

Georgia Council for International Visitors

Connecting Georgians to the World Since 1962

GCIV fosters professional, cultural and educational experiences that connect Georgia citizens and international leaders to cultivate positive global change. Our vision is to be the Georgia organization that allows every citizen the opportunity to be more globally engaged through people to people connections. Founded in 1962, GCIV is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that implements professional international exchange programs across Georgia, including the U.S. Department of State's International Visitor Leadership Program (IVLP). Launched in 1940, the IVLP seeks to build mutual understanding between the United States and other nations through carefully designed professional visits to the U.S. for current and emerging foreign leaders. U.S. ambassadors consistently rank the IVLP as the most effective in a long list of public diplomacy tools.

2021 International Visitor Programs

330

international visitors

85

countries & territories

37

exchange programs

35

virtual programs

4

fee-for-service programs

2

in-person programs

FY 2021 IVLP Totals

33 programs | 295 visitors

FY 2021 Fee-for-Service Totals

4 programs | 35 visitors

500+

IVLP participants have gone on to serve as heads of state or government.

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GCIV hosted **330** international visitors primarily virtually from **85** countries and territories to the state of Georgia in fiscal year 2021.

Country	Number of Visitors	Country	Number of Visitors
Argentina	1	Liberia	1
Armenia	1	Malaysia	2
Australia	9	Mali	3
The Bahamas	2	Mauritania	4
Bahrain	3	Mexico	1
Bangladesh	2	Morocco	3
Belize	2	Mozambique	3
Benin	1	Namibia	1
Bolivia	1	Nepal	2
Brazil	22	Nigeria*	8
Brunei	1	Pakistan	5
Bulgaria	1	Panama	1
Burkina Faso	2	Paraguay	1
Burundi	1	Peru	1
Cameroon	1	Philippines	2
Chile	2	Poland	15
China	7	Romania	1
Colombia	3	Rwanda	1
Costa Rica	1	Saudi Arabia	1
Côte d'Ivoire (Ivory Coast)	2	Sierra Leone	1
Czech Republic	1	Singapore	1
Dominican Republic	3	Slovakia	1
Ecuador	1	South Africa	1
Egypt	10	South Korea	2
Eritrea	2	South Sudan	1
Ethiopia	1	Spain	2
Georgia	1	Sri Lanka	4
Germany*	14	Suriname	5
Greece	1	Sweden	1
Guyana	5	Switzerland	16
Haiti	2	Taiwan	1
Honduras	1	Tajikistan	3
India	12	Thailand	9
Indonesia	22	Timor-Leste	1
Italy	1	Togo	1
Jamaica	3	Trinidad and Tobago	4
Japan	2	Tunisia	1
Jordan	2	Turkmenistan	2
Kazakhstan	15	Ukraine	7
Kenya	4	Uzbekistan	2
Kyrgyzstan	10	Venezuela	2
Latvia	1	Vietnam	1
Lesotho	1		

*in-person program

**Chart does not reflect all Fee-for-Service program participants.

FY 2021 Exchange Programs

January 28

[Caribbean](#)

Digital Assets

February 23

[Switzerland](#)

Cybersecurity and Safe Digitalization -
Transferring U.S. Best Practices and
Building Collaboration

March 9

[Kazakhstan](#)

Food Safety and Laboratory Standards

March 12

[Brazil](#)

Preserving and Promoting the History
of U.S. - Brazil Military Cooperation

March 19

[Africa Regional Program](#)

Combating Infectious Disease

March 23

[Multi-Regional Program](#)

NGO Management

April 6-8

[Indo-Pacific Regional Program](#)

The Digital Economy - Transformative
Technology for the Social Good

April 9,16

[Nepal](#)

International Women of Courage Awardee

April 20, 26

[Australia](#)

Building a Free and Open Indo-Pacific
and Countering Malign Influence

May 11, 13

[Indo-Pacific Regional Program](#)

Human and Civil Rights for Marginalized
Populations for the Indo-Pacific

May 18

[Western Hemisphere Regional Program](#)

Migrating Your Small Business Online

May 26

[Poland](#)

Fundraising Best Practices for NGOs

May 27 and June 1

[Kyrgyzstan](#)

Women and Entrepreneurship

June 2-4

[Western Hemisphere Regional Program](#)

U.S. Energy Policy

June 7

[Thailand](#)

Human and Civil Rights for
Marginalized Communities

June 16, 18

[Indonesia](#)

Youth Political Engagement in the Digital Age

June 17

[Brazil](#)

