



MAECENATA STIFTUNG

TOCQUEVILLE FORUM The Maecenata Library



Initiative
Transparente
Zivilgesellschaft



INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR
THIRD-SECTOR RESEARCH



Philanthropy
Europe
Association



TGE
Transnational Giving Europe

The Maecenata library is an academic library and is open to the public. Users are invited to pick the books they need themselves and may use them on the premises. The library is a civil society initiative. Since its founding, donors and sponsors have made its operation and development possible.

With around 16,000 publications, the Maecenata Library is the largest transdisciplinary library specialising in publications on civil society, civic engagement, philanthropy and foundations, the largest of its kind in the German-speaking world. It is open to the public, with users predominantly coming from universities, politics, the media and civil society organisations. The library was founded by the Maecenata Institute in 1997 and was a pioneer in the systematic collection of literature and sources on research and knowledge in the field of civil society. In addition to civil society and philanthropy, publications on governance, global governance, leadership, management and strategy planning in the non-profit sector were also collected. The library is part of the foundation's Tocqueville Forum, a networking and policy centre.

As well as books and specialist journals, the library also houses annual reports from civil society organisations, unpublished dissertations from Bachelor and Master programmes, unpublished and online materials, conference documents and references to electronic resources. The only subject classification system in Germany to date on civil society, civic engagement, philanthropy and foundations was developed for the collection, and taken over by other institutions.

The library's OPAC catalogue documents the collection and contains links to electronic resources, and may be consulted through the foundation's web site.. The holdings may also be searched in

- the catalogue of the Joint Library Network (GBV),
- the GBV's regional catalogue for Berlin and Brandenburg,
- the Karlsruhe Virtual Catalogue (KVK).

The library has links to universities, institutes, research centres, initiatives and specialised information facilities on the national and international level.

SUBJECTS

- associations
- civic engagement
- civil society
- corporate citizenship/ corporate social responsibility
- donations and sponsoring
- foundations
- fundraising,
- global governance

- membership organisations
- non-profit management
- non-profit sector
- philanthropy and patronage
- politics and law
- work

AVAILABLE SERVICES

- specialist advice to library users,
- supervision of research stays for scientists from Germany and abroad,
- processing of requests,
- regular information about new publications and information sources,
- topic-specific bibliographies,
- specialist research,
- support of dissertations, theses, and other academic endeavours,
- offer of workplaces and internet access.

TOCQUEVILLE FORUM

The Tocqueville Forum is one of the permanent programmes of the Maecenata Foundation, an independent think tank specialising in civil society, civic engagement, philanthropy and foundations. It was established in 2010, and has encompassed all of Maecenata's activities under its roof since 2011. The Foundation performs its statutory purposes through its programmes:

- the Maecenata Institute for Philanthropy and Civil Society,
- the Transnational Giving programme,
- the MENA Study Centre,
- the Tocqueville Forum.

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