

FLAX Foundation - Annual Report 2020

General

Aim

There are no changes in the general aim of the FLAX Foundation.

As stated in the Plan 2020-2025, The FLAX Foundation will generate and support innovative research and knowledge on feminist and inequality issues in Europe in order to contribute to a society with greater social justice, equality, and solidarity. By providing researchers with the space and time for their work, and by helping to showcase that work, the FLAX Foundation seeks to especially stimulate the development of social sciences and the humanities when it comes to inequalities and social justice.

Resources and finances

The FLAX Foundation's donations for 2020 were up to 1004700 Euro. The Foundation has legal promises for further donations for the next 4 years, securing the money needed to execute their Plan 2020-2025.

The FLAX Foundation keeps its financial assets at ABNAmro Bank and chooses to use the services of this bank (Sustainable Funds Mandate) to manage its assets.

In 2020, the FLAX Foundation spend 225742,10 Euro, distributed as shown in the table below. The planned budget has not been exceeded.

Table 1: Cost categories and budgeted costs 2020

Cost categories	Budgeted costs 2020	Actual costs 2020
Emma Goldman Awards	250.000	207000
Emma Goldman Snowball Awards	50.000	0
Public events	16.000	11785,54
Executive Board & Board of Trustees	5000	1903,04
Coaching	20.000	0
Website and publicity material	5.000	4873,51
Financial and fiscal advice	5.000	180,01
Total	351.000	225742,10

For the Emma awards, 6 awards have been given - instead of the 5 planned in the Plan 2020-2025 - and one awardee preferred to have the money transferred in 2021, which the Board agreed, while one preferred to have the money partially transferred in 2021.

The 7 Snowball awardees have been chosen in 2020, towards the end, but will receive the money in early 2021. The money needed and reserved for this is 60.000 Euro.

The inaugural public event was organized by the IWM, on the 13th of February 2020. It was well attended, and within the budget.

The costs for the Board were to establish the Foundation (notary and KVK). The Board members do not receive any remuneration for their activities. Any costs involving them is for participation in public events.

The costs for the publicity material beyond the website were the costs for physical awards (designed and printed on Perspex).

The financial costs were mainly the bank costs.

With award money at 207.000 Euro versus costs at a total of 18742,10 Euro, the ratio is acceptable for the first year, in view of the costs of setting up the Foundation and the website.

Organization and decision making

There are no changes in the set-up or functioning of the FLAX Foundation.

Awards, selection, and accountability

In its first years, the FLAX Foundation selected 6 Emma Goldman Awards, and by the end of 2020 also 7 Emma Goldman Snowball awards. As each Emma Goldman awardee could nominate one person, the increase from 6 to 7 is due to an abundance of potential candidates, and the resulting split of award money in one case.

The list of names and the motivations to give them an award are available at our website, at www.flax-foundation.net.

For the nominations for 2021, the Board has requested nominations from the first batch of awardees, board members have made nominations, and external experts were also consulted.

Collaborations

In February 2020, the FLAX Foundation has signed a memorandum of understanding with the IWM, Institute for HUMAN Sciences in Vienna for hosting and showcasing its annual award ceremony, and for hosting two Emma Goldman Fellowships (see appendix). Chosen by the Fellowship Committee at IWM, the IWM has awarded a fellowship to Amade M'charek, and to Rossella Ciccia. Due to the Covid situation, only one of them has been realized in 2020. Amade M'charek has been a fellow at IWM for October 2020, and given a public lecture there. Rossella Ciccia is expected to do that in 2021, but the Covid situation first has to improve to make that happen.

Afterword

The COVID pandemic has hindered a smooth operation of the Foundation in 2020, but the main plan has still been realized, although with some delays.