



New book on philanthropy in Europe

Numerous books have been published on American philanthropy - its origins, its heroes, its achievements and its shortcomings. But philanthropy in Europe has been largely neglected. A new book, *Philanthropy in Europe - a rich past, a promising future*, edited by Norine MacDonald and Luc Tayart de Borms, will start to fill this gap.

As the title suggests, philanthropy in Europe is rooted in a rich past and is looking to a promising future. This book, comprising profiles and essays, showcases the diversity of philanthropic impulses, a *leitmotif* that has fuelled the dynamism of the sector throughout history. This dynamism continues today as it follows - and shapes - the contours of Europe's evolving social, political and economic fabric.

Throughout history, foundations have played a pivotal role in developing and strengthening European societies. By using a storytelling lens, this book explores how philanthropy has found its place in modern societies in different ways.

It also introduces the reader to several thinkers in the field who offer valuable insights into the past, present and future of the sector. The authors take stock of the accomplishments of foundations, and also outline some of the challenges facing the sector - from without and from within. For example, the book makes a strong case for facilitating the sector's ability to participate effectively within the Single Market by implementing a European foundation statute. The authors also argue for foundations to become more European and more global, while working in closer partnership.

Philanthropy in Europe was launched at the Council on Foundations meeting in Washington DC on 5 May. The European launch will take place at the European Foundation Centre's (EFC) conference in Istanbul on 29 - 31 May. The book was funded by the Mercator Fund and the King Baudouin Foundation and published by Alliance Publishing Trust (APT).

Featured Profiles

Stefan Batory Foundation, Poland
Robert Bosch Stiftung, Germany
Compagnia di San Paolo, Italy
European Cultural Foundation, Netherlands
Fondation de France
Institusjonen Fritt Ord, Norway
Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation, Portugal

Impetus Trust, UK
Stavros Niarchos Foundation, Greece
Sabancı Foundation, Turkey
Stephan Schmidheiny
Van Leer Group Foundation, Netherlands
Wellcome Trust, UK

Essays - the diverse roles played by European foundations

The rich history of philanthropy in Turkey: a paradox of tradition and modernity
Encouraging change: European foundations funding research
European foundations' support for civil society: a means to an end or an end in itself?
Foundations and policy influence in Europe
Engaged philanthropy and market-based solutions
The importance of there being a European foundation statute

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