

**20TH ASEF
SUMMER
UNIVERSITY**
Gateways to Asia and
Europe: Connectivity
by Land, Sea and Air
#ASEFSU20

OPEN CALL

2 weeks between 15 August to 5 September 2016*

Beijing (China) – Harbin (China) –
Vladivostok (Russian Federation) – Chita (Russian Federation) –
Irkutsk (Russian Federation) – Ulaanbaatar (Mongolia)



20th ASEF Summer University (ASEFSU20)

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What is #ASEFSU20?

2016 marks the 20th Anniversary of the **Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM)** process. This year the **ASEF Summer University (ASEFSU)** has also reached a milestone with its 20th Edition. The **Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF)** and its Asian and European partners will celebrate these occasions by organising a grand-scale educational journey for 51 young ASEM representatives to experience the “Gateways to Asia and Europe: Connectivity by Land, Sea and Air”.

The 20th ASEF Summer University (ASEFSU20) is for those who are hungry to explore and work on the roles of transportation and trade between Asia and Europe – in the past, present and future. Be part of a team of young professionals and students who will travel and collaborate for 2 weeks across China, Mongolia and the Russian Federation.

ASEFSU20 is a robust programme of trainings, dialogue-lectures and collaborative exercises. It bridges the participants with government officials, businesses and civil society and offers a top-tier environment for professional and personal development.

The #ASEFSU20 journey

When?

2 weeks between 15 August to 5 September 2016*

Where?

Beijing (China), Harbin (China),
Vladivostok (Russian Federation), Chita (Russian Federation),
Irkutsk (Russian Federation), Ulaanbaatar (Mongolia)

Programme

The programme is based on a holistic 3-step model:

Step #1: Online Preparation Phase

Participants will prepare on an e-platform for the diverse travel nature of the journey as well as partake in group and individual based exercises that will provide necessary knowledge prior to embarking on the excursion.

Step #2: Knowledge On the Go

The 2-week journey through China, Mongolia and the Russian Federation by various transportation modes (bus, train, ship and plane) will connect Beijing, Harbin, Vladivostok, Chita, Irkutsk and Ulaanbaatar. At each stop the programme includes academic lectures, trainings, site-visits to local transportation hubs, commerce and historical places, and facilitates close interactions with civil society representatives, academics and professionals.

Step #3: Creation On the Go

Team work on solutions for real-scenario challenges

The participants will be grouped into teams and linked with business representatives. Each team will receive a real-scenario challenge phased into an area of transportation. By conducting field research and through feedback sessions with the businesses the teams have to develop out-of-the-box solutions to be presented at the final stop in Beijing, China. These solutions could be in form of, for instance, apps, campaigns, policy-recommendations, business models, etc.

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Individual travel-logs

Each participant will create a multimedia travel-log capturing the personal impressions and lessons learned. All travel-logs produced in their respective languages will be shared online and act as a bank of collective experiences from the journey.

For whom?

Citizens of any of the [51 Asia-Europe Meeting \(ASEM\) Partner countries](#)

Young professionals and students,
ranging from A (academics) to Z (zen-masters), between the ages 18-30

Strong command of English (written and verbal)

Up and ready to actively participate in the online preparation phase, 2-weeks journey in 3 countries, and post-event follow-up activities

Willing to partake in a travel experience that will challenge your comfort zones

Costs?

No participation & no registration fee for the participants selected

Transportation, accommodation, and meals are provided for the duration of the trip, plus a travel subsidy from your country of residence to the starting point and back.

Apply today!

Get on board for an experience-intensive journey!

Experience first-hand Asia-Europe connectivity on the go! ASEFSU20 is your opportunity to apply your skills and add on a once-in-a-lifetime educational expedition!

Apply today by clicking [here!](#)

Deadline **Tuesday, 5 April 2016 at 11.59 GMT**

Know more!

For further information, check out the [FAQ](#)

For other questions drop us an email: asefsu@asef.org



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FAQ

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Essentials

I'm interested, what now?

Glad to hear that you are ready to embark on this once-in-a-lifetime educational journey!

Please go [here](#) and fill in the application form. Also have a look at the [ASEFSU20 Roadmap](#) to see the outline of the steps leading up to the journey in China, Mongolia and the Russian Federation.

When is the deadline?

