

Alliance of Civilizations International Fellowship Program

UN Alliance of Civilizations, British Council, Islamic Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization, League of Arab States,
and The German Marshall Fund of the United States

ALLIANCE OF CIVILIZATIONS INTERNATIONAL FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

AoCIF

European
&
North American
Fellows

March 6th - March 21st, 2010

G | M | F The German Marshall Fund
of the United States
STRENGTHENING TRANSATLANTIC COOPERATION

**BRITISH
COUNCIL**



ALLIANCE OF CIVILIZATIONS



Ali Aslan is a Policy and Media Adviser to the German Federal Ministry of the Interior. Prior to joining the Ministry in 2006; he was a TV Journalist for ABC News in New York. He started his professional career at CNN in Washington, D.C. Among his many accomplishments, Mr. Aslan was instrumental in creating the German Islam Conference, a high-profile initiative by the Federal Government which aims to improve the integration of Muslims into German society. The Conference was recognized by the European Commission against Racism and Intolerance (ECRI) as an important symbol of change. Mr. Aslan is also the Co-Founder of a Berlin-based Round Table Discussion between leading German and Turkish Journalists which has established itself as a highly effective platform for a frank and constructive dialogue between both sides. This initiative has resulted, among other things, in more balanced German media coverage of Muslims and Islam. Moreover, Mr. Aslan is also a founding member of CEDAR, the first pan-European Network of Muslim Professionals. CEDAR, an initiative facilitated by the Institute for Strategic Dialogue and the Salzburg Global Seminar, is a unique civil society movement which aims to connect and empower Europe's diverse Muslim communities. In recognition of his achievements, Mr. Aslan has been named a Young Leader by the BMW Foundation, a German-Israeli Young Leader by the Bertelsmann Foundation, a Young Leader by Atlantik-Brücke e.V., and a Muslim Leader of Tomorrow by the American Society for Muslim Advancement (ASMA). Mr. Aslan holds two masters degrees from Columbia University and a bachelor's degree from Georgetown University. He speaks German, English, and Turkish and has a working knowledge of Spanish.



Tuğba Kalafatoğlu is the founder and president of V♀TE Women in Politics, an international nonpartisan organization dedicated to helping women build the skills and infrastructure they need to become more effective leaders in the political world and to inspiring young women to participate in politics and run for office. She is also President of Tugba Kalafatoglu & Associates, an international consulting firm. She is a business and political communications consultant, speaker, and seminar leader who speaks nationally and internationally on topics including intercultural communications, city branding, international business, running for office, foreign policy, lobbying, leadership, organization, and presentation skills. She works as an advisor to governments, international companies, and academia. She has won numerous awards, including "Outstanding Young Person of the World in Politics," "Law and Government Affairs," "Who's Who in the World," "Who's Who in America," and "Who's Who in Finance and Business." She holds a bachelor's degree in political science with honors from University of Nebraska at Omaha and master's degree in international affairs, law, and business from Georgetown University.



Nicolas Kassianides joined the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 2005. He handles Middle East issues at the French Permanent Mission to the United Nations in New York. He was also brought up in a multicultural environment in Cyprus. Prior to his current position, Mr. Kassianides worked as desk officer at the French Foreign Affairs Ministry (UN department, Middle East issues). Mr. Kassianides has studied at the Ecole Normale d'Administration, has attained a diploma of Hautes Etudes Commerciales (HEC), and holds a DEA of EC and European Law from the University of Panthéon-Sorbonne (Paris I). He has also attained a Diploma from the Institut d'Etudes Politiques de Paris and has completed his Master's of Contemporary European Studies at Sussex University (UK). Mr. Kassianides speaks French, Greek, English, German, and Spanish, and is now learning Arabic.



