



The International Society for Third-Sector Research is an international and multidisciplinary scholarly association to promote research and teaching about the Third, Voluntary, or Nonprofit Sector.

January-March 2017

Volume 25/Number 1

Democracy and Civil Society in Latin America and the Caribbean in a Time of Change



The 11th Annual Latin America and Caribbean Regional Conference of the International Society for Third Sector Research (ISTR)

Quito, Ecuador, 18 - 20 October 2017

Conference Hosts: Los Hemisferios University and Simón Bolívar Andean University will host the event.



Call for Papers

Abstract Submission Deadline: 15 May 2017

Goals of the 11th Annual ISTR Regional Conference include bringing together a diverse, pluralistic and international group of researchers who are focused on Latin America and the Caribbean and who are developing knowledge on regional civil society and the non-profit/third sector; disseminating research advances on various aspects of civil society in the region with an emphasis on specific thematic areas; fostering a fruitful dialogue on advances in research and the social, political, economic and cultural processes in the region, with a special emphasis on actions and linkages among civil society sectors in different countries;

strengthening community and academic ties between researchers and institutions that study civil society and foster exchanges and cooperation with action-oriented organizations; getting more researchers of the region interested and involved in issues related to civil society while promoting linkages; Promoting the dissemination of research results in an effort to foster actions by various civil society organizations and practitioners; and bolstering participation and analysis of civil society in Ecuador in the context of an election year there in light of the possible institutional and political changes that could affect civil society's efforts in the country.

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CALL FOR PAPERS

The 11th Annual Latin America and Caribbean Regional Conference

Continued from page 1

Thematic areas

When submitting proposals, conference participants are asked to follow one of the thematic areas listed below.

- Democracy, institutions and society in Latin America and the Caribbean
- A new panorama for state, civil society and private sector linkages
- Sustainability of civil society organizations
- Emerging research – action issues in Latin America and the Caribbean

Conference organization and work methodology

The following activities are planned for the conference:

- Panel sessions
- Posters
- Keynote Address
- Complementary activities including public forums, book exhibits, film and documentary exhibits, photograph exhibits, etc., must be proposed to the organizing committee.
- Training workshops will be given on issues and methodologies that are useful for researchers, for example how to write articles for publication in international academic magazines and a workshop for doctorate students and doctoral thesis advice.

To read the full call, please click [here](#).

Questions and comments may be directed to ISTR Latin America and the Caribbean: e-mail: istr@lasociedadcivil.org

REGIONAL NEWS

ISTR Africa Network News

ISTR Africa Network (ISTRAN) Conference

The 3rd Africa Regional Network Conference, will be held in Accra, Ghana from June 20 - 23, 2017. Our local partner, the West Africa Civil Society Institute (WACSI) will host the ISTRAN conference at the University of Ghana Business School. The conference theme is *Civil Society and Philanthropy in Africa: Contexts, Contradictions, Possibilities*.

Sixty-five abstracts were submitted from the continent including Benin, Cameroon, Gambia, Ghana, Kenya, Nigeria, South Africa and Uganda, as well as other parts of the world. These abstracts encompassed a wide variety of topics, from religious philanthropy to links between philanthropy in Africa and neocolonialism, and are sure to make this conference filled with intellectually stimulating discourse.

Professor Adam Habib, the Vice-Chancellor and Principal of the University of the Witwatersrand (Wits) will be the keynote speaker. Professor Habib is an academic, researcher, activist, administrator and renowned political commentator and columnist. A Professor of Political Science, Habib has over 30 years of academic, research and administration experience, spanning five universities and multiple local and inter-



national institutions, boards and task teams. His professional involvement in institutions has always been defined by three distinct engagements: the contest of ideas, their translation into actionable initiatives, and the building of institutions.

He is also the Chair of Universities South Africa, which represents vice-chancellors and higher education in the country. In these roles, he has been working with government, students and other stakeholders to find solutions to the recent wave of protests around funding for higher education. He has also focused on building African research excellence, and together with the University of Cape Town, Wits initiated the African Research Universities Alliance (ARUA). Professor Habib is a past ISTR board member.

The registration portal is now open on the ISTR website.

