BRUSSELS, LUXEMBOURG AND STRASBOURG
October 4 to 13, 2021

Gain unprecedented access to the frontlines of international governance while traveling beside faculty leader Christophe Crombez, PhD ’94, a political economist who specializes in the European Union. Marvel at the architectural mastery of the Strasbourg Hemicycle, the seat of the European Parliament, during a personalized briefing on the body’s powers and then sit in on a parliamentary session. Attend a hearing of the International Criminal Court in The Hague and learn about this august court’s inner workings from a member of the staff. Savor regional specialties at a private chocolate-making workshop in Brussels and a wine tasting in the heart of Alsace.

FACULTY LEADER
Christophe Crombez
Christophe Crombez, PhD ’94, is a specialist in European Union politics and business-government relations in Europe and has been a visiting professor at the Forum on Contemporary Europe at the Freeman Spogli Institute for International Studies at Stanford University since 1999. He teaches Introduction to European Studies and the Future of the European Union in Stanford’s Program in International Relations and is responsible for the minor in European studies and the Undergraduate Internship Program in Europe.

Professor Crombez has been in the business and economics department at the University of Leuven Catholic University of Leuven (KU Leuven) in Belgium since 1994, where he is a professor of political economy who also teaches political business strategy and applied game theory. His research focuses on EU institutions and their impact on policies, EU institutional reform, lobbying in the EU, and electoral laws and their consequences for voter representation, party politics and government formation.

- Senior research scholar at the Europe Center at the Freeman Spogli Institute for International Studies, Stanford University, since 1999
- BA, 1989, applied economics, finance, KU Leuven
- PhD, 1994, business, political economics, Stanford University

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Monday, October 4
Brussels, Belgium
Arrive in Brussels and transfer to our luxury hotel in the heart of the city. After settling in set out on a walking tour of the Grand Place, a UNESCO World Heritage site. The historic city square is renowned for its ornate architecture and soaring Town Hall tower. This evening enjoy a welcome reception and dinner. HOTEL AMIGO (D)
Tuesday, October 5
**Brussels**
Spend the day at the European Quarter of Brussels. Begin with a guided tour of the European Commission, the European Union’s executive arm, and develop a better understanding of its policies and priorities from a professional staff member. Following lunch, join an information session at the Council of the European Union led by a council expert. Participate in the interactive and multimedia activities at the visitors’ center that demonstrate how European nations work together toward a legislative consensus. Spend the evening at leisure. HOTEL AMIGO (B,L)

Wednesday, October 6
**Brussels**
Walk to the nearby Museum of the City of Brussels, housed in the iconic 16th-century King’s House (called Maison du Roi in French and Broodhuis in Dutch), where centuries of Bruxellois history come to life through paintings, decorative arts, photos and models, including a representation of Brussels during the Middle Ages. See the extensive wardrobe of the city’s well-known sculpture, Manneken Pis, gifted by visiting dignitaries. At a celebrated chocolatier, hear about the history of fine chocolate, try your hand at chocolate making and be treated to delicious sweets! After lunch, enjoy a free afternoon in Brussels or a special afternoon at the North Atlantic Treaty Organization’s headquarters, if conditions allow. The evening is at leisure. HOTEL AMIGO (B,L)

Thursday, October 7
**The Hague, the Netherlands**
Take a day trip across the border into the Netherlands and visit the International Criminal Court in The Hague. Listen to a presentation by a staff member of the court followed by free time to survey the ICC exhibits. The ICC hears cases related to war crimes, genocides, aggression and crimes against humanity. After lunch in The Hague’s city center, change gears and go on a guided tour of the Mauritshuis Royal Picture Gallery. Gaze at several Dutch masterpieces from the golden age, including Vermeer’s *Girl With a Pearl Earring*, Fabritius’s *The Goldfinch*, and Rembrandt’s *The Anatomy Lesson of Dr. Nicolaes Tulp*. Experience the centuries-old ambience of this key diplomatic center by passing through the Binnenhof, a cluster of historic buildings that make up the Dutch government, and marveling at the Noordeinde Palace, the regal site of the Dutch king’s offices that date to the 16th century. Journey back to Brussels for a free evening. HOTEL AMIGO (B,L)

