

IE FOUNDATION

# FELLOWS PROGRAM



*Talent  
Taking Care  
of Talent*



# IE FOUNDATION FELLOWS

The IE Foundation Fellows Program consists of an Honors program that brings together a selected group of past and present IE University students with extraordinary academic and extracurricular profiles and who have received one of our scholarships.

True to our belief in the power of **Talent Taking Care of Talent**, the IE Foundation dedicates a significant portion of the donations it receives from IE University students, alumni, families, and corporate partners to its scholarship programs. The recipients of these scholarships are exceptional candidates with the drive and potential to have a lasting positive impact in their communities and the world.

In 2020, with the launch of the **IE Foundation Fellows Program**, we brought together a select community of current and former IE University students with exceptional academic and extracurricular profiles who benefited from one of our scholarships. **This October, we welcomed over 300 new Fellows** from diverse backgrounds, now accounting for a total of over 1,800 Fellows. In the same evening filled with inspiration and commitment, we presented the newly formed **IE Foundation Student Board** - a key group dedicated to supporting Fellows, fostering collaboration, and aligning efforts with IE's vision of driving positive change in society.

The selection process to become an IE Foundation Fellow is rigorous, focusing not only on academic achievement but also on personal and professional success. The students who join the program **gain access to unique networking opportunities through activities and events organized by the IE Foundation and IE University** and, in return, become dedicated mentors and ambassadors, volunteering at key events to help us raise awareness about the impact of the IE Foundation.

The fall months of 2024 were marked by three major events: the IE Foundation Fellows Welcome Session for new incoming Fellows, coinciding with the start of a new academic year; a tour of the Altar de Muertos exhibition at Casa de México in Spain, celebrating extraordinary women who have influenced Mexican culture; and the exclusive meeting between our outstanding IE Foundation Fellows and the International Advisory Board of IE University, where future changemakers had the opportunity to connect with leaders and share their aspirations.

As usual, the year culminated in December with the IE Foundation Fellows Winter Gathering, a festive celebration of our **Fellows' collective accomplishments and enduring bonds**.

## IE Foundation Fellows in numbers:



**1,800** fellows  
67% bachelor's  
33% master's



**107** nationalities  
represented

### Gender distribution



**63%**  
Female



**37%**  
Male



**IE Foundation Student Board**

# IMPACT AMBASSADORS OF IE FOUNDATION

Our Fellows are committed to becoming leaders of positive impact in more than one way. Besides their academic excellence, as students they actively participate in community initiatives dedicated to fostering a sense of unity and belonging, driving change and promoting the key values of IEU.



**Cultural Event at Fundación Casa de México en España**



**IE University's Onboarding Session**



**Fellows meet the Internacional Advisory Board of IE University**



**Donor's Cocktail 2024**



**Workshop: Leveraging LinkedIn**



**IE Foundation Fellows Graduation Celebration**

“ Receiving the Young Talented Leaders scholarship was the most important event of my life. I had big dreams of studying abroad to explore and change that world, but without the necessary financial means, I could only work as hard as possible and hope for the best. I needed someone's faith in me, and IE Foundation gave me that. Their financial and moral support provided a safety net throughout my journey, motivating me to challenge myself constantly and grow as an individual. IE Foundation also defined my university experience through the richness of our community. All Fellows proudly carry a personal story of great obstacles, persevering faith, and relentless effort that led them to IE University. It's an inspiration and a privilege to experience university life alongside such outstanding students.”



—  
**Diego Rubio,**  
Mexico, Bachelor in  
Business Administration



#### Fellow's Meet & Greet in Segovia



—  
**Akosua Atobrah Kissi- Prah,**  
Ghana, Master in  
International Development

“ Having studied in Ghana all my life, I knew I wanted to partake of a different kind of learning experience to diversify my knowledge and outlook on life. This scholarship gave me the privilege to network with some amazing colleagues with intriguing mindsets, as well as a wide array of skillful industry profiles. Engaging with such a great variety of people has empowered me to invest in personal skills that I previously did not have.

Personally, I am grateful not only because of the knowledge I have acquired, but also for the old habits I have had to unlearn.”

“

Throughout my journey at IE University, IE Foundation has made a huge impact on my experience. IE Foundation's events — such as meet and greet sessions with the fellows as well as the panel discussions with various stakeholders and speakers — allowed me to extend my networking skills and make a lot of valuable connections.

Moreover, other initiatives of the Fellows Program, including the volunteering in diverse events, helped me to improve my hard and soft skills.”



—  
**Ali Qurbonmamadov,**  
Tajikistan, Bachelor in  
Communications and Digital  
Media



## IE Foundation Fellow Welcome Session



—  
**Keitumetse Pule,**  
South Africa,  
Master in Digital Business and Innovation

“ As a tech entrepreneur actively building a legal tech startup, it was very evident to me that I would need to develop my skills and competencies in the tech space in order to continue innovating and growing. The Kistefos Young Talented Leaders Scholarship was instrumental in helping me realize my goal of moving to Madrid and enrolling in the master's program in Digital Business and Innovation. The holistic support from flights to accommodation and tuition has made a meaningful difference in my life, and receiving this scholarship has reinforced my commitment to lifelong learning in order to continue contributing to the development of Africa through entrepreneurship.”



