

“Exchanging views, sharing experiences and learning from each other allows us to understand the differences between the EU member states and brings us closer together.”

Robert Godina, Slovenia, Bellevue Fellow,
ninth year, 2012/2013

A Benefit for the Ministries

The Bellevue Programme offers the home ministries an additional tool for the long-term development of staff. Participants learn the language of the host country, expand their professional expertise internationally, and collect career-enhancing work experience abroad. For the host institutions, it is a worthwhile investment. An ambitious profile of tasks will be drawn up together with the participant's supervisor. In addition to playing a responsible role in day-to-day business, the Fellow can also contribute experience from the respective home country and provide a fresh perspective on national procedures.

During their work assignment abroad, the Bellevue Fellows can establish long-lasting relations between the expert departments in their home and host countries. The informal exchange on professional issues and the collective preparation of European regulatory procedures will be simplified by the cross-border networking of the ministries.

The Robert Bosch Stiftung

Established in 1964, the Robert Bosch Stiftung GmbH is one of the major German foundations associated with a private company. It represents the philanthropic and social endeavors of Robert Bosch (1861 – 1942) and fulfills his legacy in a contemporary manner. The Robert Bosch Stiftung works predominantly in the fields of International Relations, Health and Education. www.bosch-stiftung.de

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The Bellevue Programme

A fellowship programme for young executives from key government authorities in ten EU member states

Photos: Title, Manuel Frauendorf, inside Bundespressedienst



“For me, the Bellevue year was a unique experience that broadened and solidified my working methods, my expertise, and my professional abilities.”

Cláudia Faria, Portugal, Bellevue Fellow, seventh year, 2010/2011



The Bellevue Programme is at the core of the focus area “Promoting Europe”. It was created by the Robert Bosch Stiftung in 2004 in cooperation with the Office of the Federal President of Germany. The Bellevue Programme enables highly qualified young executives from key government authorities to take part in a 12-month work placement in one of the ten partner countries and, in so doing, contributes to cross-border administrative cooperation in Europe. The goal is to promote the participants’ professional, intercultural, and European-policy expertise as well as cross-border cooperation and networking of the ministries. Participants are expected to possess leadership experience.

Partner countries are France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Poland, Portugal, Slovenia and Spain. The programme is under the auspices of the heads of state of the partner countries.

Programme content

The Robert Bosch Stiftung allocates financial resources and is responsible for implementation in terms of both content and organization. The programme begins each year with an Introductory Seminar in September. Following this, language courses can be taken in the host country until December. Participants then work at their host institution from January to December of the following year. They are required to attend four seminars in total. These seminars serve as additional professional and methodological training. The Introductory Seminar offers an insight into current political challenges in Germany and a partner country through presentations by and meetings with key decision-makers. Parallel to this, participants define their professional and personal goals for the year. The EU Seminar gives the Fellows the opportunity to go to Brussels and Strasbourg to meet high-ranking representatives of European institutions. The Leadership Development Seminar allows participants to build on their negotiating and strategic decision-making skills. Participants then pass on their experiences to the next group of Fellows in person during the Final Seminar.

Structure

The Bellevue Programme is aimed at high level employees of key government authorities who already have several years of professional experience and who have taken on initial leadership responsibilities. Pronounced interest in the political development of the European Union is a prerequisite.

The participants are released for a maximum of 15 months under retention of their existing contracts and then work for the host institution for a period of 12 months. The home institutions continue to pay the regular salary for the duration of the programme if possible. Reintegration after completion of the programme must be guaranteed. Participants receive a monthly stipend of €2,500 plus supplements for spouses and children from the Robert Bosch Stiftung.