**JAN 19TH 2023**  
6 PM CET / 12 PM EST

**JAN 26TH 2023**  
6 PM CET / 12 PM EST

**TAMAS AVAR**  
HUNGARY, SPRING 2012

Organizational development consultant and optimal human performance coach. Senior consultant at HR Partner Consulting (Hungary). Certified trainer on Search Inside Yourself.

**THIS IS NORMALLY A PAID COURSE, WHICH TAMAS WILL MAKE PRO BONO FOR OUR ALUMNI COMMUNITY.**

\*All sessions expected to last 2 hours. Participation in all sessions is recommended.

PROFESSIONAL FELLOWS | GLC Alumni Network | GREAT LAKES CONSORTIUM FOR INTERNATIONAL TRAINING & DEVELOPMENT | Great Lakes

January 12th, 19th and 26th 2023

### Search Inside Yourself: Mindfulness and Emotional Intelligence Course

Originally developed at Google, Search Inside Yourself (SIY) takes an evidence-based approach that combines neuroscience, mindfulness, and emotional intelligence.

The course takes place in 5 sessions, 2 hours each. Participation in all sessions is recommended, but even if you missed the December sessions, feel free to join us in January!

European alumni and US mentors are both welcome!

[Zoom link to all three events](#)

[Link to Facebook event](#)

22 00 10 33

Days

Hours

Minutes

Seconds

PROFESSIONAL FELLOWS  
FOR INTERESTED APPLICANTS FROM ALBANIA, BULGARIA, HUNGARY, ROMANIA AND SLOVAKIA

**INFORMATION SESSION**

FOR INTERESTED APPLICANTS FROM ALBANIA, BULGARIA, HUNGARY, ROMANIA AND SLOVAKIA

**PROFESSIONAL FELLOWS PROGRAM**  
'EMPOWERING CITIZEN-LED DEMOCRACY'

**WEDNESDAY  
JANUARY 25TH  
2023  
6 - 7 PM CET**

Participation is expected for all applicants in our open call for fellows for the Fall 2023 and Spring 2024 delegations.

Information for the call and application form can be found at [glc-teachdemocracy2.org](http://glc-teachdemocracy2.org)

Application deadline: Jan 31 2023.

Logos: Co-PLAN, PRO EUROPEAN NETWORK, CKA, cere, CENTRUM

January 25th 2023

### Info Session for Interested Applicants in the GLC Pro Fellows Fall 2023 and Spring 2024 Delegations

As part of our recruitment efforts for GLC Professional Fellows for delegations in Fall 2023 and Spring 2024, we are organizing a virtual info session on Zoom. All interested applicants are expected to attend.

The session will give an overview of the program opportunities and requirements. There will be time to answer any questions interested applicants have.

[Registration for Zoom event](#)

[Link to Announcement](#)

35 00 10 33

Days

Hours

Minutes

Seconds

## STAY INFORMED: News Bites

### A Decade of Success

#### Application is now open for European fellows for Fall 2023 and Spring 2024 delegations

We invite professionals from any region of Albania, Bulgaria, Hungary, Romania, and Slovakia to apply for participation in an expenses-paid 38-

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days fellowship in the United States with pre- and post-program opportunities and requirements. We encourage submissions by professionals who are emerging leaders in civil society who have demonstrated expertise pertaining to the fellowship theme of governance, society, and citizen-led democracy.

We expect to select a total of 21 leaders for our Fall 2023 and Spring 2024 delegations. This will be a competitive process and we rely on our GLC alumni community to spread the word so we can select the best candidates!

The application deadline is January 31st 2023.

The full announcement and application form are available at <https://bit.ly/GLCAnnouncementPF24>.

The program is funded by the U.S. Department of State Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, Global Leaders Division.



### **Six more US mentors traveled to Europe to work with fellows in November and December**

With the end of the year, we also concluded the round of outbound trips that US mentors undertook to Europe after hosting European fellows of the Spring 2022 delegation.

November was especially mentors-full. US mentors **Kristen Gerwin (OH)** and **Michael Tierney (WV)** travelled to Bulgaria to work with their fellows Julia Andonova and Atanas Atanasov respectively. After their week in Bulgaria, they travelled to Hungary to join the international in-person reunion of our alumni network.

Mentors **Adrienne Evans (ID)** and **Lew Finfer (MA)** also joined the reunion in Hungary and remained in Europe to spend time with their mentees. Adrienne went to Slovakia to work with fellow Jan Galik and her visit coincided with the visit of mentor **Andre Stoner (IN)**, who was in Slovakia working with Ondrej Druga. Lew Finfer on the other hand shared his time between Hungary and Romania.

Finally, long-term mentor **Louis Goseland (KS)** travelled to Bulgaria in December. He spent a week in Varna with his mentee from Spring 2022 Radoslav Atanasov and then some more time in Sofia to reconnect with other alumni of our program he's had the chance to work with in the last 10 years.

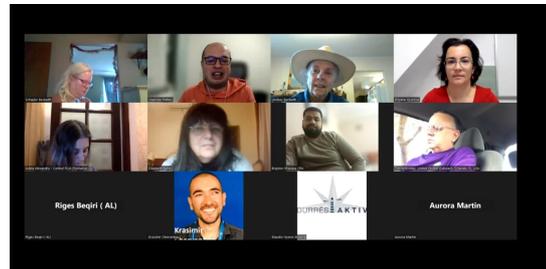
While this closes the outbound cycle of trips by mentors who hosted European fellows in Spring 2022, we are already preparing the trips of US mentors who hosted our Fall 2022 delegation. First trips will take place as soon as February 2023!