**Guided visit at Museo del Prado**

“The opportunity to pursue my Bachelor's Degree at IE University thanks to the Young Talented Leaders Program, made possible by FRV and IE Foundation, has reinforced my belief in the value of chasing one's aspirations and unlocking one's full potential. It has opened the doors to better and brighter prospects. I am profoundly grateful for the chance to be part of this life-changing initiative. I cannot but showcase my commitment to recreate the values of talent and excellence that define this scholarship during my years at IE University and beyond.”



—  
**Mara Sánchez,**  
España, Dual Degree in  
Business Administration  
and International Relations

“

My scholarship holds immense personal value to me. It has opened doors that I once thought were closed and has allowed me to pursue my educational aspirations without the burden of financial constraints.



Beyond the financial support, my scholarship has empowered me to focus on my studies and extracurricular activities, ultimately shaping my personal and professional trajectory in a profound way. What I value most about being an IE Foundation Fellow is the network of support and encouragement that comes with it. Being part of this community has provided me with access to invaluable resources, mentorship opportunities, and a network of like-minded individuals who share similar goals and aspirations.”

—  
**Andrea Rivera,**  
Honduras, Master in International Development

**Diego Rubio Gutiérrez** • 2º  
Young Talented Leaders Scholar at IE University | Beta Gamm...  
1 semana •

It was my great pleasure last evening to speak to the graduating class of **IE Foundation** Fellows, both at the Undergraduate and Master level. This community has meant the world to me for the last four years, and so it brought me much happiness to share my personal story and the lessons I've learned at **IE University** during that time.



**Bill Ivans Gbafre** • 1st  
MSc Applied Economics (Economic Analysis) Candidate at IE SPEGA '25| Kistef...  
2mo •

The **IE Foundation** Fellowship has given me a remarkable opportunity to access world-class education and unparalleled learning experiences at **IE University**.

Coming from Liberia, a small West African Country marred by years of civil unrest and critical development crisis, I've had the ambition to research human capital and economic development in Africa and the Global South, focusing on poverty, inequality, structural change, social policy, and climate change. As a Foundation Fellow pursuing my Masters in Applied Economics at **IE School of Politics, Economics & Global Affairs**, I can interact with policymakers and experts working in



**Javier Rosales** • 2º  
President of the IE Student Government | Dual degree in Dat...  
1 semana • Editado •

Public speaking is usually fun, but I know for sure it will be when I'm sharing the stage with **Geoffroy Gérard** or **Samer Roz** 🤗


I'm eternally grateful to the **IE Foundation** for awarding me a Scholarship for Personal Excellence, and equally to the donors that make this possible. Thank you **Geoffroy Gérard**, **Gonzalo Garland** and **Ines Drieselmann**, for inviting me to the annual Donors' Cocktail, where I could share my story and meet the amazing people behind my scholarship.



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## What it means to be an IE Foundation Fellow

By **Juan Pablo González** January 26, 2023



Depending on who you ask, being an IE Foundation Fellow can have a number of different meanings.

In the weeks leading up to receiving my acceptance letter from IE, I was very concerned about if I would actually be able to go, regardless of the Committee's decision. I didn't expect to get a high scholarship, let alone become a Foundation Fellow. Prior to my interview, I didn't know much about the High Potential Scholarship or the Fellowship I'd end up being part of, and just exactly what this could mean for my future.

But one of the paragraphs that I received in my acceptance letter has for the past year and a half driven me to strive for excellence, to make meaningful connections and friendships; to truly be part of the Foundation.

**Alina Volik** • 2nd  
Communication and Digital Media Student at IE...  
3w •

+ Follow

Yesterday I was honored to represent the IE Foundation Fellows Program at the annual event with the International Advisory Board of IE University.

At first, we were given a captivating guided tour of the new Galería de las Colecciones Reales in Madrid. I was truly impressed by the richness of the artwork!

The evening continued with a networking cocktail party, where I had the privilege to talk to IE University's founder - Diego del Alcázar y Silvela featured in the first picture, President Santiago Iniguez, Vice Chairman Diego del Alcázar Benjumea, President of International Advisory board and former CEO of Inditex - Pablo Isla, dean of IE Business School Lee Newman and Vice President of IE Foundation Gonzalo Garland.

Grateful for the transformative daily experiences I have at IE University and for being invited to this special event!



The **IE Foundation Fellows** program is made possible thanks to our community of donors - corporate partners, alumni, parents, students, staff and faculty. **Together, we keep the wheel of impact turning for generations to come.**

Learn more about about this program and how to contribute at [ie.edu/ie-foundation/](https://ie.edu/ie-foundation/).

