

What is the EUVP?

The objective of the European Union Visitors Program (EUVP) is to enable young leaders, potential leaders and multipliers from non-EU Member States to obtain first-hand impressions of the Union's policies, Institutions and achievements and to increase the mutual understanding between professionals from non-EU countries and their EU counterparts.

The EUVP is jointly sponsored and administered by the European Parliament and the European Commission and has been in operation since 1974. Australia and New Zealand have participated in the programme since 1983 sending over 138 visitors to Europe during that time.

The length of the EUVP visit is normally 5 working days in Brussels, though visitors with a political profile are exceptionally invited to attend a 3-day plenary session of the European Parliament in Strasbourg, in which case the tour will last a maximum of 8 working days. The program consists of meetings with officials at the EU institutions in Brussels and where applicable, in Strasbourg and/or Luxembourg. All programs are coordinated and arranged by the EUVP Secretariat (in Brussels) and not by the individual participants or by the EU Delegation in Australia. Travel and per diem costs are covered by the EUVP.

Who is eligible to participate?

Those eligible to participate are government/parliamentary officials (local, state and federal), journalists, trade unionists, civil society actors and educators/think tanks with career-related interests in the European Union. *The EUVP is not open to students*. Participants are required to have completed their university education or equivalent training and to have been employed for several years in their chosen career/field.

How are participants selected?

EUVP participants are selected by a committee chaired jointly by officials of the European Parliament and of the European Commission.

When would the Program take place?

If your application is successful, you will be informed during the second half of the year in which your application was received. Travel will then take place the following year.

What is the application process?

The Delegation in Canberra is responsible for the initial screening of applications from Australian citizens living and working in the region with two applicants selected each year. Applications should be made in the form of a letter addressed to:

EUVP Applications
Delegation of the European Union to Australia and New Zealand
18 Arkana St
Yarralumla ACT 2600 Australia

Or emailed to the EUVP Liaison Officer - tracy.dennis@eeas.europa.eu

The letter should be brief and must contain:

- a. A description of your current position and area of expertise.
- b. A brief outline detailing why you should be considered and specifically how it relates to your career objectives

In addition, you <u>must</u> complete the EUVP application form, provide a Statement of Purpose (see example) and include your current CV.

The deadline for applications is April 2015 for travel in 2016.

Enquiries should be addressed to:

Tracy Dennis
EUVP Liaison Officer
PH: +61 2 6271 2743
tracy.dennis@eeas.europa.eu