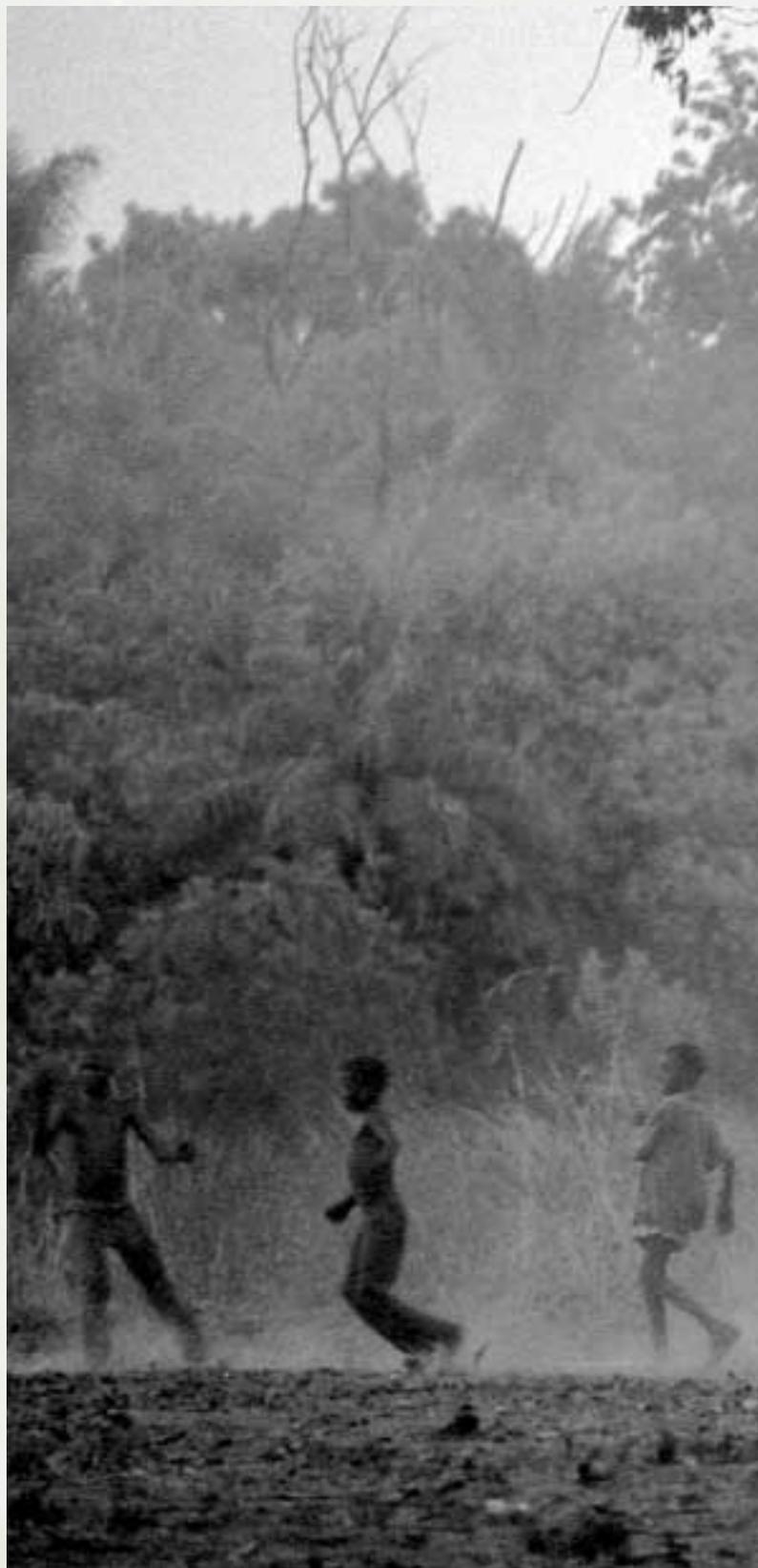


## INTRODUCTION

# *A Global Alliance for Open Society*

The goal of the Soros foundations network throughout the world is to transform closed societies into open ones and to protect and expand the values of existing open societies. In pursuit of this mission, the Open Society Institute (OSI) and the foundations established and supported by George Soros seek to strengthen open society principles and practices against authoritarian regimes and the negative consequences of globalization. The Soros network supports efforts in civil society, education, media, public health, and human and women's rights, as well as social, legal, and economic reform.





Our foundations and programs operate in more than 50 countries in Central and Eastern Europe, the former Soviet Union, Africa, Southeast Asia, Latin America, and the United States.

The Soros foundations network supports the concept of open society, which, at its most fundamental level, is based on the recognition that people act on imperfect knowledge and that no one is in possession of the ultimate truth. In practice, an open society is characterized by the rule of law; respect for human rights, minorities, and minority opinions; democratically elected governments; a market economy in which business and government are separate; and a thriving civil society.

During most of the 1990s, the Soros foundations network developed in the former Soviet empire, helping countries in transition from authoritarian rule build open, democratic societies. Over the past several years, we have expanded our geographical horizons to other parts of the world. Together with partners that share our principles and goals, the network is laying the foundation for a truly global alliance for open society.

## ABOUT OUR DONOR PARTNERSHIPS

As the network evolves and expands its global agenda, partnerships with other donors are becoming ever more significant in making possible the work described in our annual reports. In some instances, these partnerships involve explicit agreements with other donors to share costs. At other times, they take place informally when another donor determines to support a project we initiated or, conversely, when we build upon another donor's initiative. In a relatively small number of cases, other donors contribute directly to one of the Soros foundations in support of a particular project.

Our donor partners include:

- *intergovernmental bodies* such as the World Bank, the World Health Organization (WHO), UNAIDS, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), the International Finance Corporation, the United Nations Development Program, the Council of Europe, and the European Commission;

- *national government aid agencies*, including the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), Britain's Department for International Development (DFID), the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA), the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), the Dutch MATRA program, the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), the German Foreign Ministry, and a number of Austrian government agencies, including the ministries of education and foreign affairs, that operate bilaterally;
- *American private foundations* such as Ford, MacArthur, Bill and Melinda Gates, Casey, C.S. Mott, and Atlantic, the Irene Diamond Fund, Carnegie Corporation, American Austrian Foundation, and the German Marshall Fund;
- *European private foundations* such as the King Baudouin Foundation, the Rausing Trust, the Freudenberg Stiftung, the European Cultural Foundation, and the German political party-affiliated foundations;
- *European and American institutions* that administer assistance funds that they obtain from their governments such as the Swedish Helsinki Committee, Press Now (Dutch), NOVIB (Dutch) and the Eurasia Foundation (American), and the International Nazi Persecutee Relief Fund (American, French, British);
- *and national governments* in several countries that cofund programs sponsored by our foundations in those countries, especially in education.

Though it is not possible here to enumerate all our funding partners and all the projects on which collaborations have taken place, a few examples may be noted. World Bank loans support many education programs launched by the foundations network. For several years, OSI's Network Media Program has collaborated with USAID, the European Commission, the Swedish Helsinki Committee, Press Now, MedienHilfe (Switzerland), Norwegian People's Aid, Swiss, British, and Danish gov-

ernment funders, the National Endowment for Democracy and IREX of the United States in supporting the development of independent media in the Balkans and other areas. In the case of the Swedish Helsinki Committee, our collaboration in the Balkans has extended to other civil society organizations.

The King Baudouin Foundation of Belgium has played an important part in making possible a number of joint programs in Europe improving ethnic relations and promoting services for street children. DFID is a major supporter of harm reduction in Russia and USAID is comparably significant in financing a range of supportive services to prevent the spread of HIV among drug users in Central Asia. Ford and MacArthur joined with OSI in supporting the establishment of a Russian language training program in human rights advocacy operated by the Polish Helsinki Foundation for Human Rights.

The Irene Diamond Fund, together with the Open Society Institute, launched a funders' collaborative on gun control in the United States that has attracted a number of other donors. The U.S. Department of State, the British Foreign and Commonwealth Office, and the Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst (Germany) supported scholarship programs administered by OSI.

The Carnegie Corporation and the Gates Foundation joined with OSI in a five-year program to reform and restructure New York City public high schools. In addition, together with Ford, C.S. Mott, the Rockefeller Brothers Fund, and the German Marshall Fund, OSI created the Trust for Civil Society in Central and Eastern Europe to promote the development of civil society in the region; and with USAID to create the Baltic-American Partnership Fund to support the development of civil society in the three Baltic countries.

The Open Society Institute and all the Soros foundations in different parts of the world are deeply grateful to all our funding partners. We regret greatly that it is not possible here to properly acknowledge all of them. Nevertheless, we extend our thanks to them for their role in building open societies and for the trust in the Soros foundations and in our grantees reflected by their support.

## ABOUT OUR NGO PARTNERSHIPS

Another form of partnership is also of enormous importance to the Soros foundations: the relationships we have developed with a number of grantees that we regard as our allies in pursuing crucial parts of the open society agenda.

These partners include:

- International Crisis Group for its research and advocacy in addressing armed conflicts and other crises in international relations;
- Human Rights Watch for its leadership in protecting civil and political rights worldwide;
- European Roma Rights Center for its defense of the rights of a minority that is severely persecuted in many countries;
- Media Development Loan Fund and the Southern Africa Media Development Fund for their role in assisting independent media to develop as self-sustaining businesses;
- Vera Institute of Justice for its innovative efforts to pursue criminal justice reform programs in such countries as Russia, South Africa, and the United States;
- Global Witness for its investigations of the connections between resource exploitation, corruption, the arms trade, and severe abuses of human rights;
- Center for Public Integrity for promoting transparency in government and for its exposures of corruption;
- local chapters of Transparency International for their work with Soros foundations on anticorruption measures;
- Medecins Sans Frontieres, the AIDS Foundation East/West, Doctors of the World, and Partners in Health for their efforts in addressing crucial public health emergencies that are often connected to abuses of human rights;
- Brennan Center for its intellectual leadership in devising legal approaches in addressing issues of civil liberties and democracy in the United States;
- Mental Disability Rights International, the Hamlet

Trust, and the Mental Disability Advocacy Center for their protection of the rights of the mentally disabled;

- Penal Reform International for its worldwide efforts to reduce incarceration and protect the rights of prison inmates;
- Sentencing Project, which has been at the forefront of efforts in the United States to reduce excessive imprisonment;
- International Women’s Health Coalition for its work protecting and expanding reproductive health education and services around the world;
- Center for Global Development for promoting policies dealing with international development assistance;
- and a great many others.

