



2026 Executives Abroad Program

Program Summary

Whether a seasoned federal leader, an executive graduate student, or both, the Brussels experience is like no other. So why should one consider spending the week in Belgium with the Key Executive Leadership program? To begin, leaders of today are challenged with decisions that have a global impact. This program is designed to provide a greater understanding of the processes, influences, and impact guiding those decisions both at home and abroad. The focus is on best practices and lessons that can be learned from the seasoned executives leading the European Union. The Brussels program is an interactive learning experience that permits comparison and contrast between the American and European Union political, governance, and public administration processes. Both systems are examined to understand how policies and legislation are adopted, implemented, and enforced and identify what is the same, what is different, and why the respective systems have developed as they have. Specific advantages to attendees include:

- An in-residence opportunity to spend 6 days with executives from other agencies to examine and compare the processes, external forces, and internal mechanisms challenging leaders in the government.
- Exploration of the impact of political parties, culture, administrative barriers, interests, and capitalism on the implementation of public policy in the European Union.
- One-on-one time with senior leaders of the European Union Parliament, Commission, and Council to explore and contrast institutional, economic, and political forces driving policy implementation.
- Exposure to the best practices used by European Union leaders in delivering Euro-wide policies and programs.
- Meetings with senior officials at NATO and the US Embassy to understand the leadership challenges faced on an international stage.

This is a unique opportunity, with exclusive access to senior European leaders available only through the Key Executive Leadership Programs. In-depth discussions among the cohort, along with American University professors from Belgium, as well as NATO officials, senior EU representatives, and Embassy leaders, complete this exceptional Brussels experience.

Important Dates

- May 22, 2026 @ noon Cohort Orientation
- June 7, 2026 – Welcome Reception, Brussels
- June 8-12, 2026 – Programming in Brussels





Costs

- **Program cost of \$3,500** (NOTE: Fee covers hotel costs including daily breakfast, welcome reception, closing reception, and group travel while in Belgium)
- **Out-of-Pocket Expenses**
 - Students are responsible for airfare as well as transportation to and from the airport
 - All meals (except daily breakfast, Sunday welcome reception, and Thursday closing reception)
 - Additional hotel guests: An estimated €25.00 per person per night applies for double occupancy.
 - Additional nights before or after the scheduled dates

Registration Process

Deliverable	Date
Deadline for Completing Application	4/30/2026
Tuition Payment Due	Upon registration

Travel Information

- **Airport**
It is recommended that you fly to Brussels Airport (BRU).
- **Ground Transportation**
For ground transportation information, please visit the [Brussels Airport website](#).
- **Hotel**
Brussels Marriott Hotel
Address: Rue Auguste Orts, Grand Place 3-7, 1000 Brussels, Belgium
Phone: +32 2 516 90 90
Website: <http://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/brudt-brussels-marriott-hotel/>
 - Check-in June 7, 2026
 - Check-out June 13, 2026





Frequently Asked Questions

What is included in the program cost?

- Room cost
- Transportation for program-related travel
- Breakfast at the hotel each class day
- Welcome reception on Sunday evening
- Closing Reception on Thursday evening

I plan to bring a guest. How will that work?

In your registration form, you will inform Key of your guest's name so that we can place you together in a hotel room. Additional room fee applies.

When should I book my flight?

You should reserve a ticket once you are confirmed for the program. As with most flights, waiting until the last minute may result in an increased fare. Consider looking for affordable round-trip flights as soon as possible. We highly recommend **refundable tickets**.

Can I arrive early or depart later?

Yes. However, you are responsible for the additional accommodation costs.

I don't have a passport. what do I need to do to get one?

To obtain a passport, please visit <http://travel.state.gov/passport/>

What should I pack?

Business attire is required for visits to NATO and EU. Business casual attire is recommended for classes. We will do a lot of walking to and from visits between buildings and metro stops. **Comfortable walking shoes are strongly recommended.**

Program Contact:

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