

The programme **Europa Bottom-Up** was established in December 2011 following a decision by the Maecenata Board. Since then it has become an important part of the foundation's activities. The basis of the programme was the idea that governments, parliaments, and supranational organisations alone are not capable of promoting the much-needed notion of European unity and that without the development of a European civil society, the realisation of the European project of unification seems unattainable.

A further basis for the programme is the idea that synergies from other foundations, as well as the Foundation's working methods and networks, can be utilised for the pursuit of the programme's goals.

These goals are implemented by a range of individual projects, such as:

- The poster campaign 'Europe is 'us', not 'them';
- The project 'Europe and the Mediterranean,' with four conferences held so far in 2013, 2015, 2017 and 2018, the results of which were published in the series Europa Bottom-Up, Issues 11, 12, 17, 18, 21 and 22;
- Participation in the German Foundation Initiative 'Engaged Europeans' with numerous other civil society actors;
- Participation in Europe Weeks and similar events;
- Written commentaries on current European political issues such as Brexit.

The programme also places an emphasis on **international cooperation** and networking. Whenever possible, individual projects are conducted in cooperation with other organisations.

The Foundation funds the programme itself, but urgently requires private and public grants to implement its projects.

## **Publications**

The programme includes the fully quotable digital **publication series** Europa Bottom-Up (28 editions to date: <a href="https://www.maecenata.eu/en/europa-bottom-up/">https://www.maecenata.eu/en/europa-bottom-up/</a>)

Europa Bottom-Up belongs to the Maecenata Foundation, Munich, an independent think tank for civil society, civic engagement, philantrophy and foundations. It was established in 2010 and has incorporated all of Maecenata's activities since 2011. The Foundation also fulfils its statutory obligations through other programmes:

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

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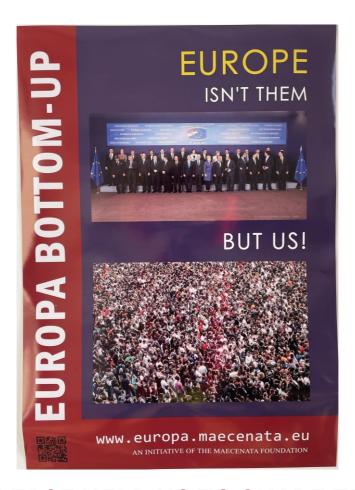
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