The pages of this and previous annual reports also mention numerous independent organizations that were created by OSI or that spun off from OSI or Soros foundation programs. They continue to have our support as they seek other resources to become self-sustaining.

We have attempted not only to support the work of these organizations but also to build their institutional strength in the recognition that they will outlast the Soros foundations network. We want them to be able to play a role in promoting the values of open society long after the Open Society Institute itself ceases to operate.

All of these institutions obtain support from many donors. In many cases, the funding we provide is only a small fraction of their total revenue. The support they obtain from multiple donors enhances their independence and, of course, helps to ensure their long-term survival as institutions that can help to build open societies.

## ABOUT THE SOROS FOUNDATIONS NETWORK

The Soros foundations network includes Soros foundations covering more than 50 countries, network programs supporting the work of those foundations, U.S. programs, and other international initiatives—as well as the Open Society Institute and its offices. The Soros foundations are autonomous institutions established in

particular countries or regions to initiate and support open society activities. The priorities and specific activities of each Soros foundation are determined by a local board of directors and staff in consultation with George Soros and OSI boards and advisors.

The Soros foundations consist of national foundations in 29 countries, foundations in Kosovo and Montenegro, and two regional foundations, the Open Society Initiative for Southern Africa and the Open Society Initiative for West Africa. The two regional foundations, which are governed by their own boards of directors and staffs from the region, make grants in 27 African countries.

To varying degrees, all of the Soros foundations participate in network programs. These programs address specific issues—public health, media, and early childhood education, for example—on a network-wide basis. Most of the network programs are administered by the Open Society Institute in New York or the Open Society Institute–Budapest and are implemented in cooperation with Soros foundations in various countries.

The Soros foundations network also includes programs that focus on the United States; other international programs that deal with issues of global significance or benefit countries where no Soros foundation exists; Central European University; and OSI offices in Brussels, Paris, and Washington, D.C., as well as Budapest and New York.

## ABOUT GEORGE SOROS

George Soros is president and chairman of Soros Fund Management, a private investment management firm. He was born in Budapest, Hungary, in 1930. He emigrated in 1947 to England, where he graduated from the London School of Economics, and in 1956 to the United States, where he accumulated a large fortune through his investment activities. He began his foundation network in 1979 with the establishment of the Open Society Fund in New York.

Soros has received honorary doctoral degrees from the New School for Social Research, Oxford University, the

Budapest University of Economics, and Yale University. His awards include the Laurea Honoris Causa from the University of Bologna in 1995 in recognition of his efforts to promote open societies throughout the world.

In addition to writing many articles on the political and economic changes in Central and Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union, Soros is the author of seven books, including *The Alchemy of Finance* (1987), *Underwriting Democracy* (1991), *Soros on Soros: Staying Ahead of the Curve* (1995), and *Open Society: Reforming Global Capitalism* (2000). His most recent book, published in March 2002, is *George Soros on Globalization*.

## ABOUT THIS REPORT

*Building Open Societies* for 2001 reflects the shift in focus from transition to globalization by presenting the network's activities by geographic regions and overall program categories. The introductions attempt to add perspective to the wide range of problems and approaches that are described in more detail in separate entries for each foundation and program. Inevitably, there is repetition in the discussion of issues and priorities from one entry to another. Still, given the size of the network, this report can only give a broad overview of individual foundation or program activities. To obtain more detailed information, contact the organization or program in question at the address or number provided in the directory at the end of this report, or visit the network's website at [www.soros.org](http://www.soros.org).

## ABOUT 2001 EXPENDITURES

In 2001, the Soros foundations network's expenditures totaled \$452,666,000. Some of these funds were contributed by George Soros out of current income while other funds were derived from charitable entities established by the Soros family. Some organizations in the network also received funds from the U.S. government (particularly for scholarships) and from other donors, which are included in the relevant organization's expenditures as reported here. The Soros foundations network's total expenditures are summarized below.

*Soros foundations.* The Regional Reports section contains an entry for each Soros foundation, including a chart that outlines the foundation's 2001 expenditures in various categories. Payments made by the Open Society Institute, the Open Society Institute–Budapest, or other entities on behalf of the Soros foundations for network programs or other activities are included in these charts. At the end of the Regional Reports section is a chart showing the total expenditures for the Soros foundations.

*Network programs.* The Program Reports contain an expenditures line at the end of each entry and a total expenditures chart at the end of the section. The expenditures include money spent by individual Soros foundations as well as by the Open Society Institute or the Open Society Institute–Budapest.

The goal of presenting the data in this manner is to show the total amount of money expended in a particular country or region, as well as the total amount spent on a particular program. The resulting duplication of amounts is reflected as an interorganizational elimination in the chart on this page. In addition, other Soros-sponsored organizations made grants in some countries outside the framework of the Soros foundations or network programs. These are noted in the section of the report dealing with the country in question.

Soros foundations network expenditures peaked in 1998 at \$574.7 million. For the next several years, it is expected that expenditures will remain at the current level of \$450 million annually.

### Total Soros Foundations

**Network Expenditures** \$452,666,000 ►

Soros Foundations	186,768,000
Network Programs	119,765,000
Other International Programs	16,494,000
Central European University	22,173,000
U.S. Programs	103,072,000
All Other Organizations, Programs, and Costs	53,033,000
Interorganizational Elimination	(48,639,000)

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

# *Seizing Opportunities to Expand Open Society*

Two long-term trends in the evolution of the Soros foundations network gained momentum during the past year: geographic expansion and increased engagement in direct efforts to influence public policy.

The establishment of a representative office in Turkey and preparatory efforts to launch a similar initiative in Peru were among the steps taken in the direction of geographic expansion during 2001. Though these representative offices lack





the autonomy of the national and regional Soros foundations established in other parts of the world, they retain an essential characteristic of the network—the reliance on local expertise to guide funding operations. A Turkish advisory board is already in place, and a similar body is planned in Peru.

OSI's initiative in Turkey has one feature that is distinctive and that we hope will serve as a model for operations in some other countries. All of the office's grant-making is done in partnership with Turkish donors. So far, this collaborative effort is working well. We have found Turkish foundations and wealthy individuals ready to join in supporting independent media, cultural programs for ethnic minorities, a public policy center concerned with European integration, gun control, and other projects.

During 2002, OSI is exploring opportunities to launch operations in Mexico, the Latin American country in addition to Peru where a political transition in the direction of openness is now taking place. Given the development of philanthropy in Mexico and the commitment to open society values by some Mexican donors, we believe OSI may be able to enter into funding partnerships similar to those pioneered in Turkey.

The year 2001 was also a period of consolidation for two foundations established the previous year: the Open Society Initiative for West Africa (OSIWA) and Tifa, the independent foundation we are supporting in Indonesia. Both foundations enlisted new executive directors, launched significant funding programs, and began to make their mark. They operate in turbulent territories where contributing to the development of open societies is both extraordinarily difficult and crucially important. Among the challenges they face are trying to be effective in regions where religious conflicts—northern Nigeria in the case of OSIWA and in the Maluku in the case of Indonesia—are being played out in a world transformed by the events of September 11.

## BUILDING OPEN SOCIETIES IN MUSLIM COUNTRIES

It is worth noting that, by now, about one-third of the countries in which the Soros foundations network is active have large or predominantly Muslim populations. In addition to Turkey, Indonesia, and several countries in West Africa, these include five of the countries in Central Asia and the Caucasus where we have national Soros foundations; Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, and Kosovo in the Balkans; and a few Middle Eastern countries where the Open Society Institute has undertaken modest funding programs.

Also, starting in late 2001, OSI launched a funding program in Afghanistan in the hope of contributing to the development of a more open society. Our efforts there focus on making it possible for diaspora Afghans with professional skills to join in rebuilding the country, promoting the rights of women, protecting human rights, and launching independent media. We hope to ensure that religion is not a dividing line between open and closed societies.

Necessarily, our expenditures on new initiatives in regions where we have not been active previously must be matched by reductions in costs elsewhere. Cuts are taking place primarily in the countries of Central Europe that are slated for early admission to the European Union. Those countries are succeeding politically and economically. The criteria for admission to the European Union also provide incentives to address issues of concern to OSI, such as protection of the rights of minorities. We believe we can spend less in those countries, because they are firmly on the path toward becoming open societies and their further progress will be aided by EU accession.

Also, a few of the foundations in the region, most notably the Stefan Batory Foundation in Poland, have made headway in diversifying their funding. They now obtain significant support from other donors.

We are not withdrawing completely from Central Europe. Some programs will continue in order for them to develop and meet their objectives. These include programs for children and youth, such as the Debate Program and

the Step by Step early childhood education program, that we have attempted to implant in the educational systems of their countries. Other programs, such as those that address discrimination against Roma or the treatment of the mentally ill, are being maintained, because they involve segments of the population whose rights often are neglected even in the most open societies.

### ENGAGING IN PUBLIC POLICY DEBATES

Among examples of the shift toward direct engagement in public policy debates are the work of the European Union Accession Monitoring Program; the Bosnia and Herzegovina foundation's compilation of a report on *Lessons (Not) Learned* assessing international assistance to Bosnia and Herzegovina; and OSI's reestablishment of a Washington, D.C., office.

The EU Accession Monitoring Program published two book-length reports in 2001: one assessing minority protection in 10 countries that are candidates for accession; the other examining independence of the judiciary in those countries. The first two reports will be followed by a report on anticorruption efforts in the 10 countries and another on equality of women and men. The purpose is to call attention to shortcomings that the European Union may address in the accession process and, thereby, to heighten pressure in the candidate countries to work on those issues. Inevitably, publication of the reports sparked controversy in a number of the countries that were the focus of critical assessments.

While the EU Accession Monitoring Program was initiated by OSI centrally, the Open Society Fund–Bosnia and Herzegovina itself conceived and launched its critique of international assistance since the Dayton peace accords in December 1995 ended the war that ravaged that country. According to the report, in the six years since Dayton, the international community spent \$46–53 billion in assistance to Bosnia and Herzegovina. The expenditures included funds for refugees and the cost of maintaining peacekeeping troops in the country. While much was accomplished in the form of repairs to the country's devastated infrastructure, much of the funding was misspent. To the

best of our knowledge, the report is the most serious effort undertaken anywhere to examine international assistance from the standpoint of the intended beneficiaries.