Welcome Augustina Odame

ISTR is excited to have Augustina Odame join as part-time project coordinator for the ISTR Africa Network secretariat based at WACSI. Odame is an economist, writer, and ever-curious student of life. She received her Ph.D. in Philosophy in Economics and is passionate about African development. Her passion



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has guided her into the field of capacity development in the civil society space in Ghana and West Africa, for measurable development impact. Talk to her about sustainable development and empowering civil society groups for development participation, and see her light up with passion and purpose before launching into a mutually invigorating discussion.

Augustina brings to the table a wealth of research experience and familiarity with academia, and as a Ghanaian development professional, an understanding of the African Third Sector space. She is also interested in continued learning and growth in both of these, and in adjusting the sails when research and practical evidence calls for it.

As the project coordinator of the ISTR Africa Network, Augustina is responsible for promoting and managing all IS-TRAN activities, including proposal writing, concept note preparation, budgeting, reports, and organization of all events such as conferences, seminars, workshops, Advisory Council and Board Meetings. We are excited to welcome her to the team.

Post Soviet Regional Network

The new ISTR Regional Network on Central and Eastern Europe & the Post-Soviet Space, which was founded at the *12th International Conference* in Stockholm in 2016, is very pleased to announce its first collective action. The net-

work has organized and successfully submitted a panel, organized and chaired by Christian Fröhlich (Higher School of Economics, Moscow), to the *2nd Tartu Conference on Russian and East European Studies*, which will take place in Tartu, Estonia June 4th-6th 2017.

Under the panel title “The organizations of civil society in contemporary Russia: new forms and roles in a changing society” four papers from network members deal with different aspects of NGOs and their capacity as a driver for social change. Vladimir Benevolensky (Higher School of Economics, Moscow) investigates Russian socially-orientated NGOs’ impact on social policy formation as well as the degree of their co-optation along Russia’s path of post-soviet transformation. Ekaterina Ivanova (Vienna University of Economics and Business) studies the incentives that drive the founding of professional and business associations in Russia. Maria Wathen (Loyola University Chicago) explores civic culture frameworks of NGO leaders in relation to the emergence of diverging organizational types in Russian civil society. Finally, Christian Fröhlich and Sergej Ljubownikow (University of Sheffield) analyze the relation between the macro-institutional context and the formation of various collective identities within the organizational field of Russian civil society. Fortunately, the panel will greatly benefit from remarks and critique by Meri Kulmala (University of Helsinki). ■

PHD SEMINAR

An ISTR PhD Seminar Alumni Network in the Making

At this point, we are a team of four (Lesley Alborough, Mieke Berghmans, Ruth Hansen, and Christiane Rudmann), who have started to develop a concept of what we think an Alumni Network could look like. We have set up an ISTR PhD Seminar Alumni Facebook group; next steps will be establishing a PhD Seminar Alumni specific listserv through ISTR as well as a LinkedIn group for professional networking.

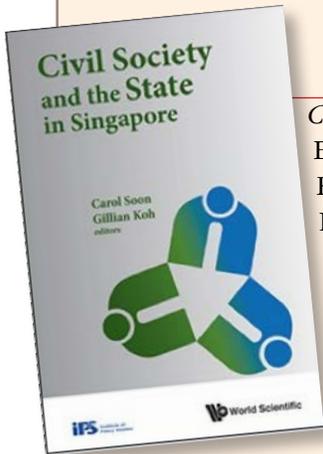
While we have come up with the above options of online networking, the four of us agree that what we have enjoyed most about ISTR is the organic way of meeting each other in face-to-face events during the ISTR seminar and the conference itself. Hence what we like to foster first and foremost are as many in-person meet ups as possible. In order to

do that not only at the biannual ISTR conference, we suggest to network with each other so that every Third Sector conference in the world can become a possible location for PhD Seminar Alumni to connect!

The first opportunity arises with ERNOP in Copenhagen, DK in July, a conference Lesley will attend. Please feel free to contact her at lja24@kent.ac.uk to plan a get together and help launch the idea of ISTR PhD Seminar Alumni Network meet-ups!

