





Introduction

A Common Mission

The goal of the Soros foundations network in more than 50 countries throughout the world is to transform closed societies into open ones and to protect and expand the values of existing open societies. In pursuit of this common mission, the foundations established and supported by George Soros fund and operate a range of programs and activities. These initiatives deal with arts and culture; the strengthening of civil society; economic development and reform; education at all levels; human rights, with special attention to the rights of marginalized groups; legal reform and public administration; media and information, including publishing, electronic communication, and libraries; and public health. A priority in all these areas is to establish public policies and practices that advance open society values.

About Open Society

The Soros foundations network subscribes to the concept of open society, which, at its most fundamental level, is based on the recognition that people act on imperfect knowledge and that no one is in possession of the ultimate truth. In practice, an open society is characterized by the rule of law; respect for human rights, minorities, and minority opinions; democratically elected governments; a market economy in which business and government are separate; and a thriving civil society.

About the Network

The Soros foundations network includes Soros foundations, network programs, U.S. programs, and other initiatives—as well as the Open Society Institute (OSI) and its offices. The Soros foundations are autonomous institutions established in countries or regions to initiate and support open society activities. Soros foundations are located primarily in the former communist countries of Central and Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union, but increasingly in other parts of the world as well. The priorities and specific activities of each Soros foundation are determined by a local board of directors and staff in consultation with George Soros and OSI boards and advisors. The Soros foundations consist of national foundations in 28 countries, foundations in Kosovo and Montenegro, and two regional foundations, the Open Society Initiative for Southern Africa and the Open Society Initiative for West Africa. The two regional foundations, which are governed by their own boards of directors and staffs from the region, make grants in 27 African countries.

To varying degrees, all of the Soros foundations participate in network programs. Network programs address specific program areas—public health, media, and early childhood education, for example—on a network-wide basis. Most of the network programs are administered by the Open Society Institute in New York or the Open Society Institute–Budapest and are

implemented in cooperation with Soros foundations in various countries.

The Soros foundations network also includes programs that focus on the United States; other initiatives that deal with issues of global significance or benefit countries where no Soros foundation exists; the Central European University; and OSI offices in Brussels and Paris, as well as Budapest and New York.

About George Soros

George Soros is president and chairman of Soros Fund Management, a private investment management firm. He was born in Budapest, Hungary, in 1930. He emigrated in 1947 to England, where he graduated from the London School of Economics. In 1956, he went to the United States, where he accumulated a large fortune through his investment activities. He began his foundation network in 1979 with the establishment of the Open Society Fund in New York. In addition to many articles on the political and economic changes in Central and Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union, Soros has written six books, including *Underwriting Democracy* (1991), *Soros on Soros: Staying Ahead of the Curve* (1995), and *Open Society: Reforming Global Capitalism* (2000). Soros has received honorary doctoral degrees from the New School for Social Research, Oxford University, the Budapest University of Economics, and Yale University. His awards include the Laurea Honoris Causa from the University of Bologna in 1995 in recognition of his efforts to promote open societies throughout the world.

About this Report

Building Open Societies presents basic information about the activities and expenditures of the organizations in the Soros foundations network, which has developed into a major force in global philanthropy. Each entity in the network has a separate entry. Although this causes some repetition in the discussion of issues and

priorities, it is the best way to emphasize the independence of the network's major components and to enumerate its many parts. This report can only give a broad overview of individual foundation or program activities. To obtain more detailed information, contact the organization or program in question at the address or number provided in the directory at the end of this report, or visit the network's website at www.soros.org.

About 2000 Expenditures

In 2000, the Soros foundations network's expenditures totaled \$494,053,000. Some of these funds were contributed by Soros out of current income while other funds were derived from charitable entities established by the Soros family. Some organizations in the network also received funds from the U.S. government (particularly for scholarships) and from other donors, which together are included in the relevant organization's expenditures as reported here. The Soros foundations network's total expenditures are summarized below.

Soros foundations. Following the report from each Soros foundation is a chart outlining 2000 expenditures in that country or region. Payments made by the Open Society Institute–Budapest, the Open Society Institute, or other entities on behalf of the Soros foundations for network programs or other activities are included in these charts. At the end of the section is a chart showing the total expenditures for the Soros foundations.

Network programs. Following the section describing the activities of the network programs is a chart that contains each network program's total spending. This sum includes expenditures by individual Soros foundations as well as by the Open Society Institute or the Open Society Institute–Budapest.

The data is presented this way to show the total amount of money expended in a particular country or region, as well as the total amount spent on a particular program. The resulting duplication of amounts is reflected as an interorganizational elimination in the

chart on this page. In addition, other Soros-sponsored organizations made grants in some countries outside the framework of the Soros foundations or network programs. These are noted in the section of the report dealing with the country in question.

The activities and expenditures of the network grew significantly from 1994 (\$300 million) to the peak years of 1998 (\$574.7 million) and 1999 (\$560 million). For the next several years, it is expected that expenditures will remain at the current level of \$450–500 million annually.

TOTAL NETWORK EXPENDITURES	\$494,053,000
SOROS FOUNDATIONS	211,914,000
NETWORK PROGRAMS	127,420,000
U.S. PROGRAMS	92,294,000
OTHER INITIATIVES	13,552,000
CENTRAL EUROPEAN UNIVERSITY	18,466,000
ALL OTHER ORGANIZATIONS, PROGRAMS, & COSTS	83,279,000
INTERORGANIZATIONAL ELIMINATION	(52,872,000)