2020

ANNUAL REPORT

Schweizerische Studienstiftung
Fondation suisse d'études
Fondazione Svizzera degli Studi
Fundaziun svizra da studis
Swiss Study Foundation

ESTABLISHED 1991

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CURIOSITY | MOTIVATION | RESPONSIBILITY

FOREWORD

PROGRAMME DIVERSITY AND PARTICIPATION IN THE PANDEMIC ERA

2020 was a year that called for a lot of flexibility, creativity and resilience from us as a community of people and knowledge creators. In March, the outbreak of the pandemic abruptly brought all public life to a standstill. We were challenged to adapt to radically changed circumstances. Processes, work methods, networking, communication formats – everything needed to be rethought and redesigned.

At the Swiss Study Foundation, the year 2020 was initially marked by the rapid shift from attendance-based to online programmes. Events to promote language and presentation skills gained in importance, as did digital dialogue formats. With the gradual relaxations of the restrictions in the second half of the year, it was again possible to conduct numerous attendance-based offerings in small groups while adhering to the protection concepts.
However, this required a great deal of flexibility: from the assessors, the participants and the leaders of events, from mentors, commission members, the Foundation Board and, last but not least, from the entire team at the head office. With their perseverance, they all played their part in ensuring that the Swiss Study Foundation's goal was once again achieved this year: to promote young people and support them financially so that they can make the most of their talents and positively contribute to society.

The interruption also provided an opportunity to develop new ideas and unleashed a lot of creative energy: Location-independent communication and work was expanded, new appealing educational formats were developed. This allowed people from abroad to take part in seminars without having to travel far, and made it easy for supported students from all over Switzerland to come together virtually for short events. Along with the digital space, the outdoor space also gained in importance: events were moved outside to the fresh air – which the participants greatly appreciated. The educational programme of the Swiss Study Foundation became more diverse overall: the French-language programme in French-speaking Switzerland was further expanded; and more female event leaders could be attracted.

Thanks to long-standing partnerships and further grants, the Swiss Study Foundation is able to fulfil its purpose and continue to build on previous years in terms of quality and quantity. In this exceptional year, we were also able to accept exceptionally generous bequests – including one of three million from the environmental lawyer Ursula Brunner.

This positive outcome was only possible thanks to the financial and voluntary commitment of numerous supporters – all of whom deserve our greatest thanks at this point. The Swiss Study Foundation thrives on their dedication.

Prof. Dr. Antonio Loprieno
President of the Foundation Board

Dr. Klara Sekanina
Director

FIGURES 2020

The Swiss Study Foundation supports young people. It offers talented students the best conditions to quench their thirst for knowledge, develop new ideas and fill their place in society. The Swiss Study Foundation is politically neutral and independent. Interested, committed and high-achieving students are accepted into the support programme. They obtain access to individual counselling, interdisciplinary educational offers, financial support and benefit from a wide range of networking opportunities.