Please also connect with us through Facebook, make sure your email address connected to your ISTR profile is current, and keep an eye out for an ISTR PhD Seminar Alumni group on LinkedIn! If you would like to provide feedback, ideas, or conceptual thoughts for the Network – or even join our planning team –, please be in touch through Facebook, LinkedIn or vial email (RudmannChristiane@gmail.com). ■

BOOK NOTES



Civil Society and the State in Singapore. Edited by Carol Soon and Gillian Koh. Singapore: World Scientific Publishing Europe Ltd., 2017. 340 pages. Cost: Hardcover US \$68.00, Ebook US \$54.00. To order: <http://www.worldscientific.com/>

Set within the context of growing political pluralism and the increasing use of new communication technologies for social mobilisation, the Institute of Policy Studies organised a national conference on civil society in November 2013. This collection of the essays that were presented at or inspired by the conference provides nuanced analyses of the development of the sector in Singapore since the Institute's first such conference held in 1998. The first section of the book discusses the different philosophies and approaches that underpin how civic activists engage with the State; the second section examines some key forces of change that are re-shaping the sector; and, the third section sets out some emerging issues facing it. Combining insights from experts and civic activists themselves, this book proposes an agenda for the future development of the civil society in Singapore.



State of Exchange: Migrant NGOs and the Chinese Government. By Jennifer Y.J. Hsu. Vancouver, BC: University of British Columbia Press, 2017. 228 pages. Cost: CAD \$65. To order: www.ubcpress.ca

China's rapid socio-economic transformation has generated extraordinary movements of people from rural areas to urban centres. At the peak of labour migration in the early 2000s, some 100 to 200 million people moved to cities in search of higher wages and better standards of living.

State of Exchange examines how – despite operating in a restrictive authoritarian environment – non-governmental organizations in China have increased dramatically as central and local states now permit migrant NGOs to deliver community services to workers in cities such as Beijing and Shanghai. Interacting with the layers and spaces of the Chi-

nese state, NGOs conduct and scale up their programs, while the state engages with NGOs as a means to remain relevant and further legitimize its own interests. Jennifer Hsu uses a new conceptual framework to assess state–NGO relations and ultimately reveals how NGOs are navigating a complex web of government bodies, lending stability to, and forming mutually beneficial relationships with, the state.

As North Africa and the Middle East move into a new era of politics, the Chinese experience outlined in this book will serve as a blueprint for better understanding the best practices and lessons learned for state-society relationships at the central and local levels.

The Growth of Non-Governmental Development Organisations in Poland and Their Cooperation with Polish Aid, Warsaw. By Galia Chimiak. Warsaw, Poland: IFiS PAN Publishers, 2016. Cost: 31,50zł 288 pages. To order: <http://www.ifispan.pl/shop/>

This book addresses the important and so far under-researched problem of the emergence of the sector of non-governmental development organisations (NGDOs) and their impact on Poland's foreign policy.

The cooperation between NGDOs and the respective state institutions is regarded as a significant aspect of the Polish model of development assistance. The life experience of Polish NGDO activists, their professionalism, but also the legacy of “Solidarity”, the lack of colonial heritage and the neutral image of the country represent our comparative advantage in development cooperation. Poland has the potential to play a more important role in development cooperation than her economic capacity would suggest, given the nation's lack of imperial past, its positive record in striving after freedom and strong NGO sector.

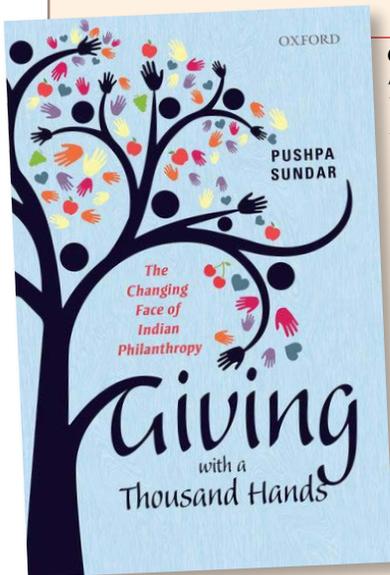
The author is right to point at the relationship between NGOs' role and overall trends, like the decreasing role of government in all areas of life. The importance of the ethos of the Polish NGO sector for processes addressed in this book is likewise accounted for. One should posi-



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tively assess the proposed explanation whereby the emergence and consequent moulding of Polish aid is considered a socio-cultural phenomenon closely related to the origins of Polish civil society. In a similar vein, the geographical focus of this assistance on our eastern neighbours cannot be rationalised by geo-political factors only, but should be explained by the organisational culture of the Polish NGO sector.

