

2020

Schwarzkopf Foundation
Annual Report



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Foreword



What was a challenging year for everyone now lies behind us. The Schwarzkopf Foundation, like many other organisations, had to adapt its activities to acute challenges and rethink political education and democracy-building. We have managed to do this fantastically through all of our networks and, as a result, we were able to digitally bring together young people from all over Europe, enabling them to directly participate in politics and exchange ideas with decision-makers.

I thank you all very much for your great commitment. My special thanks goes to our partners, friends and supporters who have remained loyal to us in these difficult times. Without them, our work over the past year would not have been possible.

The Foundation's youth networks responded quickly to these challenges. This is how the EYP's Health Project came into being, where 100 young people from all over Europe networked digitally to formulate a young European response to health policy issues for the very first time. Our peer educators from the Understanding Europe Network digitalised their course offerings for schools and independently developed digital educational offers on topics related to Europe, diversity and the media. The Young Islam Conference managed to bring the important meeting space of

young people from different religious and cultural backgrounds into the digital sphere. Starting this year, we are working on a new programme that makes innovative forms of social involvement visible and, together with the betterplace lab, we have established a project office for the European Volunteering Capital Berlin 2021. What's more, our events – which usually involve young people meeting politicians, cultural creators and experts at our office in Berlin – were held online and were attended by around 10,000 young people. Personally, I found our Zoom conference particularly moving; where we heard from a 99-year-old Holocaust survivor and patron of our Margot Friedländer Award about the living culture of remembrance. It has become clear that intimate and valuable moments for democracy are also possible in digital spaces.

As you can see, the challenges we have faced have also created opportunities for new and innovative forms of education and dialogue related to democracy. We will keep these going, though we are especially looking forward to seeing you all again in person.

Thank you to all friends of the Schwarzkopf Foundation for your commitment to our work towards an open, democratic society we want to live in. I can assure you that all our efforts will be worthwhile.

In this spirit, Vive l'Europe!

André Schmitz-Schwarzkopf

Chairman of the Board
Schwarzkopf Foundation Young Europe



This year, everything was different. We have been faced with the worrying rise of racism, antisemitism and extremism in our society, and at the same time have been restricted by the pandemic in creating physical meeting places and platforms for young Europeans, as we usually do.

However, we have used these challenges to reflect on our work – recognising just how important civic education is – and trying to become even better. We have asked ourselves what diversity-oriented educational work should look like and have found great alliance partners in the competence network “Living Together in Migration Societies”.

We digitalised our offerings; reaching out to young people all over Europe using platforms such as Instagram and YouTube, as well as hosting numerous digital meetings where we fostered dialogue and education on topics that are important to young people – including Europe, the migration society, democracy and youth participation.



I am very excited about moving Europe forward with the help of young, pluralistic perspectives.

My experience in social innovation and impactful involvement strategies has enabled me – together with our Foundation team – to create an environment where young people's potential and ideas are transformed into active citizenship that shapes democratic societies. This is what the Schwarzkopf Foundation's Young Europe stands for, and we want to continue working on this over the coming years. We will succeed in promoting a democratic, multicultural Europe that is shaped by young people thanks to the Foundation's diverse networks and programmes such as the EYP, with over 3,500 committed young people from all over Europe,

Together with our youth networks – the European Youth Parliament, the Young Islam Conference, Understanding Europe, and our committed Young Europeans – we have strengthened young voices and their topics. I would especially like to thank our partners who make our work possible and those dedicated young people who continue to shape Europe into a democratic, peaceful and pluralistic society.

In December 2020, Luisa Seiler took over as Executive Director of the Foundation as I have moved on to new professional endeavours. Before handing over the floor to her, I would like to say thank you once more to all the partners, colleagues and young people who continue to inspire me to be a passionate European.

Yours,

Anne Rolvering

Former Executive Director of the Schwarzkopf Foundation

the Young Islam Conference, which brings together people from diverse backgrounds in Germany, and the Understanding Europe Network, uniting young educators from 12 countries. The future belongs to them. By creating spaces and opportunities for young people across Europe to step up and become active in shaping their future, we can help define the next interpretation of “unity in diversity” across Europe.

I am very much looking forward to it! Until then, I hope you enjoy looking back on our 2020.

Yours,

Luisa Seiler

Executive Director of the Schwarzkopf Foundation

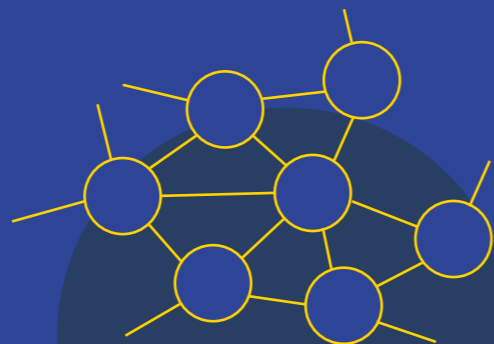
2020 in numbers



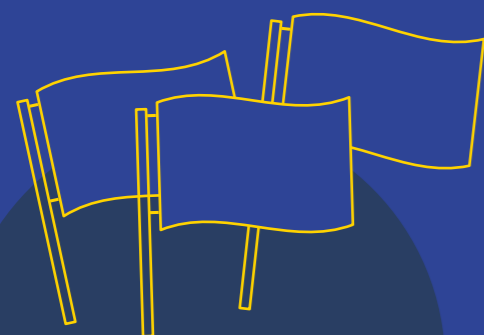
2.000.000
Budget



over
3,500 active
volunteers



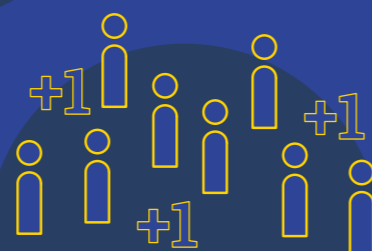
around **25.000**
participants
reached



activities
in **40**
countries



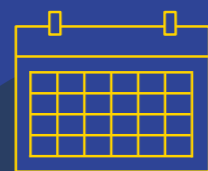
2
publications
completed



19 new team
members



42
cooperation
partners



219 events
across all
programme
lines



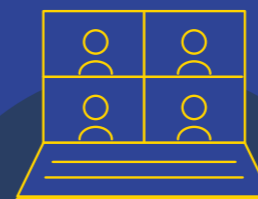
over
100 videos
produced



4 media
fellowships
awarded



30 digital and in-person
Understanding Europe
courses on Europe,
participation and
media literacy
in schools

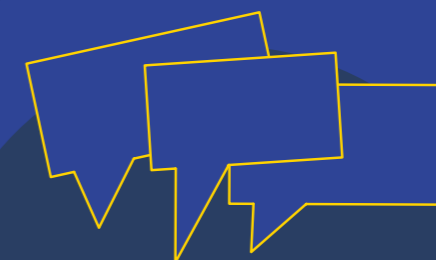


3 digital Summer
Academies/Schools

(for the European Youth Parliament,
Young Islam Conference and
Understanding Europe)



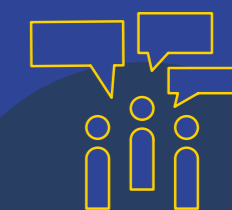
3 awards
to civically
engaged
Europeans



12 Young
Ambassadors
Against
Antisemitism
trained



3 new
Instagram
channels



over **400** topics
on European
affairs
discussed

Who we are

Our mission: The Schwarzkopf Foundation strives to empower young people from all backgrounds to be active European citizens who contribute to a pluralistic, democratic society of mutual understanding, solidarity and peaceful collaboration in Europe.

The dialogue platform **Young Islam Conference** promotes dialogue between young people of various backgrounds and takes up questions of our migration society.

The youth-driven network **European Youth Parliament** brings together young people from across Europe to exchange perspectives and debate the pressing issues of our time with each other as well as with experts and decision-makers.

As part of the **competence network** "Living Together in Migration Societies", we are committed to promoting the political participation and representation of young people of all origins. To do so, the Foundation offers consulting, training and dialogue services for educators, multipliers and volunteers from the field of child and youth welfare in the context of pluralism and difference.

The peer educational network **Understanding Europe** brings European topics and debates into the classroom.

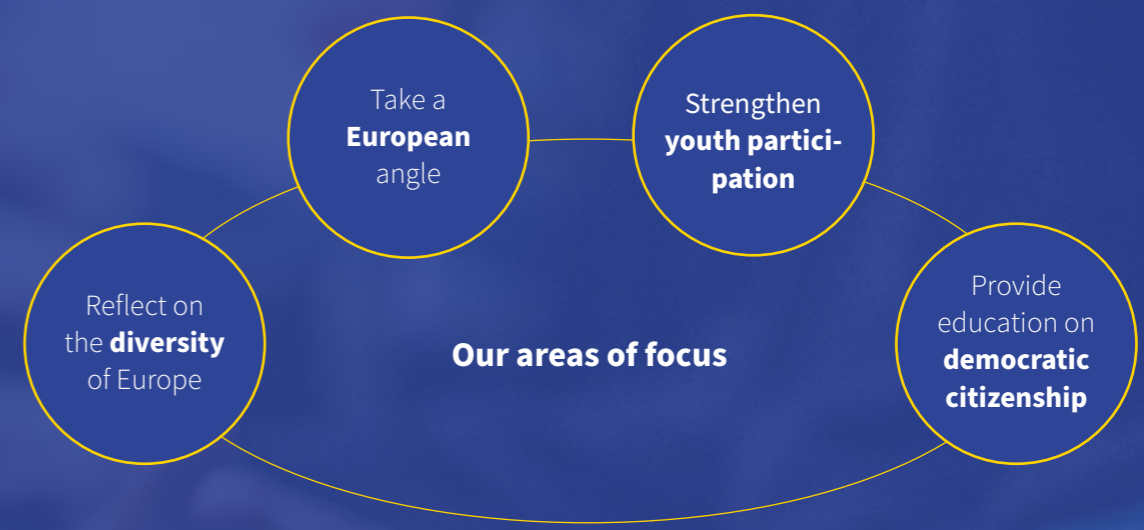
The Foundation is also a supporter of the **FreiInterrail** project and will take over the tandem project office for the European Volunteering Capital Berlin in 2021, together with betterplace lab.

