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SEARCH

Q&A: College of Europe launches master's in transatlantic affairs

by *Ian Mundell*,

SUMMARY

The College of Europe in Bruges is inviting applications for a post-graduate degree in transatlantic affairs, which the school says is now more relevant than ever

Perspective from both sides

Starting next year, the College of Europe in Bruges will offer a new master's programme in transatlantic affairs, run in collaboration with the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at Tufts University in the US. College of Europe professor Simon Schunz explains what students can expect from the two-year programme.



What will the programme cover and what kind of students are you looking for?

EU-US affairs will be at its heart, but we will also look at a broader understanding of the geographical concepts. And it will be a [multi-disciplinary programme](#), looking at the ties between the two in terms of legal studies, economics, political science, diplomatic studies and history.

We're looking for people who would like to go into either the public service or the private sector, and who have high potential and leadership aspirations. They should already have a master's degree, plus at least six months of professional experience relevant to transatlantic affairs.

What's the role of the collaboration with Tufts University?

You can begin either at the Fletcher School or the College of Europe, and then transfer in your second year to the other side. If students complete the programme successfully, they will become alumni of both institutions.

At Tufts, students will be looking at transatlantic affairs from the other side, and at the EU from the outside in. European students will also be strongly encouraged to follow an internship on the other side of the Atlantic, which will give them on-the-ground experience.

A lot is changing in transatlantic affairs. Will you be able to keep up?

There is full flexibility to incorporate new topics in the courses as well as to create courses from one year to the next, which take up new developments. And if students are interested in particular subjects, such as the rise of populism and nationalism, they can choose one of the study tracks offering courses on these subjects.

Is Donald Trump's victory good or bad for the programme?

We think it could go either way, but Trump's victory might have the positive effect that

prospective students will say there is now even more reason to study transatlantic relations and to create links.

Photo courtesy College of Europe

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