774
currently supported students

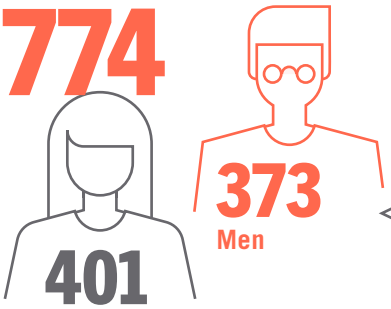
2242
supported since founding

1468
formerly supported students

STAKEHOLDERS

SUPPORTED STUDENTS

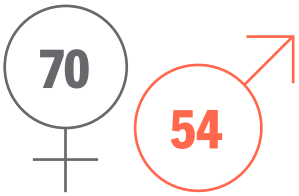
774



373
Men

401
Women

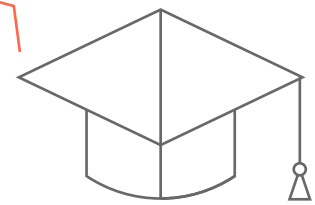
124
New admissions



GRADUATIONS

189

11
with doctorate



5.57
Average grade

670
Members of the alumni organisation

144
Members in the friends' association

9.7
Full-time equivalents at the head office

28
Partners and donors

VOLUNTEERS

3654
Volunteer hours

Foundation board members 12

Committee members 15

Education event leaders 165

Crisis coaches 4

Assessors 108

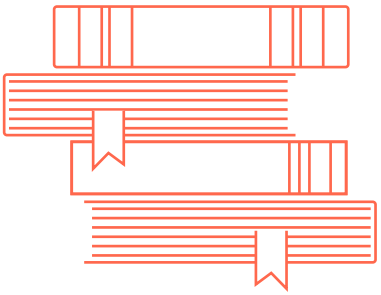
Mentors 56

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMME

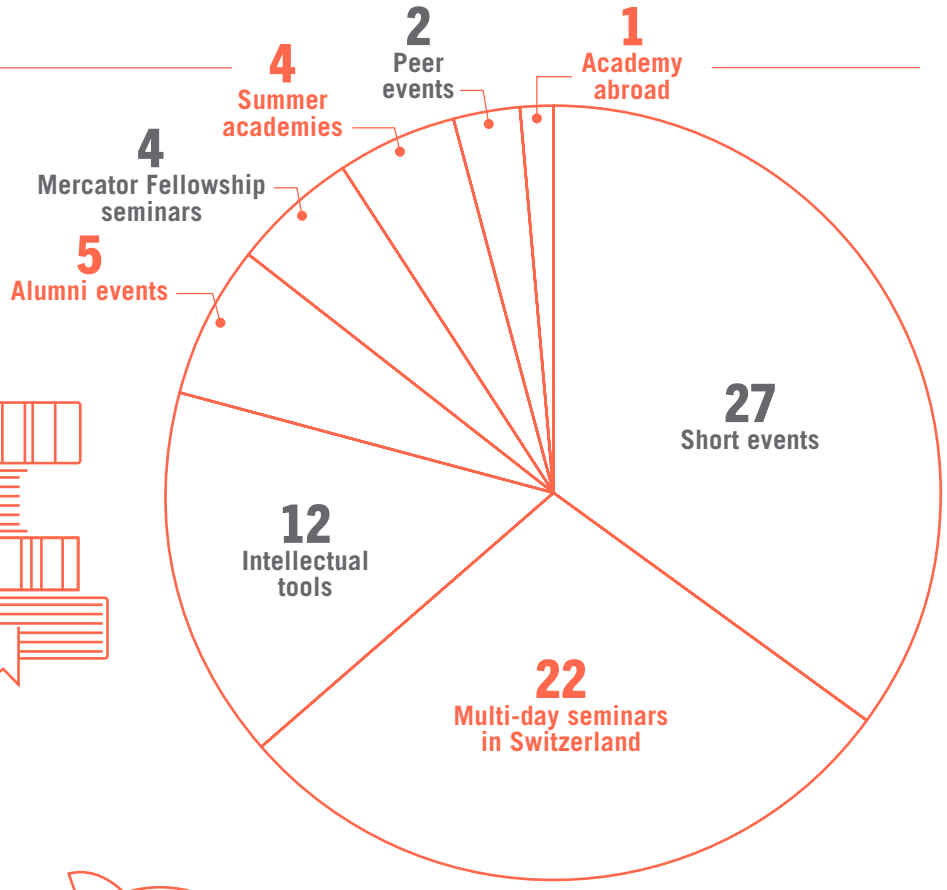
EVENTS

77

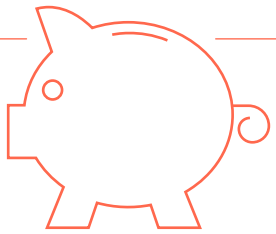
1588
Participants



Due to Corona:
26
Events cancelled
6
Events postponed



FINANCES

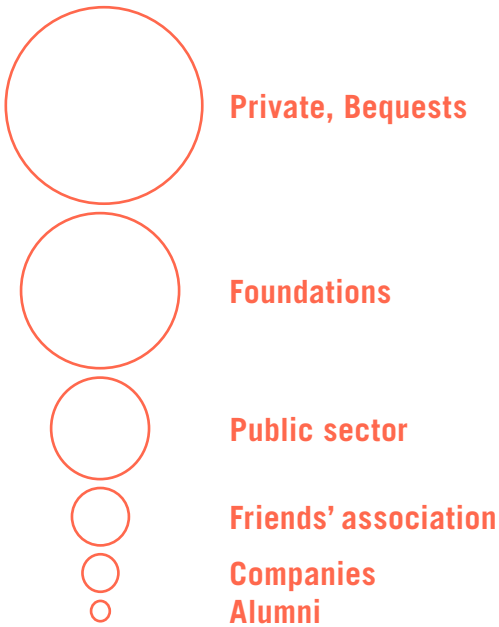


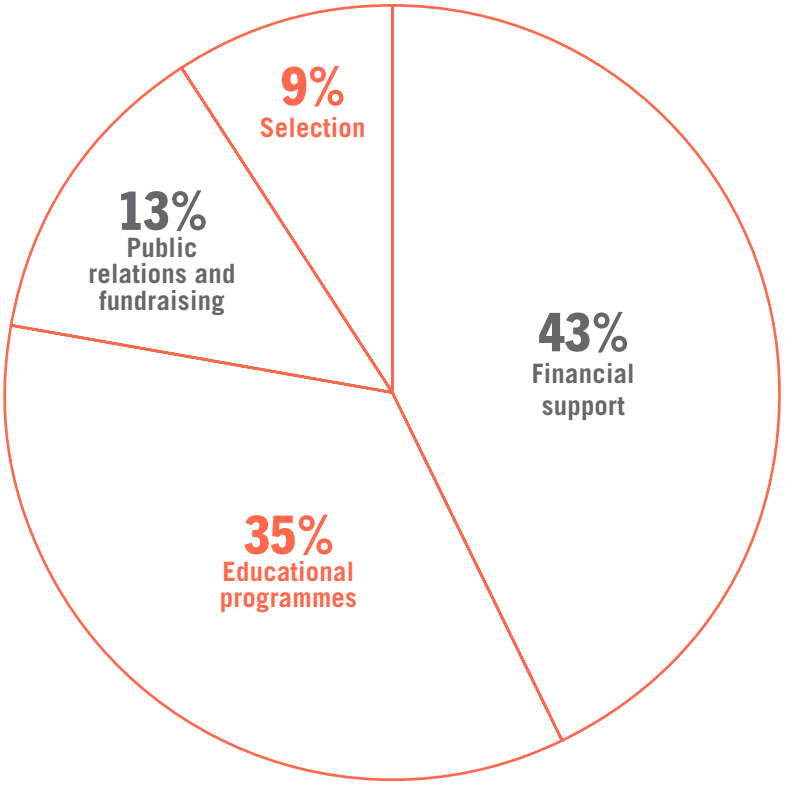
COSTS

CHF 3 348 868
total expenditures

DONORS

CHF 6 680 551
total contributions





SUPPORT PROGRAMME

The support programme includes the following offers:

As part of the **individual support,** students are matched with mentors and assisted in building up their network.

The **educational programme** conveys knowledge to students and fosters their ability and skill to work on topics in an interdisciplinary manner.

Financial support, where needed, is offered in the form of scholarships to enable internships, study semesters abroad or the in-depth study of specific academic interests.

INDIVIDUAL SUPPORT
56 MENTORING GROUPS AT 17 UNIVERSITIES
4 CRISIS COACHES
1403 PEOPLE IN OUR NETWORK

Through meetings with experienced mentors and exchanges with alumnae and alumni, the Swiss Study Foundation supports students in building their network. In addition, there are opportunities for individual and free counselling sessions: members of the head office and crisis coaches are on hand to provide support.

Mentoring and Networking

Students supported by the Swiss Study Foundation will be assigned a mentor (all professors) at their study locations, and this same mentor will guide them until they complete their studies – in 2020, 56 mentors were active, each of whom supervised a group of students. The joint activities are diverse: mentors offer tours of their institute or laboratory, for example, or create opportunities for joint meals, visits to museums or lectures, and virtual meetings. At these events, the students build contacts and expand their network across disciplines.

In addition, mentors are available for the students to discuss personal concerns, general questions about their studies, or to give general job and career advice. Our students can visit the 'Who's Who' directory on the Foundation's website, giving them access to the Swiss Study Foundation's entire network. They can use keywords to search currently supported students, alumni and mentors.

Consulting and Coaching

The services offered by Swiss Study Foundation's offices are very popular: The staff provides information to supported students on funding opportunities for stays abroad, advice on study and career issues, and assists in writing scholarship applications. In the programme "Coaching for Students by Alumnae/Alumni", students receive practical support from a person who is very familiar with their current and future challenges. Due to the pandemic, the latter was not held this year. In addition, four professional coaches (crisis coaches) are available to the students free of charge should they need advice in challenging situations regarding their study situation or personal development.

