

**Report on the policy and actions of the ERNOP Board 2018-2019 and 2019-2020**

The conditions and developments regarding philanthropy research in Europe are favorable. Last year a number of academic research centers on philanthropy were born in Europe and others will see daylight soon. Our network will be happy to welcome them within the ERNOP family.

ERNOP was established in September 2007 and has been started officially in January 2008. The ERNOP network has proven to be an effective "asset" in forming research consortia to apply for funding on a European level. Given the involvement in multiple research projects and experts groups within the EC, ERNOP is recognized as an expert organization indeed. Furthermore ERNOP has been able to position itself as the organization representing (academic) research on philanthropy among the European organizations representing the philanthropy sector. By our joint effort to establish an overview of what we know about who is giving what to which causes ('Giving in Europe'), ERNOP has contributed to more awareness about the need for more and better data on philanthropy. With the increasing struggles of philanthropy to prove its legitimacy and in Europe, better data is now more important than ever.

In the past year, the board has continued to work on creating an enabling environment for philanthropy research in Europe. More specifically,

- In 18 - 19 October 2018, A Gathering of Academic centers of Philanthropy in Europe (AGAPE) was held for the second time at the ESSEC Business School in Paris. The event shows that there is a need to jointly strengthen our research centers. Furthermore, it provides an opportunity to exchange with representatives from the sector to get to know, meet and strengthen each other where possible. The Center for Social Investment in Heidelberg will host this event in autumn 2020.
- A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) has been concluded with the European Foundation Centre. In this MOU, both parties declare that they are important to each other and want to invest in their relationship. The MoU is in line with the Science With and For Society (SWAFS) approach as advocated by the EC. Also EFC and ERNOP agreed on structural representation at each other's main events and to engage in organizing joint events. This year's pre-conference event that was co-organized by EFC on cross-border giving was an example of this. For next year's EFC conference ERNOP members are cordially invited to develop a proposal that can be included in the conference.
- We continued to invest in building relationships with partners on a European level. One outcome is that Transnational Giving Europe will support ERNOP for the years ahead. By disseminating our work among their members and by providing financial support to our conferences, TGE gives a clear message to their members. We are pleased to build upon this relationship by establishing new relationships with their members as well.
- The past year much effort has been put into building a broad constituency for more and better data on philanthropy in Europe. We are pleased to announce that PIE (Philanthropy in

Europe will replace Giving in Europe) has found fertile soil among the European umbrella organizations. The coming year might turn out to be a pivotal in the history of ERNOP as we will engage in developing the study and continue to build our constituency on a European and national scale. All ERNOP members are cordially invited to participate in this joint effort.

- The number of members continued to grow, both institutional and individually. At the moment ERNOP has about 20 (associated) institutional members and around 250 individual members (individuals from institutional members included). We represent academic research on philanthropy in over 25 European countries. However, membership is still lagging behind in mainly Eastern European countries. This year the ERNOP Board will develop a policy to facilitate membership from research in Eastern Europe and inventory other possibilities to advance philanthropy research in Eastern Europe.
- As a follow-up after the successful PhD workshop in Copenhagen in 2017, we are pleased that 12 PhD students were involved in a full day PhD workshop on July 3, 2019. Fostering research talent will be on the agenda for the year ahead.
- The ERNOP board is pleased that ERNOP is a financially solid organization. With the growth of the memberships and the support from TGE, ERNOP is able to continue its work for the years ahead. However, with the growth of the organization and the number of activities the organizations capacity of ERNOP will be evaluated in the coming year, closely related to the developments around PIE.
- The ERNOP board would like to inform you that the ERNOP board cordially invites all members to consider apply for the ERNOP Board as treasurer. Georg Mildenberger from CSI is serving the ERNOP board until December 2019 and is open to serve another term.
- Last but not least the ERNOP board looks back to the organization of our biennial research conference. With three prominent keynote speakers, a relevant and full program and even an app, the ERNOP Conference 2019 is one to remember. Our past treasurer Georg von Schnurbein and his team at the Centre for Philanthropy Studies (CEPS) at the University of Basel has shown us great hospitality and Swiss organizational capacity and we would like to thank them as such! We look forward to the next conference that will be hosted by .....

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