The overview of literature in the bibliography indicates that both Polish and foreign studies have been consulted. To sum up, the book focuses on a so far little understood segment of reality, is based on research, goes beyond simple description, and strives after presenting the relationship between the country's involvement in development co-operation and the organisational culture of Polish NGOs. The book situates the outcomes of the research in the wider perspective of the development of civil society in Poland.



Giving with a Thousand Hands: The Changing Face of Indian Philanthropy. By Pushpa Sundar. New Delhi, India: Global Academic Publishing Oxford University Press 2017. 364 pages. Cost: Hardcover US \$50.00. To order: <https://global.oup.com/>

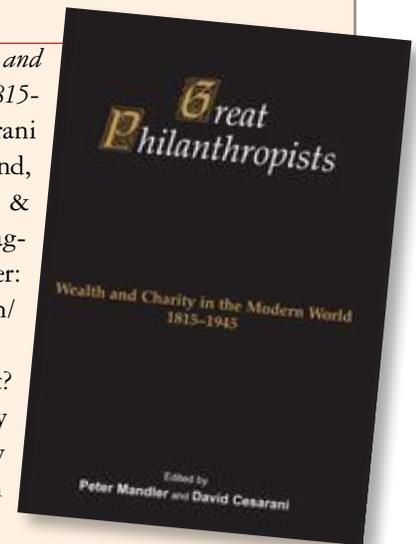
India has been a major recipient of international aid since its independence on account of its developmental gaps and wide income disparity; yet it also ranks among the top four nations in the world in terms of the number of billionaires. How and what do these fabulously wealthy Indians contribute to the development of their own society? What is the nature of Indian philanthropy? Has the phenomenal wealth creation in recent decades seen an increase in altruistic spending in social development, and what role does the Indian state play in promoting or restraining the act of giving?

Making an important distinction between charity and philanthropy, *Giving with a Thousand Hands* argues that while charity is alive and well in India, the country is short on philanthropy defined as altruistic giving on a large

enough scale to bring about transformative social change.

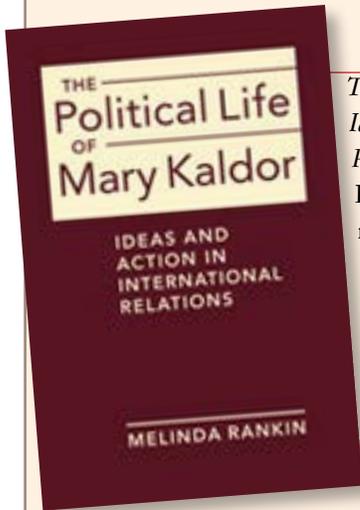
The author in this book offers a vision for the future of Indian philanthropy, maintaining that it has a vital role to play in the country and needs to be encouraged through various measures.

Great Philanthropists: Wealth and Charity in the Modern World 1815-1945. Edited by David Cesarani and Peter Mandler. Portland, Oregon: Vallentine Mitchell & Co., Limited, 2017. 214 pages. Cost: US \$84.95. To order: <https://www.vmbbooksusa.com/>



What is a philanthropist? Why do they do what they do? What impact do they have? What makes them tick? What in their personal biographies, their communities, their backgrounds, and their moment in time drove them to devote so much time to giving so much money away? *Great Philanthropists* provides an over-arching view of the development, goals and achievements of philanthropy around the world over the 'long nineteenth century,' the period in which organized philanthropy became a global movement. It examines how philanthropists make choices about which causes to support, their strategies for doing good, and the impact they have had. The studies include men and women (like Ei'ichi Shibusawa and Betty de Rothschild) from the USA, the UK, Germany, Portugal, South Africa, and Japan; and those who were self-made or who inherited wealth, Jews and Christians, even a monarch, King Edward VII. The book is prefaced with an introductory essay by the leading historian of wealth and the wealthy, Professor W.D. Rubinstein, that provides a magisterial overview of the whole phenomenon of 'mega-philanthropy' since the early 19th century. It shows how these case studies illuminate the great themes of motivation: faith, fear, hope, humanity and culture. Readable and informative, this collection offers an insight into the minds of the world's richest people and shows how individual acts of charity can change society.

