

INTERNATIONAL LEADERS PROGRAM



*leaders for the
sake of the world*



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

ABOUT THE INTERNATIONAL LEADERS PROGRAM

The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America engages in mission with companion churches and institutions around the world. The Global Mission unit nurtures this global engagement through the theology and practice of accompaniment by walking together with our global companions.

A key expression of this accompaniment is the International Leaders Program, which partners with companions to identify, develop and equip strong and effective leaders. Through academic scholarships, engagement in gender justice, and short-term leadership experiences, the International Leaders Program is forming leaders for both church and society.



INTERNATIONAL LEADERS PROGRAM



INTERNATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Through the International Scholarship Program, the ELCA awards academic scholarships to established and emerging leaders selected and endorsed by global companion churches and institutions. With generous financial support, these scholars study a wide variety of subjects at schools around the world, including our excellent ELCA seminaries. Further equipped for mission and ministry, they return to their sending churches and communities as pastors, professors, bishops, medical doctors, social workers, engineers and teachers, and in many other key leadership roles.



"I want to make sure not only that I am benefiting from this education experience, but also that my church and my community back home in Rwanda get to receive the fruits of this scholarship."

Veronica Mwakasungura
Lutheran Church of Rwanda
Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN LEADERS

Alongside the global Lutheran community, the ELCA is engaging in a strategic emphasis on equipping women leaders in the life and development of church and society. Through International Women Leaders, we are providing additional scholarships to women sent by global companions. These emerging leaders study at ELCA colleges and universities, ELCA seminaries, and other institutions around the world. They enrich the ELCA through their witness and leadership and multiply the impact of their studies back home.



“Being part of the International Women Leaders program has been an incredible experience. Now it is clear to me that I am smart, proud of my culture and proud of where I am from.”

Rebeca Amaro Treviño
Mexican Lutheran Church
Wartburg College

GLOBAL LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

Through the Global Leadership Academy, the ELCA is creating short-term education and training opportunities for leaders of our global companions. We partner with companions to host these gatherings in varied contexts around the world, rooting our learning in the stories and expertise of local change-makers. The academy brings these leaders together to learn, connect and build a global network of justice advocates. Participants return home equipped to lead change in their communities.

"In a world where gender justice is unfortunately still far from being realized, it is very important and powerful for women leaders to get together, share experiences and think together [about] how we can create a movement of change around the globe. It is important to acknowledge that the struggles we face are not stand-alone struggles, but that other women go through similar challenges."

Pamela Groder, St. Andrew's Refugee Services
Cairo, Egypt



PARTNERSHIPS

The International Leaders Program is proud to work alongside our excellent ELCA seminaries, colleges and universities here in the United States. These institutions receive a portion of the program's international scholarship recipients each year and provide critical financial and interpersonal support. In turn, scholarship recipients bring the gifts of the global church, informing and enriching the entire ELCA.

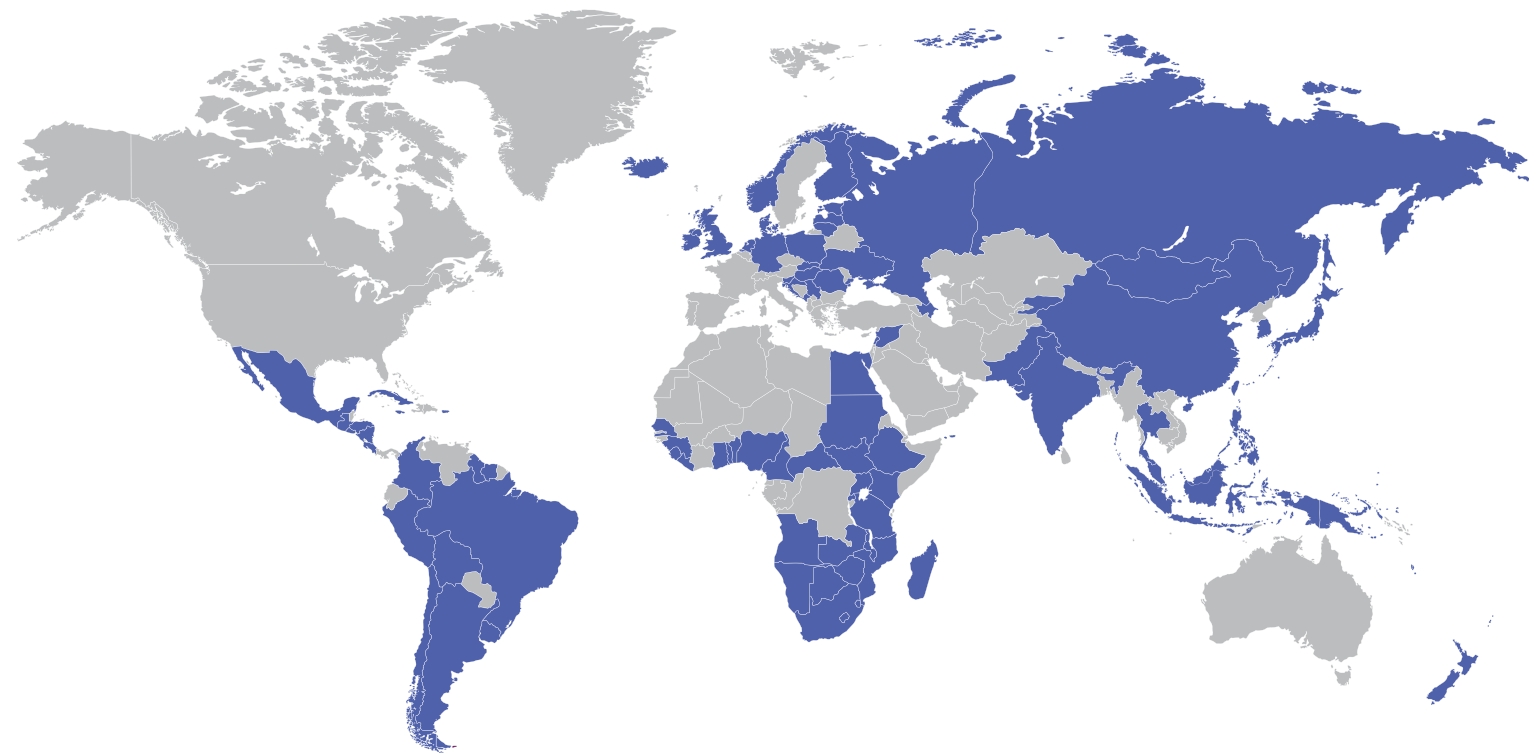
The foundation of this work is the accompaniment of global companion churches and institutions, which raise up the leaders entering the program. Our companions identify strategic leadership needs, help guide the selection of scholarship candidates, encourage scholars throughout their studies and receive them back into positions of enhanced leadership.