"The genius of the foundation lies in its ability to inspire. The quality ideal in the service of the common good promoted by the Foundation is a strong guideline for students at the beginning of their professional careers, for mentors and examiners as well as for employees."

Prof. Dr. Laurent Donzé, Mentor, Applied Statistics and Modelling (ASAM), University of Fribourg

Juliette Uzor is a dancer and artist. She studied art education and art history in Bern and Zurich and was a member of the theatre collective EOBOFF in St. Gallen. Later she became increasingly interested in dance and performance, which is why she completed a Bachelor's degree in "Contemporary Dance" at the Manufacture in Lausanne from 2016 to 2019. Last spring, she showed her new dance performance "Summer of Hesitation" at the Kunsthalle Zurich. In autumn 2020, Juliette Uzor began her Master's degree in Art Education, specialising in art pedagogy at the Zurich University of the Arts. She appreciates working in a collective with people from different disciplines, which is also evident in the master's thesis she is currently tackling: She is planning a summer school led by two dancers and two architects. The focus is on aspects of (exterior) space, the perception of one's own body and its surroundings.

Juliette Uzor, Master Studies in Art Education, Zurich University of the Arts (ZHdK), 28

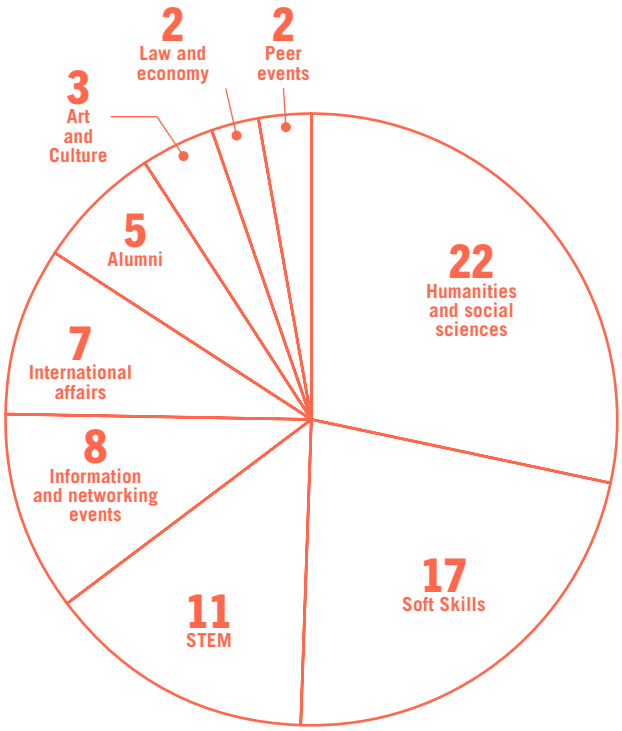
Ernst Goehner Scholarship for artists in training

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMME
77 EVENTS
19 EVENT LOCATIONS
1588 PARTICIPANTS

The Swiss Study Foundation's educational programme is characterised by a wide range of topics, interdisciplinary approaches and personal support. These include programmes run with partner foundations, summer academies as well as short events, multi-day seminars and academies abroad.

As part of these events, which vary in length and format – from podiums and workshops to seminars lasting several days – the supported students are given the opportunity to explore topics from a variety of disciplines. Small groups with diverse compositions in terms of field of study, language region or gender enable a particularly enriching exchange. Events "by supported student for supported students" (peer events) and events organised by the Alumni Association complement the programme.

DISCIPLINES



Partner programmes

The Swiss Study Foundation works with partner foundations to provide three higher-level programmes with wide ranging impact: They prepare the students for Switzerland's future challenges (STEM funding through the Werner Siemens Programme), strengthen awareness of social cohesion (Univers Suisse) and emphasise the importance of international cooperation in overcoming global challenges (Mercator Fellowship). The programmes are forwardthinking, and in addition to educational events, they provide financial support for selected students.

The **Werner Siemens Programme** promotes high-achieving students in STEM subjects (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics, as well as medicine, pharmaceuticals and life sciences) who are committed to promoting their field of study in society. The goal of the programme is to strengthen the STEM field as well as to sensitise students from other fields to the topics of mobility, infrastructure and innovation with a focus on interdisciplinary exchange. The generous support of the Werner Siemens Foundation includes three summer academies, 10 fellowships (scholarships) and a range of educational events.

Univers Suisse deepens the appreciation for the value of a diverse yet united Switzerland, fosters exchange and cohesion between the Swiss language regions and raises awareness of the country's social, cultural and political diversity. It includes a summer academy called "Le Tableau de la Suisse", nine scholarships as well as educational events; it is implemented and funded in cooperation with the Sophie and Karl Binding Foundation.

The **Mercator Fellowship** encourages young personalities to take responsibility for the world of tomorrow after completing their university education. It prepares them for highly responsible roles in international organisations and NGOs. The fellows identify issues of international relevance and implement the corresponding solutions in work assignments. In seminars, they delve into issues of international cooperation and the development of leadership and key skills. The programme funded by the Mercator Foundation accepts five new fellows from Switzerland each year and offers them access to a large network.

“The year 2020 was marked by limitations and restrictions. For the universities, it meant switching to distance learning or hybrid settings, and important exchange formats such as conferences and workshops were cancelled. I am all the more pleased that we were able to hold the Summer Academy ‘Slaves, Gold & Starbucks: Local Lifestyles and Global Interdependencies’ on site in Magliaso while adhering to a protection concept. The students engaged in intense exchanges among themselves and held inquisitive and lively discussions with the invited guests.”

Sara Dürr, event manager, web delegate “Platform Teaching FHNW”, ethnologist

Summer Academies

The summer academies are characterised by their unique format. For one week, the students hold intensive discussions on interdisciplinary themes in groups of 20 participants at most. Two to four teaching staff per academy provide optimum mentoring, and exceptional study locations provide space for creativity and promote openness to new ideas. Within this wellstructured framework, the students have the opportunity to expand their professional networks and develop personal friendships. Students who are not members of the Swiss Study Foundation and students from the German Academic Scholarship Foundation can also take part in the summer academies – in 2020, the latter students unfortunately could not join due to the pandemic. The travel restrictions introduced as a measure against the spread of the coronavirus led to the cancellation of five summer academies; this was due to the fact that many leader teams are international.

The Summer Academies 2020 dealt with the following topics:

Slaves, Gold & Starbucks: Local Lifestyles and Global Interdependencies

Science in the Corona Crisis: A Philosophical Analysis

Univers Suisse
“Le Tableau de la Suisse” – What is civil society actually doing?

Werner Siemens Programme
The subtle difference: What distinguishes humans from animals?