The Open Society Institute decided to reestablish a Washington office in the aftermath of September 11. We then determined that OSI should address violations of civil liberties in the United States and increase our policy and advocacy work in the areas of criminal and civil justice reform. OSI is expanding its network to advocate for open society issues wherever they arise. In addition, we are building a framework to influence debates over global economic policies, such as those involving international development assistance.

OSI also plans to expand its Brussels office, which represents the Soros foundations network in dealing with the European Union and its member states. We want to enhance the office's ability to address policy issues of a global nature and to promote funding partnerships in Africa as well as in the former Soviet bloc countries where the Soros foundations network developed in the 1980s and 1990s and where the largest share of our expenditures are made.

Though much is changing in the Soros foundations network, as readers of this report will recognize, much more continues along the same course as in years past. It remains a network united by the personality and vision of its founder and funder, by the common mission of promoting the development of open societies, and by a reliance on local knowledge and judgment in making funding decisions, and local skills and commitment in carrying out programs.

Aryeh Neier

May 2002

## REGIONAL REPORTS

# *Central Eurasia*

The September 11 terrorist attacks and the U.S.-led military campaign in Afghanistan turned the spotlight on the Central Asian states of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan. Thousands of journalists descended on Central Asia, the home of new U.S. military bases and the staging areas for the campaign against Al Qaeda and the Taliban. The Central Asian states were propelled from their relative obscurity to a new level of prominence on the international scene.

The increased visibility rescued the region from donor fatigue that resulted from a reversal of democratic and





economic reforms and a decade of unfulfilled promise for transition. A new perception of the region's potential as a seedbed for terrorism brought about a redoubling of efforts to assist transition by Western governments. The impact of this intensified financial, diplomatic, and military engagement is still unclear. However, the region's new prominence created a welcome opportunity to promote open society and long-term, rights-based solutions to mitigate terrorism and other social ills.

Many states in the region have been slow to pursue reform. The government of Kyrgyzstan, which once provided widespread protection of human rights, reversed its position dramatically in 2001, imposing draconian restrictions on the independent media, jailing political opposition leaders, harassing NGOs, and using disproportionate force to disburse some of the growing number of public demonstrations and hunger strikes. Varying degrees of censorship or self-censorship continued to restrict or eliminate public debate on some issues, such as government accountability, corruption, and social ills.

Armed conflicts in Georgia and Tajikistan remained unresolved, depriving relief to displaced populations and the overwhelming numbers of people who live in poverty. The situation of Nagorno-Karabakh brought acute disappointment as a peace process that appeared to be gaining momentum throughout the spring ended abruptly, raising the specter of resumed conflict and continued isolation for the region.

Against this backdrop of stagnation, repression, and generally poor governance, the countries of the region have also had to cope with the rise of sweeping transnational threats to social stability and well-being, such as drug trafficking and the spread of HIV and AIDS. The drug trade has increasingly filled the economic vacuum that private enterprise cannot yet fill. It has heightened criminality, increased incarceration in already overcrowded prisons, fueled rampant corruption, and caused due process violations and discrimination against women.

Experts agree that HIV and AIDS, which still have a relatively low prevalence in the South Caucasus and Central Asia, are poised to explode as they have in Russia

and other countries with similar social infrastructure and public health approaches. The epidemic is likely to spread particularly rapidly throughout the region because it is transmitted overwhelmingly through injecting drug use that follows drug trafficking routes westward to Europe.

The handling of the related issues of drug trafficking and HIV and AIDS typifies the often contradictory involvement of the international community when faced with such problems. Finding that the response to this challenge by major international organizations has focused overwhelmingly on interdiction efforts, the Central Eurasia Project has moved to recast the problem from one defined solely as a security issue to one that encompasses humane and pragmatic solutions as well. The Central Eurasia Project, in cooperation with the OSI Network Women's Program, the International Harm Reduction Development program, and national Soros foundations, has conducted research and a number of meetings to this end, ultimately releasing a report on the topic, entitled *Narcotics Interdiction in Afghanistan and Central Asia: Challenges for International Assistance*. Advocacy efforts are ongoing to advance alternative solutions to this complex problem.

The Open Society Institute and the nine Soros foundations in Central Asia and neighboring countries increased their efforts in 2001 to promote open society institutions and practices as the only way to guarantee lasting peace and stability. Many of OSI's network programs are now working in the region, as the program reports starting on page 100 describe. The Central Eurasia Project (see next page) expanded its activities into Afghanistan and other countries that do not have a Soros foundation or OSI office.

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**The following reports from the region include the activities of the Central Eurasia Project and the Soros foundations in Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, Tajikistan, Turkey, and Uzbekistan.**

## CENTRAL EURASIA PROJECT

Against this backdrop of social and economic weakness and increased international attention, the Central Eurasia Project (CEP) strived to make more and better information about the human, social, and economic health of the South Caucasus and Central Asia available within the region and internationally. It also expanded its geographic mandate to encompass Afghanistan, where grantmaking intensified throughout the fall, and Turkey, where the Open Society Assistance Foundation–Turkey opened in the summer of 2001.

The OSI presence in Turkey takes advantage of the new opportunities presented by the prospect of Turkey's application for membership in the European Union. While the network's expansion into the Middle East was already underway in 2001, the events of September 11 only underscored the importance of advancing women's rights, human rights, political openness, and access to justice.

To keep pace with the generally worsening situation in the region, the Central Eurasia Project used its grantmaking to international and indigenous NGOs to help build local capacity, bring international expertise to bear, and promote the integration of local social movements into the international sphere. The goal is to strengthen civic leaders in the region and construct safety nets for them within international structures and movements.

The CEP also introduced a new policy dimension into its traditional activities in 2001: the Eurasia Policy Forum. The Forum's research and meetings have helped stimulate fresh thinking about how the U.S. government and international donors can mitigate overwhelming social problems facing the region, such as drug trafficking and the spread of HIV and AIDS. The Eurasia Policy Forum also launched a research and policy program called Caspian Revenue Watch to explore the problems of energy and governance in the oil-rich countries of the region.

The Central Eurasia Project moved quickly in the wake of the September terrorist attacks to provide timely, field-based analytical information about Central Asia to

international donors and diplomats who were suddenly forced to revisit their policies toward the region. It doubled its output of analysis on the pages of its website, EurasiaNet.org (<http://www.eurasianet.org>), improving resources for the general public and hundreds of journalists who were suddenly deployed to the region.

On the policy level, it held informational briefings for congressional staffers and Washington, D.C.–based policy centers and helped them identify experts on the state of civil society in the region. The CEP also initiated a discussion within the U.S. Department of State and other U.S. donor agencies about promoting civil society in Central Asia as an integral antiterrorism strategy. As an outgrowth of that meeting, the CEP set up an NGO/donor listserv and D.C.-based working group to promote coordinated support for this initiative.

In 2001, the Central Eurasia Project, through its well-established Open Forum series, hosted some 30 events on the South Caucasus and Central Asia to bring diverse information and perspectives to audiences in New York and Washington, D.C., addressing issues ranging from cultural developments to human rights problems.

In response to the shifting political landscape of the region, the Central Eurasia Project increasingly turned its attention in 2001 to helping understand these countries in their regional context. In addition to the work in Turkey and Afghanistan, it promoted academic and professional contacts with Iran and an improved U.S.-Iranian political dialogue as well as developing a grants program in Jordan, Palestine, and the Arab Middle East. Finally, the Central Eurasia Project helped foster improved integration and coordination of the region's Soros foundations with each other, with international donors, and with OSI's network programs.

**2001 Expenditures**

**\$2,290,000 ▶**

## OPEN SOCIETY INSTITUTE ASSISTANCE FOUNDATION—ARMENIA

The political situation in Armenia in 2001 was largely shaped by a deepening political struggle, inconsistent and deadlocked negotiations with Azerbaijan over the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict, and questions about where Armenia would stand in the new global political realities following the terrorist attacks of September 11. A mild economic recovery and the creation of new jobs in 2001 did little to improve conditions for the majority of Armenians and the high rate of emigration continued to plague Armenia. Democratic progress came with increased efforts by the government to gain membership in the Council of Europe (CoE), which gave the Open Society Institute Assistance Foundation—Armenia and its civil society programs an increasingly important role in Armenian public life.

Criminal justice reform is a CoE priority and the Foundation worked jointly with the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) to support retraining of penitentiary staff and to implement CoE standards for incarceration. CoE norms for media legislation and access to information coincided with efforts by OSIAF—Armenia’s institutional partner, the Yerevan Press Club, to harmonize media and broadcast legislation with European standards. Legal education projects prioritized by the Foundation developed curricula and trained lawyers in areas of international law crucial to CoE membership.

OSIAF—Armenia also contributed to the development of new education and information technology policies in 2001. The recently launched Higher Education Support Program helped facilitate two key education reforms: the introduction of a credit-based higher education system and the development of educational standards for the humanities and social sciences. The World Bank, the United States Information Service, the Open Society Institute, and the Ministry of Education continued to recognize and support the Community School and Regional TeleCenter models,

which introduced information communication technology, including computers and Internet connections, to secondary schools and high schools. The long-term goal is to have this technology provide long distance education services to local communities.

During the year, integration of various programmatic areas improved, and OSI network programs increased their cooperation in Armenia. The Information Program and Arts and Culture Network Program, for example, collaborated to create Internet portals for increasing access to information on education, human rights, and media issues. The new websites have already become a clearing-house for educators, members of NGOs, and journalists.

Increased cooperation among programs also led to greater dialogue on a regional level. A regional workshop organized by the East East Program brought a regional dimension to the Media Program’s legislative and policy initiatives by examining how Armenia was dealing with public broadcast issues such as licensing, privatization, and government control in comparison to countries in the West and Eastern Europe.

For the countries of the region, the issues of cooperation at all levels of society and the opening up of closed societies in the conflict zones are of vital importance. Discussions involving Armenia, Azerbaijan, and Georgia started at the OSI Regional Strategy Briefing in Yerevan in June and yielded a firm commitment to increase regional cooperation in the South Caucasus.

<b>2001 Expenditures</b>	<b>\$1,889,000 ▶</b>
Civil Society	95,000
Culture	153,000
East East	61,000
Economic Reform	3,000
Education	605,000
Information	241,000
Law	120,000
Media	109,000
Public Health	171,000
Women’s Programs	54,000

Youth Programs	64,000
Other Programs	58,000
Administration	154,000

NOTE: The financial information presented above includes \$5,500 funded by non-Soros entities, principally in Law. Other Soros-supported organizations made grants in Armenia totaling \$182,176, principally in Education, Law, and Public Health; these grants are not included above.

