

TRANSATLANTIC SECURITY INITIATIVE II

Increasingly, democracies in Europe face evolving threats to their security from a range of state and non-state actors. A strong Transatlantic Alliance is critical to counter these challenges effectively. To support this critical relationship, the International Republican Institute (IRI) created the Transatlantic Security Initiative (TSI), an annual program giving young, emerging leaders from Poland, Romania, the Czech Republic, Slovakia, and Hungary first-hand experience and expertise needed to be champions at home of a transatlantic-centered national security policy.

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

TSI participants will gain first-hand experience on the inner workings of the Alliance through study visits to, among other places, NATO Headquarters in Brussels. During these visits, participants will gain a better understanding of the importance of the transatlantic relationship, the principles upon which it was founded, and how the relationship works to ensure the security of our Allied democratic institutions. At NATO Headquarters, participants will meet with military, elected, and diplomatic officials in order to increase their understanding of the priorities and day-to-day operations of the Alliance. The participants will also take part in workshops aimed at sharpening their knowledge on new and emerging security threats facing democracies, from the internal and external threats of disinformation to the changing nature of physical threats and hybrid-warfare. In addition, the participants will also learn about NATO policy and strategy, and essential political communication skills. This year's TSI participants will also have a chance to interact with last year's participants in order for TSI I participants to pass the knowledge they gained.

Finally, drawing on their experiences at the study visits and workshops, the participants will co-author a white paper for publication. The white paper will be distributed and presented at appropriate venues in each of the countries represented in the program, and the participants will be afforded the opportunity to present their findings at notable security conferences.

ABOUT IRI

The International Republican Institute (IRI) is a nonprofit, nonpartisan, organization dedicated to advancing freedom and democracy worldwide. Since 1983, IRI has worked to develop democratic institutions and ideals, carrying out a variety of international programs to promote freedom, self-government and the rule of law worldwide. IRI provides technical assistance in the areas of strengthening good governance, political party strengthening, developing civic institutions and rule of law.