

Annual Report 2021

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 2021 were 1.000.150 Euro. The Foundation has legal promises for further donations for the next 3 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 2021, the FLAX Foundation spent 227.727,00 Euro for its awards and for costs related to awards. With award money at 207.000 Euro, versus operating costs at 20.727 Euro, the ratio is acceptable. The planned budget of 330.000 Euro has not been exceeded. The Board members do not receive any remuneration for their activities. Any costs involving them is for actual costs made for participation in public events.

For the Emma Goldman awards, 7 awards have been given - instead of the 5 planned in the Plan 2020-2025. The money has been transferred according to the plans and transfer times agreed between the awardees and the Board.

The 7 Snowball awardees had been chosen in 2020, towards the end, but received the money in early 2021, with the delay caused by the pandemic.

The second award ceremony was organized by the IWM, on the 13th of September 2021, and because the pandemic still made travelling difficult, some awardees and speakers attended the ceremony online. It was attended by a small number of people, as much as possible under Austrian COVID rules.

Organization and decision making

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

Awards, selection, and accountability

In its second year, the FLAX Foundation selected 7 Emma Goldman Awards. The 2020 group of Emma Goldman awardees nominated 7 people Emma Goldman Snowball awards, and the Board considered their nominations and, after deliberation, approved them.

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 had 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. Chosen by the Fellowship Committee at IWM, in 2020 the IWM had awarded a fellowship to Amade M'charek, and to Rossella Ciccina. Due to the Covid situation, only one them was realized in 2020. For 2021, the IWM choose Merav Amir, and Anelis Kaiser Trujillo, but these were also not realised yet in 2021.

Afterword

The COVID pandemic has hindered a smooth operation of the Foundation in 2021, but the main plan has still been realized, although with some delays. We were happy that we could at least have an award ceremony, although hybrid and with less people in the room. The Board decided to give all awardees an extension of a year for the realization of their plans, as everyone's work was disrupted and family situations in lands with strict lockdowns were making all work very difficult.