Science Communication Training
The participants also received science communication training during the Summer Academies and were guided in writing blog posts by the scientific think tank Reatch – Research and Technology in Switzerland. The texts they produced offer interesting insights into the diverse programme of the Summer Academies.

See the complete list of all responsible persons and experts of the Summer Academies here. Thank you!

David Costa Marques, son of Portuguese parents, pictured here with his mother, already completed his matura with distinction - prizes and scholarships for exceptional achievements also followed during his medical studies in Neuchâtel and Lausanne. A one-year study placement took him to the renowned Karolinska Institute in Stockholm. Thanks to the scholarship from the Bärbel and Paul Geissbühler Foundation for students with limited financial means, David Costa Marques' mother no longer had to worry about financing his education, and he was able to concentrate on his studies and his social engagement: For example, David Costa Marques taught German for several years, is a member of various association committees and in particular advocates for LGBTQI+ rights. He is currently studying for his Master's degree, and in about a year's time he plans to complete his doctorate in the field of neurophysiology of pain, after which David Costa Marques would like to take up a position as junior doctor. In the further future, he is planning to work as a doctor specialising in analgesia, researcher and teacher.

David Costa Marques, Master's degree in human medicine, University of Lausanne, 24

Scholarship holder of the Bärbel and Paul Geissbühler Foundation

Short events, multi-day seminars, academies abroad

Numerous events offer the opportunity to discuss and analyse current topics with subject matter experts. The events are of manageable size and enable the students to optimally express themselves in science and society. They encourage (self-)reflection and prepare for the start of a career. Last year, the topics covered ranged from the history of the Landsgemeinde to Afrofuturism, from statistical questions to discussions on pesticides. In addition, "practical impulses" newly provided insight into the realities of different professional fields.

The programme incorporates reading groups, as well as information evenings for potential students. Many events are initiated and/or organised by the supported students. In 2020, numerous new online events were designed and already planned events were redeveloped for virtual implementation. This was well received thanks to improved accessibility and the elimination of scheduling conflicts. This format will therefore also be retained in the future.

The following main topics were on the programme:

Academies abroad are one to two-week stays abroad that promote an understanding of the diversity of cultures, values and environments; they open up perspectives for local approaches with different financial parameters and facilitate intercultural exchange. The academies abroad are made possible thanks to federal funding from the Dispatch on the Promotion of Education, Research and Innovation (ERI), under the leadership of the State Secretariat for Education, Research and Innovation (SERI).

Culture Matters enables students to theoretically reflect on and practically experience their own and foreign cultures. The programme includes museum and concert visits as well as theatre workshops, enables encounters with artists from different disciplines and creates spaces for intercultural dialogue.

GraduateBox is a modular toolbox that provides useful knowledge and skills for a successful doctorate or the transition into the working world outside of academia; it covers themes such as work and communication methods, career planning and management.

Intellectual Tools offers two to three-day specialist seminars and events on soft skills and personal development; it helps students to shape their professional lives responsibly and with foresight. Individual Intellectual Tools are financed by the Ernst Göhner Foundation.

Treffpunkt Bern provides a regular opportunity for students to network in the political centre of Switzerland with representatives from politics, administration, culture and business. The evening events focus on discussion and broadening horizons.

Univers Suisse includes workshops and educational events at different locations in Switzerland on topics related to cultural diversity, multilingualism, as well as disparities and cohesion. These events are organised and funded in cooperation with the Sophie and Karl Binding Foundation.

The **Werner Siemens Programme** uses various formats from panel discussions to multi-day seminars to highlight STEM topics and topics at the interface to other disciplines. It is funded by the Werner Siemens Foundation.

Here you find an overview of all events offered by the Swiss Study Foundation.

"I was impressed by the short event 'Scientism and Conspiracy in the Age of the Corona Virus', organised online in a 'round table' format. The speaker managed to explain the mechanisms behind conspiracy theories in a short time and in a clear and concise manner. Also, he helped us to develop better tools to reason with people who believe in conspiracy theories."

Leonardo Winzap, supported student, Master's degree in Banking and Finance, University of St. Gallen, 22

FINANCIAL SUPPORT
101 PROJECTS SUPPORTED
1 305 790 CHF GRANTED THROUGH SCHOLARSHIPS

The students supported by the Swiss Study Foundation can apply for financial support. The scope and total amount contributed depends on the specific needs and scholarship.

Funding for time abroad is offered by the ERI Dispatch (SERI). An annual scholarship (CHF 20,000) offers support for one or two-year studies or longer research stays abroad. The subsidies of CHF 5,000 and grants of CHF 500 are awarded for shorter study, conference and library visits abroad. In 2020, 13 annual scholarships, 18.5 subsidies and 13 grants were awarded.

Since 2018, **Bärbel and Paul Geissbühler Scholarships** have been awarded to outstanding students of STEM subjects to cover their living costs. In 2020, nine students benefited from this scholarship. The scholarship holders receive CHF 1,200 per month throughout their studies.

Since 2007, **Binding Scholarships** have been awarded to students who are studying at a Swiss higher education institution in a different linguistic region. The aim is to encourage gifted students to make a personal contribution to cohesion in Switzerland and to promote the country's cultural diversity during their education. In 2020, nine scholarships were awarded to ten students.The financial support for scholarship holders is CHF 1,200 per month. They are supported for a maximum of six semesters.

Ernst-Göhner Scholarships for Artists in training have been awarded since 2011. The scholarship holders receive CHF 1,200 per month for a maximum of 10 semesters. Six students benefited from this scholarship in 2020.

Ernst-Göhner Scholarships for Teachers in training have been awarded since 2014 to prospective teachers at all school levels, from kindergarten to secondary schools. Students receive financial support of CHF 1,200 per month for up to six semesters. In 2020, three students were supported with this scholarship.

Ernst-Göhner Scholarships for Scientists have been awarded since 2009 as excellence scholarships recognising outstanding students and enabling them to dedicate themselves fully to their studies and extracurricular activities without having to worry about income. In 2020, 6.5 of these scholarships were awarded. The scholarship offers CHF 1,200 per month, provided for a maximum of 10 semesters.

The **Mercator Fellowship on International Affairs** is for graduates with some initial professional experience, who are seeking work with international scope and high levels of responsibility. This 13-month scholarship programme is arranged in partnership with the Mercator Foundation Switzerland and the Mercator Foundation Germany, the German Academic Scholarship Foundation, and in cooperation with the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs and the German Federal Foreign Office. In 2020, five Swiss nationals were part of the programme; the monthly scholarship amounts to CHF 3,500. Further funding is available for the stays abroad and language courses planned as part of the programme.

