

## **Berlin Capital Program**

### *Program Description (continued)*

The Berlin Capital Program (BCP), which will familiarize journalists from different regions of the US with German perspectives on topics ranging from politics and culture to the economy and environment, consists of two separate components and phases:

#### **1) Online meetings March to July 2024**

Phase one will be a series of monthly online, one-hour (synchronous) meetings that feature guest speakers briefly presenting issues in current German/transatlantic public discourse and interactive discussion among program participants. These monthly sessions provide an initial opportunity to build group rapport and network, as well as cover foundational knowledge that will allow participants to hit the ground running in Germany.

#### **2) In-person program in Germany: September 14 – 21, 2024**

Phase two will be the in-person, on site experience that brings topics addressed in the initial online sessions to life in Germany. Participants will travel to Berlin for the one-week group program in September to engage with Germans from different walks of life, make a "lived" connection with the history, literature and films they know, sift through the Germany they've heard and read about yet now witness with their own eyes – and use their journalistic skills to bring a more nuanced truth to their colleagues and audience back in the US.

The combination of online prep-engagement with experiential encounters in Germany will provide a comprehensive, well-rounded learning journey that enhances participants' knowledge, skills, and cross-cultural understanding in the craft of journalism.

One panel discussion may address changes within the European Union and their impact on Germany, while a visit to a historical institution reveals much

about the role of media in nurturing democracy in Germany following World War II.

An informal exchange with academics might explore journalists' influence on policy-making, and later a round table featuring a daily senior editor sheds light on recent transformations in the media landscape and how they have affected public discourse.

The importance of privacy in German consciousness, competencies citizens need in consuming media today, the perceived walls that endure between east and west, Berlin's evolution in its role as Germany's capital, this modern nation's place in the European, transatlantic and greater international communities – these and more topics are under consideration during the program's two components.

For a more visual and experiential impression of this program, you may view some stories that the 2022 participants shared from their journey through the Berlin/German media landscape on [Instagram](#).