



MAECENATA FOUNDATION

A Civil Society Think Tank



Philanthropy
Europe
Association



The Maecenata Foundation is an independent **Think Tank** specialising in civil society, civic engagement, philanthropy and foundations. It is a non-profit foundation under German civil law, based in Munich. Since 2015, all programmes have operated from the Foundation's Berlin office. The Foundation manages and collates the activities of its programmes and publishes its stance on major issues. It sees itself as an impartial advisor to civil society and advocates its transnational empowerment as well as the development of an open society in Europe and beyond.

The Foundation is directly responsible for:

- the strategic management of the foundation's work
- the foundation's programmes
- communications for all of the foundation's programmes
- the Observatorium publication series

PERMANENT PROGRAMMES

The Maecenata Institute <https://www.maecenata.eu/ueber-uns/das-institut/>

The Maecenata Institute for Philanthropy and Civil Society, established in 1997, is a recognised independent research and policy centre. It is not affiliated to a university. Through its own research activities in the humanities and social sciences, academic teaching and corresponding publications it promotes knowledge about civil society.

The Institute's main research themes are

- theory and practice of international civil society
- civil society and the state
- civil society and the market
- philanthropy and foundations
- the position of civil society in an open, democratic society

Teaching at several German universities and with its members appearing as guest lecturers in Germany and abroad, the **Research Colloquium**, an interdisciplinary teaching and exchange forum for young researchers from German-speaking countries, has been part of the Institute since 2000. The Institute finances its research activities almost exclusively through third-party funds e.g. grants for projects from other foundations as well as public and private funding providers, such as the *Förderverein Zivilgesellschaftsforschung e.V.* (FVZF).

Transnational Giving www.transnationalgiving.de

The programme was initiated in 2001 in order to facilitate international donations. The foundation is the German partner in the **Transnational Giving Europe (TGE)** network. In 2010, the programme became part of the Maecenata Foundation. Today the TGE-network represents 19 countries.

The Network and its partners enable charitable donations to be made internationally, granting tax deduction in the donor's country and ensuring that the procedure has been cleared with the fiscal authorities in all relevant jurisdictions. The partners ensure the necessary due diligence of the recipients and ensure that the reporting on the use of the donations is carried out. They are also available to help with their experience in international charity work.

Numerous private organisations and donors make use of the network and there is increasing participation from foundations and public institutions, as well as supranational organisations such as the UN World Food Program, universities and supporting organisations and individual project promoters on the recipient side. The procedure has the approval of the German tax authorities.

The Tocqueville Forum <https://www.maecenata.eu/ueber-uns/tocqueville-forum/>

The Tocqueville Forum was founded in 2016 to reframe the Foundation's activities and to create a forum for academic and political debate on a basis of cooperation and networking. The forum deals with research and politics regarding the perspective of democratic theory in civil societies.

The Tocqueville Forum includes:

- **the Maecenata Library,**
- **intensive seminars** on civil society and foundations;
- **the Europe Bottom-Up projects**
- **one-off projects**

The Mena Study Centre <https://www.maecenata.eu/ueber-uns/mena-study-centre/>

The Maecenata Foundation's MENA Study Centre was established in February 2019. Its mission is to give research support to the Foundation's other programmes and projects in as far as these touch on issues to do with the Middle East and North Africa region (MENA) and Islamic issues in general. Furthermore, the centre conducts its own research, policy, and convening projects in order to contribute to intercultural dialogue and understanding.

PUBLICATION SERIES

- academic book series **Maecenata Schriften**, published by DeGruyter
- digital, fully quotable series **Opuscula** (occasional papers)
- digital, fully quotable series **Observatorium** (short policy and research papers)
- digital, fully quotable series **Europe Bottom-Up**
- newsletter **Transnational Giving**, printed once a year
- newsletter **Maecenata Info**, published three times a year
- one-off publications from **Maecenata Verlag**

MAECENATA FOUNDATION

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