Suyana Scholarships have been awarded since 2012 to outstanding students with limited financial resources, enabling them to dedicate themselves fully to their studies and extracurricular activities. The scholarship provides CHF 1,200 per month for a maximum of 10 semesters. Four students benefited from the three scholarships awarded in 2020.

Since 2016, **Werner Siemens Scholarships** have been aimed at STEM students who are especially openminded towards the subjects of mobility, infrastructure and innovation, and who have achieved outstanding results in their studies. Scholarship students are encouraged to actively shape the future of STEM domains and develop creative solutions. The scholarship provides CHF 1,650 per month and is awarded for a maximum of eight semesters per student. In 2020, ten students benefited from this scholarship.

As a result of the Corona pandemic, 18 people had to cancel their foreign projects and withdraw the already approved application or postpone their project.

Here you can find more information on admission criteria and the application process for the individual scholarships as well as portraits of former scholarship holders.

SUPPORTED STUDENTS

The supported students are at the heart of all of the Swiss Study Foundation's activities. They benefit from a diverse range of offers that they actively help design and they share their perspectives by participating at Committee level. The Swiss Study Foundation selects its students with care, supports them in the ways that work best for them, and offers them a platform to bring their talents centre stage.

The Swiss Study Foundation supports particularly high-achieving students with a broad range of interests who, in the context of their social commitments, also want other people to benefit from their scientific or artistic talents and thus take on responsibility in all areas of society.

SELECTION
124 NEW ADMISSIONS
15 ASSESSMENT DAYS

Candidates are generally invited to apply by high schools or higher education institutions, but they can also apply on their own initiative.

Admission to the Swiss Study Foundation requires more than outstanding intellectual ability. It is also crucial that candidates are motivated, have a broad spectrum of interests, are dedicated and have the right personality. The Swiss Study Foundation stands for equal opportunities.

Application process

After the application file has been formally assessed, suitable candidates will be invited to an assessment centre for one day. The assessments involve individual interviews and group discussions. They take place in all three official languages and linguistic regions of Switzerland. A selection committee composed of personalities from the fields of education, business, society and culture makes the decision on admission. After the assessment, candidates will be offered the opportunity to have an individual feedback discussion.

In 2020, a total of 15 assessment days were carried out (9 of them online due to the Corona pandemic). 156 people were invited to an assessment, of which 124 (79.5%) were admitted to the Swiss Study Foundation's support programme.

Annual evaluation

The head office carries out an annual evaluation of its students. After consulting with their mentors and under the supervision of the Committee for Selection and Individual Mentoring, they decide whether any students should stop receiving support. In 2020, the results of this evaluation meant support for 23 people had to be discontinued.

Here you can find more information about the application, the requirements and contact persons for Matura students.

"When I was admitted to the Swiss Study Foundation, another candidate gave a lecture on the Brünig-Napf-Reuss line – that was the first time I had heard about it. Thanks to the events organised by the Swiss Study Foundation, I was able to cross this line again and again, discover numerous regions of Switzerland and make new friends. Even as an alumnus, I continue to enjoy taking part in events – today, as an assessor, I also enable others to have this very enriching experience."

Adrian Tanner, Alumnus and Assessor, Interpreter and Translator, Municipal Parliamentarian

Darryl Ackermann successfully completed a bilingual matura with a focus on Latin. He then completed his civilian service and a gap year, which took him to Oxford for a language study trip and on a hitchhiking trip to Nepal. In 2018, he began his law studies at the University of Fribourg, which he is currently pursuing by distance learning at his home in Murten, in a constant search for new places to learn. As part of his Bachelor's degree, the Upper Basel native took part in the special Bilingue+ programme, which promotes exchange between the language regions. Darryl Ackermann is still committed to multilingualism and cross-linguistic cohesion: he is co-organiser of the "Swilingua" project and helped organise the last "Journée du bilinguisme" in Fribourg. Within the Swiss Study Foundation, the cultivation of linguistic and cultural diversity is particularly close to his heart. He is also a member of the Debating Society and represents supported students on the Foundation Board.

Darryl Ackermann, Bachelor's degree in law, University of Fribourg, 24

Scholarship holder Sophie and Karl Binder Foundation

SOCIAL ENGAGEMENT AND PARTICIPATION
2 PEER EVENTS
2 REPRESENTATIONS ON COMMITTEES

Social Engagement

Many of the Swiss Study Foundation's students are involved in social issues through voluntary work – either by launching their own initiatives or by playing a significant role in existing organisations. These activities take place in diverse areas, such as education, support for disadvantaged groups (refugees, underprivileged children and young people), sustainability issues or politics.

Here you will find a list of initiatives that are (co-)shaped by and through supported students.

Participation

Alumni members and supported students actively contribute to the work of the Swiss Study Foundation. The students are represented on both the Foundation Board and the Committee for Education. The representatives are renewed every two years. Since 2018 in the Committee for Education and since 2019 in the Board, the respective representatives bring the interests of the students into the Foundation's bodies and convey their perspective on the support programme. In 2020, Darryl Ackermann and Leandra Ramin-Wright represented the students on the Foundation Board and the Committee for Education respectively.

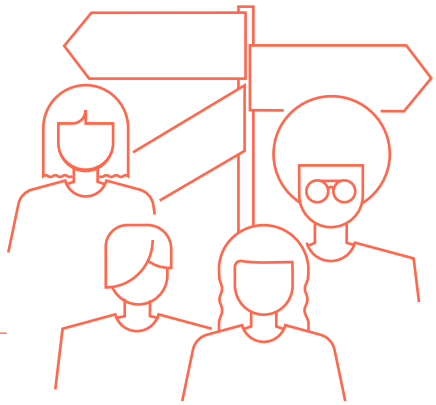
Peer events, student initiatives or the function of ambassador at high schools offer further opportunities for the students to become involved within the Swiss Study Foundation. Peer events are events that are organised and financed by the beneficiaries themselves. In the case of student initiatives, the initiators take on the main role in the organisation and implementation of the events. As Gymi ambassadors and official contact persons, supported students make a significant contribution to making the Swiss Study Foundation better known at their former secondary schools.

"In 2019, I co-founded the ZETA Movement, an association that strives to promote an open and honest dialogue for those who suffer from mental health disorders and those who are close to someone who does. Having helped several friends in difficulty, I have witnessed the effects that a lack of dialogue can have on mental health. 2020 has confirmed that our work is important and with the rest of the team I have been looking for new strategies to be close to young people, staying true to our message 'It's okay not to be okay'. I am convinced that mental health also affects those who do not suffer from any disorder and talking about it is the first step towards a more open, tolerant and aware society."