Through our **awards & travel grants**, we support young people in exploring Europe and working for an inclusive, pluralistic society – against antisemitism and racism. This programme line includes the Young European of the Year, the Schwarzkopf Europe Award, the Margot-Friedländer-Award as well as Young Ambassadors Against Antisemitism.

Our offer

We offer young Europeans opportunities for encounters, for knowledge exchange and for active participation in civil society. We promote the development of young people into politically aware and responsible individuals. We strengthen young and marginalised voices in European societies and draw attention to the interests and challenges of European youth. In order to achieve these objectives, the Foundation works with different programme lines.

We, furthermore, offer **discussion events** to bring young people into conversation with decision-makers, activists, witnesses and experts on topics around an inclusive, pluralistic European society.



Our approach: The Schwarzkopf Foundation is guided by the values set out in its vision – open-mindedness, tolerance, pluralism, democracy and solidarity. These values also shape the way the Foundation’s organisation, programmes and projects are managed. Living up to our values means:

- 1. Hearing young people first:** Our work is based on the issues and questions most relevant to our target group.
- 2. Learning through action and experience:** Through their participation, young Europeans gain valuable competences, understanding and knowledge as well as the confidence to have an impact on society.
- 3. Experiencing pluralism:** The Foundation provides a learning environment and promotes transcultural dialogue with multiple perspectives represented, and where understanding, controversy and ambiguity are valued as well as practiced as part of accepting pluralism.
- 4. Creating meaningful alliances:** To reach out to and empower young people across Europe, we work closely with different stakeholders such as schools, universities, activists, civil society actors, politicians, the media, the private sector as well as other foundations.
- 5. Impact orientation:** Our programmes and activities are guided by their potential for impact. We plan and implement projects with the aims to achieve clearly defined outcomes for our target group and bring positive change to society at large.
- 6. Continuous learning:** The Foundation is a learning organisation, adapting to changing political realities and developments.
- 7. Providing an inclusive community & organisational culture:** The Foundation is working to become an inclusive organisation that removes barriers and reflects societal diversity, including differing life situations and lifestyles.

Get to know us and become part of this network!

Shaping Europe European Youth Parliament

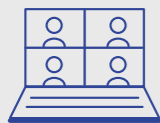
The European Youth Parliament (EYP) is one of the largest European platforms for political debate, intercultural encounters, citizenship education and the exchange of ideas among young people in Europe. The EYP consists of a network of 40 European associations and organisations in which thousands of young people are active in a voluntary capacity. With its international, national and regional events it reaches out to 30,000 young people all over Europe every year. The EYP's mission is to inspire and empower young Europeans to be open-minded, tolerant and active citizens.

All involved volunteers receive extensive training and manifold opportunities to be active by taking part in sessions, roundtables, training events and other initiatives. Next to being one of the first to move to online education, the EYP has initiated a wide range of new and innovative projects in 2020, expanded its Alumni Network, strengthened its outreach and inclusion efforts and embarked on assessing its impact.



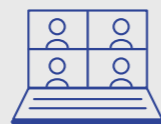
Connecting Young Europe

In light of the COVID-19 pandemic the EYP network has piloted a wide range of online formats to continue enabling holistic and transformative learning experiences.



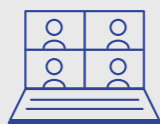
Digital Summer Academy

Attendees had the opportunity to expand their skills in fundraising, outreach and inclusion, management of EYP's National Committees and communication.



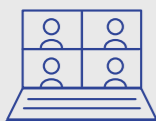
1st Digital Session

This session brought together more than 100 participants and its successful format was subsequently adopted by EYP's National Committees.



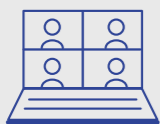
Health Think Tank

A team of dedicated young students and professionals within the health sector gathered for the Health Think Tank in Berlin to aggregate opinions expressed at previous events into a policy recommendations paper "Healthy Lives and Well-Being for all".



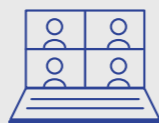
Board of National Committees meetings

The Board of National Committees is the general assembly of EYP's national organisations. The Board acts as the voice of National Committees and gathered twice in the digital space to discuss the future development and policies of EYP.



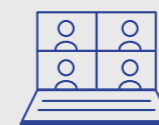
Health Summit

At the Health Summit, Health Think Tank participants presented the policy recommendations paper "Healthy Lives and Well-Being for All".



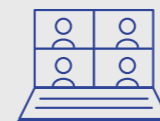
75 Digital Sessions

The Digital Sessions were organised independently by EYP's national organisations over the course of the year.



Digital Energy Forum

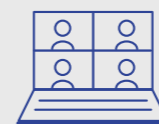
The Digital Energy Forum of the EYP took place in July 2020 with more than 70 young people from 29 countries taking part. Participants gathered to elaborate solutions for energy efficiency, carbon-neutrality, energy access for all, renewables and talk to representatives from industry and politics.



#Ensemble:

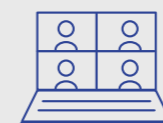
Franco-German Youth Exchange

The bilingual online conference, in partnership with the Franco-German Youth Office, convened around 75 German and French speaking active young citizens on the topic "Youth Perspectives on the Effects of COVID-19".



Digital Alumni Reunion:

The Digital Alumni Reunion gathered the greatest number of participants than any reunion before!



Young Europe Ambassadors

A diverse group of young Europeans were invited to discuss their visions for the future of Europe with the 27 Ministers of European Affairs of the EU Member States.

Power Shifts Project: Reflecting on Europe's Energy

Since 2018, the Power Shifts Project, in cooperation with the E.ON Stiftung, serves as a platform for European youth to reflect on European energy policy. During the Digital Energy Forum as well as 7 decentralised digital sessions run by EYP's National Committees in Belarus, Lithuania, Portugal, Greece, Georgia and Azerbaijan, over 500 participants worked on tangible solutions to energy-related challenges.

"The Digital Energy Forum really gave me a good perspective on where we in the EU in the present day stand on the energy transition. Learning about actions that have already been implemented gives me great hope for the future of energy in Europe. EYP has taught me the importance of thinking outside the box to create tangible change. It has given me the confidence I need to look forward to energy solutions, not just problems."

Gráinne Condron, 16, Ireland

In 2020, EYP also continued scaling up its Alumni Network:

The Network's purpose is: "Connecting global citizens to enable and empower more democratic, inclusive and engaged societies."

13 #AlumniTalks took place with over 170 participants. Former EYPers with interesting profiles provided participants with insights into their professional development, for example:

- Cecilia Pellosniemi (FI), Women, Peace and Security Specialist at UN Women spoke about "EYP, diversity and peace negotiations"
- Soul Patel (UK), Innovation Consultant introduced EYPers to "Leadership in exponential times"
- Danny Vannuchi (IT), Deputy Director of Strategy & Impact at Amnesty International presented "Campaigning for human rights in a challenging world"

Bringing young perspectives to the table

The EYP provides an open and welcoming environment for young people to develop and express their opinions on current political and societal topics. With its wide range of initiatives and events, the EYP not only fosters exchange between young people and decision-makers, but also empowers young people to make their voices heard across various fora and subject fields, including international politics, health, climate change and energy.

Ursula von der Leyen, President of the European Commission: **“I am very happy to be a patron of the European Youth Parliament. They offer many young Europeans the chance to develop and exchange their ideas, share best practices and bring them closer to each other. That’s what today’s youth will need to build the Europe of tomorrow.”**



David Sassoli, President of the European Parliament: **“I am honoured to be a patron of the European Youth Parliament. I want to highlight my appreciation for the millions of young people, girls and boys, who work and are engaged in building and strengthening what is a vital space for dialogue, inclusion and cooperation, showing attention to issues of crucial importance for our future and the one of our Union.”**



Young Europe Ambassadors on the Future of Europe

27 Young Europe Ambassadors from 24 European countries developed joint positions on crucial aspects of Europe’s future and discussed these with the 27 Ministers of European Affairs of EU Member States in an online meeting. The project was supported by the German Federal Foreign Office.



“Presenting our policy recommendations and constructively deliberating with the Ministers of European Affairs allowed us to directly engage with EU politics. Vocalising our vision for the future of Europe meant actively participating in its formation.” Ifigenia Moutmtzi, Young Europe Ambassador (Greece, 21)

Illustrations: Aileen Dietrich

Young European takes on “Healthy Lives and Well-Being for all”

2020 saw the launch of EYP’s Health Project in cooperation with the Wellcome Trust and EIT Health. Disruptions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic have highlighted the need for crisis-proof and accountable systems that can bear future challenges. Around 1000 young people have contributed to developing a set of recommendations for political systems to promote **global social justice and equitable access to quality healthcare.**



During the Health Think Tank, participants met in Berlin as well as digitally to create the policy recommendations paper.