BOOK NOTES



The Political Life of Mary Kaldor: Ideas and Action in International Relations. By: Melinda Rankin. Boulder, Colorado: Lynne Rienner Publishers, 2017. 261 pages. Cost: US \$35.00. To order: <https://www.riennner.com/>

Although more than a little controversial, Mary Kaldor's academic work and ideas have

both stimulated and influenced debate in the Pentagon, the United Nations, the European Union, NATO, and beyond. How did this come about? And how did Kaldor reach the conclusions outlined in her seminal books?

Melinda Rankin traces the evolution of Kaldor's work, revealing how her thinking developed from her years as an anti-Cold War activist and scholar in the 1970s-1980s, through her direct experiences of war in the Balkans and Caucasus, to her present support for rights-based international law enforcement to defend civilians from state and quasi-state violence. ■

ON LINE PUBLICATIONS

FROM JULIE FISHER MELTON BLOG

Turning a Political Jungle into a Diverse Rainforest

<http://bit.ly/2gb1W8H>

I have spent much of my recent scholarly life writing about democratization NGOs in three foreign countries. As I publicized my book and blogged on social media I avoided writing about the U.S. as outside my expertise as a political scientist. The election of Donald Trump has forced me to re-examine my focus. The phrase “democratization NGOs,” used in my book, describes many U.S. nonprofits. Now that our democracy, and particularly our legal system, are likely to come under sustained attack, I have to do a 180 and turn to my own country.

A major distinction in my last book was between the larger civil society in South Africa, Tajikistan and Argentina (including all kinds of nonprofits) and those organizations focused specifically on democratization, including elections, legal reforms, building a loyal opposition and democratizing political culture. I found that while growth and development in the larger civic arena could sometimes advance democratization, the targeted activities of democratization NGOs tended to impact political systems more directly.

I suspect the same distinction may apply here as well. I am pleased to read that many major American nonprofits, including the ACLU, have received unprecedented levels of financial support and hopefully that will continue, whether people are concerned about the environment, poverty, gun vio-

lence, health care or democracy. Millions of Americans are asking what they can do. Perhaps I can provide guidance to those who view the American nonprofit sector, and particularly democratization NGOs, as vital to the survival of democracy.



Index of Global Philanthropy and Remittances 2016.

By Carol Adelman, Bryan Schwartz & Elias Riskin.

Over a ten year period, the ninth edition of the *Index* reports on the sources and magnitude of global philanthropy from developed and emerging economies to the developing world. As in previous editions of the *Index*, private financial flows—including philanthropy, remittances, and private capital investment—continue to grow and surpass government aid. In addition to the magnitude of the developed and emerging economies' total economic engagement with the developing world, the 2016 *Index* highlights the new partnerships and infrastructure that support philanthropic giving around the world.

<https://HUDSON.ORG/research/13314-index-of-global-philanthropy-and-remittances-2016> ■

THIRD SECTOR REVIEW



Third Sector Review special issue,
 “Microfinance: A ‘Magic Bullet’ for Poverty
 Alleviation and Empowerment?”

In contemporary times microfinance is promoted by powerful organisations, such as the United Nations (UN) and the World Bank, as a cutting edge financial innovation that has the potential to meet specified development ends and goals, such as poverty alleviation and women’s empowerment. Indeed, the UN officially declared 2005 as the ‘International Year of Microfinance’. However, research on the impact of microfinance is often conflicting, with certain studies providing evidence of the empowering effects of microfinance, and other studies analysing its disempowering potentials. Such conflicting perspectives challenge the “magic bullet” notion of microfinance, and illustrate the richness of research in this field. In celebration of this diversity, this special issue calls for papers on financial inclusion and microfinance practices in the third sector from a range of different academic disciplines, and fields of practice in the region and beyond. We invite critically informed studies that examine microfinance both in the context of its empowering and disempowering prospects.

Questions that may be addressed include, but are not limited to:

- Accounting and accountability tensions in microfinance organisations.
- The role of microfinance in poverty alleviation and (dis)empowering women.
- Issues in relation to management and governance in microfinance organisations.
- Historical evaluations of the practice of microfinance.
- Insights into undertaking research and research engagement within microfinance organisations.

- Policy and regulatory issues in microfinance initiatives.
- The roles of the third sector in fostering entrepreneurship.
- Multifaceted cultural understandings of microfinance, including indigenous perspectives.

Articles may be framed around a particular type of microfinance practice or an organisation. We encourage both conceptual and empirical contributions, including comparative analyses, case study research, survey research and theoretical contributions. In light of TSR’s commitment to including voices from the field, we also invite contributions from practitioners.