Media Responsibility in an Age
of Disinformation

July 7

[Fulbright Enrichment Program](#)

Martin Luther King, Jr. National
Historical Park

August 4, 6

[Nigeria](#)

Human Rights and Civic Engagement
for Youth

August 12, 17

[Western Hemisphere Regional Program](#)

Global Health Security - Combating
Infectious Diseases

August 13, 16, 20

[Inter-Regional Program](#)

Investigating and Prosecuting Human Rights

August 23, 31

[People's Republic of China](#)

New and Traditional American Media
in the Digital Age

August 27

[People's Republic of China](#)

Philanthropy and Charitable Giving
in the United States

August 30

[India](#)

Agricultural Marketing Information Systems

September 6 - October 29

[IREX](#)

Community Solutions Program

October 12

[Ukraine](#)

Advocacy of Democratic Principles

October 20-21

[Regional South and Central Asia Program](#)

Managing Digital Assets

October 25

[Thailand](#)

NGO Management

October 25, 27

[Egypt](#)

Transitioning to Digital Media

October 25, November 1

[Indonesia](#)

Educational Reform to Promote STEAM
and Workforce Development

October 26-28

[India](#)

Countering Mis/Disinformation:
Enhancing Journalistic Legitimacy in
Media and Law Enforcement

November 3

[Germany](#)

Preventing Online Disinformation,
Harassment and Media Manipulation

November 3-4

[Multi Regional Program](#)

A Global Moment in Time: Peace and Justice

November 8-9

[Multi Regional Program](#)

Youth and Civic Engagement

November 16, 18

[Regional European Program](#)

Best Practices in Foreign
Investment Screening

December 5 - 11

[Germany](#)

Strong Cities Countering Violent
Extremism Together

Professional meetings involve the sharing of best practices between emerging leaders from around the world and their counterparts in the state of Georgia.

Virtual home hospitality is a bit like a casual coffee chat and an amazing way to learn about the world. Virtual hosts can be as creative as they want, but the visitors seek to get to know hosts to acquire a better understanding of the culture of the United States. International visitors frequently rate home hospitality as the experience that most clearly demonstrated true America as well as the highlight of their program.

54 professional
exchange meetings

62 volunteer
professional resources

7 volunteer virtual
hospitality hosts

Community Programs

Great Decisions

GCIV serves as the state coordinator for the Foreign Policy Association (FPA)'s Great Decisions program. In this role, GCIV helps coordinate discussion groups and lecture series that give participants the opportunity to expand their understanding of world affairs. Topics change annually and are based on the FPA's non-partisan briefing book. More than 225 people participated in the virtual 2021 Dunwoody Great Decisions Foreign Policy Lecture Series with speakers coordinated by the Atlanta Global Studies Center.

2 complimentary
virtual presentations

Virtual Home Hospitality
Information Session

The Role of Protocol in the
Field of Diplomacy in Georgia

More than 225 people participated in the virtual 2021 Dunwoody Great Decisions Foreign Policy Lecture Series.

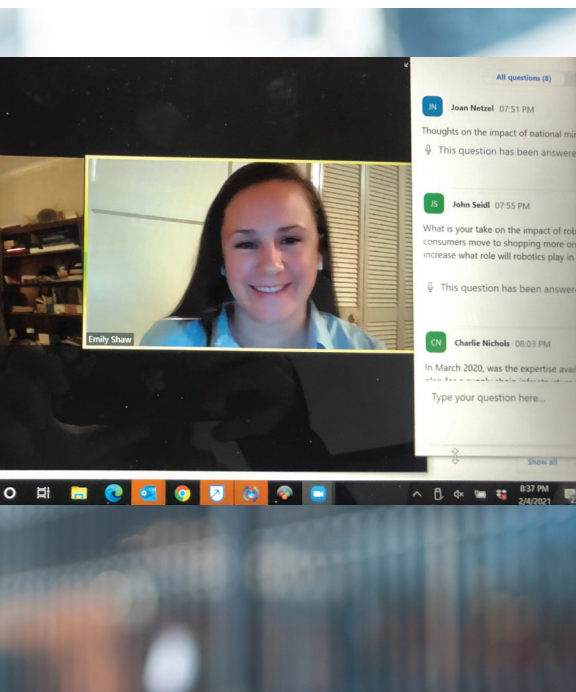
Topic	Speaker
Global Supply Chains and National Security	Dr. Chelsea "Chip" White, Georgia Institute of Technology
Persian Gulf Security Issues	Dr. Lawrence Rubin, Georgia Institute of Technology
Brexit and the European Union	Dr. Alasdair Young, Georgia Institute of Technology
Struggles Over the Melting Arctic	Dr. Anna Stenport, Georgia Institute of Technology
China's Role in Africa	Dr. Maria Repnikova, Georgia State University
The Korean Peninsula	Dr. Soohoo Lee, University of West Georgia
Roles of International Organizations in a Global Pandemic	Dr. Jennie Ward-Robinson, Georgia State University
The end of globalization?	Mr. Joe Bankoff, Georgia Institute of Technology