We accept applications until Tuesday, 5 April 2016. Last chance to submit your application will be at GMT 23:59.

Who can apply?

Citizens of any of the [51 Asia-Europe Meeting \(ASEM\) Partner countries](#)

Young professionals and students, ranging from A (academics) to Z (zen-masters), between the ages 18-30

Strong command of English (written and verbal)

Up and ready to actively participate in the online preparation phase, 2-weeks journey in 3 countries, and post-event follow-up activities

Willing to partake in a travel experience that will challenge your comfort zones

What are the steps for a smooth application process?

For us to consider your application please keep in mind the following steps:

- 1) Submit the online application [here](#)
- 2) Keep an eye on the confirmation email upon your successful submission; if you do not receive it, it might have landed in your junk/spam folder

When will the results be out?

We will contact all applicants in April 2016 with the final outcome. You will receive an email with your result and you can also follow our [ASEFEdu Facebook page](#) for the latest updates.

I am an ASEM country national studying in a non-ASEM country.

Am I eligible to apply?

Of course! If you are an ASEM country national, you may apply regardless of your country of residence.

I am a non-ASEM country national studying in an ASEM country.

Am I eligible to apply?

No, only nationals of the 51 ASEM member countries are eligible to apply.

I am a student/young professional older than 30 years.

Am I still eligible to apply?

If you believe that you meet all other criteria and have a suitable profile, you may still apply and your application might be considered on an exceptional basis. However, those who fulfil all application requirements will be prioritised.

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Essentials

I have not been directly involved in any activities related to transportation or trade. Can I still apply?

We always seek to gather a diverse group, including the “unusual suspects”. Our experience is that a multicultural and cross-disciplinary team enjoys the most from our educational projects. At ASEFSU20 we seek people with fresh and open perspectives!

Programme

Pre-Journey

Do I need to prepare anything before the journey?

ASEFSU20 invites you for an experience-intensive journey, which will not only take you across 3 countries but also require you to come well-prepared – both on the topic as well as for the actual travel route. All participants will engage in an online-based preparatory phase, which will kick-start the discussions, team-dynamics and reflections prior to meeting in Beijing, China and boarding the journey!

On the Journey

What is the programme?

The programme is evolving organically and will be launched in the coming weeks. Read more about the overall design of the programme at our [Overview](#) and [Open Call](#).

How will the journey look like?

ASEFSU20 offers a spectacular educational experience, but it is expected that each participant is willing and ready to be a part of an intensive journey and by using various transportation modes. The programme will, for instance, include a 2.5 day train-journey through the Russian Federation, on-site field research and on-the-go team-work. All participants of ASEFSU20 are to be fully committed to a project that is driven to produce concrete solutions for real-scenario challenges.

Post-Journey

Are there any commitments after the project?

We work diligently to provide opportunities for aspiring youth from Asia and Europe and with each project we kick-start additional chances to be a part of the Asia-Europe community.

In addition, we always strive to understand the impact -generated as a result of our project. Thus, we will engage the participants in an impact assessment – to improve the outcomes and approaches with each experience!

Fees

Is there a participation fee?

No participation fee for the participants selected

Transportation, accommodation, and meals are provided for the duration of the trip, plus a travel subsidy from your country of residence to the starting point and back.

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Lodging & Meals

Does ASEF provide accommodation during the event?

Accommodation will be provided by the organisers for the duration of the project. The lodging will vary, from hostel accommodation to train cabins as well as overnight bus-rides.

How about food?

Meals will be provided during the journey.

I have special dietary requirements, will this be an issue?

For participants who have special dietary requirements we will make arrangements as much as possible to adjust the meals accordingly.

Travel, Visa & Insurance

What about the travel costs?

The organisers will provide a travel subsidy from your country of residence to the starting point and back. The subsidy also includes local transportation (home-airport-home).

The amount will be announced to the selected participants in the confirmation letter.

How about visa fees and insurance?

Yes, insurance and visa fee (if applicable) will be covered within the capped subsidy.

Can ASEF give me a support letter for the visa?

Upon your request we will issue a visa support letter for China, Mongolia and the Russian Federation.

Queries & Apply

More questions spinning in your mind?

Drop us an email at: asefsu@asef.org

If everything is clear, then you are ready to **apply!**

We look forward to read your application!