

RSB
STIFTUNG

RENÉ & SUSANNE
BRAGINSKY
STIFTUNG
ZÜRICH

REPORT 2023

SOLIDARITY PUT TO THE TEST

How many crises will our society be able to endure? Many may have asked themselves this question over the past months. First, the COVID pandemic weighed heavily on people's hearts. Then a war erupted in Europe, which is still raging today and is causing unimaginable suffering. And lastly, we continued to experience massive economic upheavals – including in Switzerland – which endangered countless jobs. The collapse of Credit Suisse's marked the preliminary, dramatic culmination of the new financial crisis.

Let's face it: We could have hardly imagined all these events a couple of years ago. Thus, it is no coincidence that the pillars of our society are beginning to unhinge, even though they appeared stable up until recently.

Unfortunately, this unhinging particularly applies to solidarity with the kinds of people who struggle even under "normal" circumstances for health, social or economic reasons. In crises situations, it is often "every man for

himself". Support for others swiftly takes a backseat or is forgotten altogether. If these trends continue, we face the erosion of solidarity in our society in the long run, with serious consequences for our co-existence and the way we cope with future crises which we cannot even imagine yet.

For a private charity such as ours, this status quo poses a great challenge. On the one hand, we have received numerous petitions and requests over the past months, many of which can be directly ascribed to the long-term effects of the pandemic or to the wave of refugees from the Ukraine. In each case, we strove to reach a decision and offer support in a quick and unbureaucratic way. However, we are acutely aware of the limits of our financial possibilities.

On the other hand, in the context of solidarity and despite these crises, we want to stay true to our foundations' broad range of charitable goals: Besides social projects,

these also encompass the promotion of scientific and cultural institutions and initiatives. Indeed, our foundation seeks to ensure that help remains available and is expanded, even under the undoubtedly challenging current social and economic circumstances. In the short-term, this kind of support can do little to alleviate the hardship caused by the pandemic and Russia's war of aggression. However, in the medium- to long-term, such help can positively impact our society's progress.

We remain convinced that a coordinated, trusting cooperation between government and private actors is needed to successfully cope with the aforementioned crises and challenges. Thus, in 2022, we once again participated in activities which receive public funds, but also depend on donations from private foundations and individuals. Such activities foster solidarity as a pillar of our society. As a family foundation, we remain committed to do our part to ensure that our society does not lose sight of the big picture, despite all the current upheavals.



René Braginsky
President of the Foundation Board

PERFORMANCE REPORT 2022

2022 was an intense year for our Foundation, greatly impacted by the social consequences of the Ukraine war. Our administrative office diligently reviewed the great number of requests submitted to our Foundation during the course of the year. The Foundation Board again held two meetings to decide on the proposals prepared by the administrative office. In addition, the Board also took care of statutory business (annual financial statements, annual report, audit report, voting).

In total, the Board granted CHF 3.3 million (previous year: CHF 3.2 million) to specific projects. The distribution across the Foundation's three main areas of focus was as follows:

In the area of "Social Affairs", we provided total funds of CHF 526.000. With this amount, we were able to support several larger and smaller social projects in Switzerland and Israel.

Among others, donations went to the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and the Martin Stiftung (Erlenbach), but also to the Hugo Mendel Stiftung (Zurich) and Helvetas (Zurich).

In the area of "Education and Science", we donated a total of CHF 850.000. We supported the scientific efforts of the Weizman Institute of Science and the Swiss Association of Friends of the Israel Museum in Jerusalem with sizeable amounts. In addition, we made our yearly donation to the ETH Zurich.

"Other" activities accounted for CHF 1.9 million. In particular, we continued our cooperation with Keren Hajessod. This Israeli foundation has been running successful hands-on education and integration programs with Jewish immigrants for many years. Among others, we also supported the Lucerne Festival, the Opernhaus Zurich, the Kinderspital Zurich as well as Greenpeace Switzerland.

The Foundation Board is also tasked with measuring the success of its charitable contributions. We therefore regularly assessed both the impact of our work (effectiveness) and the economical use of funds (efficiency). We also devoted considerable attention to various financial issues, including a regular review and – if necessary – adjustment of our investment policies. In addition, we monitored the activities of our administrative office.

In persistently volatile financial markets, our Foundation recorded a negative investment result. As of 31 December 2022, our capital amounted to CHF 52.6 million. We apply Swiss GAAP FER 21 accounting standards to our annual financial statements, which were developed specifically for non-profit organisations.

Our Foundation will maintain its current level of donations, i.e., between CHF 3 - 4 million a year, even if this results in a reduction of the Foundation's assets over the long term.

We would like to express our heartfelt thanks to the members of our Foundation Board and especially to our Managing Director, Eduard M. Rosenstein, who skilfully manages our Foundation with great dedication.

Susanne Braginsky, Member of the Foundation Board

FACTS AND GOALS

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

The René & Susanne Braginsky Foundation was founded in Zurich in 1986. Operating on an exclusively non-profit basis, our Foundation supports and promotes projects and institutions active in areas where public sector services are insufficient or non-existent.

Our contributions seek to empower people to help themselves. We prefer to work alongside established organizations; individual donations are only granted in rare, exceptional cases.

Our Foundation's geographic focus is on Switzerland (with an emphasis on the Zurich region) and on Israel. We assist both Jewish and non-Jewish causes and institutions.

SOLIDARITY WITH THE UKRAINE

The brutal war that Russia is waging against the Ukrainian population continues to claim lives daily and cause immense suffering. Against this background, our Foundation donated considerable funds to the relief efforts of the Jewish Agency and the ICRC in the Ukraine in 2022. The Jewish Agency supports the large Jewish community in this country. Meanwhile, the ICRC is leading efforts to ensure that the relief supplies actually reach the war-torn country and its people.

GOALS

Our Foundation deliberately pursues a broad range of charitable goals:

- To promote social, scientific and cultural projects
- To care for the elderly, handicapped, infirm or needy
- To supervise and promote the training of children and young adults
- To foster leisure activities for children and young adults
- To support healthcare institutions
- To assist religious institutions

These objectives enable us to focus on social affairs and healthcare as well as to promote culture and science. In the area of education, we work closely with the limited non-profit company "Haus der jüdischen Jugend AG", which is wholly owned by the Braginsky family and primarily supports the Jewish primary and secondary school NOAM in Zurich.

FINANCIALS

In keeping with the growth of our organization's capital over the past few decades, we are in a position to make donations in the range of CHF 3 - 4 million every year.

	2022	2021
	CHF	CHF
Contributions	3 300 000	3 200 000
Capital	52 600 000	61 000 000

FOUNDATION BOARD

FOUNDATION BOARD

Dr. h. c. René Braginsky
Businessman, Honorary Councilor of the
ETH Zurich, President

Susanne Braginsky
Vice-president

David Braginsky
Lawyer and investor

Prof. em. Dr. med. Felix Gutzwiller
Specialist in preventative medicine and
Former Member of the Council of States

Dr. h. c. Eric Stupp
Attorney, partner at Bär & Karrer

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

René und Susanne Braginsky-Stiftung
Grütlistrasse 68
CH-8002 Zurich

MANAGING DIRECTOR

Eduard M. Rosenstein
Telephone: 044 289 66 33
E-Mail: info@braginskystiftung.ch
Website: www.braginskystiftung.ch

AUDITOR

MOORE STEPHENS EXPERT (ZURICH) AG
Glattbrugg / Zurich
