

As a constituent and a friend of the Fulbright Program, I urge you to Stand for Fulbright. The proposed 52% budget cut to the Department of State's exchange programs for Fiscal Year 2018 would result in a 47% cut to the Fulbright Program.

I believe in the mission of the Fulbright Program, and I stand in support of its contributions to:

- American Leadership. Fulbright is the most respected and comprehensive exchange program in the world. The scholarship has produced 130,000 American and 240,000 international alumni: leaders in every field, in 165 countries. This includes 82 Pulitzer Prize winners, 57 Nobel Prize laureates.

- National Security. Fulbright participants have built wide networks of friends at low cost, anchoring U.S. national security in a global community of trust, understanding, and hope. Global alumni include 37 current and former heads of state or government who know and support the United States.

- Local Economies. Returning Fulbright Scholars bring expertise, innovation, and global connections to economies all over the United States. Visiting international scholars spend their grants locally, putting millions of dollars directly into American communities.

- International Alliances. The Fulbright Program promotes cooperation with 165 countries, 49 of which have long-standing commissions that match or exceed U.S. funding with their own contributions, totaling \$110 million annually. Fulbright's reputation is an anchor to many bilateral relations, promoting education, business development, and leadership.

- U.S. Higher Education. Thousands of American universities and colleges benefit from the Fulbright Program. Over 1,200 higher education institutions participate in the Fulbright Program. Faculty members and students conduct research and teach worldwide and visiting scholars provide expertise and tuition dollars.

Cutting funding for the Fulbright Program would do great harm to America's security, economy, and educational system. Oppose cuts to the Program, and Stand for Fulbright. Thank you.