This issue will be edited by guest editors Dr. Farzana Aman Tanima (University of Wollongong, Australia) and Dr. Nunung Nurul Hidayah (Aston Business School, United Kingdom).

A full article of up to 6,000 words should be forwarded to both farzanat@uow.edu.au and n.hidayah1@aston.ac.uk and be marked ‘TSR special issue’ by 15th October 2017. The special issue will be published in November 2018. For guidelines on contributions please visit <http://anztsr.org.au/third-sector-review/>

About the Journal: *Third Sector Review* is a refereed academic journal recognised by the Department of Education Employment and Workplace Relations in Australia (DEEWR) and listed in Excellence in Research in Australia (ERA) listings. Considered to be the leading regional journal in the field, it publishes research addressing characteristics of the third sector or any aspect of its management, including governance, human resource management, the labour market, financial management, strategic management and managing change, community development, fund-raising, user rights, relations with government, legal issues, historical development, etc. ■

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Teaching Section Formation and Interest

In the last newsletter, an invitation was issued for those interested in forming a teaching section. There were several responses and an organizing effort has begun. A draft of the mission statement for the section is as follows:

Mission Statement

The mission of the ISTR teaching group is to increase, share, and apply knowledge about instruction related to the Third Sector in all countries of the world. To achieve this, the teaching group will:

- promote the development of high quality research on Third Sector education including policies and practices throughout the world on topic such as course content, course delivery, curriculum guidelines, and certifications for professionals.
- enhance the dissemination and application of knowledge about Third Sector education as widely as possible throughout the world;
- stimulate and facilitate collaborative research initiatives;
- broaden the participation of teachers at all educational levels including consultants doing workshops in all parts of the world and in diverse disciplines;
- enable scholars and educators to keep abreast of rapid changes in the third sector and to be aware of best practices and available research.

Interested persons are asked to contact Norman Dolch at norman.dolch@unt.edu and join in the effort.

The Center on Philanthropy and Public Policy at the University of Southern California recently facilitated two important convenings focused on the field of philanthropy.

On March 1, Judge Gerald E. Rosen, U.S. District Judge Eastern District of Michigan (Retired), shared with a group of foundation executives and trustees the daunting responsibility he had as chief judicial mediator in the Detroit bankruptcy case of 2013. The concentrated efforts to lift Detroit out of the largest municipal bankruptcy in U.S. history required bold philanthropic leadership to catalyze government action and saved the city and its artistic treasures at the Detroit Institute of Art. Following his account, Judge Rosen was engaged in conversation with Darren Walker, President,



Member News

Khaldoun AbouAssi, Assistant Professor at the Department of Public Administration and Policy, American University's School of Public Affairs, received the Robert Cleary Award for Excellence in Public Affairs Research for his co-authored article "Nonprofits Resource Capacity: Antecedents for Partnerships" published in the Summer 2016 issue of *Nonprofit Management and Leadership*.

AbouAssi and his coauthors find that organizations generating adequate internal revenues are less likely to seek collaboration. He also found that those with sufficient human resource capacity and more technological resources are likely to collaborate. He also found that organizations with females in leadership positions are more likely to seek collaboration

than would other organizations

For the article: [http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/10.1002/\(ISSN\)1542-7854](http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/10.1002/(ISSN)1542-7854)

Chris Cornforth has been made an Emeritus Professor in the Centre for Voluntary Sector Leadership at the Open University Business School in the UK <http://www.open.ac.uk/business-school-research/centre-voluntary-sector-leadership/>. He has also become a board member of the Association of Chairs, which is a membership organization that aims to support and provide resources for the Chairs and Vice Chairs of charities and non-profit organisations. <https://www.associationofchairs.org.uk/> ■

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Ford Foundation and Rip Rapson, President and CEO, The Kresge Foundation, about pivotal issues in philanthropy: degrees of risk-taking, cross sector leadership and the different roles that philanthropy can play in public problem-solving. A case study currently being developed by The Center – “Detroit’s Grand Bargain: Philanthropy as a Catalyst for a Brighter Future” – is designed to spur conversation among foundation boards and CEOs about bold philanthropic leadership. Both the discussion and the case are made possible by the recently launched Irene Hirano Inouye Philanthropic Leadership Fund, which is helping to elevate and amplify the important role that philanthropic leadership plays in strategies for scaling impact, bringing greater attention to the issues of shared governance between foundation boards and executives. It is named in honor of USC Price alumna Irene Hirano Inouye, who serves as president of the U.S.-Japan Council and is past board chair of both The Kresge Foundation and Ford Foundation.