## OPEN SOCIETY INSTITUTE ASSISTANCE FOUNDATION—AZERBAIJAN

Azerbaijan's accession to the Council of Europe (CoE) in January 2001 was a major achievement and boosted government interest in reforms and pursuing peace. Yet negotiations between Azerbaijan and Armenia about the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict, facilitated by the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), had made little progress by year's end. The plight of Azerbaijani refugees from Nagorno-Karabakh and surrounding areas became more difficult with the eruption of new crises elsewhere, which led many international organizations to reduce or withdraw humanitarian aid to Azerbaijan. Since the September 11 terrorist attacks in the United States, Azerbaijan's membership in the "coalition against terror" has brought the promise of needed relief. Direct U.S. government assistance, for example, is likely to increase in 2002 due to President Bush's waiving of Azerbaijan's inclusion in 1992 legislation limiting government aid to certain countries.

Council of Europe membership had a notable impact in several areas, particularly freedom of expression. Media monitoring and recommendations by European experts and the CoE helped reduce government pressure on the media. The Open Society Institute Assistance

Foundation—Azerbaijan helped Azerbaijani newspapers gain access to other regional information sources and international outlets such as Reuters, as well as legal assistance to defend journalists' rights. With cofunding from a number of journalists' organizations, OSIAF—Azerbaijan awarded a grant to the Yeni Nesil Association to establish a Journalists' Assistance Fund, which will provide legal support to protect journalists from harassment and allow them to carry out their work.

The Law Program responded to CoE membership by funding training for Azerbaijani NGOs and lawyers on European law and legal practices. The Women's Program partnered with the OSCE and CoE to develop women's leadership and capacity building for women's NGOs. The Arts and Culture Network Program cooperated with the Council on cultural policy projects that familiarized young people with web design and media development and provided training seminars in arts management. OSIAF—Azerbaijan helped host a CoE cultural policy review team that will produce a national report on cultural policy.

The most important achievement in education in 2001 was the establishment of a network of local education reform NGOs. The Ganja Education Information Center expanded its activities and services, as did the centers in Mingechevir and Lenkoran. Work continued on establishing an information and resource center in the Nakhchivan Autonomous Region. The Step by Step Program made further progress throughout Azerbaijan, reaching thousands of children in more than 180 kindergarten and primary school classrooms. The Program also established eight training centers in kindergartens and elementary schools and provided preservice teacher training at three Baku institutes. The Debate Program encouraged critical thinking and public discussion of key issues by providing structured debate training and activities for over 1,500 young people and training for 87 grade school and university debate instructors.

Over the last several years, the Information Program has extended Internet access and training to 8,500 people.

In 2001, the Program began organizing website design and web system administration training. OSIAF–Azerbaijan’s Internet center helped develop 30 websites providing comprehensive information on Azerbaijani geography, education, media, arts, and NGOs. Another 50 websites will be created in 2002 through the Internet Start-Up Kit project. Internet training centers in Ganja, Mingchevir, and Lenkoran have provided computing services for approximately 2,500 people.

The Foundation, along with the International Research Exchanges Board (IREX) and Relief International, plans to continue expanding access through its recently launched Regional Community Information Centers project, which creates community information centers in regional public libraries and encourages communities to gradually take responsibility for their information needs.

2001 Expenditures	\$3,339,000 ▶
Civil Society	86,000
Conference & Travel	19,000
Criminal Justice	8,000
Culture	175,000
East East	105,000
Economic Reform	30,000
Education	946,000
Information	632,000
Law	189,000
Media	132,000
Public Administration	14,000
Public Health	210,000
Women’s Programs	173,000
Youth Programs	166,000
Administration	454,000

NOTE: Other Soros-supported organizations made grants in Azerbaijan totaling \$300,038, principally in Education, Law, and Media; these grants are not included above.

## OPEN SOCIETY GEORGIA FOUNDATION

In 2001, the Open Society Georgia Foundation (OSGF) continued implementing programs to develop civil society and improve public life in Georgia and in the region. The Foundation’s 17 national and 13 network programs effectively cooperated with local and regional partners to promote open society with a special focus on anticorruption, education, public health, regional collaboration, and conflict resolution initiatives.

The country’s Anticorruption Council, chaired by Georgia’s president, Eduard Shevardnadze, began carrying out an ambitious program supported by OSGF. In addition to the president, the Council consists of journalists and representatives from NGOs active in anticorruption efforts. Its first official public report identified government agencies that have not implemented anticorruption measures. The Foundation was engaged in anticorruption efforts throughout the year by assisting NGOs responsible for monitoring the program’s progress.

OSGF supported student self-government elections at Tbilisi State University. Students elected a self-governing body to better ensure the transparency of the university budget and the effective functioning of the administration.

Another development in the area of education was the conclusion of the Foundation’s Megaproject after four years of promoting progressive change in the Georgian education system. As part of the Megaproject, the Step by Step Program was active in more than 200 primary-level classrooms, including classrooms in conflict regions. The Megaproject helped establish parent-teacher associations in Georgian schools and a decentralization pilot model for the education system. Textbook reform will continue into 2002, adding 19 new texts to the project’s 22 existing publications and extending the reform of education content to all school disciplines.

OSGF also collaborated with the European Council to produce a report on the future of higher education in Georgia that was discussed and approved by the Georgian Parliament in December. The Foundation’s Social Science

Support Program developed 13 new lecture courses that will become part of university sociology, political science, and international relations curricula.

The Foundation collaborated with NATO to supply technical resources to establish the Caucasian Internet Network (CARENA), which will seek to consolidate existing educational and research resources in the Caucasus republics.

Through the Public Health Program, the Open Medical Club conducted training sessions in several regions in Georgia and provided the medical community with information and knowledge gained by physicians at international seminars in clinical pediatrics.

In the Caucasus region, OSGF focused on collaboration and conflict resolution. The Foundation continued to work with the European Council on the production of a new textbook, *History of Caucasian Nations*. At meetings at the end of 2001, historians from Georgia, Armenia, and Azerbaijan, in collaboration with European Council experts, proved that consensus and a fair presentation of the region's history is possible despite its complexity and long-standing conflicts. The book will be published in early 2002.

Promoting open society principles in the conflict areas of Sukhumi, Tskhinvali, and Akhaltsikhe remained crucial for OSGF, which opened offices in these areas in 2001. During the year, the Sukhumi and Tskhinvali offices approved 48 projects, mostly in the arts and culture. The Akhaltsikhe office operates as an international student advising center.

A strategy for collaboration among Soros foundations in the region was developed during several meetings of executive directors and board members from the Georgian, Armenian, and Azerbaijani foundations in 2001. Similar meetings are planned for 2002, when the foundations will launch several regional projects.

<b>2001 Expenditures</b>	<b>\$5,532,000</b> ▶
Civil Society	102,000
Culture	234,000
East East	37,000

Economic Reform	179,000
Education	2,689,000
Information	398,000
Law	319,000
Media	54,000
Public Administration	199,000
Public Health	199,000
Women's Programs	78,000
Youth Programs	133,000
Other Programs	278,000
Administration	633,000

NOTE: The financial information presented above includes \$265,978 funded by non-Soros entities, principally in Education. Other Soros-supported organizations made grants in Georgia totaling \$923,953, principally in Education, Human Rights, and Law; these grants are not included above.

## SOROS FOUNDATION—KAZAKHSTAN

The Soros Foundation–Kazakhstan seeks to respond to the political changes within the country while continuing to promote international standards for civil society and good governance. In 2001, policymaking, arts and culture for youth, public health, women's issues, and education were priorities for the Foundation as it expanded its role in supporting open society and democratic reforms.

The Foundation supported the establishment of the Public Policy Research Center, Kazakhstan's first independent NGO, which will function as a public policy think-tank. The Center will carry out independent research, propose alternative solutions to current problems, enhance communication between government and the public, and provide resources and support for policymakers and researchers in Kazakhstan and the region.

A number of programs continued to work on increasing regional cooperation in 2001. The Arts and Culture Network Program held the third international festival for

film schools and young filmmakers in September in Almaty. In addition to screening new work, the festival offered master classes in cinematography and other areas of the arts.

Harm reduction efforts increased through a joint project between USAID and OSI's International Harm Reduction Development program: Expanding and Enhancing HIV Prevention in Central Asia, which started at the end of the year. The project includes training sessions, study tours, and seminars for staff members at centers dealing with public health, HIV prevention, and youth in Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, and Turkmenistan.

In May 2001, the Media Program held the first workshop on investigative journalism for practicing reporters in Almaty, including journalists from Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan, Kyrgyzstan, and Tajikistan. The second workshop for Kazakhstani participants was held in October 2001. These two events played an important role in providing journalists with practical tools for conducting investigative reports on corruption, embezzlement of public funds, and other abuses by high-level public officials. The Foundation's Media Support Program continued its journalism seminars, and in 2001 offered its first seminar for female journalists.

The Foundation worked with the Higher Education Support Program and Soros foundations in Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan to form the Central Asian Resource Center, which aims to reform the social sciences and humanities in Central Asia's higher education system. The Center will work to compile information and act as a shared resource and forum for Central Asian students, faculty, and researchers.

Through the Educational Policy: Dialogue with Society project, the Foundation facilitated cooperation between Kazakhstan's Ministry of Education and the academic community. The project's reports on key educational issues paved the way for discussions on the problems of reforming Kazakhstan's education system. The Foundation also helped organize contests and workshops that stimulated open discussions on the challenges

of education reform and received broad media coverage. Other workshops on educational management and statistics enhanced the planning and administrative expertise of educational decision makers.

<b>2001 Expenditures</b>	<b>\$4,142,000 ▶</b>
Civil Society	158,000
Conference & Travel	120,000
Criminal Justice	13,000
Culture	428,000
East East	112,000
Economic Reform	163,000
Education	1,089,000
Information	90,000
Law	342,000
Media	227,000
Public Administration	239,000
Public Health	252,000
Women's Programs	170,000
Youth Programs	418,000
Other Programs	8,000
Administration	313,000

NOTE: The financial information presented above includes \$502,914 funded by non-Soros entities, principally in Education and Youth Programs. Other Soros-supported organizations made grants in Kazakhstan, totaling \$2,013,811, principally in Civil Society, Education, Information, and Law; these grants are not included above.