Emma Broggini, supported student and co-founder of the "ZETA Movement", Master's degree in Comparative and International Studies, ETH Zurich, 22

ORIGIN AND PRESENCE

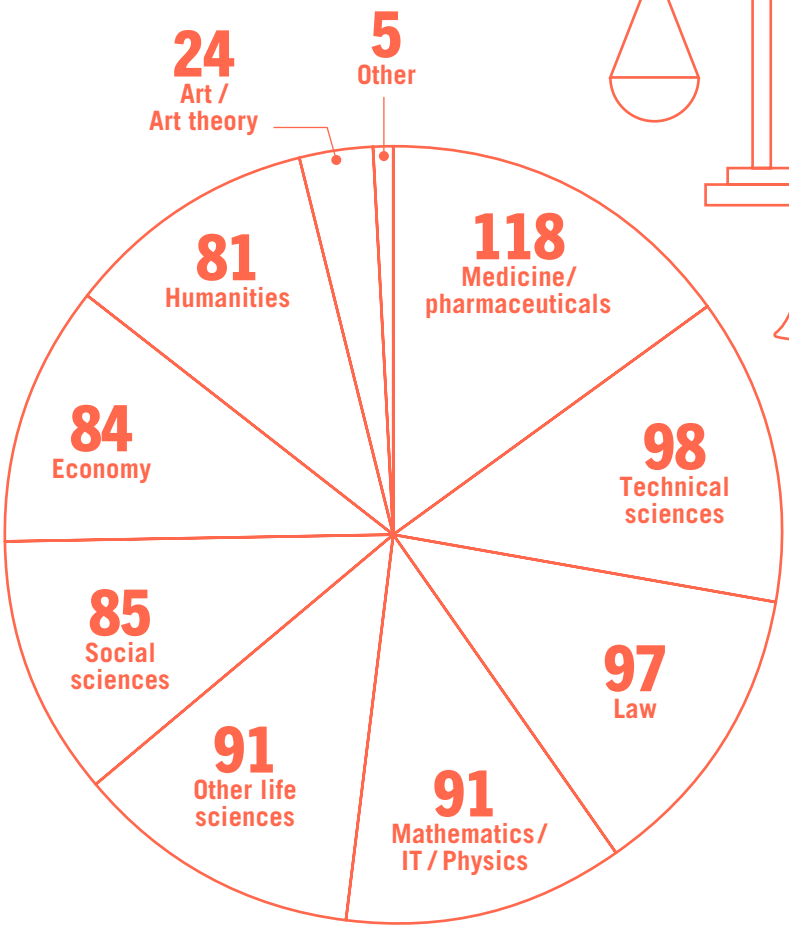
OF SUPPORTED STUDENTS



LOCATION OF HIGHER EDUCATION ENTRANCE QUALIFICATION

171 ZH	38 GE	22 FR	15 SZ	5 NW	3 SH
88 BE	33 BS	21 VS	10 NE	3 GL	2 UR
58 SG	30 BL	20 TG	9 JU	3 OW	44 ABROAD
48 AG	29 TI	19 ZG	9 SO		5 WITHOUT INFORMATION
39 VD	27 LU	17 GR	6 AR		

SPECIALIST BACKGROUND



STUDY LOCATIONS

"Being named one of the 30 people under 30 by Forbes magazine makes me proud of my journey as a lawyer, computer scientist and entrepreneur. At the same time, it motivates me to venture into new fields. My desire is to inspire and encourage young women inside and outside the tech industry to forge their own path."

Céline Spillmann, supported student, "Forbes" 30 under 30 award, co-founder of LegalTech startup CASUS Technologies AG, Master's in Computer Science and Law, University of Zurich, 29

Here you'll find a list of all students supported by the Swiss Study Foundation in 2020.

ORGANISATION

More can be achieved by working together: The Swiss Study Foundation's rich offer can only be realised thanks to the involvement of numerous stakeholders. Many volunteers commit their time, be it to the Foundation Board and the committees or as assessors, mentors and event leaders. The central contact point is the head office, whose staff are responsible for designing and delivering all activities. Financially, everything we do is made possible by the generous support of our partners, the friends' association, and alumni members.

COMMITTEES
12 FOUNDATION BOARDS
15 COMMITTEE MEMBERS
12 HEAD OFFICE STAFF

Head office

(As at 31 December 2020)

Director

Dr. Klara Sekanina

Deputy Director

Iris Schuler

Finances

Maja Bischoff

Academic staff

Stefano Aloise

Dr. Sarah Beyeler

Dr. Barbara Dankwa

Dr. Raphael Meyer

Dr. Silvan Moser

Dr. Lydia Tchambaz

Administration staff

Nathalie Ellington

Michelle Hug

Samira Landolt

Intern

Chiara Macciacchini

Changes in membership

Caroline Schärli and Julien Babel left the office in March and May respectively. We would like to thank them for their work. Silvan Moser, Michelle Hug and Chiara Macciacchini joined the team in September and October respectively. A warm welcome!

Auditors

PricewaterhouseCoopers AG

Foundation Bodies

(As at 31 December 2020)

Foundation Board

President and Vice President

- Loprieno Antonio, Prof. Dr., University of Basel *
- Hengartner Michael, Prof. Dr., President of the ETH Board *

Members

- Ackermann Darryl, supported student
- Ammann Odile, Dr. iur., LL.M., Alumna, Senior assistant, Law Faculty, University of Zurich
- Athanas Peter, Prof. Dr., Curator, Werner Siemens Foundation *
- Dell'Ambrogio Mauro, Dr., former Secretary of State for Education, Research and Innovation
- Franz Christoph, Prof. Dr., Chairman of the Board of Directors, Roche Holding AG
- Martinoli Piero, Prof. Dr., Università della Svizzera italiana
- Rahier Martine, Prof. Dr., University of Neuchâtel
- Springman Sarah M., Prof. Dr., Rector of ETH Zurich
- Tardo-Styner Christina, lic. phil. nat., Deputy Head of Kantonsschule Solothurn *
- Widmer Müller Franziska, Dr., Former Head of Kantonsschule Rychenberg

Honorary members of the Foundation Board

- Eberle Meinrad, Prof. em. Dr., ETH Zurich
- Kubli Eric, Prof. em. Dr. Dr. h.c., University of Zürich

* Executive committee

Changes in membership

After many years of service, Ruedi Noser, member of the Swiss Council of States, has left the Foundation Board. In addition, the representative of the Alumni Association on the Foundation Board, Hanna Wick, has passed on her office to Odile Ammann. Many thanks to the departing members, and we look forward to working with Odile Ammann.