Young active citizens called for:

- Unrestricted access to healthcare that addresses discrimination as a barrier and supports vulnerable groups
- Emphasising health as a global public good
- Affordable and equitable allocation of COVID-19 vaccines once developed
- A common European vision for global health with a stronger World Health Organization (WHO) at its centre, and greater cooperation amongst EU Member States
- Transparent communication of health information to foster accountability and integrity for decision-makers, build trust and combat misinformation
- New frameworks for cross-border, people-centred eHealth and innovative solutions that protect patients’ rights
- Investment in holistic preventive measures and better education to tackle mental health disorders and stigma, especially during and after the pandemic

Scaling Diversity and Inclusion Efforts

Strengthening **diversity and inclusion** throughout EYP's activities has once again been a cornerstone of our work this year. Our cooperation with the UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR) continued, bringing discussion topics related to statelessness and migration to our flagship network-wide events – International Sessions. We are proud that we continued engaging refugees and stateless young participants in these events, this year in Cyprus and Serbia.



“The Diversity Lab is an opportunity to bring in experts, with both training and experience, into driving work on diversity and inclusion in the EYP. It takes both a personal and practical stance on these issues – looking to make concrete, structural change on the basis of real experiences. EYPers from all walks of life are making themselves vulnerable to help improve access for others within the network, and their contributions will make a real difference.”

Emily Long, UK

Additionally, as a result of a bottom-up initiative of members of the EYP network, a **Task Force on Anti-Racism** was created to critically reflect on EYP's inclusivity, particularly regarding the representation of BIPOC.

Evaluating the EYP's impact

>99%

Close to all respondents rated the EYP session they participated in as a **positive experience**.

>99%

Almost all respondents agreed that by taking part in the event, their **understanding of European decision-making improved** and that they left the session motivated to learn more about European topics.

94%

of participants felt that their participation taught them to better recognise and **respect different perspectives**.

93%

of participants stated that the EYP had strengthened their ability to **work in diverse, international teams**.

95%

of participants said their appreciation for **cultural diversity** increased.

*two large-scale evaluations of five EYP sessions (2018-2019) were conducted.

#FreeInterrail Moving Europe forward



In 2015, Berlin-based activists Vincent-Immanuel Herr and Martin Speer (HERR & SPEER) first proposed the idea of providing EU youth with free Interrail train tickets to discover and explore European diversity for themselves.

The FreeInterrail project kicked off 2020 with a research and advocacy trip to seven Central and Southern EU member states, during which the idea was presented and discussed with students and other young people, local representatives of EU institutions, journalists, and politicians. It quickly became clear that the DiscoverEU pilot programme (based on the FreeInterrail proposal) continues to be highly popular with EU youth and stakeholders alike. Further research in Eastern EU countries, planned for March and April was cancelled due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Instead, the lobbying and advocacy work moved entirely online and FreeInterrail was discussed during digital events, presentations, and discussions with EU officials and the public. In September 2020, a **policy**

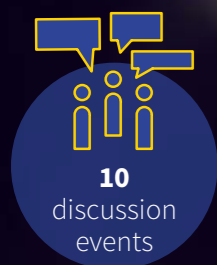
paper suggesting improvements to DiscoverEU was published and distributed to stake-holders in Brussels and beyond.

The year ended on a high note after the EU Council, Commission, and Parliament agreed on the the Multiannual financial framework (MFF) 2021-27, which includes the provision for **DiscoverEU to become a permanent EU programme and “flagship initiative” under the Erasmus scheme**, marking a substantial milestone for the FreeInterrail project.



Young Islam Conference

The Young Islam Conference (JIK) is a **dialogue platform for young people to address questions of constructive and equal living together in a migration society**. JIK's different formats are directed to young people between the ages of 17 and 25, and are inclusive of all religions and nationalities. JIK activities include conferences, peer-based events and educational formats as well as consulting and networking opportunities. Topics such as plurality and belonging are discussed, thus enabling changes in perspectives between people of different backgrounds. The aim of JIK is to empower young people to participate in social and political discourse and to help shape an inclusive and diverse society.

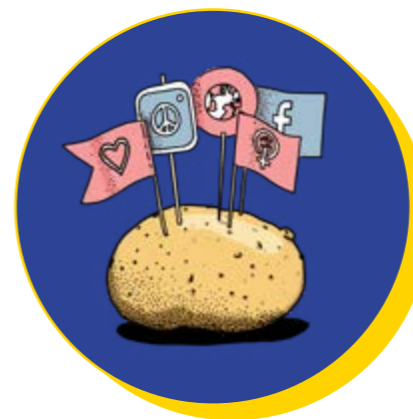


Our young network is involved

The federal committee of the Young Islam Conference sets the tone and is the driving force behind the annual federal conference and the JIK Talks event series. The members of the federal committee see themselves as ambassadors for the project and, on behalf of the post-migrant generation, move discourse on identity and belonging forward. **Zöhre Yari** is such an ambassador, and spoke as a panellist at the SPD Islamkonferenz in March at the Paul-Löbe-Haus.



'Take Part' (Mitreden) was the motto of the first ever **JIK Summer Academy**. The aim of this new format is to further professionalise the network in terms of media competence and sensitivity to diversity.



Due to Corona, the **federal conference** had to be pushed from April to October and was held digitally. This year, 40 young participants from various backgrounds discussed how they can put their vision of a more inclusive and diverse society into reality. Highlights included keynotes from the youngest vice president of a state parliament, **Aminata Touré**, and author and journalist **Michel Abdollahi**.

"You must always be aware that you are not alone in your desire to change something."

Aminata Touré, Keynote speaker at the JIK federal conference

"I think everyone has gone through a phase where you reject everything and try to be as German as possible. In the same way, many people go through a phase before or after that in which they reject everything German. And I think the goal has to be to define this 'being German' differently. Radical diversity must be the goal of a pluralistic society."

Nora, Participant

Every year, the young network engages in a German-wide campaign to raise awareness on anti-Muslim racism. Everyday instances of anti-Muslim discrimination hardly receive attention in Germany. This year, our network contributed to raising awareness on anti-Muslim racism and discrimination by sharing their own experiences and showing their solidarity.



"We need a paradigm shift in the way we publicly perceive and represent non-white people. For this we need to change the deficit-oriented view of minorities and overcome post-9/11 narratives. Instead of the problematisation and stigmatisation of entire population groups, the participation of minorities in all areas of society must be recognised and appreciated. They shape culture, are committed to social cohesion and are an elementary component of our coexistence. That makes us a migration society whose added value is non-negotiable."

Dr. Asmaa Soliman, head of the Young Islam Conference

Many stories and perspectives remain hidden under stereotypical views of people who are not seen as white or German. People who are not satisfied with the status quo and their ascribed roles in society move into spaces that are viewed as not made for them. Thus, doors that have been closed are being opened for future generations, with social images of marginalised groups changing. Four such post-migrant role models held an inspirational talk on December 3rd at the JIK's biggest public event: the **JIK Talks**, which were livestreamed to the broader public.

Further information:

www.junge-islam-konferenz.de

Competence network

“Living Together in Migration Societies”

As part of the Competence Network “Living Together in Migration Societies”, the Schwarzkopf Foundation is committed to promoting the political participation of all young people, regardless of their (ascribed) origin, religion or other ties. In order to do so, it offers **counselling, training and dialogue services for educators, multipliers and volunteers in the field of child and youth welfare** to increase an inclusive understanding of a (post-)migration society, and to safeguard equal participation and representation in our society.

With this network, the Schwarzkopf Foundation’s aim is to make young people from different backgrounds seen and heard as active citizens of a pluralistic, inclusive and democratic migration society – be it as part of the Young Jury of the Margot Friedländer Award, the Young Islam Conference, or as peer facilitators for talks with young people.

Partner organisations

Living together in a migration society means that there is a need for exchange and dialogue. Together with the following partner organisations, we bring together different perspectives and expertise in our competence network:

- **Bundesverband russischsprachiger Eltern e.V.**
- **neue deutsche organisationen e.V.**
- **Türkische Gemeinde in Deutschland (tgd)**
- **Gegen Vergessen – Für Demokratie e.V.**

Together with these other organisations, the Schwarzkopf Foundation is funded by the German Federal Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth (BMFSFJ) as part of the competence network within the framework of the federal programme “Demokratie leben!”.*


Over the next five years, the competence network aims to positively shape social living together through inclusive images of migration society and through promoting equal participation and representation.

Further information:

www.kn-zusammenleben.de

*The publications do not represent an expression of opinion by the BMFSFJ or the BAFzA. The authors are responsible for the content of their statements.

 **1** Digital Conference Week with **400** participants

 **4** partner organisations

 **1.000** new followers on our project instagram channel “Beyond a Single Story”

 **6** educational events and workshops


 **1** publication on diversity-sensitive media education



Illustration: Moshtari Hilal



Interview with Meral El, Executive Director, neue deutsche organisationen e.V.

1. HOW CAN WE BECOME A BETTER (MIGRATION) SOCIETY?

By implementing “equal rights for all” – equal rights in all areas of life for all people who live in Germany, regardless of their citizenship. We need a federal anti-discrimination law that must be supported by state anti-discrimination laws. The same applies to a federal participation law. The General Act on Equal Treatment (AGG) must be amended and we need a right of action for associations (Verbandsklagerecht), as is naturally the case in the environmental sector, for example.

2. HOW CAN CIVIL SOCIETY ACTORS AND EDUCATIONAL STAFF SUPPORT THIS?

The private is political. Wherever we operate, discrimination-sensitive attitudes and respect should be the norm.



Interview with Susanna Steinbach, Executive Director Türkische Gemeinde in Deutschland e.V. (tgd)

1. WHY DO WE NEED THE COMPETENCE NETWORK “LIVING TOGETHER IN MIGRATION SOCIETIES”?

Germany has always been a country characterised by immigration, especially after the Second World War.