## SOROS FOUNDATION— KYRGYZSTAN

After the initial hope and excitement generated by Kyrgyzstan's parliamentary and presidential elections in 2000, the country has gradually returned to a political situation in which the state dominates. Despite this reassertion of state power, civil society continues to mature and seek ways to make the state more

responsive to the needs of Kyrgyzstan's citizens.

In 2001, the Soros Foundation–Kyrgyzstan focused on maintaining and protecting open society values and practices, and supporting initiatives that bring civil society and the state closer together. Priority areas included local governance and public administration, media freedom, legal aid for vulnerable groups, education, economic development, and regional cooperation.

Projects organized by the NGO Support Program and the Public Administration Program brought local governments, communities, and NGOs together to find solutions to acute social problems. Developing projects that mobilize these groups is crucial to revitalizing local governance structures and making them responsive to local constituents. With Foundation support, communities, businesses, and local officials devised policies addressing issues such as water scarcity and usage. A number of small grants helped people in remote areas gain confidence in their ability to participate in making and improving public policy. These projects also supported efforts to make leaders more responsive to community needs during local government elections in 2001.

The closure of several independent media outlets was a major setback for a free press and access to information in Kyrgyzstan. The Foundation, which has long sustained media outlets in the capital and in the provinces, made significant efforts during the year to support the publication and circulation of diverse information and opinions.

In the area of legal reform, the Foundation supported and developed several projects to improve legal help for socially vulnerable people. The network of legal institutions providing these services—the Legal Aid Foundation, regional legal consultation centers, and legal clinics at universities—has played a critical role in developing an effective and responsive legal system. The Association of Lawyers of Kyrgyzstan raised awareness about legal issues through a series of nationally broadcast films. The Foundation furthered legal education with support for law clinics for university students, and the Street Law Program developed secondary school course textbooks that received the recommendation of the Ministry of Education.

The Education Program finished the third year of its school parliament project, which has met with approval in both schools and communities and has attracted attention from other institutions in the country. Children learn how to participate in the decision-making process within their schools, and communities learn how to mobilize and present their needs to educational institutions.

A new Economic Reform Program in 2001 provided training and institutional support for the development of credit unions. By helping to reduce poverty and develop a middle class, these microcredit institutions could do much to strengthen civil society in Kyrgyzstan.

Regional activities were another priority for the Soros Foundation–Kyrgyzstan. The Women's Forum, held in Osh in May, continued to strengthen cooperative links among women's NGOs in the Ferghana Valley and to work toward easing tensions in this conflict-prone region.

<b>2001 Expenditures</b>	<b>\$3,932,000 ▶</b>
Civil Society	289,000
Conference & Travel	136,000
Culture	133,000
East East	165,000
Economic Reform	327,000
Education	442,000
Ethnic Minorities	86,000
Information	177,000
Law	480,000
Media	220,000
Public Administration	493,000
Public Health	354,000
Women's Programs	116,000
Youth Programs	193,000
Other Programs	3,000
Administration	320,000

NOTE: The financial information presented above includes \$181,241 funded by non-Soros entities, principally in Education and Public Health. Other Soros-supported organizations made grants in Kyrgyzstan totaling \$1,152,781, principally in Education, Media, and Youth Programs; these grants are not included above.

## MONGOLIAN FOUNDATION FOR OPEN SOCIETY

In Mongolia, parliamentary and local municipal elections in 2000 and presidential elections the following year brought landslide victories for the revamped communist-era Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party, resulting in its dominance over national decision-making. Yet the newly elected government's policies are similar to the liberal economic and political reforms pursued by the previous democratic coalition government, and an overwhelming majority of the Mongolian electorate remains committed to the principles of democratic governance and a market-oriented economy.

For the last five years, the Mongolian Foundation for Open Society (MFOS) has contributed to the development of democracy in Mongolia by supporting initiatives that improve education and access to information, support civil society and public health care, and promote alternative arts and culture. MFOS celebrated its fifth anniversary in 2001 with a number of special events, including a visit from Open Society Institute founder George Soros, who acknowledged the Foundation's successes and the challenges that lie ahead.

In 2001, the Foundation's education programs encouraged wider participation of teachers, students, and parents in implementing educational reform. The School 2001 project, Step by Step, and other programs prepared the ground for countrywide reform based on successful changes implemented in a network of 72 schools and 53 kindergartens focusing on standards and curricula, student assessment, teacher evaluation, methodology, and teacher training curricula.

In August 2001, the Ministry of Education and the Foundation marked the completion of School 2001 by signing an agreement on further collaboration that will help institutionalize reforms. The Debate Program received national recognition and by 2001 was offered in over 100 schools. The Foundation, with funding from the Asian Development Bank, also helped develop new curricula and textbooks for civic education and English instruction.

The MFOS Information Program worked with the United Nations Development Program in 2001 to support the Mongolian Information Development Application Project. The Project created Mongolian language software and applications, including software for digital libraries, university websites, and interactive educational programs for preschoolers.

The Book Sector Survey Report, a joint project of the Ministry of Education, Culture, and Science, UNESCO, and MFOS, prompted an important ministry discussion paper identifying how the government, NGOs, and businesses could improve publishing in Mongolia. The Foundation continued to help the professional development of librarians, and its annual book donation project provided libraries with 10,000 copies of 79 titles. The Foundation increased the number of rural radio stations it supports from three to five by helping establish FM radio stations offering 10 hours of daily programming in Khovd and Khuvsgul.

The Community Policing Project's efforts to change the police from a pure law-enforcement institution into a service agency began to yield results in 2001. Curricula at the Mongolian Police Academy and Police Retraining program now include community-policing philosophy and techniques. The judicial and prison systems are also implementing retraining programs. Officials have acknowledged the success of case-management projects at five selected courts, and other donor organizations have begun to replicate them elsewhere. Exchanges between Dutch and Mongolian trainers in 2001 helped the Judicial Resource Center build its staff and training programs for judges. MFOS also opened a second legal aid clinic at a private law school and helped establish a centralized law library.

MFOS launched the Public Health Program in 2001 to help elaborate national public health policies; educate and train health and medical professionals; disseminate health information to the public; and encourage greater citizen participation in health issues. In collaboration with the national public health institute, the Program organized a national conference to discuss proposed public health

policies for 2001–2004. The Program also supported the participation of 46 Mongolian decision makers, public health officials, medical professionals, and NGO and media representatives in international seminars and conferences. In November, Parliament approved the National Policy on Public Health that was developed with support from MFOS.

In 2001, MFOS supported studies to establish the Mongolian Art Council, an NGO that will be registered in June 2002. The Council will work with government decision makers and businesses to formulate effective cultural legislation, increase sponsorship for the arts, and organize open public debates about the role of the state and private sector in Mongolia's cultural policy. The Foundation supported several international festivals of music, film, drama, dance, and mime in 2001, featuring hundreds of international and Mongolian artists and attended by over 5,000 people.

2001 Expenditures	\$3,880,000 ▶
Civil Society	169,000
Culture	357,000
East East	36,000
Economic Reform	93,000
Education	1,160,000
Information	506,000
Law	434,000
Media	152,000
Public Administration	12,000
Public Health	212,000
Women's Programs	68,000
Youth Programs	241,000
Other Programs	2,000
Administration	443,000

NOTE: The financial information presented above includes \$250,029 funded by non-Soros entities, principally in Law. Other Soros-supported organizations made grants in Mongolia totaling \$1,310,656, principally in Education and Public Administration; these grants are not included above.

## OPEN SOCIETY INSTITUTE ASSISTANCE FOUNDATION–TAJIKISTAN

Efforts by the Open Society Institute Assistance Foundation–Tajikistan to promote and build open society are gaining the confidence of the public, NGOs, international organizations, and government agencies. OSIAF–Tajikistan over the past five years has evolved from a limited information center into a fully operational grant-giving organization implementing a wide range of programs. In 2001, the Foundation continued its transformation into more of a think tank, offering strategic ways to contemplate and build open society in Tajikistan.

After September 2001, as the country became an essential partner in many international initiatives in the region, OSIAF–Tajikistan has reexamined its activities and strengthened its emphasis on the areas of human rights and legal reform, regional cooperation, access to information, and education and electoral reforms. It has also continued to support NGOs, arts and culture, and the media.

During the year, OSIAF–Tajikistan partnered with Tajik NGOs, the media, and international organizations to initiate a series of government-level roundtable discussions on the death penalty. The discussions resulted in recommendations to Tajikistan's president for a moratorium on the death penalty. The Law Program also focused on rule of law issues by organizing the first Central Asian conference on independent advocacy to protect human rights. Participants from Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Russia, and Uzbekistan attended the Dushanbe event, which facilitated the exchange of experiences among participants and helped strengthen the Bar Association of Tajikistan.

Ending self-immolation and violence against women as well as examining women's involvement in crime and drugs were important priorities for the Women's Program in 2001. More than 900 women participated in activities ranging from campaigns that reduced instances of self-immolation to an OSIAF–Tajikistan survey on women and

drugs. The survey attracted policymaker attention, helped change public attitudes, and led to improved conditions for women in prison. The Women's Program also persuaded the government to develop an initiative incorporating its recommendations on equal rights policy; supported breast cancer research for the Ministry of Health; and helped get gender awareness courses included in the state secondary school curriculum.

The Higher Education Support Program (HESP) in Tajikistan and Hungary held the first international summer university, which included participants from 16 countries and classes in civic education for university professors and professionals. The Foundation's scholarship program sent students to the United Kingdom, the United States, and other countries. OSIAF-Tajikistan also distributed more than 3,000 new social sciences textbooks to university libraries.

The Foundation helped support secondary education reforms through textbook development projects and by sponsoring policy studies and strategy recommendations for the Ministry of Education. OSIAF-Tajikistan also established an Education Reform Support Unit and a Center for Educational Reforms, which focuses on education policy research. The English Language Program supported training for 95 secondary school teachers; sponsored camps and study tours; and helped eight secondary schools receive equipment and materials for their English language clubs. Seventy-five students participated in the Debate Program in 2001.

The Publishing Program helped publications meet international standards by working to have the ISBN system introduced in Tajikistan. The Program also produced a Tajik translation of Harold Saunders' book, *The Public Peace Process*. The Library Program initiated a new draft of the national library law and started computer network and electronic catalogue projects at four Tajik libraries.