Internships

GCIV's internship program partners with universities to offer practical international affairs experience to students. In 2021, GCIV trained 1 intern, Nick Markiewicz, from the University of Georgia.

Former GCIV intern Andrew Gasparini was one of 21 incredible young people selected from across the country for the 2021 Global Ties U.S. Emerging Leaders Program and is currently establishing the Kennesaw Sister Cities Commission.



International Consular Ball

Due to COVID-19, the 39th Annual International Consular Ball has been rescheduled for September 17, 2022 at Flourish Atlanta.

International Women Associates (IWA)

Formed in 1978, IWA brings together 100+ women from countries around the world and North Americans who have lived abroad or have interest in international affairs to build friendships and cultural enrichment. Monthly cultural and educational programs enhance the personal and professional growth of IWA members. IWA meetings were held virtually in the spring and resumed in-person in September 2021.

IWA brings together 100+ women from countries around the world and Atlantans who lived abroad or have an interest in international affairs.

International Visitors Program Spotlight

In April 2021, GCIV hosted 1 of the 14 2021 International Women of Courage Honorees, Muskan Khatun. The U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken recognizes these extraordinary women from around the world for demonstrating exceptional courage and leadership in advocating for peace, justice, human rights, gender equality, and women's empowerment, often at great personal risk and sacrifice. Individuals are nominated by U.S. Embassies abroad and awardees participate in a U.S. Department of State International Visitor Leadership Program (IVLP). The 14 Awardees virtually met with both the U.S. Secretary of State and the First Lady, then virtually visited other communities in the U.S., like Atlanta, Georgia, to connect with their professional American counterparts.



"It is often women who lead the charge for human rights, democracy, and justice; including in places where women hold much less than half of the political, economic, and social power. That's why the equal rights and dignity of women is a foreign policy priority for the United States."

- U.S. Secretary of State
Antony Blinken



GCIV hosted teenager Muskan Khatun, who has been instrumental in bringing about new legislation criminalizing acid attacks and imposing strong penalties against perpetrators in Nepal.

Within a year of surviving her own attack and critical injuries, Nepal's President issued an ordinance with harsh penalties for acid attacks and regulations on the sale of acids, a testament to Muskan's significant advocacy.

Muskan met virtually the Girl Scouts of Greater Atlanta and Wellspring Living. During the meeting with the Girl Scouts, she met teenage women around her age [16] to discuss how individuals can use their voice at any age to create change. Muskan also spoke with the director of Wellspring Living about the organization's incredible programming for girls who are survivors of sexual violence. Muskan inspired everyone she spoke with.

Muskan is GCIV's fifth International Women of Courage (IWOC) Awardee. GCIV is extremely humbled and honored to host these incredibly courageous, impactful women and to connect them with Georgians.

Georgia Representing at Expo 2020 Dubai

GCIV supported its nationwide network, Global Ties U.S., in promoting two opportunities for Georgia citizens to apply to be part of the USA Pavilion at Expo 2020 Dubai, the first World Expo to be held in the Middle East, Africa and South Asia (MEASA) region.



Four of the 75 selected Youth Ambassadors from amongst nearly 700 applicants around the country headed to Expo 2020 Dubai are from Georgia. These 75 U.S. citizens between the ages of 18-29 chosen by the U.S. Department of State hail from 37 states, represent 78 U.S. universities and colleges, and speak 24 languages. They will represent America and greet visitors at the USA Pavilion at Expo 2020 Dubai which runs October 1, 2021 through March 31, 2022.

In addition, two cultural performer groups were also selected from Georgia: The Tap Rebels (tap dance group) and Burn Unit (breakdance crew).



GCIV was one of the selected hosts for the first in-person IVLP since early 2020. The Nigerian visitors pictured at the National Center for Civil and Human Rights.

Exchange program
alumni include:

105

Pulitzer Prize Winners

84

Nobel Prize Winners

64

Representatives
to the United Nations


*Alumni of Bureau of Educational
and Cultural Affairs (ECA) programs.



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