However, this fact is hardly reflected in many areas and discourses. The competence network is trying to address this issue precisely, which makes its work so important. The network wants to discuss with different stakeholders what constitutes Germany’s self-image as a migration society. Furthermore, it wants to point out the lack of representation of BPoCs in public and political structures and share ideas on how these deficits can be faced and eliminated.

2. WHAT ROLE DOES TGD PLAY AND WHAT IS ITS GOAL AS AN ORGANISATION?

Within the network, the TGD represents the perspective of a “classic” migrant organisation that, in its 25 years of existence, has been working for equal opportunities and the empowerment of people and organisations with a history of migration and experiences of discrimination and their organisations. Besides this empowerment work, the TGD tries to achieve power-sharing on the part of politics and administrations, i.e. by opening structures and committees for new actors. The central platform for this work is the Federal Conference of Migrant Organisations (BKMO). The aim of the BKMO is to introduce positions agreed among the organisations into politics and thus ensure the representation of their interests. Furthermore, the TGD also coordinates the competence network.

3. WHAT WERE THE MOST IMPORTANT DEMANDS THAT WERE DEVELOPED IN 2020 IN THE CONTEXT OF THE ANTI-RACISM AGENDA THAT REQUIRE BROAD SOCIAL ALLIANCES?

In total, the anti-racism agenda of the migrant organisations and post-migrant initiatives contains 5 core demands that, in addition to the law on the promotion of democracy and a legal definition of racism, also include a participation law at the federal level, a new state goal in basic constitutional law as a commitment to the migration society and to anti-racism, the expansion of political participation opportunities for third-country nationals and a broad enhancement of protections against discrimination. In order for these core demands to have a solid foundation, it is necessary for Germany’s Federal Administration to develop a definition of racism.



“Beyond A Single Story”

1.207 Follower (2.2.2021)

@beyond_a_single_story

Follow

The Instagram channel “Beyond A Single Story” serves as a **diversity-oriented information and exchange platform that provides multipliers in child and youth welfare with insights on migration society topics.**

Through share content – in the form of images and videos – educational concepts, lived realities and various networks are made visible. Through interactive formats such as live talks, stories and presentations of projects and associations, the channel offers best practices for digital educational communication on issues pertaining to migration society and serves as a space to share pedagogical inputs and network.



live talks



Over 1.400 clicks for our live talks



#AusderPraxis videos



digital archive for educational professionals



Video #vorOrt

JULY 1ST Instagram channel “Beyond a Single Story” **launch**

AUGUST 11TH Live talk with **Josephine Apraku**, founder of the Institute for Non-Discriminatory Education, on the subject of “Racism-critical educational work and post-colonialism”, moderated by Naz Al-Windi

AUGUST 25TH

Live talk with **Deborah Krieg**, consultant for education at the Bildungsstätte Anne Frank Frankfurt, on the subject of “Educational work after Hanau”, moderated by Evin Demir

„Es ist wichtig, sich zu positionieren. Inaktiv zu sein ist keine Option, denn sonst bestätigt man den Status Quo.“

- Josephine Apraku



SEPTEMBER 29TH

Live talk with **Professor Dr. Riem Spielhaus**, scholar for Islamic Studies at the University of Göttingen and the Georg-Eckert Institute for International Textbook Research, on the subject of “Islam and Muslims in Education(al) Media”, moderated by Milena Jovanović

NOVEMBER 24TH

Zoom live talk as part of the conference of the competence network “Living together in the immigration society” with **Vanessa Vu**, podcaster at Rice & Shine and editor at ZEIT Online, on the subject of “Viet-German perspectives on reunification”

NOVEMBER 26TH

Instagram live talk as part of the conference of the competence network “Living together in the immigration society” with **Saba-Nur Cheema**, Head of Education, Anne Frank Frankfurt and **Bahar Aslan**, teacher and activist from Cologne, on the subject of “Educational work after Hanau and Solingen”

Postmigrant Europe

Postmigrant Europe is a two-year project that highlights postmigrant, postcolonial and marginalised perspectives on Europe. With our Instagram channel, @postmigrant_europe, the project offers a learning platform on how to be critical of racism. By addressing current challenges and debates in a postmigrant Europe, we inspire others to confront ideologies of inequality that conflict with a vision of an open, democratic and pluralistic Europe.

Furthermore, we offer opportunities for young peers, teachers, activists and media-makers to engage in a transnational and European exchange around issues that matter to them and to together reflect on racism-critical thought. In 2021, the project will continue with an educational trip to the Netherlands, Belgium and Germany, and will end with a closing conference.

This project is funded by the German Federal Agency for Civic Education (bpb).

*The term postmigrant refers to a societal state in which migration has come to be the norm, rather than the exception. It is a state in which social, cultural, structural as well as emotional processes and debates about legal rights, belonging and participation are all taken into account, whether shaped by individual experiences of migration or not.

OUR DIGITAL YEAR

October 26 & 28, 2020:

In cooperation with the project and campaign **NO WHITE SAVIORS (NWS)**, we hosted a workshop and an Instagram live on “How to do anti-racist educational work using social media”. During the workshop and the live talk, NWS team members spoke about their experiences and learnings from educating on social media about topics such as white saviourism, cultural appropriation and anti-Black racism.

As part of the workshop, NWS team members shared hands-on knowledge with a group of young peer educators and anti-racist activists. Those who took part were able to bring lessons learned to their educational and community work – with university projects and local anti-racist initiatives, as examples.

September 18, 2020

PROFESSOR FATIMA EL-TAYEB engaged with a group of young peer educators on the question of what it means to decolonise Europe. She highlighted the differences between postcolonial and decolonial thought and pointed towards the social movements that are and have been central to the endeavour to decolonise Europe in the past and in the present.

“A united Europe was envisioned as including African colonies; giving Europe free access to the continent’s resources, but not, of course, giving freedom to Africans. [...] Europe’s colonial past, which is still in many ways its present, is manifest in a steadily growing post-colonial population that remains ‘un-European’ and, in futile attempts to protect the continent from the consequences of an unsustainable global system, still favours the former colonisers.”

November 13, 2020:

WORKSHOP WITH VANESSA VU FROM RICE & SHINE ON “HOW TO PODCAST”

In this workshop, Vanessa Vu spoke about her experiences and learnings from creating and developing an independent podcast, including how to build outreach, find good stories and general tips and tricks on how to start your own podcast.



November 16, 2020

DIGITAL LECTURE WITH PROFESSOR DAVID THEO GOLDBERG ON CONTEMPORARY RACISMS IN EUROPE

Our speaker for this digital lecture, Professor David Theo Goldberg, Director of the University of California’s Humanities Research Institute, offered insights on how a critical reading of the past can inform our understanding of contemporary forms of racism in Europe and elsewhere.

December 15 & 16, 2020

ONLINE BLACK AND PEOPLE OF COLOUR (BPOC) EMPOWERMENT WORKSHOP WITH PROFESSOR PHILOMENA ESSED

As part of a two-day workshop, Professor Philomena Essed gave a short input on the challenges of contemporary racisms that, nowadays, often appear in the forms of denial and entitlement racism. Those who participated in the workshop, coming from different European countries, had the chance to dive deeper by exchanging with one another – addressing issues and questions central to them as a group.

WHAT DID WE ACHIEVE?

6

In 2020, we launched our project’s Instagram channel **@POSTMIGRANT_EUROPE** and hosted **three online live talks** and **three online workshops** for young people from the ages of 17 to 26.

1600

We reached more than **1600 viewers** all over Europe and the world with our video content on **Instagram** and **YouTube**.

We fostered European and transnational exchanges around globally-relevant topics and debates.

5

We shared **five** additional 10-minute **academic and educational inputs** on our channel.

1000

In **five months**, we reached a followership of over **1000 people** and directly engaged with over **30 peers** and young activists with our online workshops.


We established a growing collection of **#mustreads** and **#mustlistens** and continuously shared event and programme recommendations.



30 courses
held in digital and analogue formats on Europe, participation and media literacy at schools in 7 European countries



12 peers
founded the youth-based association Understanding Europe Germany e.V.



1 new Instagram channel
@understanding_europe



5 digital Trainings for Trainers



103 Understanding Europe Trainers



1 publication on competences for diversity-sensitive educational processes

Understanding Europe Educational Network

Understanding Europe is a European network for diversity-oriented and inclusive peer education. As part of the project, young Peers between the ages of 16 to 28 hold seminars in public and vocational schools. The participation-oriented approach creates a space for young people to talk about politics in Europe, the media, participation in society and their own life-worlds without being graded. The Peers see themselves as moderators and equal discussion partners with the students. In cooperation with Understanding Europe Germany and the European Youth Parliament, the project is currently implemented in 12 European countries.

Strengthening diversity-oriented peer education in digital spaces

European Summer School

The **European Summer School (ESS)** is the cornerstone of Understanding Europe's qualification programme. During the ESS, our Peer Educators receive training on diversity-sensitive methods for European citizenship education and learn how to train their fellow Trainers during local T4Ts (Trainings for Trainers). In 2020, the ESS took place online, giving the Peer Educators the opportunity to learn about digital training methods.

Trainings for Trainers

The local **Trainings for Trainers (T4Ts)** are organised by our Coordinators and delivered by our Peer Educators. At the T4Ts, Peer Educators put the knowledge and skills they gained during the ESS into practice by teaching Trainers how to deliver EU Crash Courses & media courses. Peer Educators discuss Understanding Europe's didactical principles, reflect on their roles, and as trainers, and build a strong and supportive trainer team.

Coordinators' Meetings

As all other formats this year, our two annual **Coordinators' Meetings** in May and November 2020 took place online. At least one representative from each country where Understanding Europe is conducted participated in the online meetings to update others on the project in their countries, exchange and learn from one another, as well as discuss future developments for the project. At the centre of this year's meetings was the **diversity-oriented organisational development process**, which we kicked off at the beginning of 2020 together with our external advisor, Miriam Camara.