Committees

Committee for Selection and Individual Mentoring

- Tardo-Styner Christina, lic. phil. nat., Deputy Head of Kantonsschule Solothurn, President of the Committee
- Alder Ursula, lic. phil., Head Realgymnasium Rämibühl
- Donzé Laurent, Prof. Dr., University of Fribourg
- Hämmerli Marion, Dr., Associate Partner at McKinsey & Company
- Hiller Odermatt Sebastian, Prof. Dr., University of Basel
- Sekanina Klara, Dr., Director of the Swiss Study Foundation

Committee for Education

- Hengartner Michael, Prof. Dr., President of the ETC Council, President of the Committee
- Maggi Rico, Prof. Dr., Università della Svizzera italiana
- Pichonnaz Pascal, Prof. Dr., University of Fribourg
- Ramin-Wright Leandra, supported student
- Riecher-Rössler Anita, Prof. em. Dr., University of Basel
- Sekanina Klara, Dr., Director of the Swiss Study Foundation
- de Weck Roger, Publicist

Committee for Finances and Fundraising

- Athanas Peter, Prof. Dr., Curator, Werner Siemens Foundation, President of the Committee
- Loprieno Antonio, Prof. Dr., University of Basel
- Nevistic Vesna, Dr.
- Sekanina Klara, Dr., Director of the Swiss Study Foundation

All foundation bodies operate on a voluntary basis.
Their periods of office are limited to 12 years.

Changes in membership

Rico Maggi and Leandra Ramin-Wright (representing the students) are new members of the Committee for Education and Ursula Alder is a new member of the Committee for Selection and Individual Mentoring. Alfred Baumgartner and Meinrad Eberle have left the Committee for Selection and Individual Mentoring and the Committee for Finances and Fundraising respectively. Both have been committed to the Swiss Study Foundation for many years. We would like to thank the current and departing members for all their hard work, and welcome the new members.

VOLUNTEERS
56 MENTORS
108 ASSESSORS

The Swiss Study Foundation's work would not be possible without its many volunteers. We would like to take this opportunity to thank them for their valuable engagement.

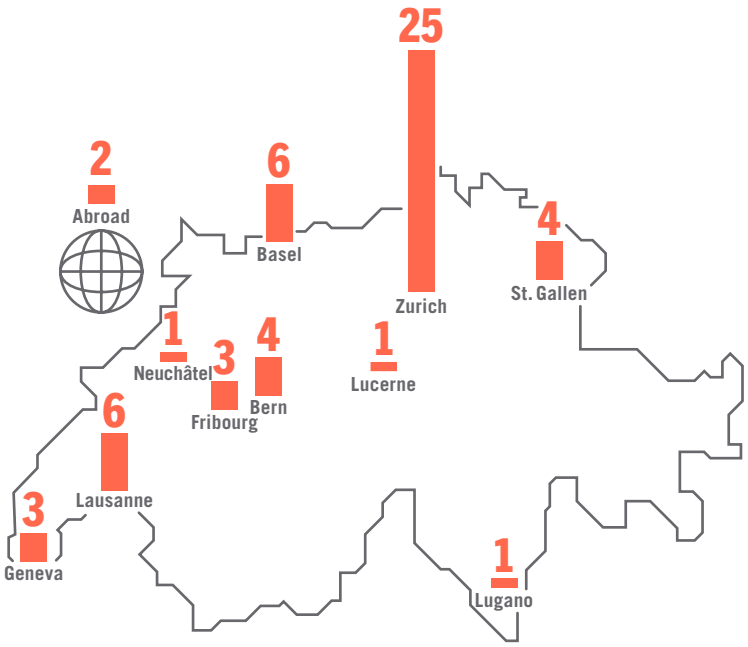
Assessors bring their expertise to the assessment days. As far as the age and professional background of the assessors is concerned, the spectrum is very wide – they include lecturers from universities and universities of applied sciences, secondary school teachers, human resources managers as well as freelance coaches or professional assessors. This means they can assess the candidates from many different angles.

Here you'll find a list of all the assessors.

Mentors are professors who are points of contact for the students at their study locations. They can help with matters related to studies and career planning at individual and group meetings.

Here you'll find a list of all the mentors.

MENTORING GROUPS



"The Swiss Study Foundation is constantly addressing new challenges. The situation with the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic called for new approaches both in the reception process and for the educational events. So the Foundation itself had to demonstrate skills that it expects from its students: flexibility, leaving the beaten track behind, finding new ideas and connecting pieces of knowledge."

Christina Tardo-Styner, President of the Committee for Selection and Individual Mentoring, Deputy Head of Kantonsschule Solothurn

Manuel Holzer completed his studies in environmental sciences at ETH Zurich. As part of the Mercator Fellowship, he is working on sustainable and climate-smart food systems with a focus on agro-ecology. Among other things, he explores the question of which socio-economic framework conditions can promote agro-forestry systems. He is passionate about concepts that combine nature conservation, human well-being and the use of natural resources. Manuel Holzer has worked on various sustainable development projects, including at the World Resources Forum, the Eawag/Sandec Water Research Institute and the International Centre for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT).

Manuel Holzer, Master of Science in Environmental Sciences,
ETH Zurich, 28

Fellow of the Mercator Foundation for international affairs

PARTNERS AND DONORS
6 680 551 CHF INCOME
3 348 868 CHF SPENT ON STUDENTS

It was thanks to the generous support of our partners and friends' association that the Swiss Study Foundation was able to offer such richly varied offers in 2020. We would like to thank all our named and anonymous donors for their valuable contributions.

