



**West**

THE COUNCIL OF STATE GOVERNMENTS

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## International Visitor Leadership Program visits CSG West

On Thursday, November 8, CSG West was honored to host a group of seven professionals from East Asia and the Pacific Region. The visitors were invited to the United States under the auspices of the United States Department of State on a three-week International Visitor Leadership Program (IVLP) that examined U.S. Federalism and Democracy.

The meeting in the Sacramento, California office of CSG West was requested on their behalf by the Northern California World Trade Center (NorCal WTC). NorCal WTC's mission is focused on growing trade and connecting leaders across the globe. They help companies develop their international business through education, resources and fostering international diplomacy by connecting leaders from around the world with their counterparts in Northern California. Learn more [here](#).

During the delegation's visit, CSG West staff provided a general overview of the organization and examples of how it facilitates cooperation among member states. Information was shared on the thirteen Western states and Pacific Islands comprising the CSG West membership, as well as associate member Canadian provinces, policy committees, programs, resolutions, and special projects. The collaboration with other similar Western associations and organizations was also highlighted. The meeting included an opportunity to answer questions from the delegates, including the basic tenets of federalism.

Hosting international visitor groups such as this provides an opportunity to exchange information and recognize that we share much in common, outweighing any differences between people from different countries. The desire to work toward and maintain basic principles of democracy, civility, and efficiencies in government are just a few.



The delegation was comprised of 10 participants. They were the following:

**Australia**

**Ms. Bronwyn Voyce**

Senior Consultant  
GWI Management Consulting

**Burma**

**Mr. Htoo Aung**

Program Coordinator, Extractive Industries  
Transparency Initiative  
Myanmar Alliance for Transparency and  
Accountability

**Mr. Khaing Kyaw Moe**

Senior Trainer  
Forum of Federations

**Malaysia**

**Mr. Kishva Ambigapathy**

Chairperson  
Commonwealth Youth Council

**Mr. Mohd Ar Rahman Hussin**

Senior Manager  
The eCEO's Sdn Bhd

**New Zealand**

**Mr. Efeso Collins**

Councillor  
Auckland City Council

**Philippines**

**Mr. Darren De Jesus**

Head Executive Assistant  
Office of the Speaker of the House of Representatives

**Vietnam**

**Mr. Tan Hao Nguyen**

Deputy Chief of Office  
Ho Chi Minh City People's Procuracy

To learn more about the U.S. Department of State's International Visitor Leadership Program at the Bureau of Education and Cultural Affairs, please click [here](#).