Digital Working Groups

As a result of the Covid-19 pandemic, most of our activities in schools were put on hold from March 2020 onwards. However, our Understanding Europe Network decided to rise to the challenge and established **three Working Groups** to think about how the project can be implemented in digital spaces. They worked on **setting up a social media channel for the network, digitalising our EU Crash Course** and **fostering online training and exchange** with great success. A digital EU Crash Course is already being offered in several countries across Europe and a new Instagram channel is bringing political peer education to the social media feeds of young people across Europe. @understanding_europe

“In retrospect, my experience participating in the Working Group Digital EU Crash Course was two-fold. Firstly, I could develop a whole new set of skills when it comes to digital platforms and tools, and we [the members of the Working Group] were also given very sound advice by external experts who taught us how to apply our prior knowledge about running analogue courses to the digital space. Secondly, and, maybe even more importantly, being part of the Working Group brought some stability and continuity into my personal life, which felt so reassuring during such insecure times. Our regular meetings gave me the feeling that we could carry on our mission to educate young people, despite the restrictions. After all, if the current pandemic has made anything plain, it is that certain threats can only be combatted by joint forces.”

Julia Kikel, Peer Educator for Understanding Europe Austria & participant in the Working Group Digital EU Crash Course



Illustration: Carlotta Weiser

“Doing something we know we are comfortable with in the frenetic world we live in is arguably a waste of time when one wants to grow. What can, therefore, be better than taking part in something both personally fulfilling and enriching? From networking and understanding how to make people engage online to learning about mutual feedback while gaining more practice in team management, being one of the chairpersons of the Working Group on Digital Crash Courses gave me the chance to work on this and more.”

Gil Ribeiro (Portugal), Chair of the Working Group Digital EU Crash Course

Fellowship Programme

The **Fellowship Programme on media literacy** is a new offer in cooperation with SPIEGEL and its educational platform SPIEGEL Ed. Every year, four young Peer Educators between 18 to 30 are given

the opportunity to develop new educational formats and materials for their schools. In 2020, our Fellows developed workshops, videos and podcasts on hate speech, fake news, representation in the media and freedom of the press.

“During the fellowship, I developed a workshop on press freedom in which students can learn through my animated film what press freedom means and that it cannot be taken for granted. They get to know the situation in other countries and engage critically with the topic.”

Hamed Alhamed, Fellow 2020

“In our workshop, students do not only get involved with fake news and hate speech, but they hopefully also realize that online learning can be fun – and what tools can support such learning.”

Clara Thompson, Fellow 2020

Discussing Europe

Our (digital) discussion events from Berlin

Young people are crucial actors for Europe's democratic future. They have decisive perspectives on relevant issues and want to be heard. We support them in being active European citizens by getting them into conversation with decision-makers and experts, thereby gaining knowledge and participating in important discourses.

We organise discussion events on relevant topics across our youth networks and qualification programmes to bring young people together with inspiring leaders and personalities. In direct exchange with high-level European and federal politicians, journalists, activists and scientists, we offer the chance for participants to experience politics and European issues up-close.

The discussion formats offered focus on our young audience and exchange rather than having long lectures. As part of this, young people take over moderation and ask questions they want to discuss.

Since March 2020, we have completely switched over to online talks and digital formats with our discussion events – previously held in the familiar atmosphere of the Paulinenhof in Berlin-Mitte – in order to continue to bring young people into conversation with experts and open up new perspectives, even during the Covid-19 pandemic.

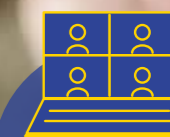
This year's topics included the humanitarian crises at the EU's external borders, current events such as the protests in Belarus and long-term visions for Europe's future after the pandemic. We shed light on the situation of minorities in European society and discussed how to tackle right-wing extremism, racism and discrimination as well as anti-pluralistic tendencies – always following topics that shape young people's futures. Further topics included the massive transformation of our societies due to climate change, digitalisation and the pandemic, the role of the media in times of fake news and filter bubbles, as well as possibilities for young people to get engaged in politics.



32 discussion events, talks, film screenings and readings



over **10,000** young people reached



First **digital events** with moderators and speakers from Freiburg to Hamburg and Munich, from Belarus to Denmark, Sweden, the USA and more



recordings of several past events can be found in our media library on YouTube, which can be viewed in the comfort of your own home



“Racism manifests itself not only in individual acts, but also in the lack of representation of BIPOCs in institutions, media and schoolbooks.”

Alice Hasters

March 12, 2020

Elvan Korkmaz-Emre,
member of the German Bundestag for the SPD parliamentary group
“Young in politics”

January 15, 2020

Captain Dr. Klaus Vogel, Till Rummenhohl and Jana Ciernioch from SOS MEDITERRANEE
“Sea rescue in the Mediterranean Sea”

September 24, 2020

Max Czollek,
poet, essayist, curator and political scientist reading “Gegenwartsbewältigung”

June 3, 2020

Alice Hasters,
journalist, podcaster and author
“Why we cannot ignore racism”

An inclusive Europe

Understanding and tackling inequalities and discrimination

How can we raise awareness regarding daily and structural experiences with racism, antisemitism and other forms of discrimination? How can we become better allies and learn from perspectives that have been marginalised? What can we do to create a society where everyone feels included and safe? During our discussion events, we aim to strengthen young people’s perspectives on these issues through intersectional approaches, enabling them to share, bridge their positions, and understand how activists, scientists, and government officials assess current states of tolerance as well as the need for diversity and pluralism in Europe.

Speaking to various experts this year, our young audiences discussed current anti-pluralistic tendencies and the rise of antisemitism, racism and extremism. On the occasion of Germany’s newly-founded Cabinet Committee on the Fight against Right-Wing Extremism and Racism, we have asked what an effective governmental package of measures to combat racism looks like, aiming to make politics more accessible. By including young people in current debates, we help raise awareness on what steps each individual can take, enabling youth to shape the present and future of their communities and the societies they live in.

July 7, 2020

Erik Marquardt,
(MEP, Greens/EFA) and **Dina Pašić,** founder of the Greek NGO “Second Tree”
“#LeaveNoOneBehind – the humanitarian crisis in Lesvos and the responsibility of the EU”

November 20, 2020

AKE DIKHEA/ Romatrail,
“Contemporary Past” film screening and discussion at the Festival of Romani Film vol. IV/2020

May 12, 2020

Dr. Matthias Quent,
researcher and director of the Institute for Democracy and Civil Society (IDZ)
“From conspiracy ideologies to terror: how right-wing radicals are trying to undermine social cohesion and further divide society”

August 26, 2020

Saraya Gomis,
expert on anti-discrimination and chair of Each One Teach One e.V.
“Do words (finally) follow actions? The fight against right-wing extremism, racism and discrimination”

October 9, 2020

Igor Levit,
pianist, author **Lena Gorelik** and the Her.tietz Initiative
“Tietz lecture on addressing antisemitism one year after the attack in Halle”

January 30, 2020

Generation 2.0 RED, Center for Modern Greece (CMS), IJAB
IJAB e.V. & scholarship holder Anna Martynenko
“Role models for Europe in Greece”

December 8, 2020

Dunja Hayali,
journalist and moderator
“Stop talking or staying in touch? How journalists counter (right-wing) extremist narratives and attacks”

September 7, 2020

Tessa Ganserer,
member of the Bavarian state parliament
“Between rollback and progress? LGBTIQ* rights and realities in Europe”

December 1, 2020

Deeyah Khan,
filmmaker and Schwarzkopf Europe Awardee 2020 and **Yasmine Ouirhrane,** Young European of the Year 2019
“Fostering dialogue”

“The dignity of the human being is inviolable. Not only that of the German, not only that of white people, not only that of the privileged.” **Dunja Hayali**

Illustrations: Aileen Dietrich



The future course of Europe and the European Union

Exploring multi-faceted challenges

With our discussion events on European issues, we tackled current topics that address multi-faceted challenges for Europe and the EU. A lot has happened on the European stage this year. “Brexit” has become legally binding, in Belarus, people have been taking to the streets against electoral fraud, and COVID-19 has been a stress test for the EU – 70 years after the Schuman Declaration – economically, politically and socially. Bringing young people together with academics, think tankers, politicians and diplomats, we try to get those who participate involved in Europe and the EU by taking an active stance in shaping Europe. We have set out together in search of future-oriented answers to questions such as how a foreign policy can be coherent in the face of 27 nations’ interests (Dr. Jana Puglierien) and what lessons Europe has learned from the Trump era (Ambassador Wolfgang Ischinger). Moreover, our audience has discussed what Europe and the EU will look like after the pandemic (Professor Dr. Ulrike Guérot) and we have gained practical insights into the everyday work of a member of European parliament (Damian Boeselager).

February 25, 2020
Dr. Jana Puglierien, head of the Berlin office of the European Council on Foreign Relations (ECFR)
“The EU’s foreign policy weakness – and what needs to be done”

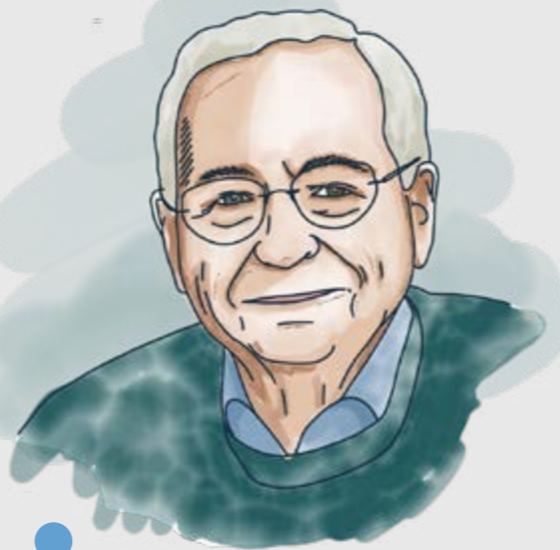
March 10, 2020
Prof. Gerhard Dannemann, Centre for British Studies, Humboldt University of Berlin
“Brexit and its consequences”

May 4, 2020
Damian Boeselager, Volt member of the European Parliament
“Once you are inside – about the work of the European Parliament, visions for Europe and what it takes for a Europe based on solidarity”

June 11, 2020
Norbert Walter-Borjans, party chairman of the SPD
“The course for the future: overcoming the crisis in solidarity?”

