



ISTL

International School of Theology and Leadership

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10 Years of ISTL

From the Director

ISTL is now in the beginning of its 10th school year since its start in September 2008. Initially it was intended as a local church educational program based at the Central Church of God in Tirana in order to equip its own members for leadership and church planting—church planting being the key fundamental strategy for discipling the nation of Albania. Yet, soon after its early developing months several pastors of different denominations joined in participation as they saw the need of their own church members to be equipped for ministry. At first, mostly on voluntary bases, some pastors and missionaries offered to teach, mentor, consult, and network.

As a result, each year ISTL has progressively grown beyond denominational and national borders. The school today has reached and trained students from over 40 different denominations and independent churches primarily from all over the country of Albania, but it has also had the privilege to re-

ceive students from the surrounding countries of Kosovo and Macedonia, as well as other EU countries. This way ISTL has truly become an international and interdenominational leadership Bible school being the largest in Albania and a dynamic voice in reaching and discipling the Balkans. Many of its students are already pastors and leaders who have come to be equipped and strengthened in their calling, whereas the majority of the remaining students have started ministries and planted churches while studying and being mentored at the school. We have been in awe of with God's favor being able to see over 50 churches planted and numerous ministries within - some churches with a multiplication DNA of planting other churches. This last school year we have had the highest student enrollment ever - presently having over 70 active students in our 4-year bachelor program.

The school has grown so much in its influence and impact for the Kingdom, in spite of the limited resources. This is a confirmation

to our ISTL family and students that it is following God's leading into greater things not yet seen. We only can ask so much from Him with limited desires, but God can do exceedingly more than we ask or imagine.

The focus of our school is not graduating them in their studies but equipping, networking, resourcing and enabling them for planting and strengthening churches, missions and pioneering in areas where the Gospel has not reached yet.

Hervin Fushekati



Equipping Leaders

IN HIS SERVICE

ISTL
Albania



From a STUDENT



Klement Dokollari is one of the students of ISTL. He is a pastor in Sauk / Tirana. In a short interview he was asked about his experience with ISTL. He said, "ISTL is the right place for deep Bible Study. My expectations have been fulfilled because we receive and give at the same time. ISTL was the right place to ask questions. Through ISTL, the horizon of my thinking is expanded. I have also build good friendships and ISTL has been an unforgettable experience.

Click [here](#) for the full interview.



ISTL students come from churches in Albania, Kosovo, Macedonia and Montenegro. The students are involved in many new church plants. Click [here](#) for the details

ISTL offers:

- **Certificate in Christian Ministry** (1-year program). This program prepares for evangelism, church-planting and leading various ministries in a local church.
- **Bachelor's Program**. This is for those students who wish to complete a full bachelor program without interruption from their work or daily activities. This program offers intensive 1 week per month courses, from Monday to Friday, which take place after official working hours.
- **Master's Program**. ISTL is in partnership with SATS, ETS as well as other accredited academic institutions in order to enable advancement of studies to a master's level.



ISTL Documentary

A documentary was made on the occasion of the 10-year jubilee of ISTL. See: [ISTL Albania](#)