Accomplishments in health care in 2001 included the Ministry of Health's adoption of a Public Health Program harm reduction initiative first piloted by the Foundation, which opened needle exchange points throughout the

country. OSIAF-Tajikistan also helped 37 health professionals attend training sessions on HIV/AIDS and drug abuse, and sponsored participation of 50 doctors in Salzburg and Albert Schweitzer seminars.

OSI-Tajikistan supported the development of small- and medium-sized businesses through policy, legislative, and training initiatives. Training was conducted with the International Labor Organization and the United Nations Development Program.

2001 Expenditures	\$1,778,000 ▶
Civil Society	120,000
Conference & Travel	56,000
Culture	83,000
East East	16,000
Economic Reform	69,000
Education	287,000
Information	140,000
Law	305,000
Media	79,000
Public Administration	22,000
Public Health	147,000
Women's Programs	148,000
Youth Programs	27,000
Other Programs	1,000
Administration	276,000

NOTE: Other Soros-supported organizations made grants in Tajikistan totaling \$234,867, principally in Civil Society and Education; these grants are not included above.

## OPEN SOCIETY INSTITUTE ASSISTANCE FOUNDATION–TURKEY

After reviewing the state of civil society and the needs of citizens in Turkey, the Open Society Institute established the Open Society Institute Assistance Foundation–Turkey in August 2001. The Foundation does not have the traditional organizational structure of other Soros foundations. Instead, it acts as a representative, or liaison office, with limited staff and an advisory board. The Foundation identifies actors and activities that will help Turkey’s evolution toward an open society; facilitates collaboration between Turkish civil society and the Soros foundations network; and makes funding recommendations.

OSIAF–Turkey’s overall aim is to enhance current reform efforts by providing financial and technical assistance in five general areas: political reform and the European Union, media, gender, regional disparities, and civil society. Financial support is limited to less than one-half of a project’s costs, with the remainder provided by Turkish donors.

In the area of political reform, the Foundation supported the institutional development of the Turkish Economic and Social Studies Foundation (TESEV), a think tank that aims to be an agent of transformation and help develop alternative and independent solutions to the problems Turkey faces. In 2001, TESEV focused on issues surrounding Turkey’s accession to the European Union.

In the area of media, OSIAF–Turkey initiated activities to strengthen alternative media projects such as public access radio and an online media watchdog organization. The main objective is to develop projects and organizations that will be sustainable and diversify Turkey’s media environment.

Empowering the most disenfranchised groups of women and developing practical measures to reduce violence against women are major priorities for the Foundation. In 2001, OSIAF–Turkey began to develop models for projects aimed at disenfranchised women.

The Foundation addressed violence against women by supporting the development and provision of a legal and functional literacy program for women in six provinces in eastern and southeastern Turkey.

To overcome regional disparities, the Foundation is considering support for educational and cultural initiatives in underdeveloped areas of the country. Through its civil society initiative, OSIAF–Turkey intends to contribute to improving the financial, legal, and human resources of the Turkish third sector. In 2001, the Foundation encouraged grantmaking and supported efforts by Turkish civil society to gain access to international knowledge. One project, cofunded by OSIAF–Turkey and the Umut Foundation of Turkey, helped the Istanbul Bar Association to organize an international symposium on gun control. In 2002, the Foundation will continue to engage Turkish donors and reform activists, expand existing initiatives throughout Turkey, and study new areas of activity such as education.

**2001 Expenditures**

**\$1,073,000 ▶**

## OPEN SOCIETY INSTITUTE ASSISTANCE FOUNDATION—UZBEKISTAN

Significant external and internal events, including the war against terrorism in Afghanistan, led to political and economic instability in Uzbekistan in 2001. While internal challenges to democracy and civil liberties remain substantial, a new generation of government officials more open to dialogue is beginning to emerge. Throughout the year, the Open Society Institute Assistance Foundation—Uzbekistan pursued cooperation with these individual officials and a number of government agencies, which led to small but significant gains for open society.

In 2001, the Ministry of Public Education approved *Journey to the World of Constitution*, a textbook produced by the Foundation that introduces seventh graders to democratic governance and human rights issues. The Higher Education Program expanded its activities by opening three educational resource centers, in Samarkand, Karakalpakstan, and Tashkent, and by increasing access to advanced studies in social sciences for university teachers and students. The Debate Program established five debate centers to support the country's existing 189 debate clubs.

OSIAF—Uzbekistan's Internet Program flourished due to a presidential decree in May that eased restrictions on the use and development of information technology. The Foundation responded quickly to provide 11 universities and a number of NGOs with free access to the Internet. The Program also created publicly accessible sites at a language center in Nukus, a women's NGO in Samarkand, and two universities and a local branch of CAFÉ in Karshi. A national Internet training center, the CISCO Academy, was established by the OSIAF Internet Program and the UNDP Digital Development Initiative Program.

In early 2001, the Economic and Business Development Program collaborated with the Law Program to focus on the protection and development of small- and medium-sized enterprises. A November conference organized by OSIAF—Uzbekistan targeted government barriers to the

development of entrepreneurship. The conference attracted many officials, a sign of the government's willingness to work with civil society organizations on developing small businesses.

OSIAF—Uzbekistan held its Annual International Festival of Modern Music, a popular event for artists and intellectuals, and, through its Arts and Culture Network Program, awarded more individual small grants for artists. One recipient, the Young Talents of Uzbekistan, a youth chamber orchestra, gave charitable concerts as part of the programs commemorating the Year of Mother and Child in Uzbekistan. The Karshi theater group traveled throughout Uzbekistan performing its adaptation of the Cain and Abel story as part of the Theater against Violence and War project.

Working with the Tashkent State Law Institute and the Constitutional and Legal Policy Institute (COLPI), the Law Program published eight legal textbooks. The Program also helped establish legal clinics affiliated with law schools to promote human rights issues among law students.

The Library Program initiated and supported workshops to help pass a new law providing legal protections to libraries and librarians. The International Electronic Information for Libraries Direct (EIFL) project aided science and humanities students and researchers by providing Uzbek libraries with the EBSCO database containing more than 3,500 of the world's major magazines and newspapers.

The Public Health Program achieved a breakthrough in 2001 by securing initial government cooperation for the implementation of an innovative program for drug abuse and treatment. The Program created three harm reduction centers and helped open 114 needle exchanges at governmental medical agencies, all of which were protected from police interference.

The government continued to restrict press freedom in 2001, which hindered the Media Program's activities. Despite the unfavorable conditions, the Program did manage to establish discussion clubs in Tashkent, the Ferghana Valley, and the Bukhara and Navoi regions. Club meetings

allowed independent-minded Uzbek journalists to obtain first-hand information from guests, including foreign ambassadors, prominent journalists, and experts from international organizations.

<b>2001 Expenditures</b>	<b>\$4,813,000 ▶</b>
Civil Society	183,000
Culture	333,000
East East	38,000
Economic Reform	425,000
Education	1,051,000
Information	559,000
Law	275,000
Media	157,000
Public Administration	169,000
Public Health	386,000
Women's Programs	383,000
Youth Programs	470,000
Other Programs	9,000
Administration	374,000

NOTE: Other Soros-supported organizations made grants in Uzbekistan totaling \$422,223, principally in Education; these grants are not included above.



## REGIONAL REPORTS

# *South Eastern Europe*

The year 2001 proved crucial for South Eastern Europe as the region mostly moved forward in its transition to democracy. The countries of the Balkans, each at different political and economic starting points, faced a wide range of challenges, meeting them with varying degrees of success. Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Macedonia, and, to a lesser extent, Montenegro and Serbia remain areas of intense international engagement. Many questions are unresolved within the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia—the status of Kosovo, currently a United Nations protectorate,



and the relationship between Serbia and Montenegro, to name a few outstanding issues.

In the year since the regime of Slobodan Milosevic was toppled, the Serbian government tried to make up for lost time by introducing key economic reforms and adopting laws. Montenegro's political and economic agenda, however, was blocked by debate over the republic's status. An agreement mediated by the European Union in March 2002 forestalled the drive for independence at least temporarily. Kosovo held successful parliamentary elections, in which the Serbian community eventually participated—a sign of progress for the difficult road ahead.

Bosnia and Herzegovina will require sustained attention and international involvement for years to come. The ethnic character of government structures and institutions bedevils efforts to integrate Bosnia and Herzegovina's three ethnic communities and create a harmonious multiethnic state. The country will hold elections in 2002 on its tenuous course toward more stable statehood.

In Macedonia, the outbreak of ethnic violence forced the EU and NATO to intervene on a limited scale in 2001. The violence laid bare the extent of ethnic polarization. New constitutional changes aimed at reconciling the majority and minority communities are on the agenda for 2002. Elections are also due to be held in the fall of 2002.

In neighboring Bulgaria, voters elected as prime minister the heir to the deposed monarchy, Simeon Saxe Coburg, and Socialist Party leader Georgi Parvanov as president. Such major swings in voter allegiance illustrate how much of the population was frustrated with the slow rate of progress in Bulgaria. Although the country is negotiating with the European Union for membership, its chances of accession before 2007 appear dim.

Romania is also in line to join the EU. However, the country will have to overcome political and economic challenges and improve the treatment of minorities before its candidacy will be seriously considered. If economic and political integration into Europe appear distant for both

Romania and Bulgaria, the two countries made progress on the security front. Both are likely to join NATO in 2002.

In 2001, Moldova joined the Stability Pact for South Eastern Europe and the World Trade Organization. Both memberships should help the country gain greater access to international financial and diplomatic resources. However, political problems at home, including the concentration of power within the Communist Party of President Vladimir Voronin, have slowed Moldova's transition. Further complicating the country's development is the stalemate in Transnistria, where separatist "authorities" continue to exercise power independent of the national government in Chisinau.

In Albania, political stability was undercut by disputed election results and an extended parliamentary boycott by the main opposition party, raising the specter of a return to political polarization. Although ex-President Berisha's party is back in Parliament, ongoing political scandals within the socialist administration threaten to distract the government in 2002.

In Croatia, the democratic government, in its second year in power, has consolidated a set of more stable, EU-oriented policies. Yet the country's macroeconomic problems remain unresolved, and the governing coalition is divided and fighting for survival.

Overall, the region needs economic growth, which has been adversely affected by the global recession. Intense efforts will be required to further democratic values and practices if economic stagnation continues.