August 19, 2020
David McAllister, MEP, Chairman of the European Parliament Foreign Affairs Committee and **Olga Dryndova**, a youth civil society representative from Belarus
“Pushed to the edge: Belarusians in the struggle for honesty”

September 30, 2020
Prof. Ulrike Guérot,
“What comes after the crisis? Perspectives on a #PostCoronaEurope”
“**What was the success story of the European Union? The success story has always been one where the European Union has learned lessons from crises and communalised things that were lacking community in the last crises.**”



October 26, 2020
Ambassador Wolfgang Ischinger
“Europe and the US – what will (not) happen if Trump loses the election?”
“**Perhaps in a few years’ time we will be – so to speak – strategically grateful to Donald Trump for ending the European deep sleep on security policy issues by saying: ‘Now you’re on your own!’**”

Media and its impact on democracy

Digital and social media increasingly contribute to the forming of opinions – in an ecosystem where consumers’ attention is the currency. Distorted stories, fake news and filter bubbles flourish and continue to shape public discourse. What effects does this have on our democracy, and how can young people deal with such misinformation? In cooperation with the Hertie Foundation, we organised discussion events with journalists, media-makers and academics to understand what role the media plays in our society, learning about different formats and challenges. We also sought to find answers to how we can prevent factually-misleading narratives from forming the basis for political debate, content and our decisions.

June 16, 2020
Juliane Schäuble, US correspondent for Der Tagesspiegel
“Danger to democracy? The US media in times of Corona and the presidential election”

November 26, 2020
Prof. Vincent Hendricks
“Happy hour for bubbles, misinformation and fake news: Can we still prevent a postfactual democracy?”



October 7, 2020
Dr. Barbara Hans, Editor-in-chief of DER SPIEGEL and Spiegel.de
“Everything for the clicks? Online journalism between gaining importance and losing trust?”
“**The job of journalists is not to polarise. My understanding of the job is to ask questions, to understand things and to pass on the understanding we have gained.**”

Facing transformations – climate change & digitalisation

New technologies and the use of artificial intelligence are changing our world profoundly and at an incredible speed. At the same time, globalisation and the fight against climate change are presenting us with huge challenges. The COVID-19 pandemic also puts many things into question. Choices made now will influence our lives for many years to come, especially for young people. We brought discussion participants together with, among others, activist Carola Rackete and the president of the German Environment Agency, Professor Dr. Dirk Messner, to discuss how a real shift to a sustainable and climate-neutral global economy can be achieved, how digitisation can be made fair and how the fights against climate change and for global justice must be thought of together. Our goal in doing so is to raise awareness of these massive transformation processes, making change accessible to young people, and thus enabling them to actively shape solutions for their futures.

May 25, 2020
Björn Böhning, state secretary in the Federal Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs,
“Artificial intelligence, algorithms and tomorrow’s society”

May 28, 2020
Carola Rackete, conservation ecologist and captain,
“Next stop system change? Activism for the climate and global justice”

September 15, 2020
Prof. Dirk Messner, president of the Federal Environment Agency
“Sustainability as project for the future”

Future of Remembrance

What we remember and how we look at the past is always a mirror of the present, and thus, what is constituted as a collective past is a reflection of the cultural and political discussions in our present society. The basis for our projects on the “Future of Remembrance” is the understanding of a post-migrant society shaped not by a single narrative, but by a diversity of perspectives and histories, by continuities, ruptures and entanglements. How can this be reflected in the way we talk about German history in the future?



The **Margot Friedländer Award** motivates students to engage with the messages of Holocaust survivors with their own projects and offers a stage to share their viewpoints on remembrance work. A jury of people between the ages of 16 and 20, the so-called **Young Jury**, nominates the ten most promising projects to the Margot Friedländer's Jury.

Our new project, **Young Ambassadors Against Antisemitism**, forms a network of young people from all over Germany to stand up against antisemitism, racism and forgetfulness and become peer experts in this field.

By connecting our awardees, the Young Jury and Young Ambassadors with diverse activists, curators

and scientists, these young people get a glimpse into the different approaches and various perspectives of a post-migrant society in our dealings with and memories of the past.

Our activities in this area typically include film screenings, theatre and exhibition visits, as well as lectures by Holocaust survivors for students in schools. These activities, however, were very limited this year due to COVID-19. Nevertheless, we offered young people a guided tour in the memorial and educational centre House of the Wannsee Conference, an online-reading with the Holocaust survivor Margot Friedländer and a theatre visit to the play “Ab heute heißt du Sara” at the Grips Theatre.

Young Ambassadors Against Antisemitism

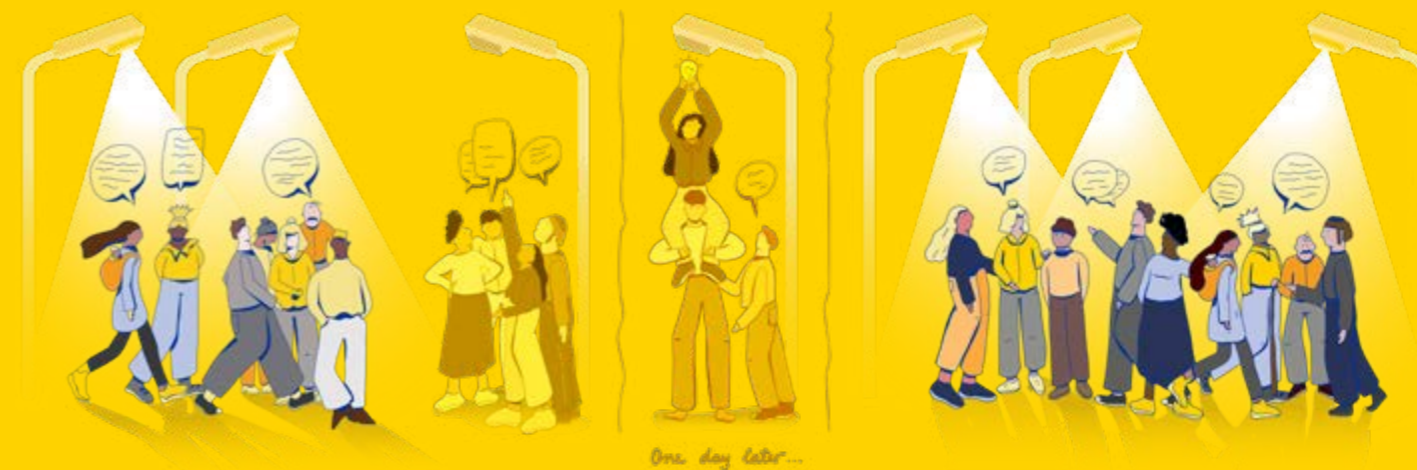
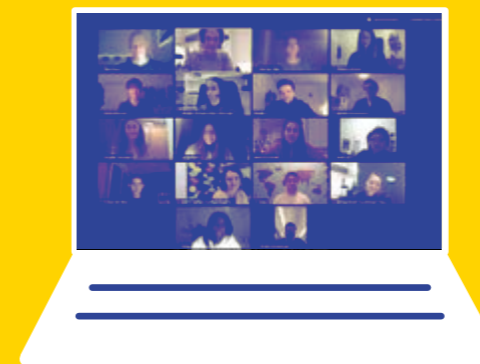


Illustration: Carlotta Weiser

“For far too long, antisemitism has been discussed in Germany without including Jews in the discourse. During the workshop, many projects from Jews and allies showed up who are actively trying to change this. I think it is great that YAAA is providing a space for this.”

Rebecca Walter, participant



For the first time, the Schwarzkopf Foundation is building a young peer network engaging in particular

with antisemitism, racism, historical continuities, and a post-migrant culture of remembrance. Our pilot project, Young Ambassadors Against Antisemitism (YAAA), funded by the Federal Government Commissioner for Jewish Life and the Fight against Antisemitism, Felix Klein, was launched with a four-day training in November. Twelve participants from all over Germany entered into an exchange with inspiring projects and players in the field. Amongst other topics, they discussed Jewish perspectives on antisemitism with the makers of the movie “Mazel Tov Cocktail”, Arkadij Khaet and Merle Teresa Kirchhoff, and participated in a workshop that emphasised the discrepancies between dealing with antisemitism as a phenomenon or as an experience. The project “Places of Remembrance – Forgotten and Interwoven Stories” inspired the group to look for stories and perspectives untold in dominant historical narratives – those of society's minorities. The group will meet regularly until June 2021, engaging with activists in the field of antisemitism and a post-migrant culture of remembrance, and will create their own projects.

Margot Friedländer Award

Young and inclusive perspectives on cultures of remembrance



“I have come back from America to talk to you, to reach out to you. And to ask you to become witnesses, like us, who cannot be for much longer. You must bear witness, we cannot do it for much longer, we are the last.”