Friday, October 8
**Brussels**
Return to the European Quarter to observe the operations of the European government. Start at the Hemicycle, the architectural masterpiece where the European Parliament meets. Admire the European Parliament’s impressive art collection—the brainchild of its first president, Simone Veil—which includes notable examples of the various trends that have defined the European art scene over the past four decades. Stroll through the lovely Leopold Park to the
House of European History Museum and view highlights from its permanent collection. Have lunch and an afternoon at leisure in Brussels. This evening bid adieu to Brussels at a local restaurant owned by a Stanford alum; sample traditional styles of beer and savor Bruxellois cuisine. HOTEL AMIGO (B,D)

Saturday, October 9
**Brussels / Luxembourg / Strasbourg, France**
Depart Brussels for Luxembourg, one of the smallest sovereign states in Europe, and arrive in Luxembourg City, a UNESCO World Heritage site and one of the four European Union headquarter capitals. Upon arrival discover the historical fortifications of the duchy, which were built over the course of nine centuries. After lunch at a restaurant in the picturesque Old City, continue to the Court of Justice, the EU’s supreme court responsible for interpreting and ensuring the equal application of EU laws for all member states. Appreciate the truly striking and unique design of the headquarters building and learn how the court operates. Set out on a guided tour of the new Palais, which houses the court’s collection of art pieces contributed by each member state to represent their common yet diverse European artistic heritage. Travel to Strasbourg and check into our hotel in the historic heart of the city where you’ll spend an evening at leisure. HÔTEL & SPA RÉGENT PETITE FRANCE (B,L)

Sunday, October 10
**Strasbourg**
Embark on a guided walking tour of Strasbourg’s charming historical center, a UNESCO World Heritage site, to absorb the fascinating and complex past of this multicultural region. Relish a delicious lunch of traditional Alsatian fare, then view the Strasbourg Cathedral, one of the finest examples of high Gothic architecture in Europe. Marvel at the towering spire, once the tallest in Europe, and the astronomical clock. Finish at the Rohan Palace, “the little Versailles of Alsace,” a remarkable 18th-century baroque palace that was constructed for the local prince-bishops and cardinals of the House of Rohan. This evening be treated to savory and sweet crêpes at a nearby crêperie. HÔTEL & SPA RÉGENT PETITE FRANCE (B,L,D)

Monday, October 11
**Colmar**
Venture into the Alsatian countryside to the scenic town of Colmar. At the Unterlinden Museum, be guided through its collection highlights, including the acclaimed medieval *Isenheim Altarpiece* and its remarkable painted panels. The museum also has notable works by Dubuffet, Monet and Picasso. After lunch at the museum’s café, while away your time exploring this quaint town’s shops and museums. Celebrate Alsace’s rich enological tradition during a wine tasting at one of the oldest wine brotherhoods in France. Return to Strasbourg for an evening at leisure. HÔTEL & SPA RÉGENT PETITE FRANCE (B,L)
Tuesday, October 12

Strasbourg

Head to Strasbourg’s Place de la République and stroll through this huge park-like square dominated by neo-Renaissance buildings, all historical monuments. Continue to the official seat of the European Parliament and see the Hémicycle, a sleek, ultramodern chamber that can seat all 785 members as well as linguistic interpreters and more than 600 visitors. Dine independently for lunch and take the afternoon to soak up Strasbourg’s atmospheric center at your own pace. This evening say goodbye to Europe with an aperitif followed by a festive farewell dinner. HÔTEL & SPA RÉGENT PETITE FRANCE (B,D)

Wednesday, October 13

Strasbourg / U.S.

After breakfast, transfer to the Strasbourg airport for independent flights home. (B)

INFORMATION

Covid-19 and Travel

With travel requirements and local Covid-19 conditions changing weekly, travel protocols for specific destinations will be shared with confirmed travelers closer to departure. To read more about Travel/Study’s approach to ensuring traveler health and safety, visit our Covid-19 Travel page.

Size

This trip requires a minimum of 15 participants and is limited to 35. Travel/Study is committed to providing a low-density experience on all programs and will implement protocols to do so, including social distancing on transportation as well as during lectures, meals and excursions. Single accommodations are limited.

Cost*

$9,795 per person, double occupancy
$11,495 per person, single occupancy
*Stanford Alumni Association nonmembers add $300 per person.