The role of external actors remains crucial in the Balkans, particularly in Bosnia and Herzegovina and Kosovo. International players provide assistance and policy guidance, and strengthen the prodemocracy sentiments of a growing number of people who want to break with the past and join the European mainstream.

The Soros foundations in the region, now working in cooperation with governments, are seeking reforms in education, the judiciary, local government, and public health. Media also remains a high priority.

OSI and the Soros foundations emphasize a regional

approach to the efforts to rebuild South Eastern Europe. This approach will help heal divisions and prepare the countries for European integration, which, in the long run, is the only solution to the violent destruction of the last decade.

To amplify the work of the foundations and to respond to the challenges presented by the recent past, as well as those still to come, OSI established the Balkans Policy Group in July 2001. The Group is composed of an advisory body that includes both Open Society Institute and outside members. Its role is to help formulate and coordinate OSI's policy objectives in the region and to identify priority issues that will stimulate regional cooperation. The Group will also work to keep the Balkans on the policy agenda in Washington and Brussels.

OSI also remains active in Slovenia two years after the closing of the Soros foundation in that country. Slovenia, developed and politically stable, is a strong candidate for European Union accession. OSI continues to support open society values and programs through the work of the Peace Institute, a Slovenian nonprofit research institution and think tank. The Peace Institute focuses on human rights, media studies, and other issues related to the Stability Pact and the European Union. Programs on media, civil society, and regional cooperation, formerly run by the Open Society Institute–Slovenia, were transferred to the Peace Institute at the end of 2000.

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**The following reports describe the work of the Soros foundations in Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Kosovo, Macedonia, Moldova, Montenegro, and Serbia. Entries for the foundations in Bulgaria and Romania appear in the section on Central Europe: EU Accession Countries.**

## OPEN SOCIETY FOUNDATION FOR ALBANIA

Encouraging young people to become leaders in Albania's development and future has been a major priority for the Open Society Foundation for Albania (OSFA) over the last several years. In 2001, these efforts began to yield results. Scholarship and fellowship programs sponsored by OSFA have helped young Albanians study abroad. Salary supplements and job placement initiatives supported by the Foundation are now prompting qualified young people to return to Albania to reform and rebuild the country's public institutions. In 2001, OSFA supplemented the salaries of 87 fellows working in the ministries of foreign affairs, justice, foreign trade, and transportation as well as the prime minister's office.

The Foundation sponsored a series of working papers, "Albania: Think Again," that invited Albanian students both abroad and at home to publish research in areas important to Albania's development. The project mobilizes qualified individuals and encourages the generation of solutions for critical Albanian issues.

To attract young professionals to Albania, OSFA supported the professional development of Albanian expatriates by involving them in local projects. One project launched in 2001 offers young professionals studying abroad an opportunity to examine and survey topical Albanian issues. The surveys have allowed Albanian scholars abroad to conduct research critical to Albania's economic development. Much of this research has been particularly useful because it has placed Albania in a comparative context to other transition countries. Participants have not only learned about the current situation in Albania but also established bridges between Albanian and foreign institutions.

OSFA also took concrete steps in 2001 to reduce the need for young people to seek education and opportunity abroad by helping establish a Master in Public Administration program at Tirana University, and a Graduate International Degree in Enterprise Management at Tirana Polytechnic University. The public administration

program is supported by the Foundation, USAID, and the University of Nebraska. The management program is funded by the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs, OSFA, and the Tirana Polytechnic University.

OSFA played an active role in Stability Pact–based efforts to maintain peace in the region. The OSFA Fellowship Program continued to work on key Stability Pact priorities such as institutional capacity building, good governance, and the development of civil society and independent media. Fellows developed many of the projects Albania submitted to the Stability Pact, including proposals for an investment agency and an export promotion center to aid business development in Albania.

A Local Government Fellowship Program created in 2001 has encouraged the employment of capable and dedicated young people in local governments. The Program targets large municipalities in key sectors related to increasing participatory decision making, promoting transparency, and improving quality of life at the local level.

OSFA remains dedicated to helping Albania pursue open society through the reform and development of its public institutions. The country’s recent progress has prompted the European Union to convene a high-level working group to monitor the quality and pace of reform in Albania, marking an important first step toward negotiations on a stabilization-and-association agreement.

<b>2001 Expenditures</b>	<b>\$5,149,000 ▶</b>
Civil Society	115,000
Criminal Justice	5,000
Culture	217,000
East East	76,000
Economic Reform	475,000
Education	718,000
Ethnic Minorities	123,000
Information	449,000
Law	373,000
Media	189,000
Public Administration	503,000
Public Health	252,000
Women’s Programs	345,000

Youth Programs	559,000
Other Programs	386,000
Administration	362,000

NOTE: The financial information presented above includes \$79,000 funded by non-Soros entities, principally in Ethnic Minorities. Other Soros-supported organizations made grants in Albania totaling \$2,845,366, principally for the Albanian Educational Development Program, Economic Reform, Media, and Public Administration; these grants are not included above.

## OPEN SOCIETY FUND–BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

The Open Society Fund–Bosnia and Herzegovina (OSF–BH) is committed to the development of an economically and socially sustainable Bosnia and Herzegovina marked by good governance and an open, democratic civil society. International organizations continue to play a key role in helping the country achieve these objectives, and a significant priority for the Fund in 2001 was the completion of a study evaluating the policies of international organizations in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The study, *Policies of International Support to Southeastern European Countries: Lessons (Not) Learned in Bosnia and Herzegovina*, issued recommendations relevant to Stability Pact policies for the countries of South Eastern Europe. The report, the first evaluation of international support policies done by an international aid recipient, is a collaborative effort by Serbian, Bosnian, and Croatian researchers—a small but important example of people from groups that were once at war coming together to build the country’s future.

The report represents an effort to provide a critical evaluation and constructive suggestions for improving the performance of international organizations in the region. It also highlights the vital role they have played in bringing positive change to Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The study's examination of Bosnia and Herzegovina points to the need for a reorientation and reconceptualization of international support policies. The overriding aim of development aid should be the strengthening of local capacity. Aid should be implemented in cooperation with local stakeholders. For their part, local partners need to both have and take more responsibility for development policies. This is a key precondition for the sustainability of economic and social development in beneficiary countries.

Another publication addressing issues important to Bosnia and Herzegovina and the region was *Practice and Procedure of the International Criminal Tribunal for Former Yugoslavia*, by John E. Ackerman and Eugene O'Sullivan, which was translated and published by the Fund. The book's commentaries on how the tribunal has functioned and the issues it faces make it a crucial text for prosecutors, judges, defense attorneys, and others involved in war crimes proceedings and international humanitarian law.

The aftereffects of war—trauma, social fragmentation, and a devastated economy—have created a deep sense of hopelessness among young people in Bosnia and Herzegovina. OSF–BH has tried to restore a sense of community and future among the country's young people through a number of programs that support youth and develop strategies to help young people persuade politicians and authorities to respond to their needs. The Fund's Joint Youth Program grew in 2001 to include 203 youth organizations and groups. It has established 24 Local Youth Councils throughout the country, which act as a network to serve young people. OSF–BH also helped implement 40 local projects and open dialogue between young people and over 50 government representatives at different levels.

In the area of education, the Model of Systemic Changes in Secondary Education program worked to get students actively involved in bringing change to the education system. Workshops brought students together to discuss and think critically about education as well as work together to articulate the needs and issues that education planners should respond to.

Juvenile crime, particularly among children under 14, has been on the rise since the war ended. In cooperation

with UNICEF, OSF–BH created a team of prosecutors, judges, social workers, police officers, attorneys, and law professors to conduct a detailed analysis of different aspects of juvenile criminality. The results of the study will be made public and released to the media to raise awareness and mobilize community support for policies and programs that address juvenile crime in a humane and practical manner.

<b>2001 Expenditures</b>	<b>\$4,061,000 ▶</b>
Civil Society	116,000
Culture	110,000
East East	49,000
Education	1,466,000
Information	12,000
Law	369,000
Media	334,000
Public Administration	234,000
Public Health	100,000
Roma	73,000
Women's Programs	121,000
Youth Programs	601,000
Other Programs	143,000
Administration	334,000

NOTE: The financial information presented above includes \$267,478 funded by non-Soros entities, principally in Law and Youth Programs. Other Soros-supported organizations made grants in Bosnia and Herzegovina totaling \$509,888, principally in Education and Media; these grants are not included above.

## OPEN SOCIETY INSTITUTE–CROATIA

A year after its authoritarian government crumbled and parliamentary elections brought the democratic opposition to power, Croatia has come to share many of the problems faced by other countries of the former Yugoslavia: underdeveloped democratic institutions and

uneven steps toward economic development and reform. The Open Society Institute–Croatia is addressing these challenges by supporting efforts to strengthen core values such as liberty, equality, justice, pluralism, and tolerance, and using the transition process to build democratic institutions that put these values into practice.

In 2001, the foundation helped develop the Civil Society Program Group, which includes Community Initiatives, Community Foundations, the Women’s Program, Minority and Human Rights, and Youth Initiatives. These projects share the common goal of working to increase civic participation and government accountability, interethnic dialogue and tolerance, and protection of minority rights. Community Initiatives supported NGOs and civic groups in advocacy and lobbying efforts to make local authorities more responsive to community problems and needs.

The challenges of regional stabilization, development, and integration with the EU must be addressed by reform or transformation of government and the institutions responsible for education, social welfare, culture, and health. The foundation has addressed public concern about unemployment in Croatia by prioritizing support for the development of small- and medium-sized enterprises, and helping education reforms that better prepare students for the labor market. OSI–Croatia also worked throughout 2001 to develop programs that improved the efficiency and effectiveness of the judiciary.

One of the biggest obstacles to reform in Croatia has been the lack of capacity for policy development. OSI–Croatia, in cooperation with the Local Government and Public Service Reform Initiative (LGI) provided public policy training for Croatian officials and experts. The foundation also supported policy development initiatives aimed at decentralization of public administration, education reform, creation of small- and medium-sized enterprises, public health reform, and, to a lesser extent, the harmonization of Croatian regulations with EU legislation. Working with the government ministries and a number of development organizations, OSI–Croatia established the Center for the Political Development of Small Enterprises

(CEPOR). Much of CEPOR’s activities are done in cooperation with the University of Durham and cofunded by local and international agencies.

In addition to policy-related activities, OSI–Croatia promoted change in higher and general education through support for teacher training programs emphasizing child-centered learning, critical thinking, and civic education. During 2001, the foundation also contributed to systemic reform in the media, NGOs, and arts and culture.

