

# Nesti Gjeluci

Address: 5701 Heritage Hill Ct. Alexandria, VA 22310 • 202-679-0171 • [nestigi@gmail.com](mailto:nestigi@gmail.com)

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## PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

*Proven goal-oriented leadership in a variety of dynamic U.S. and international faith-based, social and political environments. Active participant in CCD teaching opportunities of the local Catholic Parish. Successful promoter of freedom in former Communist nations. Excellent communications skills, including proposal writing, program design and stakeholder engagement. Enthusiastic and driven to improve the lives of citizens around the world.*

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

### International Republican Institute, Washington, DC

*Deputy Director Business Development*

*2022 to present*

- Oversee day-to-day operations of a 12-member Business Development team.
- Serve as a liaison with internal program divisions within the organization and help them with their fundraising strategic priorities
- Serve as a liaison with external donor for the organization and provide input to the front office and division leadership staff on upcoming funding opportunities and strategic priorities of funders.

*Deputy Director for Europe*

*2020 to 2022*

- Manage multi-million dollar programs in the Western Balkans and Turkey in the areas of political party strengthening, rule of law and institutional building.
- Liaise, steward and cultivate multiple donors from U.S. Government agencies including USAID, the State Department, U.S. Embassies and Missions abroad and European government funders.
- Manage staff in Washington DC and overseas and monitor their program activities and assist with program design.

### The German Marshall Fund of the United States, Washington, DC

*Manager of Strategic Partnerships*

*2014 to 2020*

- Monitor implementation of multi-million dollar programs and compliance for several civil society and governance projects funded by the U.S. Government, corporate or foundation sources.
- Design new programs with colleagues and partners in the areas of civil society strengthening, governance, as well as defense and security.
- Identify and pursue funding opportunities various GMF programs including all civil society, defense and leadership; work closely with the DC-based and overseas teams to carry out proposal submissions.

### International Republican Institute, Washington, DC

*Manager of Europe and Exchange Programs*

*2012 to 2014*

- Manage the House Democracy Partnership (HDP) exchange program and work as a liaison with the Capitol Hill to implement this USAID-funded project aiming at strengthening institutions by collaborating with parliaments in developing democracies.
- Monitor and evaluate governance and civil society programs ranging from \$100K to multi-million dollars in European countries where IRI is present.

*Interim Deputy Director for Latin America and the Caribbean*

*2011 to 2012*

- Oversee implementation of multi-million dollar programs in 12 countries in the region. Projects focus on strengthening civil society, building political parties/legislative institutions, and other governance-related initiatives;
- Manage 40 staff in Washington, DC and overseas offices to ensure budgetary and statement of work compliance for all programs.

## **EDUCATION**

**University of Washington, Seattle, WA**

1995 to 1998

*Masters in Public Affairs and International Studies*

**University of Tirana, Albania**

1990 to 1994

*Bachelor in Foreign Languages and Literature*

## **PUBLICATIONS**

Periodically writes and translates articles for Albanian newspapers, bringing a unique perspective to current and cultural social issues. Has written in the Albanian Daily News, Panorama and other Albanian sources. Also has translated articles from First Things and National Review. Wrote chapter “Albania: A history of isolation” for the book *Central and Eastern Europe after Communism*, December 2002.

## **CERTIFICATIONS**

- **Certificate in the History of the Catholic Church 102 – Institute of Catholic Culture**
- **Certificate in Philosophy 101 – Institute of Catholic Culture**
- **Certificate in Philosophy 102 – Institute of Catholic Culture**
- **Certificate in Theology 101 – Institute of Catholic Culture**
- **Multiple Certificates from the Word on Fire Institute**

## **LANGUAGES**

**Albanian** – Native Speaker

**Italian** - Intermediate