



### **Rule of Law Fact Sheet**

- Over 2,100 Russian and Ukrainian judges and legal professionals have been hosted in U.S. courts and communities as part of Open World visits focused on the rule of law. Over 100 judges from Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Tajikistan, and Turkmenistan have participated in rule of law visits.
- Since 2001, over 150 federal and state judges across the United States have hosted judicial delegations (composed mainly of general jurisdiction and commercial judges) from Russia and Ukraine through a specialized judge-to-judge program. U.S. judges have also hosted judicial delegations from Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Tajikistan, and Turkmenistan.
- Typical activities for Open World rule of law delegations include participating in judges' roundtables on judicial independence and ethics; observing jury selection and sentencing procedures; visiting law firms, law schools, corrections facilities, and forensic laboratories; meeting with prosecutors and public defenders; and taking part in bar association functions.
- Open World has conducted special-focus exchanges under the rule of law theme in 2007–2010 on alternative dispute resolution (Azerbaijan, Russia), intellectual property rights (Kazakhstan), financial crimes (Kazakhstan), anti-corruption (Kyrgyzstan), legal aid (Moldova), and human-trafficking prevention (Moldova, Russia, Ukraine).
- To date, Open World has hosted 20 jury-trial delegations made up of teams of Russian judges, prosecutors, and defense attorneys. Judges in Alaska, Connecticut, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York, Oregon, and Vermont conducted these programs. Beginning 2008, Open World has hosted jury-trial delegations from Georgia in preparation for the reestablishment of jury trials in that country beginning in 2011.
- Open World has hosted delegations led by senior members of the Russian judiciary, including the chief justice of Russia's Supreme Court and the chairman of the Russian Federation Council of Judges. These visits featured meetings with U.S. Supreme Court justices, key congressional leaders, the Librarian of Congress, and high-ranking officials of the U.S. Department of State and the U.S. Agency for International Development. Supreme Court justices from Ukraine, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, and Tajikistan have also participated in Open World. Open World will host a delegation from the Constitutional Court of Ukraine in March 2011.
- Alumni of the Open World rule of law program comprise 35 percent of the Council of Judges of Russian Supreme Court and 17 percent of the Supreme Court of Ukraine.
- Open World rule of law visits have led or contributed to the establishment or strengthening of sister-court relationships between 20 pairs of U.S. and Russian legal communities.
- Twelve U.S. law schools and the Federal Judicial Center (the education and research arm of the federal courts) have hosted 50 Russian law school deans and faculty members through Open World's legal education component. Open World will be hosting delegation of senior law faculty from the Nizhny Novgorod Law School in September 2011.