OVERALL IMPACT

Since the beginning of the ELCA, well over 1,000 leaders have received education and training through the International Leaders Program. Alumni of the program include presiding bishops, seminary presidents, leaders in the global Lutheran communion, celebrated activists, accomplished academics and even a Nobel Peace Prize laureate!

INTERNATIONAL LEADERS PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS' COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN, THROUGH 2019



GENDER JUSTICE IMPACT

Through International Women Leaders, the program has renewed its commitment to the strategic importance of women in leadership. Joining the Lutheran World Federation and United Nations, the ELCA is doubling down on equal access to education.

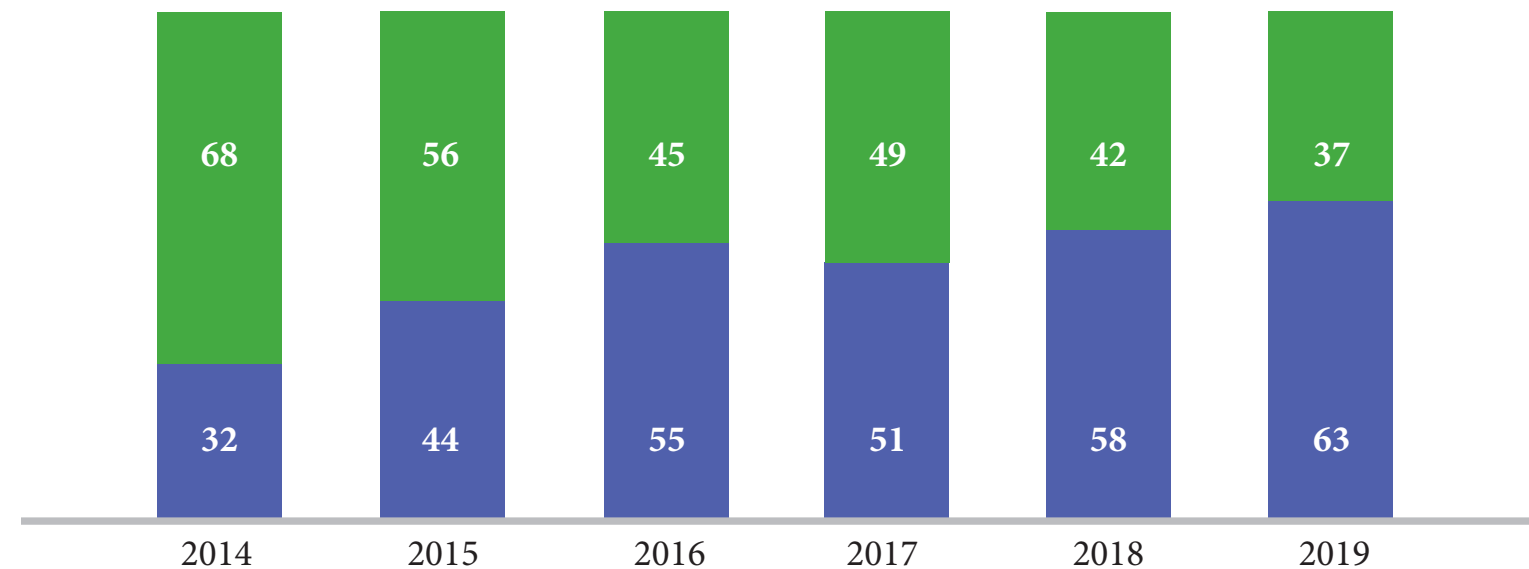
INTERNATIONAL LEADERS PROGRAM SCHOLARSHIPS BY GENDER 2014-2019



Percentage
female



Percentage
male



The International Leaders Program is made possible by the generous gifts of ELCA members. Thank you for equipping leaders for the sake of the world!

You can support the International Leaders Program by making a designated gift to International Women Leaders. Your support provides scholarships and training to women sent by global companions.

Make your gift to:

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
ELCA Gift Processing Center
P.O. Box 1809
Merrifield, VA 22116-8009

Make your check payable to “ELCA”
and include this note in the memo line:
“International Women Leaders GCS5000.”



DONATE ONLINE: [ELCA.org/SupportIWL](https://www.elca.org/SupportIWL)

GIVE BY PHONE: 800-638-3522

QUESTIONS?

- Email: GlobalScholars@elca.org
- [ELCA.org/ILP](https://www.elca.org/ILP)