

# Institute for Representative Government (IRG) Survey

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### **Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:**

The information solicited on this survey is requested pursuant to the Government Performance and Results Act of 1993 (P.L. 103-62) and the Mutual Educational and Cultural Exchange Act of 1961, as amended, also known as the Fulbright-Hays Act (22 U.S.C. 2451 et seq.). In order to ensure that the U.S. Department of State's international exchange programs meet statutory program requirements (22 U.S.C. 2460(c)), the Department's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA) regularly monitors programs, gathers data about program accomplishments, and evaluates selected ones. This gender assessment survey will help assess the impact of the IRG program on both men and women.

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 20 minutes per response, including time required for searching existing data sources, gathering the necessary documentation, providing the information and/or documents required, and reviewing the final collection. You do not have to supply this information unless this collection displays a currently valid OMB control number. If you have comments on the accuracy of this burden estimate and/or recommendations for reducing it, please send them to: A/GIS/DIR, Room 2400 SA-22, U.S. Department of State, Washington, DC, 20522-2202.

SV 2011-0029  
OMB No.: 1405-xxxx  
Expiration Date: mm/dd/yyyy  
Estimated Burden Time: 20 minutes

Please take about 20 minutes to respond to the following questions about your participation in the Institute for Representative Government (IRG) program. The U.S. Department of State values your opinions and attitudes. The questions ask for different types of responses, so please read carefully. If you are not sure of an answer, please give us your best judgment. Thank you!

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# Institute for Representative Government (IRG) Survey

## I. Introduction

### I. Introduction

1. Our records indicate that you participated in the IRG Program in 1998. Is this correct?

- Yes
- No, I participated in another year (specify year)
- I did not participate in the program at all

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# Institute for Representative Government (IRG) Survey

I. Introduction

**2. What was your primary professional position at the time you participated in the IRG program? (Please check the one that best applies.)**

- Elected political official at national level
- Elected political official at regional level
- Elected political official at local level
- Appointed political official at national level
- Appointed political official at regional level
- Other government official/employee (specify)
- Other (specify)

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## Institute for Representative Government (IRG) Survey

### II. New Knowledge, Skills & Experience You Have Acquired and Applied in Your Home Country

#### II. New Knowledge, Skills & Experience You Have Acquired and Applied in Your Home Country

This section asks about the knowledge, skills and experience that you gained through your participation in the IRG Program and how you applied it since your return to your home country.

#### 3. Please indicate the extent to which you have gained knowledge and understanding of the following aspects of the U.S. political system through your participation in the IRG program. (Please check one box in each row.)

I gained new/better knowledge of...

	Not at all	To a small extent	To a good extent	To a great extent	Not applicable
The overall structure of the U.S. political system	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The role and structure of the U.S. Congress	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
U.S. lawmaking processes	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The role of different interest groups in U.S. governance	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Political party organization/differences	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The relationship of federal, state and local entities	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Governance at the state and/or municipal level	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

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## Institute for Representative Government (IRG) Survey

II. New Knowledge, Skills &amp; Experience You Have Acquired and Applied in Your Home Country

**4. Please indicate the extent to which you have gained knowledge and understanding of the following aspects of U.S. democracy through your participation in the IRG program. (Please check one box in each row.)**

I gained new/better knowledge of...


	Not at all	To a small extent	To a good extent	To a great extent	Not applicable
U.S. democracy/democratic principles	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Civil rights/protection of individual rights	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The relationship between the government and civil society	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The role of political debate and dialogue in political life	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The role/importance of transparency in government	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The role of community groups and community-based organizations in the democratic process	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

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## Institute for Representative Government (IRG) Survey

II. New Knowledge, Skills & Experience You Have Acquired and Applied in Your Home Country

**5. Please indicate the extent to which you have gained knowledge and understanding of the following issues through your participation in the IRG program. *(Please check one box in each row.)***

I gained knowledge/greater understanding of issues related to...

	Not at all	To a small extent	To a good extent	To a great extent	Not applicable
National/border security	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Law enforcement	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Immigration	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Arms trafficking	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Drug trafficking	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The role of women in political processes	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The role of ethnic and racial minorities in political processes	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Other (specify below)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**Please specify "Other"**

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## Institute for Representative Government (IRG) Survey

II. New Knowledge, Skills & Experience You Have Acquired and Applied in Your Home Country

### 6. To what extent have you been able to apply each of the following? *(Please check one box in each row.)*

I have been able to apply new/better knowledge and understanding of...

	Not at all	To a small extent	To a good extent	To a great extent	Not applicable
The U.S. political system	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
U.S. democracy and democratic principles	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Specific issues discussed during the study mission	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
How to be a more effective political or government official	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Cultural differences	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Diverse opinions and view points	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

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## Institute for Representative Government (IRG) Survey

II. New Knowledge, Skills & Experience You Have Acquired and Applied in Your Home Country

**7. Which of the following new activities have you undertaken in your work environment as a result of your participation in the IRG program? *(Please check all that apply.)***

- Helped organize/organized a caucus or commission
- Developed/introduced a bill/law
- Reached out to members of other political parties
- Helped establish/established regional collaborations with other countries
- Helped establish/established new collaborations with civil society organization(s)
- Helped establish/established bilateral collaborations between groups in your country and U.S.-based organizations
- None of the above

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## Institute for Representative Government (IRG) Survey

### III. Sharing Your New Knowledge, Skills & Experience with Others

#### III. Sharing Your New Knowledge, Skills & Experience with Others

This section asks about the extent to which and ways in which you have shared your newly acquired knowledge, skills and experience with various groups since your return to your home country.