Margot Friedländer

For the sixth time, young people from all over Germany followed the call of Margot Friedländer and the Schwarzkopf Foundation. Over 60 creative project ideas on dealing with and understanding the Holocaust and its historical context were submitted, showing large engagement and the extent to which research is being conducted on local, untold stories.

“I am delighted that so many took part. Because an awareness of history can lead to responsible

engagement. And that is more important now than ever,” praised German Chancellor **Dr. Angela Merkel** in her digital laudatory speech.

At the end of last year, the jury of Margot Friedländer Award was supported by the Young Jury in the selection process. Over a weekend in Berlin, this group of young people – between the ages of 16 and 24, from all over Germany – dove deeper into the topic of remembrance culture themselves by visiting the project space 7xjung and exploring memory sights in Berlin. During those few days, the group was entrusted with the challenging task of reading, evaluating and ranking all of the wonderful project applications. Two members of the Young Jury joined the Margot Friedländer Jury to represent their perspectives and pass on their recommendations for the best projects.

This year's project winners

“PATHS OF REMEMBRANCE”

Freie Schule von Anhalt in Köthen, Saxony-Anhalt received an award for their project “Paths of Remembrance”. The school’s “stumbling stones” working group planned a stumbling stone rally in the town of Köthen, with interactive elements for children and young people.

“THE STRANDED TRAIN”

This year's recognition award goes to “The stranded train” by Kurfürst-Joachim-Friedrich Gymnasium in Wolmirstedt, Saxonia-Anhalt. April 13, 2020 marked the 75th anniversary of the liberation of 2,500 Jewish exchange prisoners in Farsleben. These prisoners were on one of three evacuation transports from the Bergen-Belsen concentration camp. While the history of the “Lost Transport” in Tröbitz has been well-documented, and a culture of remembrance exists, the liberation of the first train in Farsleben is hardly known in the region. For one year, students working on the project have been researching and bringing the memories of victims and passengers on the train into the public through various initiatives – including events and readings. The students developed an app from this diverse material, conducted interviews with contemporary witnesses, and so forth. All can be seen at a local museum exhibition.

In order to implement their project ideas, the groups received grants of up to €5,000, depending on their projects' requirements. Due to the pandemic, the award ceremony was moved from April to November and from an in-person to a digital format. Chancellor Dr. Angela Merkel contributed a video to the digital award ceremony. This was followed by an educational

“REMEMBERING THE 500 IMPRISONED JEWISH WOMEN AT THE NEUGRABEN SUB-CAMP”

With the project “Remembering the 500 imprisoned Jewish women at the Neugraben sub-camp” students at Süderelbe High School in Neugraben, Hamburg have been inspired to act and remind their town of the Jewish women who were imprisoned in the sub-camp. As part of their project, these students are making a documentary film and putting up street signs and additional information at bus stops.

“PICTURE BOOKS AGAINST FORGETTING: BIOGRAPHIES OF CONCENTRATION CAMP SURVIVORS FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE”

Elly-Heuss-Knapp-Realschule in Cologne, NRW was also awarded for their “Picture books against forgetting: Biographies of concentration camp survivors for children and young people”, based on the book “We survived the concentration camp” – by Reiner Engelmann (title translated), in which ten biographies are presented. As part of the school's project, ten picture books were created – one book on each person.

programme on antisemitism in hip hop with the German-Jewish rapper Ben Salomon. The Margot Friedländer Award has been made possible by the federal programme “Demokratie leben!” within the framework of the competence network “Living Together in Migration Societies”, Ernst & Young, the Berliner Sparkasse and Volkswagen AG.

The Schwarzkopf Europe Award 2020

Deeyah Khan is awarded for her work to promote dialogue and increase the visibility of marginalised people

Every year since 2003, the Schwarzkopf Europe Award has been awarded to institutions or public figures who have distinguished themselves in an outstanding way through their committed and dedicated service to either European understanding or to the coming together of Europe.

This year, the Schwarzkopf Europe Award honours the outstanding work of the Norwegian filmmaker and human rights activist Deeyah Khan. In her films, Deeyah Khan shows the need for compassion and solidarity across different communities by showing the social origins of fundamentalist violence and portraits of courageous activists. With her feminist magazine “sisterhood”, she offers young Muslim women a platform and helps create a network of unheard voices. **“Deeyah Khan stands for the Europe we want, which is a Europe of understanding and tolerance”**, says Lukas David Meyer from the jury. In her digital acceptance speech, Deeyah Khan stated: **“I’m so grateful and so inspired by the work that the Foundation is doing and especially the work of previous recipients. To be included alongside them in this sort of company is humbling and means a lot to me.”**



Yasmine Ouirhrane



Deeyah Khan

Instead of a physical award ceremony in Berlin, our 2020 winner, Deeyah Khan, took part in an inspiring on-line talk with Yasmine Ouirhrane, Young European of the Year 2019. The two discussed how to foster dialogue and shared strategies on how we can create a society where everyone feels included and safe.

Young European of the Year 2020

Maria Atanasova fights for young Roma's participation in Europe



Every year, the Schwarzkopf Foundation Young Europe, together with the European Youth Forum, awards the prize “Young European of the Year” to a young person who has shown a particularly strong commitment to a Europe of solidarity. This year’s winner, Maria Atanasova (23) from Bulgaria, is fighting for more visibility and participation of young Roma people.

The prize money of €5,000 allows winners to either finance an internship at a European or international institution or carry out their own project. A jury consisting of a representative of the Schwarzkopf Foundation, a representative of the European Commission Representation in Germany, a representative of the European Youth Forum and two former prize-winners determine who receives the prize.

“

As a young Roma woman, I believe in my community and in the fact that young Roma are among those who make a difference. Mutual support within our community is the path to social change. I am delighted to be honoured as Young European of the Year and I would like to use the award to make Roma and especially young Roma in Europe more visible.”

WHAT IS THE SITUATION LIKE FOR YOUNG ROMA IN BULGARIA?

Maria Atanasova: Youths who are usually active strive for better education for Roma kids and other youths. Yet, we still do not have a large number of young people who are engaged in anti-Gypsyism, which is spread all over the country. In Bulgaria, anti-Gypsyism and racism are inherently part of society and politics, which we do not yet feel confident enough to challenge. I think it will take time for more young Roma to be ready to fight for political participation and visibility for their communities.

HAVE YOU HAD TO EXPERIENCE ANTI-GYPSYISM YOURSELF?

Growing up, I was underestimated because of my ethnicity. In high school, a teacher said that I would not be accepted to study at Medical University only because I am a Roma. During high school, I started looking for a job and I was not hired as a waitress because of my skin colour. Luckily, I met other Roma role models who gave me hope and encouragement. This is when I learned more about my identity. Also, meeting other active youths gave me the confidence to believe in myself and I became proud of my origin.

YOU ARE A MENTOR FOR ROMA YOUTH. WHAT DOES THAT MEAN TO YOU?

My idea as a mentor is not only to help the Romani youths achieve higher education. I believe that a mentor should help a mentee develop in the fields he or she is interested in. Some of our youths are

only part of Romani organisations and they are a bit of afraid to participate in other youth organisations where there are non-Roma. I am trying to talk with them about opportunities, programmes, and other activities that they can participate in and encourage them to go out of their comfort zone. That is the only way to grow up and to feel confident that you can achieve whatever you want.

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO YOU TO BE AWARDED AS YOUNG EUROPEAN OF THE YEAR 2020?

First of all, I was very surprised that I was awarded. Looking at all the other incredibly inspiring nominees, I did not expect to win at all. Therefore, I am happy that I was chosen. For me it means that people appreciate my work, pay attention to the Romani cause and all the efforts that we, Romani youths, are doing for our communities to change the situation for Roma people. I am grateful that I can promote our cause and speak out!

WHAT IMPACT DO YOU WANT TO MAKE WITH YOUR ACTIVISM?

I get inspired when I see someone from my community speaking up and representing us. I really hope that I can also be an example for Roma youths. To me, it is important to have a voice and represent Romani youth. We are not well represented and we need more people who are brave – who are ready to speak out and take action. I believe that everyone can do something. Everyone can start from their communities and, together, make society better.

Transparency

About

The Schwarzkopf Foundation, as a non-profit foundation, is financed under civil law through public funds, donations from other organisations/foundations and donations from private individuals/companies. Financial and payroll accounting is carried out by the tax consultants Sozietät Wilming und Kilian. They also prepared the annual financial statement for the year 2020. The office and its tax and legal basis are located in Berlin since 2000.