The following week, on March 9, The Center hosted its inaugural Family Philanthropy Forum, Donors & Their Families: Enduring Issues, Emerging Themes, Endless Possibilities, in partnership with J.P. Morgan Philanthropy Centre. The forum was an opportunity for individual donors and their family members to come together with their peers to share their experiences and challenges, and inspire one another to even greater meaning and impact through their giving. Over the course of a day, donors and their families heard from and interacted with leading experts and other donors who are at the forefront of family-centered philanthropy. The forum began with a conversation with Jeff and Tricia Raikes,

who have dedicated their own giving to building the field of family philanthropy, and concluded with a conversation of family members from two of America’s most distinguished philanthropic families—the Andrus (Surdna Foundation) and Hilton families. More intimate morning sessions explored an array of issues about how to start the philanthropic journey, structure one’s giving and involve family. In the afternoon sessions, the forum examined strategies for making a difference: impact investing that protects the environment, collaborative initiatives that address homelessness and innovative programs that try to connect older and younger generations together.

Proceedings and resources from both events are available on The Center’s website: <http://cphp.usc.edu/>.

EU-Russia Civil Society Forum

EU-Russia Civil Society Forum (Forum) (<http://eu-russia-csf.org/>) is a network of thematically diverse non-governmental organizations from Russia and the European Union, established as a bottom-up civic initiative, independent from governments, political parties, and businesses. The goal of the Forum is to strengthen cooperation between civil society organizations and to contribute to the integration between Russia and the EU, based on shared values of pluralistic democracy, the rule of law, human rights and social justice. Members of the Forum are driven by a vision of ‘the civil society beyond borders’ - a common future with a common political, economic, and cultural space. They share a belief that active and vocal civil society plays a key role in the peaceful and sustainable development of the European continent and in addressing common challenges and issues of public interest topical to both Russia and the EU. The Forum serves as a platform for members in articulating shared positions, providing support and solidarity, and exerting political influence on governmental and intergovernmental relations. These goals are pursued by bringing together Forum members for joint projects, research and advocacy; by conducting public discussions and dialogues with decision-makers, and by facilitating people-to-people exchanges.

In 2016, the Forum initiated the Civil Society Report on the challenges and best practices of civil society organizations in the EU and Russia. The report covered countries Germany, Poland, Hungary, Spain, and Russia. More information can be found here: http://eu-russia-csf.org/fileadmin/State_of_Civil_Society_Report/State_of_Civil_Society_Re

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In 2017, the EU-Russia Civil Society Forum would like to expand its research activities to even more countries in Europe. The primary methodological approach is conducted survey and interviews, which we apply to analyzing the main trends, challenges and best practices of the respective countries. On 20 to 21 of April 2017, a workshop will be organized in St. Petersburg (Russia) to prepare our work for the 2017 Report and talk in more details about methodology. A provisional timeline is to start empirical research in May, make the first draft by the end of July. Editorial work will follow, and the Report should be produced in February 2018.

EU-Russia Civil Society Forum was officially launched at the Founding Meeting on 29 March 2011 in Prague, Czech Republic. As of today, the Forum has 152 members – 63 from the EU, 80 from Russia, and nine international organizations.

For more information, please write to Simone Poledrini (poledrini@icloud.com).

the complexity of issues and the diversity of challenges facing us.

Acknowledging that climate change is a common concern of humankind, Parties should, when taking action to address climate change, respect, promote and consider their respective obligations on human rights, the right to health, the rights of indigenous peoples, local communities, migrants, children, persons with disabilities and people in vulnerable situations and the right to development, as well as gender equality, empowerment of women and intergenerational equity. (http://unfccc.int/files/essential_background/convention/application/pdf/english_paris_agreement.pdf)

Considering the scale of the problems - global warming, the reconfiguration of inequalities through the crisis of political and environmental refugees -; address the major findings and consensus emanating from this conference; given the urgency to act, it is clear a form of helplessness felt by the majority of players and communities when the overwhelming responsibilities and to take appropriate solutions. It is clear that a new posture is adopted, which involves turning your back to the dominant developmental model based on economic growth in both inequality and predatory of environmental resources. But how ?

