Call for Applications

Stanford GDPi-ICNL Tech Camp for Civic Space Defenders

Are you a civic space defender interested in the impact of digital technology on your work? Are you curious how AI and machine learning, facial recognition technology, and big data will transform society? If so, we invite eligible civil society colleagues to apply to the Tech Camp for Civic Space Defenders organized by Stanford's Global Digital Policy Incubator (GDPi) and the International Center for Not-for-Profit Law (ICNL).

The Tech Camp will take place at Stanford University in Palo Alto, California from September 14 – 16, 2022. At the Tech Camp, 20-30 participants from OECD-DAC eligible countries will address issues including:

- Private company development of Spyware and its use against civil society;
- The erosion of global norms related to the exercise of fundamental freedoms online;
- The effects of artificial intelligence on the freedoms of association, peaceful assembly, and expression ("civic space"); and
- The impact of social media on the freedom of expression and the use of algorithms to drive online content.

Participants will have the opportunity to interact with leading experts on digital technology as well as civic space defenders around the world.

Program Costs

The organizers will cover participant airfare, lodging, and local transport in the US, and some meals in Palo Alto. The organizers will also provide letters of invitation, but participants are responsible for obtaining a US visa and for all associated costs. No per diem will be provided; participants will be expected to cover the cost of airport transfers in their home countries, travel insurance, some meals, and incidental costs incurred in connection with their Tech Camp attendance.

COVID-19

All participants are required to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19. "Fully vaccinated" means an individual has received: the second dose of a two-dose vaccine (such as Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna) or (b) a single-dose vaccine (such as Johnson & Johnson/Janssen) at least two weeks prior to the start of Tech Camp. Please note that Tech Camp organizers are

unable to provide applicants with vaccinations or assist them with accessing a vaccine prior to traveling to the United States.

All participants must also comply with all relevant US Federal, State or local laws, as well as Stanford University's COVID-19 Policies for visitors.

Participants are responsible for obtaining COVID-19 vaccinations and meeting all relevant health and safety regulations, and all associated costs.

The organizers recognize that the COVID-19 situation continues to evolve, and therefore requirements for participants related to COVID-19 are subject to change. The organizers will keep Tech Camp participants updated as to these requirements. The organizers reserve the right to shift the Tech Camp to a virtual format if international travel becomes unsafe or restricted.

Participants must follow all travel guidelines for the United States, their home country and airlines, including testing requirements, prior to travel.

Eligibility

Applicants must live and work in an OECD-DAC eligible country. In addition, they must work on civic space issues for a civil society organization.

Application Process

To apply to participate in the Tech Camp, please submit the following materials no later than 11:59pm EDT on May 8, 2022.

1. A CV or biographical statement of no more than two pages;
2. A description of how you have worked to promote civic space (up to 150 words);
3. A description of current or upcoming digital laws or policies affecting civic space in your country (up to 200 words);
4. A statement of how you anticipate using knowledge gained at the Tech Camp to promote civic space in your country (up to 200 words);
5. A statement of how you intend to share the knowledge gained (up to 150 words); and
6. A confirmation that you: (1) do not need a visa to enter the United States, (2) have an appropriate entry visa, or (3) understand you have an obligation to obtain an appropriate visa, intend to apply for a visa in a timely manner, and will bear all costs associated with the visa process. *Please be sure to include this confirmation in your application.*
7. A confirmation you: (1) are fully vaccinated against COVID-19 or understand you have an obligation to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 and intend to do so and (2) will comply with all relevant laws, regulations, measures, and procedures to combat the spread of COVID-19, including Stanford University's COVID-19 Policies for visitors. *Please be sure to include this confirmation in your application.*

Applications must be submitted via the Application Form***, which can be found here:*** ***https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/LYWHTNJ.*** ***Applications must be submitted no later than 11:59pm EDT on May 8, 2022. Incomplete or improperly submitted applications will not be considered.***

Selection Process

Participants will be selected through a competitive application process. The selection process will be based on the quality of the application and the following criteria:

- Compliance with this Announcement, including eligibility requirements;

- The applicant's experience promoting civic space;

- The nature of the digital laws and policies affecting civic space in the applicant's country;

- The applicant's plan to use and share knowledge gained at the Tech Camp; and

- The applicant's proficiency in spoken and written English.

Additionally, an effort will be made to ensure geographic and gender diversity, as well as representation of historically marginalized groups.

Selected applicants will be notified of their selection by May 31, 2022. Only successful applicants will be contacted. No phone calls please.

Participation by selected applicants will be contingent on ability to obtain a visa by September 1, 2022. Participants must be able to travel to Stanford, must be available to participate in all three days of the Tech Camp, and must agree to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 and comply with all US Federal, State, local and Stanford University requirements, rules, and guidelines related to COVID-19.

This call for applications does not constitute an obligation or commitment of any kind by GDPi or ICNL, nor does it commit GDPi or ICNL to pay for costs incurred in the preparation and submission of an application.