



ALBRIGHT INTERNATIONAL LEADERS PROGRAM

Honoring the Legacy of Madeleine K. Albright

Throughout her storied career, **Madeleine K. Albright** demonstrated her fierce commitment to international collaboration, multilateralism, and public service. A once-in-a-generation talent, her dedication to cultivating and inspiring future leaders lives on in the many lives and venerable institutions that she touched, including ours.

The **Aspen Strategy Group (ASG)** has long been committed to developing the next generation of leaders in U.S. national security and foreign policy. We formalized this commitment in 2021 by founding the **Rising Leaders Program (RLP)**, which brings together young American leaders from a broad range of sectors, backgrounds, and political perspectives to tackle today's most critical foreign policy challenges.

To build on the success of this effort and honor Secretary Albright's dedication to diplomacy and commitment to the Aspen Institute as an ASG member and trustee, we are launching a complementary international leadership development program: the **Albright International Leaders Program (AILP)**. The Albright International Leaders Program will bring together a cohort of U.S.-based international mid-career professionals supporting embassies, multilateral institutions, and international organizations, connecting them to the Aspen Institute's core vision of building a thriving community of leaders driving impact across geographies, generations, and viewpoints.

Our goal is to establish a \$6 million endowment to support the program in perpetuity and cover estimated annual program expenses of \$300,000.

Program Description

In a pilot cohort of 16-20 international professionals based in the U.S., the inaugural AILP class will participate in tailored programming throughout the year. Like the U.S. Rising Leaders, the international cohort will have unique opportunities to learn from world leaders; senior government officials; members of Congress; journalists; prominent thinkers and practitioners in academia, policy, and business; and [ASG members](#) under the aegis of the Aspen Strategy Group.

Discussions in text-based Aspen leadership seminars and around a book of their choice each year will challenge the class to think deeply and listen thoughtfully. We plan to bring together the U.S. and international cohorts for special events in DC and on the sidelines of the [Aspen Security Forum \(ASF\)](#). Through these in-person gatherings, AILP leaders will build strong relationships with each other as lifetime alumni, as well as a lasting connection to the ASG community.

Preferred Qualifications

- Candidates should be non-U.S. citizens or green card holders and mid-career professionals with about 7-15 years of experience.
- Demonstrated interest and involvement in international affairs, diplomacy, international development, human rights, security, global economics, or related field.
- Minimum C1 English language proficiency.
- Working in the U.S. for the full cycle of the year-long program.



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Programming Schedule

June: Applications open in mid-June

August: Applications close in early August

September: Interviews are conducted and the class is selected and announced

October: One-day kick-off event with a bespoke Aspen seminar and other programming

November: Meeting with an invited expert

December: Programming around Aspen Strategy Group convenings in December and the U.S. Rising Leaders Program's closing events and book launch

January/February: Meeting with an invited expert

March/April: Meeting with an invited expert or book talk

May: Meeting with an ambassador hosted by an embassy with the U.S. Rising Leaders

June: Meeting with an invited expert

July: Program Graduation – Attend the Aspen Security Forum and bespoke opportunities at the Forum in Aspen, Colorado

August: Join a lifetime network of alumni



Selection Process

Initial Application

- The application consists of four parts:
 - Letter of recommendation
 - Brief statement of interest
 - One short-answer essay question
 - Resume

Interview

- Selected candidates will receive an invitation for a 15-minute interview.

Selection

- If selected, each participant must agree to meet the expectations of the Albright International Leaders Program.



Core Program Elements

- **Leadership Seminar:** The cohort will gather in person for a one-day kick-off event in DC that includes a text-based Aspen leadership seminar to foster deep interpersonal connections and meaningful dialogue.
- **Bi-Monthly Meetings:** AILP leaders will meet regularly to hear from senior U.S. and foreign government officials; members of Congress; journalists; prominent thinkers and practitioners in academia, policy, and business; and ASG members.
- **Alumni and U.S. RLP Cross-Over Events:** Previous and current AILP leaders will gather for alumni networking and discussions about international affairs. AILP leaders will also be invited to some of the U.S. Rising Leaders Program alumni events.
- **Aspen Security Forum:** At the culmination of their program, the AILP leaders will attend the Aspen Security Forum in Aspen, CO.