Contributions of CHF 1,000,000 and more
- Brunner Ursula, Dr. iur., Estate
- Werner Siemens Foundation

Contributions of CHF 100,000 and more
- Bärbel and Paul Geissbühler Foundation
- Ernst Göhner Foundation
- Friends' association of the Swiss Study Foundation
- Mercator Foundation Switzerland
- Meyer Verena, Prof. Dr., Estate
- Sophie and Karl Binding Foundation
- State Secretariat for Education, Research and Innovation

Contributions of CHF 50,000 and more
- Alumni organisation of the Swiss Study Foundation
- ETH Zurich
- Novartis AG
- Suyana Foundation
- University of Zurich

Contributions of CHF 25,000 and more
- F. Hoffmann-La Roche AG
- Hans Eggenberger Foundation

Contributions of CHF 10,000 and more
- EPF Lausanne
- ETH Board
- Lagrev Foundation
- Swiss Re
- Syngenta
- UBS
- University of Lausanne

Contributions of CHF 5,000 and more
- Bern University of Applied Sciences
- Egon and Ingrid Hug Foundation
- Georg H. Endress Foundation
- Lucerne University of Applied Sciences and Arts
- Swiss Academies of Arts and Sciences
- Università della Svizzera italiana
- University of Applied Sciences and Arts Northwestern Switzerland
- University of Applied Sciences and Arts Western Switzerland
- University of Applied Sciences Eastern Switzerland
- University of Basel
- University of Bern
- University of Fribourg
- University of Geneva
- University of St. Gallen
- Zürcher Kantonalbank
- Zurich University of Applied Sciences
- Zurich University of Teacher Education

Contributions of CHF 1,000 and more
- Basler & Hofmann Foundation
- Basler Konrad
- Fondazione Fidinam
- von Graevenitz Alexander, Prof. Dr.
- PricewaterhouseCoopers AG
- Rohrer Rosemarie
- University of Lucerne

Partnerships
- Science Olympics
- Swiss Youth Researches

FINANCES

The Swiss Study Foundation's work would not be possible without the generous financial support of many different organisations and individuals. Our thanks to you all; you are very much helping us to achieve our challenging goals.

FINANCES
3654 VOLUNTEER HOURS

Planning and running events – a time-consuming and costly business in 2020. Due to numerous protective measures, attendance formats became more expensive, and cancellation fees had to be paid. Nevertheless, the impact of the Corona pandemic on the Swiss Study Foundation's finances was minimal. The annual financial statement closes with a profit of CHF 3,544,109. The negative interest rate environment forced the Foundation Board to act: In spring, it decided to have the Foundation's reserves managed sustainably and at low risk with an investment horizon of ten years.

Fortunately, income from fundraising remained stable in 2020 compared to previous years. In addition, the Swiss Study Foundation received bequests worth 3.2 million CHF. This includes the generous sum of three million CHF bequeathed by the Swiss environmental law expert and environmentalist Ursula Brunner, who most recently gained fame as a lawyer for the Climate Seniors. The Foundation sees the generous legacy as a gesture of trust and a mandate to sensitise the young generation to future issues and social concerns in the spirit of sustainability.
Finally, it is important not to underestimate the Swiss Study Foundation's precious capital that is not reflected in monetary terms: The voluntary commitment of 3,654 working hours in 2020 is of immeasurable value to the Foundation and is very much appreciated.

Why can borders be closed in times of COVID-19 – and who is affected by the Paris Climate Agreement? These are the questions that Laia Roxane Guardiola is able to tackle thanks to the annual scholarship at the University of Oxford for her Master's studies (Magister Juris) with special focus on international law. The young woman sees the study of law as a means to ensure more sustainable world trade. Her goal is to specialise in WTO law and climate change. Laia Roxane Guardiola has a wealth of language skills. She speaks fluent German, English and Spanish and is business fluent in French, Catalan and Mandarin. Outside of her studies, she is very active, be it as a member of various committees or as a German tutor for refugees. In autumn, she organised a panel discussion for the Swiss Study Foundation on the 50th anniversary of women's voting rights in Switzerland.

Laia Roxane Guardiola, Magister Juris, University of Oxford, 22

Annual scholarship holder, financed by SERI

Balance sheet as at 31 December 2020 with prior-year figures

(Amounts in CHF)	2019	2020
ASSETS		
Liquid assets operations	5 886 613	1 311 707
Accounts receivable	176 526	156 178
Accrued income	81 439	196 858
Total Current Assets	**6 144 578**	**1 664 743**
Securities	0	8 198 543
Furniture and IT hardware	26 800	18 110
Total Fixed Assets	**26 800**	**8 216 653**
Total Assets	**6 171 378**	**9 881 396**
LIABILITIES		
Committed support contributions	54 500	65 500
Deferred income	68 676	223 585
Total Short-Term Liabilities	**123 176**	**289 085**
Total Fremdkapital	**123 176**	**289 085**
Fund Intellectual Tools	300 000	300 000
Fund Educational Program	351 777	351 777
Fund PhD Program	276 533	276 533
Fund Bachelor Program	300 000	300 000
Fund Conferences	200 000	200 000
Fund Werner-Siemens-Program	1 000 000	1 000 000
Bärbel-and-Paul-Geissbühler Fund	150 000	150 000
Fund Scholarship Program	306 487	306 487
Dr.-Hermann-Freudiger-Fund	500 000	500 000
Travel Allowances Fund	50 000	50 000
Dr.-Jenö-Staehelin-Fund	27 006	27 006
Sustainibility Fund	240 000	240 000
Fund for Foundation Development	542 816	542 816
Total Fund Capital (dedicated)	**4 244 619**	**4 244 619**
Paid-in Capital Foundation	100 000	100 000
Free Capital Earned	1 697 011	1 703 583
Annual Result	6 572	3 544 109
Total Organizational Capital	**1 803 583**	**5 347 692**
Total Liabilities	**6 171 378**	**9 881 396**

Operating Statement 2020 with prior-year figures

(Amounts in CHF)	2019	2020
INCOME FROM OPERATIONS / DONATIONS		
Donations Alumni	54 850	43 308
Donations Friends of the association	110 000	309 000
Donations Companies	207 586	125 618
Donations Foundations	2 050 075	2 145 775
Donations Private	14 771	4000
Legacies	0	3 200 000
Donations Public Authorities	930 000	852 850
Total Donations	**3 367 282**	**6 680 551**
Total Income operations / donations	**3 367 282**	**6 680 551**
COSTS		
Selection	331 169	304 122
Financial Sponsorship	1 437 024	1 444 988
Educational Program	1 342 445	1 162 191
Public relations and fundraising	396 225	437 567
Total Costs Operation	**3 506 863**	**3 348 868**
Interim Result 1	**–139 582**	**3 331 683**
FINANCIAL RESULT		
Interest income	–1 000	4
Securities costs	0	–45 489
Securities revenue	0	257 911
Total Financial Result	**–1 000**	**212 426**
Interim Result 2	**–140 582**	**3 544 109**
FUND RESULT		
Creation Dedicated Grants	–240 000	0
Dissolution Dedicated Grants	387 154	0
Total Fund Results	**–147 154**	**0**
Annual result before allocation to organizational capital	**6 572**	**3 544 109**

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