The U.S. Department of State’s Towards a More Safe and Secure World initiative brings more than 100 judicial, law enforcement, and security officials from around the world to the United States each year to discuss and examine mutual threats to international peace and security, including terrorism, border threats, narcotics trafficking, money laundering, cyber security, and trafficking in persons.

PROGRAM DETAILS
Participants of the annual International Visitor Leadership Program (IVLP) spend three weeks cooperating with their U.S. counterparts to find solutions to shared global security responsibilities. Towards a More Safe and Secure World features a day-long plenary in Washington, D.C., at which top public and private sector security experts discuss the closer international cooperation needed to address key security issues facing the United States and the rest of the world.

Following programming in Washington D.C., program participants travel to small and mid-sized American cities to gain an understanding of public safety and security issues with federal, regional, and local law enforcement officers and public officials. Discussions provide an understanding of public safety and security concerns at the local and regional levels and insights about cooperative relationships among law enforcement entities.

The program concludes in New York City with the Global Security Conference sponsored by the Department of State and the Federal Bureau of Investigation’s (FBI) New York Field Office. Senior FBI and New York law enforcement officials discuss counter terrorism efforts in one of the United States’ largest cities.

2017 OBJECTIVES

★ Provide an understanding of the American criminal justice system and the legal framework for combating a range of transnational crimes;
★ Assess the impact of transnational crime on U.S. foreign policy priorities;
★ Identify ways in which American policy makers and law enforcement agencies collaborate with global partners to counter transnational crimes; and,
★ Address issues of balancing law enforcement and security with civil liberties in a democratic society.

“Our time today is an opportunity for the open and honest exchange of information and encouragement. As allies dedicated to defeating a common enemy, we should strive to understand and respect one another’s perspectives and adopt the ideas that will achieve our mission. Most of all, now is the time to strengthen our shared commitment to security and invest in a fight in which we all have a stake.”

Secretary of State Rex Tillerson