Magdalena Kloss lived with her family in several countries (India, Finland, Germany and Italy) before returning to Vienna, Austria, at the age of fifteen. After a volunteer experience in rural Ghana, Ms. Kloss started studying Social and Cultural Anthropology at the University of Vienna, specializing in Islam and the Middle East, development and migration issues. She participated in research projects among Muslim communities in Vienna and wrote her dissertation on concepts of masculinity among young Muslims in Austria. While studying, Ms. Kloss also interned twice at the United Nations World Food Program (WFP) in Rome and worked as a tour guide in one of Vienna's most renowned art museums. Having completed her studies in Vienna, she worked as Junior Technical Advisor for the German Development Service (DED) in Sana'a, Yemen. On behalf of GTZ and the Yemeni Ministries of Youth, Health and Social Affairs, she designed and conducted a countrywide assessment of youth organizations. Ms. Kloss then completed a master's degree in Anthropology and Development at the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE). Upon her return to Vienna in October, she started setting up an LSE-affiliated project which aims to link anthropologists with development practitioners. Ms. Kloss also works as a freelance consultant for a private foundation which supports innovative charity projects in Austria and Eastern Europe. She speaks German, English, Italian and French, some Arabic, and a little bit of Spanish.



Guillaume Lavoie, a Canadian national, is the Executive Director of "The Mission Leadership Group," a not-for-profit initiative dedicated to helping young Canadian leaders develop new networks and opportunities around the world by way of exploratory missions and meetings with other promising young leaders. A specialist in government relations and in public policy, most notably in federal regimes, Mr. Lavoie has consulted for the public, private, and NGO sector, in Canada and abroad. Also actively involved in democratic governance, he has served on over 15 fact-finding and/or election observation missions on behalf of governments, NGOs, and international organizations. Over the years, Mr. Lavoie has lived and worked on four continents and visited over 30 countries. Guillaume Lavoie holds a master's degree in International Public Administration from the National School of Public Administration, Canada, where he is now a Lecturer, as well as a B.A. in Industrial Relations and Certificates in Law and Business Administration from Laval University, Canada. A Scholar of the Sauvé Foundation (2007), he is a Fellow of the public policy program Action Canada (2005) and of the Forum of Federations' Leadership Program (2002). Mr. Lavoie is fluent in French, English, and Spanish and has a working knowledge of Catalan. Since 2003, he has been a frequent contributor for Canadian radio and television networks on international affairs and U.S. politics.



Alex Lawrence is the Executive Director of The Riordan Programs at the UCLA Anderson School of Management. His primary responsibilities include strategic planning and implementation along with fundraising activities that support programming efforts targeting at-risk youth in Southern California. Previously, Mr. Lawrence was with the management consulting firm Cap Gemini. He was responsible for developing customer relationship management (CRM) strategies and training clients to meet a wide variety of industry challenges. Lawrence is skilled in operational processes and technologies that position companies to effectively compete in the global marketplace. He holds a bachelor's and master's degree in electrical engineering from Drexel University and Georgia Tech and a master's degree in business administration from the UCLA Anderson School of Management.



Shawn Lent is the Arts Integration Program Specialist for the Center for Community Arts Partnerships (CCAP) at Columbia College Chicago. In addition to her work as a dance educator and choreographer, Ms. Lent is one of 100 young professionals from North America and Europe selected for the British Council's Transatlantic Network 2020, a long-term international cohort of leaders for the next generation. She is also one of 23 emerging U.S. leaders selected for the 2009 American Express Nonprofit Leadership Academy. Ms. Lent spent 2001-2003 in London as a youth worker and dance critic, and has been a teacher of dance, theatre, and tumbling for over 19 years. She is the founding Chair of the Associates Board for Links Hall, and a member of the Young Associates Board of Children's Memorial Hospital and the Advisory Board for the Chicago Arts Educators Forum. Ms. Lent holds a Master's degree in Arts Management from Columbia College Chicago with a focus on Arts in Youth and Community Development, a post-graduate certificate in Youth Arts Development from Goldsmith's College at the University of London, and a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Theatre and Dance from Millikin University in Decatur, IL.