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Executive Director

Luisa Seiler

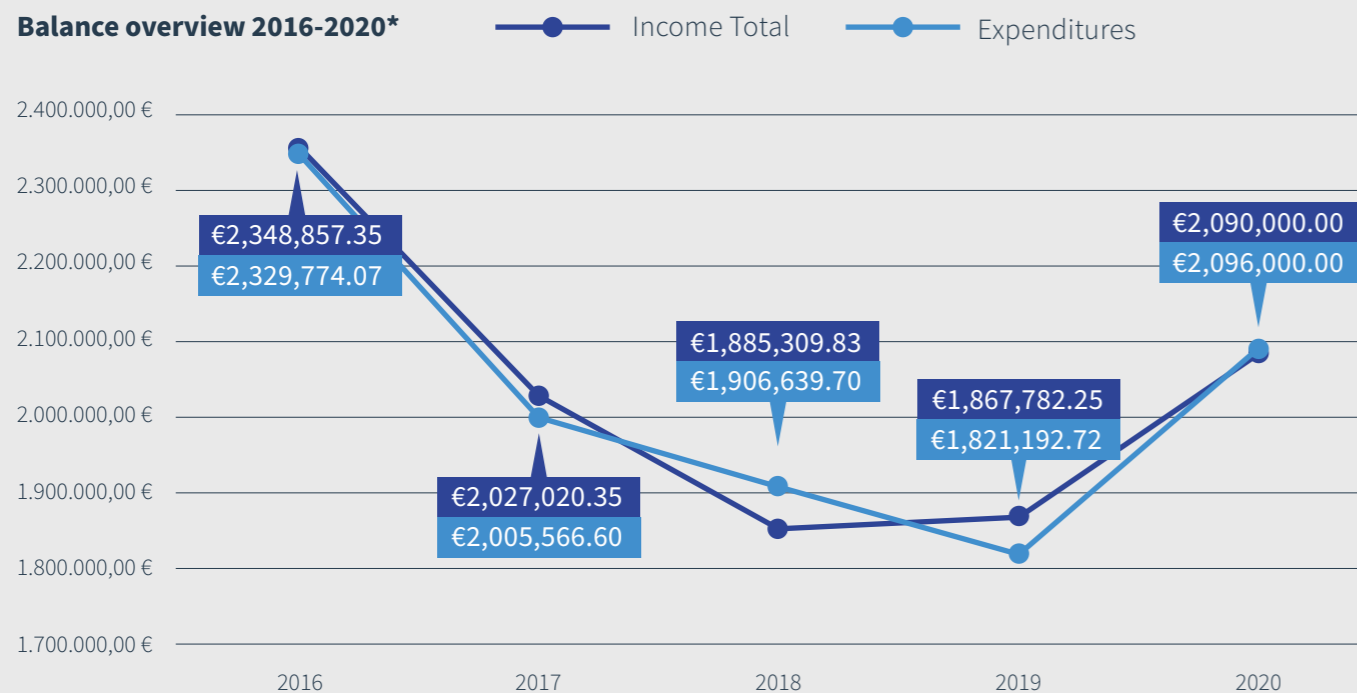
Our charter

www.schwarzkopf-stiftung.de/en/the-foundation

These partners contributed financial funding above 10 percent of the total budget*

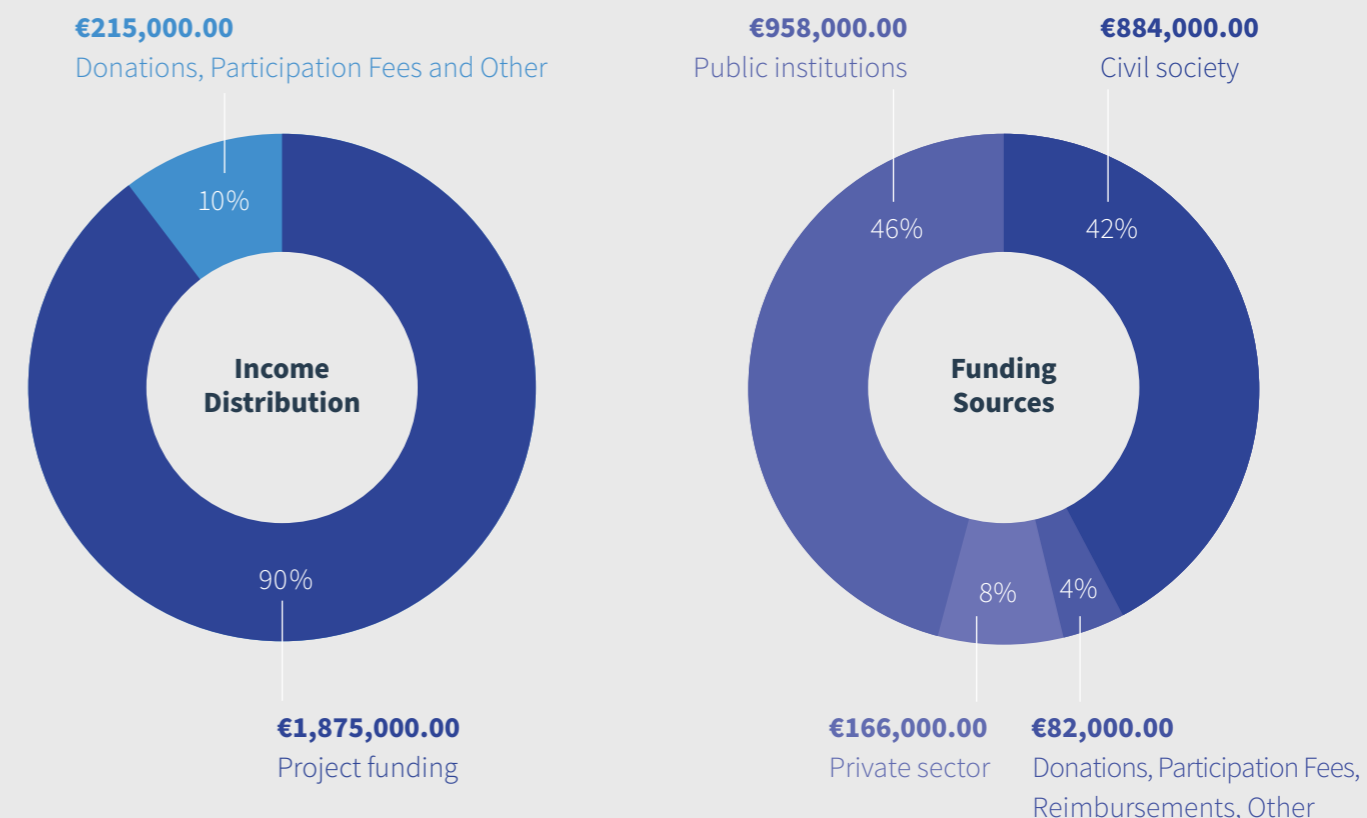
- Mercator Foundation
- German Federal Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth (BMFSFJ) within the framework of the federal programme “Demokratie leben!”
- European Union in the framework of Erasmus+ and Europe for Citizens

Balance overview 2016-2020*



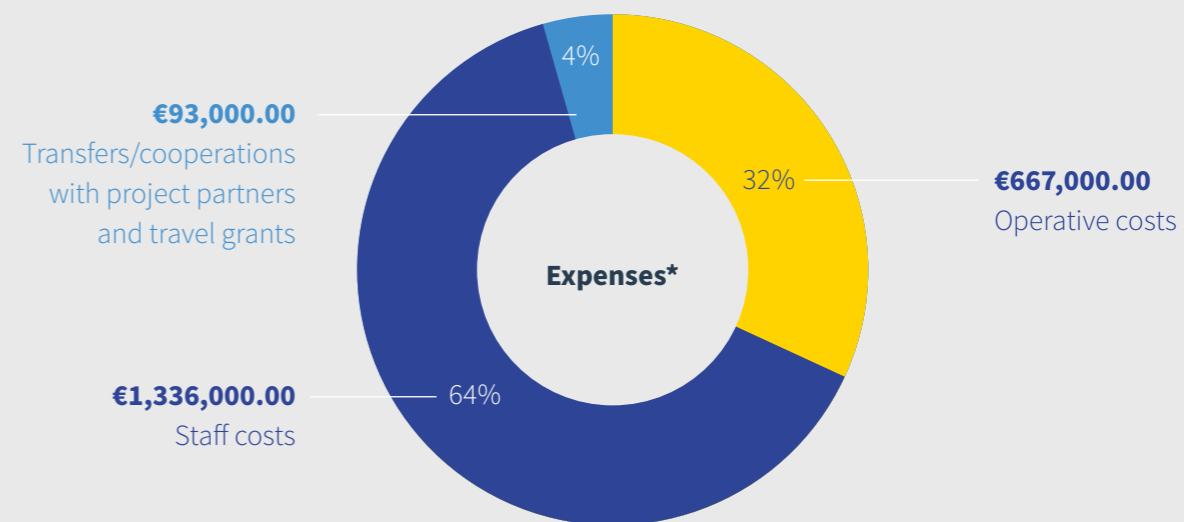
Income**

€2,090,000.00



Expenses*

€2,096,000.00



* The numbers presented in this overview for the financial year 2020 are preliminary and do not represent official numbers that will be available in the annual financial statement.

** The Asset Management for 2020 is predicted to have no significant gain or loss in comparison to 2019.

The Board



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The Circle of Friends

The Circle of Friends of the Schwarzkopf Foundation offers support to the Foundation's work, ensuring its vital functions and bringing different sectors of society closer to the Foundation – including academia, the arts, politics, and the private sector. Those who join the Circle of Friends support the Foundation financially, and thereby give substantial assistance to the Foundation's core business. The Chairperson of the Circle of Friends is Sophie Rois, the Circle is managed by Svenja Kluckow.

Are you interested in joining the Circle of Friends and supporting the Schwarzkopf Foundation? We warmly invite you to get in touch via:



freundeskreis@schwarzkopf-stiftung.de
to find out more.

The Team

Our team takes care of the Foundation's day-to-day business. In close interaction with our target group, we create activities for young Europeans who participate in shaping society. In doing so, we rely on our diverse perspectives within the team and on finding common ground.

									
Batoul Abu-Yahya Project Assistant Communication	Concepta Agoya Trainee Office Management	Anil Altıntaş Project Manager Seminars & Travels	Seren Başoğul Project Manager Young Islam Conference	Sarah Bittner Communication Manager European Youth Parliament	Nicolas Langauer Volunteer Awards & Events	Laura Meijer Project Manager Understanding Europe	Onur Mercan Project Assistant Seminars & Travel Grants	Annik Schepp Project Manager Awards & Events	Tarek Mündelein Project Manager Young Islam Conference
									
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Partners

Our strong partners support us in our work for a youth participatory, pluralistic and democratic Europe. They support us financially, jointly implement projects with us, and act as alliance partners. Thank you!

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Cooperation partners:



Funding partners:



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