



## Rule of Law Fact Sheet

- Over **1,950 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. Another 45 judges from Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, and Turkmenistan have participated in rule of law visits.
- Since 2001, a total of **117 federal and 25 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 Georgia and Kyrgyzstan.
- **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 2007–2008 on **alternative dispute resolution** (Azerbaijan, Russia), **intellectual property rights** (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. In 2008, Open World hosted a **jury-trial delegation from Georgia** in preparation for the reestablishment of jury trials in that country.
- 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, and high-ranking officials of the U.S. Department of State and the U.S. Agency for International Development. **Supreme Court justices from Ukraine and Kyrgyzstan** have also participated in Open World.
- 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**.
- In 2007, **71 American host judges and judicial personnel** made independently financed **return visits to Russia and Ukraine** to work with Open World rule of law alumni.
- 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.