Included

- Educational program with lecture series and predeparture materials, including an education resource list and travel information
- Services of our professional tour manager to assist you throughout the program
- All tours and excursions as described in the itinerary
- Gratuities to guides and drivers for all group activities
- 9 nights of deluxe hotel accommodations
- 9 breakfasts, 6 lunches and 4 dinners
- Welcome and farewell receptions
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- Transfers and baggage handling on program arrival and departure days
- On-tour quarantine-related trip-cancellation, -interruption and -delay insurance coverage
- General medical, accident and evacuation insurance

Not Included
- Your personal flights to and from the program
- Passport and visa fees
- Immunization costs
- Meals and beverages other than those specified as included
- Independent and private transfers
- Nonquarantine-related trip-cancellation, -interruption and -delay insurance coverage
- Baggage insurance
- Excess-baggage charges
- Personal items such as internet access, telephone calls, laundry and gratuities for nongroup services

Air Arrangements
You are responsible for booking and purchasing airfare to the start location and from the end location of the program. These air purchases are NOT included in the program cost. To assist you in making these independent arrangements, we will send you details with your confirmation materials on when to arrive and depart.

What to Expect
We consider this to be a moderately strenuous program that is at times physically demanding and busy. Participants must be physically fit, active and in good health. The centers of many of the towns we visit are closed to traffic. You must be capable of extensive walking—two to four miles—in historic centers and museums and on city tours, as well as extended periods of standing during excursions. Participants may encounter cobblestones and uneven terrain, and guided tours may require climbing up and down several flights of stairs. Stairs may not have handrails, and elevators are limited or unavailable. We welcome travelers 16 years of age and older on this program.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Eligibility
We encourage membership in the Stanford Alumni Association as the program cost for nonmembers is $300 more than the members’ price. The nonmember fee is waived for anyone traveling as a paid guest of a current member, as well as for faculty and staff with emeriti/ae status. To purchase a membership, call (650) 725-0692 or visit alumni.stanford.edu/goto/membership.
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Deposit, Payments and Cancellations
A $1,000-per-person deposit is required to reserve space on this program. Final payment is due 90 days prior to program start. Deposits and any payments are fully refundable until 90 days prior to program start. After that date, refunds can be made only if the program is sold out and we resell your place(s), in which case a $1,000-per-person cancellation fee will apply.

Insurance
Stanford Travel/Study provides all travelers who are U.S. or Canadian citizens with minimal medical, accident and evacuation coverage, as well as on-tour quarantine-related trip-cancellation, -interruption and -delay insurance coverage, under our group-travel insurance policy. Our group policy is intended to provide minimal levels of protection while you are traveling on this program. You may choose to subscribe to optional nonquarantine-related trip-cancellation, -interruption and -delay insurance coverage and/or baggage insurance. Information offering such insurance will be included in your confirmation materials. The product offered includes special benefits if you purchase your insurance within 14 days of receiving your welcome email.

Responsibility
The Stanford Alumni Association, Stanford University and our operators act only as agents for the passenger with respect to transportation and exercise every care possible in doing so. However, we can assume no liability for injury, damage, loss, accident, delay or irregularity in connection with the service of any automobile, motor coach, launch or any other conveyance used in carrying out this program or for the acts or defaults of any company or person engaged in conveying the passenger or in carrying out the arrangements of the program. We cannot accept any responsibility for losses or additional expenses due to delay or changes in air or other services, sickness, weather, strike, war, quarantine, force majeure or other causes beyond our control. All such losses or expenses will have to be borne by the passenger, as tour rates include arrangements only for the time stated. We reserve the right to make such alterations to this published itinerary as may be deemed necessary. We reserve the right to cancel any program prior to departure, in which case the entire payment will be refunded without further obligation on our part. We also reserve the right to decline to accept or retain any person as a member of the program. No refund will be made for an unused portion of any tour unless arrangements are made in sufficient time to avoid penalties. Baggage is carried at the owner’s risk entirely. The airlines concerned are not to be held responsible for any act, omission or event during the time passengers are not on board their plane or conveyance. Neither the Stanford Alumni Association, nor Stanford University, nor our operators accept liability for any carrier’s cancellation penalty incurred by the purchase of a nonrefundable ticket in connection with the tour. Program price is based on rates in effect at the time the brochure is published and is subject to change without notice to reflect fluctuations in exchange rates, tariffs or fuel charges. As a condition of participation, all confirmed participants are required to sign an Assumption of Risk.

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