## Two virtual events allowed us to reflect on 2022... and the last 10 years!

December was busy as always, but we still wanted to give some space for looking back on 2022 and beyond and hold two virtual events (beyond our [Search Inside Yourself course](#)).



On December 6th we held our annual US mentors forum, bringing together US mentors across our network for short developments in Europe, updates on the program and reflections on the value of mentoring.

On December 12th we gave the chance to European fellows who travelled to the US on the Dave Beckwith Memorial Strategic Partnerships Program to share their experience: from the technical side of their trip to the learning and impact they can already see. These were Brejdon Xhavara (Albania), Krasimir Chervenkov (Bulgaria) and Dilyana Gyurova (Bulgaria). This was also a nice way to share memories of our late friend, mentor and advisor Dave Beckwith, after whom we named the program. Members of Dave's family also joined the event.

Recordings from both events are available upon request to [v.petkov@proeuropean.net](mailto:v.petkov@proeuropean.net).

**GLC Alumni Network**  
CONNECTED FOR CHANGE

**DAVE BECKWITH MEMORIAL STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS PROGRAM**

The program was piloted in 2022 and we have already supported 5 people who travelled on it:

<b>Arber Kodra</b> (Albania) in New York, NY	<b>Brejdon Xhavara</b> (Albania) in Orlando, FL	<b>Dilyana Gyurova</b> (Bulgaria) in Rochester, NY	<b>Krasimir Chervenkov</b> (Bulgaria) in Columbus, OH	<b>Leah Torrey</b> (US) in Budapest, Hungary

## Our fundraising campaign continues by the end of January

Our fundraising campaign continues by the end of January, which means you still have time to chip in!

We are fundraising for the Dave Beckwith Memorial Strategic Partnerships program. This is an alumni-only program, which

financially supports trips across the Atlantic to boost and enhance strategic partnerships between people and organizations. The program was named after our beloved program advisor and friend of the GLC/GLCAP program Dave Beckwith, whom we lost in the spring of 2022. It is set to honor his memory and immense contribution to our community.

Help us continue these efforts in 2023! Donate [here](#).

Shoutout to everyone who has already donated:

Aliz Pocsuvalszki HUNGARY  
Thomas Horn  
Szabrina Abdallah-Magdy

ROMANIA

Luca Ciubotaru  
Alexandru Palas  
Claudia Macaria

ALBANIA  
Elona Xhepa

SLOVAKIA  
Edita Bednarova  
Miroslav Ragac

**THANK  
YOU!**

BULGARIA

Alexander Ivanov  
Ashod Derandonyan  
Dessislava Stoyanova  
Dilyana Gyurova  
Dobrina Kisyova  
Dzhevid Mahmud  
Emil Metodiev  
Lilly Dragoeva  
Milena Dimitrova  
Milenko Milenkov  
Nedka Taneva  
Nevena Pashova-Proycheva  
Shirin Hodzheva  
Simeon Vasilev  
Teodora Koleva  
Theodora Ivanova-Valeva  
Vladislav Petkov

THE U.S.

Elizabeth Balint  
Kristen Gerwin  
Louis Goseland  
Martin Swinehart

TO BE  
UPDATED

## STAY INSPIRED: Alumni stories



# Lockdown Stories: Episode 1

The first episode of the series 'Lockdown Stories' is now available to watch online (with English subtitles) and features our alumna Blazhka Dimitrova (Bulgaria, Fall 2015).

'Lockdown Stories' is a production led by Bulgarian alumnus Georgi Nikolov (Spring 2018) while many other alumni involved. The series was created with the financial support of the US Embassy in Sofia.

[Link to video on YouTube](#)

## STAY SUPPORTIVE: Fundraising



## Two ways to support our program for its 10th anniversary

In 2022, the GLC/GLCAP Professional Fellows program is marking its 10th anniversary. The first delegation of European fellows travelled to the US in the Spring of 2012. During our 10-year operation of the program, 16 delegations

totaling 300 young professionals from Albania, Bulgaria, Hungary, Romania and Slovakia took part in the program, with another 130+ US mentors making outbound trips to Europe.

Our programs have built lasting relationships between people and organizations in Europe and the US and have made positive changes in their communities and societies. We are excited to keep this work going and further enhance and sustain networks of people, knowledge and resources. You can still contribute to this change!

We are reaching out to all members of our alumni community and friends of the program and asking you to support us in two ways:



## 1. UPDATE YOUR INFO

We would like to know where all of our alumni are, what are they working on and how to reach them. This will allow us to keep you updated about possibilities within and around our program, offer networking and partnership possibilities within and across countries and offer relevant content and resources in our communication.

Take 3 minutes and fill up our [contact-making form](#) so we are up-to-date even 10 years later.

UPDATE YOUR INFO HERE



## 2. DONATE

This year, we are fundraising for 2023's edition of the Dave Beckwith Memorial Strategic Partnerships program. The program was named after our beloved program advisor and friend Dave Beckwith, whom we lost in the spring of 2022. This is an alumni-only program, which financially supports trips across the Atlantic to enhance strategic partnerships between people and organizations.

Help us continue these efforts in 2023 and beyond: please donate!

DONATE HERE



thank you  
for staying  
involved!

Happy  
holidays!!

## GLC Alumni Network

### Contact us:

Vladislav Petkov, International Alumni  
Coordinator at [v.petkov@proeuropean.net](mailto:v.petkov@proeuropean.net)

Elizabeth Balint, GLC Program manager at  
[glc\\_teachdemocracy4@hotmail.com](mailto:glc_teachdemocracy4@hotmail.com)

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



PROFESSIONAL  
FELLOWS