#### 8. Please indicate with whom you have shared your new knowledge, skills, and experience: *(Please check all that apply.)*

- Professional colleagues in your representative body/legislature
- Representatives of government ministries
- Representatives of trade unions/trade associations
- Representatives of the press/mass media
- Representatives of institutions of higher education
- Representatives of non-governmental organizations (NGOs)
- Representatives of international organizations/commissions
- Professional colleagues from other countries

#### 9. Have others actively sought you out for the specific expertise you gained on the IRG study mission?

- Yes
- No

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## Institute for Representative Government (IRG) Survey

## III. Sharing Your New Knowledge, Skills &amp; Experience with Others

**10. Please indicate who sought out your expertise in these areas: (Please check all that apply.)**

- Professional colleagues in your representative body
- Representatives of government ministries
- Representatives of trade unions/trade associations
- Representatives of the press/mass media
- Representatives of institutions of higher education
- Representatives of NGOs
- Representatives of international or regional organizations/commissions
- Professional colleagues from other countries
- None of the above

**11. In what specific areas have others sought out your expertise? (Please check all that apply.)**

- They have sought my expertise on the topic of the study mission (specify)
- They have sought my expertise on U.S. culture and society
- They have sought my expertise on U.S. laws, government and/or political processes
- They have sought help with/information on contacting U.S. entities

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## Institute for Representative Government (IRG) Survey

## IV. Impact of Participation

**IV. Impact of Participation**

This section of the survey asks about the impact of your participation in the IRG Program on different areas of your professional life.

**12. Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each of the following statements about the impact of your participation in the IRG program on your career outlook: (Please check one box in each row.)**

My participation in IRG has...

	Not at all	To a small extent	To a good extent	To a great extent	Not applicable
Helped me improve my understanding of governance	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Expanded my professional skill set	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Expanded my professional opportunities	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Given me a sense of being a part of a larger community of legislators	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Improved my career satisfaction	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Changed my understanding of what it means to be a political leader	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Improved my leadership abilities	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Given me access to resources that I can use for my work	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

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## Institute for Representative Government (IRG) Survey

## IV. Impact of Participation

**13. Please indicate the extent to which you agree with each of the following statements about the impact of your participation in the IRG Program on your work as a political or government official: (Please check one box in each row.)**

My participation in IRG has...

	Not at all	To a small extent	To a good extent	To a great extent	Not applicable
Contributed to my taking on new leadership roles and responsibilities	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Favorably changed the way my colleagues view me	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Favorably changed the way my party leaders view me	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Helped me gain recognition as an expert in a special field	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Helped to improve practices in my legislative/representative body	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Helped me to build bridges/open dialogue across political parties	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

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# Institute for Representative Government (IRG) Survey

## V. Maintaining Contacts

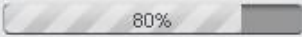
This section of the survey asks about how often you have kept in touch with different groups of people since returning home from the IRG Program.

**14. How often, on average, has the following occurred since your return home? (Please check one box in each row.)**

Since my return, I have been in touch with...

	Never	Infrequently (Less than once a year)	Occasionally (One to three times a year)	Somewhat frequently (Three or more times a year)	Frequently (Monthly or more often)
Representatives of NDI / IRI	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Fellow IRG delegates from my political party	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Fellow IRG delegates from other political parties	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Fellow IRG delegates from other countries in my region	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Members of U.S. Congress/Congressional staff members	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
U.S. federal, state or local officials	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
U.S. business or economic leaders	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Representatives of U.S. NGOs/community organizations	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

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## Institute for Representative Government (IRG) Survey

### VI. Overall Assessment of Program Impact

#### VI. Overall Assessment of Program Impact

In this final set of questions we are interested in better understanding the factors that have affected your ability to bring about positive change since returning from the IRG Program.

15. To what extent has each of the following impeded or facilitated your ability to implement the knowledge and experience you gained? (Please check one box in each row.)

	Impeded greatly	Impeded somewhat	Neither impeded nor facilitated	Facilitated somewhat	Facilitated greatly	Not applicable
Fellow IRG delegates from my party	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Fellow IRG delegates from other parties	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Fellow IRG delegates from other countries	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Local NDI/IRI offices	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
My party	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Access to resources	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The culture/environment of my legislative body	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
My country's legal environment	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Social norms	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Cultural values	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

16. To what extent has your concept of being an effective political/public leader changed as the result of your participation in the IRG program? (Please mark on the scale from 1 to 4, where 1 = not at all, and 4= To a great extent.)

Not at all	To a small extent	To a good extent	To a great extent
1	2	3	4
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

17. In what ways has your concept of being an effective political/public leader changed as a result of your participation in the program?

## Institute for Representative Government (IRG) Survey

## VII. Personal Information

## VII. Personal Information

18. What country do you currently live in?

19. What is your gender?

Female

Male

20. What is your current age? (*in years*)

21. What is your current primary professional position? (*Please check the one that best applies.*)

Elected political official at national level

Elected political official at regional level

Elected political official at local level

Appointed political official at national level

Appointed political official at regional level

Other government official/employee (specify)

Owner/employee of private business

Director/employee of a non-governmental organization (NGO)

Director/employee of an international organization (for example, United Nations)

University professor/administrator

Retired

Currently not working (for example, taking care of family, other obligations)

Currently looking for work

**22. Please indicate the highest degree you have attained. (Please select the one that best applies.)**

- High school diploma (10-12 years of schooling completed)
- Undergraduate degree/technical or professional college (Equivalent of U.S. bachelor's degree, usually 2-4 years of university or college education after high school)
- Graduate degree (Equivalent of U.S. master's degree)
- Post-graduate degree (Equivalent of U.S. doctorate or PhD)
- Other (specify)

**23. About how long did it take you to answer this questionnaire? (in minutes)**

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# Institute for Representative Government (IRG) Survey

Thank You!

Thank you for taking our survey. Your response is very important to us.



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