Xuan Quach was born in Vietnam and immigrated with her family to the United States at the age of six. As a first-generation Chinese-American, she grew up in Northfield, Minnesota and earned her Bachelor's degree in Anthropology, Sociology and Asian Studies from St. Olaf College and her Master's degree in Comparative and International Development Education from the University of Minnesota. After completing her studies, she taught English in Japan and had the opportunity to travel extensively throughout Asia. Xuan served as a Rotary Ambassadorial Scholar from 2000-2001 at the University of Melbourne in Australia and earned her second Master's degree in Higher Education Policy and Administration. Xuan has worked in a variety of academic service positions in higher education and was the Assistant Director of Admissions at the International House at University of California, Berkeley and the Director of the University of California Public Policy and International Affairs Summer Institute at the Goldman School of Public Policy. Xuan currently serves as the Assistant Director of Berkeley Rotary Center for International Studies in Peace and Conflict Resolution where she enjoys working with Rotary World Peace Fellows from around the world and developing programs and courses to promote greater knowledge and understanding of peace and conflict issues.



Nabila Ramdani is a Paris-born journalist of Algerian descent who specializes in Anglo-French issues, Islamic affairs, and the Arab World. A columnist for the London Evening Standard, the Guardian, and the NewStatesman, she also writes opinion pieces, features, and news stories for a wide range of Fleet Street publications, including the Observer, the Daily Telegraph, the Daily Mail, and the Sunday Times Magazine. She is a well-established commentator and regularly appears as a pundit on a range of TV and radio stations, including flagship BBC programmes and Sky News. She produces documentaries and reports for both TV and radio programmes. A former Lecturer at Oxford University, the University of Michigan, and Paris 7 University, she holds an MPhil from the London School of Economics and Political Science in International History. She is currently working towards the completion of a PhD on the rise of the nationalist movement in Egypt after the First World War. Ms. Ramdani has also gained an MPhil from Paris 7 University in British and American History and Literature and holds an Agrégation (France's highest teaching certificate) in English. Her academic background has been intermixed with the study of Modern Standard Arabic and reflects her interest in Arab affairs in connection with international relations. Nabila is a regular speaker/moderator at a range of much coveted international symposia.



Pablo Ximénez de Sandoval was born and raised in Madrid, Spain, where he developed his career as a journalist. Following an interest on social issues, he graduated in Political Science and focused his studies on Sociology of Politics. He was in the video industry when he entered the Master's Degree in Journalism of EL PAIS in 1999. He has since worked as a reporter and writer for EL PAIS, the leading, most influential newspaper in Spain, and has focused his career on politics in the last few years.



Ted Teague was born in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, the youngest of the three children of an entrepreneur mother and a chemist father. He attended the public schools there, and earned his undergraduate degree in political science from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Always a person with a wide range of interests, Ted helped to get his family's successful retail business off the ground and went on to start a small publishing company before returning to school at Wake Forest University, where he completed the JD/MBA program in 2002. After professional school, he served as a law clerk to a federal judge in Greensboro and then went into private practice in Winston-Salem, where his practice included corporate transactions, business litigation, health law, and commercial real estate. Ted currently serves as in-house counsel with Novant Health, a large nonprofit healthcare system, where he provides strategic and legal advice to senior executives on all aspects of the organization's operations, and finds an outlet for his passion to make quality, affordable healthcare available to everyone. Ted volunteers his time as a leader and grassroots volunteer in a variety of civic and political causes, and is a member of his local Quaker Meeting. Participation in the 2008 Marshall Memorial Fellowship program was a life-changing experience for Ted, and he remains actively committed to fostering international understanding. Ted makes his home in Winston-Salem with his wife and two daughters, ages six and one.



Tracy Turoff is a lawyer at Roetzel & Andress, and a dedicated community activist with a strong interest in the political and government process. Over the past two decades, Tracy has worked in the U.S. Congress, British Parliament, the Ohio Senate, and has served as Legislative Director for a County officeholder. She organized a three-month bus tour across the country to engage young voters in the campaign process, which resulted in an invitation to address the Democratic National Convention. Tracy serves on the Board of Directors of several organizations, and regularly advises political candidates on campaign management and fundraising. Tracy is a former County Prosecutor, but her current legal practice focuses on business, employment, government, and public law, for which she has been named among the top 2.5 percent of Ohio lawyers under age 40 for the past 5 years.

