



THE 2023 CHARLES T. MANATT DEMOCRACY AWARDS CEREMONY

The International Foundation for Electoral Systems (IFES) Charles T. Manatt Democracy Awards honor inspirational leaders with an unwavering commitment to **building resilient democracies that deliver for all**. Each ceremony, IFES presents the Democracy Award to three individuals: a Democrat, a Republican, and a member of the international community.

The IFES Democracy Awards recognize those who embody the IFES vision of **democracy for a better future**, which we advance by:

- Innovating [global tools](#) with local applicability to counter [dangerous speech](#), [dis/misinformation](#), and [extremism](#) online
- [Empowering young people—including in the Pacific](#)—to be positive change agents and active participants in civic and political processes.
- Our [Center for Anti-Corruption and Democratic Trust](#), breaking ground [in gender and political finance](#) and with practical tools for [electoral dispute resolution](#) and [independent institutions](#)
- [Partnering with the private sector](#) to ensure that technological innovation contributes to [the integrity of elections](#)
- Harnessing research, resources, and [partnerships](#) to address the [intersection of climate change with electoral and political rights](#)

“[IFES’s] mission statement is really actually a very modern take on the democracy challenge...it’s the shift that all of us are collectively trying to make here to meet this very, very unusual moment with a very unique set of threats to democracy that are different than the ones we have faced in the past.”

– Samantha Power, 2022 IFES Democracy Awards

The IFES 2023 Democracy Awards will be held on Tuesday, October 17, in Washington, D.C. This premier event will include members of Congress, the Biden Administration, and other leaders, experts, and advocates for democracy, human rights, and governance. It will include a reception, dinner, and awards ceremony.

For more information, please contact IFES Director of Strategic Communications and Advocacy Andrew Kolb (akolb@ifes.org).

Recent Democracy Award Recipients

Administrator Samantha Power, on behalf of USAID Democracy, Human Rights, and Governance Officers

President of Ukraine Volodymyr Zelenskyy

President of Liberia Ellen Johnson Sirleaf

U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine K. Albright

Swedish Minister for Foreign Affairs Margot Wallström

Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.)

Senator Rob Portman (R-Ohio)

U.S. National Security Advisor Stephen J. Hadley

Ambassador Mark Green

[You may find the complete list of past awardees here.](#)



About IFES

VISION

Democracy for a better future.

MISSION

Together we build resilient democracies that deliver for all.

IFES advances democracy for a better future. We collaborate with civil society, public institutions and the private sector to build resilient democracies that deliver for everyone. As a global leader in the promotion and protection of democracy, our technical assistance and applied research develops trusted electoral bodies capable of conducting credible elections; effective and accountable governing institutions; civic and political processes in which all people can safely and equally participate; and innovative ways in which technology and data can positively serve elections and democracy. Since 1987, IFES has worked in more than 145 countries, from developing to mature democracies. IFES is a global, nonpartisan organization based in Arlington, Virginia, USA, and registered as a nonprofit organization [501(c)(3)] under the United States tax code.

“The work of building and sustaining democracies requires persistence, and it requires cooperation. Since its founding over 30 years ago, IFES has brought both of these attributes to the fight for freedom.”

– Madeleine K. Albright, 2019 IFES Democracy Awards

STRATEGIC OUTCOMES



Trusted electoral stakeholders deliver credible elections.



Effective governing institutions are accountable to the people they serve.



All people safely participate in civic and political life on an equal basis.



Technology, information, and data positively serve elections and democracy.