Certainly the call for innovation, dialogue and profound changes is widely shared, however, this call cannot be the work of a single actor, a single industry or a single institution, as big and important as her. None of the parties has a monopoly or solutions can play stowaways at the actions to be undertaken, the actions to take.

But that collective action does not obvious, for several reasons. First, for foundations, which establish alliances in the context of reorganization of the welfare state, of financialization of the economy and lethargy which seems to dive in civil society? Then, as realizes the common position taken by government representatives at COP 21, we see the need to better regulate the impact of socio-economic activities.

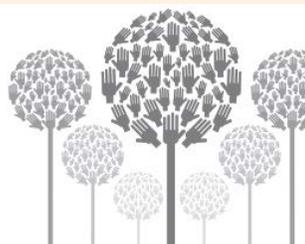
However, this need not be expressed:

- the presence of a shared leadership;
- the joint construction of a thorough analysis of the foundations and causes structural and cyclical challenges to face;
- the need to develop a common vision of the actions to take on the definition of an inclusive common interest, including the environmental dimension;
- the presence of efficient coordination mechanisms of social actors, allocation of required resources and effective follow-on actions.



PhiLab

THE MONTREAL RESEARCH
LABORATORY ON
CANADIAN PHILANTHROPY



PhiLab International Conference

Laboratoire montréalais sur la philanthropie canadienne
*Thursday and Friday 20 & 21 April 2017 // Hôtel Place Dupuis
Montréal (Québec), Canada*

Socioeconomic and Environmental Crises Challenges: What Responsibilities & Roles for Grantmaking Foundations?

The nature of the socio-economic issues and environmental challenges we face challenges more than ever all social actors in Quebec and Canada. Among the major institutional players, we find the state, private companies, civil society actors, including social movements, trade unions and granting foundations.

Recent work by the COP21 has clearly highlighted

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Currently, the social actors of civil society are watching the corner of his eye. They are reluctant to take the first steps toward a reconciliation that would define the contours of a claimant social bloc based on a life well together. In each sector, the actors express more in and through the monologue that dialogue to produce a “new narrative” which could support the redevelopment of institutional arrangements.

Goals

The conference will:

- Lay the foundation for a conversation on the foundations of current environmental and socio-economic challenges.
- Clarify the position and role of social actors of the philanthropic ecosystem to these challenges.

Targeted audience

The symposium will certainly be at the forefront of the conversation of the actors of the action system of granting philanthropy. But it will also mobilize civil society concerned with philanthropy, representatives of the State (from federal to municipal) and entrepreneurs (the market or social economy). This conversation also affects the population, in terms of citizens action philanthropic reach, directly concerned by the emergency to which our societies are facing. For more information: <https://philab.uqam.ca/en/actualites/events-coming-soon/100-philab-international-conference-april-2017-20-21>

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thropic Foundations Canada (PFC), Communities Foundations of Canada (CFC), Ontario Trillium Foundation (OTF) and the Institute for Community Prosperity (ICP).

Celebrating Global Philanthropy

The Hudson Institute held an event titled Celebrating Global Philanthropy on March 7, 2017, to discuss current issues and patterns in the vast domain of global philanthropy. The event featured a panel of distinguished panelists including Una Osili, Director of Research at Indiana University Lilly Family School of Philanthropy, Doug Rutzen, President and CEO of the International Center for Not-for-Profit Law, David Schwartz, Director of the Donor Partnerships Division at the International Development Research Center and Dennis Whittle, Executive Director of Feedback Labs and Co-Founder of GlobalGiving.com.

Additionally, the event celebrated the transfer of the Index of Global Philanthropy and Remittances and the Index of Philanthropic Freedom from the Hudson Institute to the Indiana University Lilly Family School of Philanthropy. Carol Adelman started both indices, which have played a critical role in presenting data to global institutions and sparking discussion on policy regarding private international giving and the challenges faced by this sector. A sector that was for too long, ignored when discussing the giving capacity of the United States. Her research showed qualitatively that private sector giving, remittances and other means of philanthropic giving make up the majority of the United States' contribution to global philanthropy. ■

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