The foundation benefited from the valuable expertise of network resources in 2001. In addition to LGI, OSI–Croatia cooperated with the network Children and Youth and Public Health programs in conducting research, disseminating information, and developing partnerships to address issues affecting young people and health care.

2001 Expenditures	\$3,812,000 ▶
Civil Society	331,000
Culture	508,000
East East	88,000
Economic Reform	569,000
Education	774,000
Ethnic Minorities	10,000
Information	53,000
Law	26,000
Media	127,000
Public Administration	6,000
Public Health	167,000
Roma	16,000
Women’s Programs	133,000
Youth Programs	586,000
Other Programs	8,000
Administration	410,000

NOTE: The financial information presented above includes \$143,001 funded by non-Soros entities, principally in Culture and Youth Programs. Other Soros-supported organizations made grants in Croatia totaling \$1,092,328, principally in Civil Society, Economic Reform, Education, Information, and Media; these grants are not included above.

## KOSOVA FOUNDATION FOR OPEN SOCIETY

The first year of the new millennium ushered in a new era of democracy and tolerance in Kosovo. In 2001, Kosovar residents voted for the first time in multiparty elections. Interethnic conflicts declined and tensions among political parties subsided as well. The year was also marked by significant reform in politics, education, health, and law.

On November 17, 2001, Kosovar residents voted in their first elections for the Parliamentary Assembly. The presence of numerous polling stations and international supervisors, both within Kosovo and throughout Serbia and Montenegro, enabled displaced minorities to participate more actively in politics. Serbs running as candidates for the first time won a substantial number of seats.

The Kosova Education Center (KEC), an NGO established by the Kosova Foundation for Open Society (KFOS) in 2000, made significant progress in advancing education reform. KEC provided an effective and intensive training program for primary and secondary school teachers and administrators who use Reading and Writing for Critical Thinking (RWCT) and active learning materials. A network of regional Didactic Centers established by KEC offered access to electronic resources such as the Internet and libraries to help teachers develop new techniques and methodologies. The Foundation also worked to establish two social science departments at Prishtina University and cooperated with the Department of Education and Science, the British Council, the American Jewish Joint Distribution Agency, and USAID to introduce new curricula and foreign expertise to bring schools up to European standards.

In the area of legislative reform, KFOS supported the distribution of a new instruction book for the Department of Justice that not only outlines standard judicial practices but also contains chapters on all relevant documents and international conventions pertaining to human rights. The Foundation assisted other efforts to promote human rights by developing NGO training programs emphasizing the

rights of children, women, and minorities, and helped provide university libraries with contemporary law and human rights publications.

Another priority for KFOS in 2001 was increasing cooperation among civil society organizations and regional NGOs. The Foundation helped establish new organizations and NGO forums in Peja, Gjakova, and Prizren focusing on regional issues relating to women, youth, and the environment. Working together, these groups approached the government as strong and trustworthy partners or as effective advocacy groups promoting policy change.

KFOS is increasingly working with the East East Program to add a regional dimension to local initiatives such as the Grassroots Democracy project, which brought together experts from NGOs and associations in Kosovo, Poland, Serbia, Bulgaria, and the Czech Republic. Another project, "A Way Toward a Contemporary Local Administration," organized by the Forum for Democratic Initiative and Partners for Democracy, Prague, assessed a number of local governments, gathered experts from different fields, and helped them work with local public officials.

KFOS is one of the few donors supporting arts and culture programs in the region. Working with the Austrian organization Kultur Kontakt, KFOS organized a management workshop for leaders of cultural institutions. The Foundation also helped develop relationships between cultural institutions and leaders in Kosovo and Sweden.

While international donors are still active in Kosovo, many are slowly withdrawing or finalizing their activities in the region. KFOS worked throughout the year to establish long-lasting, multiyear partnerships with UNDP, UNICEF, the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA), the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), and the Olof Palme International Center to ensure continued support for activities critical to Kosovo's democratic development.

<b>2001 Expenditures</b>	<b>\$2,595,000 ▶</b>
Civil Society	38,000

Culture	163,000
East East	62,000
Education	538,000
Ethnic Minorities	39,000
Information	402,000
Law	117,000
Media	198,000
Public Administration	137,000
Public Health	5,000
Roma	44,000
Women's Programs	232,000
Youth Programs	412,000
Other Programs	31,000
Administration	239,000

NOTE: The financial information presented above includes \$302,885 funded by non-Soros entities, principally in Education, Information, Women's Programs, and Youth Programs. Other Soros-supported organizations made grants in Kosovo totaling \$604,490; these grants are not included above.

## FOUNDATION OPEN SOCIETY INSTITUTE-MACEDONIA

Violent clashes between ethnic Albanian rebels of the National Liberation Army (NLA) and Macedonian government forces pushed the country to the brink of civil war in early 2001. The conflict killed and wounded unknown numbers of civilians, created more than 100,000 refugees and internally displaced people, devastated the already weak economy, destroyed villages, and increased ethnic and religious intolerance.

Efforts to mobilize civil society organizations to stop the war and bring stability to the country were the main priorities for the Foundation Open Society Institute-Macedonia (FOSIM) in 2001. The Foundation supported and coordinated activities by NGOs representing all of the country's minorities to end the conflict. Hundreds of organizations signed two petitions, the Appeal for Peace

and the Appeal Against Insanity, that were distributed through print and electronic media in the Macedonian, Albanian, and Romany languages.

One of the Foundation's most important programs was the Civic Response to Crisis in Macedonia. Working with an Albanian NGO in Gostivar and a Macedonian NGO in Tetovo, the program helped create a network of NGOs that provided printed materials to conflict areas cut off from information. The program also produced materials advocating tolerance to counter media campaigns driven by hatred and ethnic animosity. The Macedonian NGO online network website, [www.MaNGO.org.mk](http://www.MaNGO.org.mk), established by the Foundation in 2000, hosted the *Tetovo-Gostivar* NGO newsletter and daily briefings from the EuroBalkans think tank. FOSIM helped carry out a telephone survey in Macedonian and Albanian, asking, What frightens you the most these days? The majority of responses identified war, poverty, unemployment, and nontransparent privatization as primary sources of public anxiety.

Providing balanced information for all citizens during the crisis was a major priority in 2001. In March, the NLA destroyed transmitters for several TV and radio stations. FOSIM and other donors, including Press Now, the U.S. Embassy, MedienHilfe, IREX Promedia, Norwegian People's Aid, and the Swedish Helsinki Committee, replaced the transmitters within a month and restored public access to diverse information in both Macedonian and Albanian. Strategic partnerships with these donors and the National Endowment for Democracy allowed the Foundation to assist private electronic media in Macedonian, Albanian, Romany, and Turkish throughout the year. A USAID and FOSIM partnership project brought Albanian and Macedonian broadcasters together to coproduce eight documentaries on the Ohrid Framework Agreement for peace and how Albanians and Macedonians could live together.

A June conference attended by 102 NGOs resulted in the development of the nationwide Enough Is Enough campaign, which promoted public understanding of the peace plan by using a \$167,000 USAID grant to print and distribute 100,000 copies of the agreement and analyses

from NGOs in Macedonian, Albanian, Romany, and English. The campaign helped citizens understand the role of NATO and become more involved in the process through a series of meetings with experts in 50 provincial towns.

In August, the Ohrid Framework Agreement offered a chance for the first step toward peace between the Albanian rebels and the Macedonian government. The Foundation gave grants to 44 NGOs to organize activities to increase awareness of the agreement, and in September, FOSIM, in partnership with the EuroBalkans Institute, organized the Framework Agreement and the Future of Macedonia conference. The conference, which attracted 70 Macedonian intellectuals of all ethnicities, played a critical role as the first occasion after the war when influential Macedonians and ethnic Albanians could come together to discuss the consequences of the conflict.

<b>2001 Expenditures</b>	<b>\$5,997,000 ▶</b>
Civil Society	567,000
Culture	783,000
East East	81,000
Economic Reform	173,000
Education	857,000
Ethnic Minorities	13,000
Information	433,000
Law	313,000
Media	695,000
Public Administration	225,000
Public Health	341,000
Roma	362,000
Women's Programs	308,000
Youth Programs	438,000
Other Programs	37,000
Administration	371,000

NOTE: The financial information presented above includes \$1,461,568 funded by non-Soros entities, principally in Civil Society, Culture, Information, Law, and Media. Other Soros-supported organizations made grants in Macedonia totaling \$373,319, principally in Education, Public Administration, and Roma Programs; these grants are not included above.

## SOROS FOUNDATION— MOLDOVA

In June 2001, the Republic of Moldova became a member of the Stability Pact for South Eastern Europe. Moldova, like many other members of the Stability Pact, faces the major challenge of developing public institutions and systems of governance that are open and responsive to citizens' needs. The country is making progress in pursuing regional cooperation through organizations such as the Stability Pact, yet inside Moldova there are still very few civil society organizations that represent the public interest by exploring alternative proposals to government policies.

In 2001, the Soros Foundation Moldova (SFM) continued promoting programs for economic development, civil society, and legal and education reform, particularly in rural areas. The Community Development Program, run in partnership with the CONTACT Center, awarded small grants to foster partnerships among civil society groups, public agencies, and other organizations to identify and address the needs of rural communities. The Economic Development Program examined postprivatization issues in agriculture with the aim of helping develop efficient, private agricultural enterprises.

Among SFM's varied programs to promote civil society and democratize Moldovan politics, the development of independent policymaking organizations was the Foundation's biggest priority in 2001.

The Institute for Public Policy (IPP), an independent organization established by the Foundation in 2000, contributes to improving the policymaking process in the country. It fosters civil society by developing research, promoting public debate, evaluating government policies, advocating for policy alternatives, and disseminating information about these activities.

Throughout the year, IPP brought together government officials, NGOs, researchers, and academics in over 25 national and international seminars, workshops, and roundtables addressing major public policy issues. These events examined the impact of European integration on

Moldovan education, national security issues, strategies for European Union accession, and conflict management.

The Foundation supported two important international conferences, “Stability Pact: Real Steps Against Corruption and Organized Crime in Southeastern Europe” and “Participation in the Stability Pact as an Accelerator of Socioeconomic Reforms in the Region.” The conferences were the first in the country to launch Stability Pact initiatives, the texts of which were translated, published, and distributed to all ministries, the General Prosecutor’s Office, the Parliament, the government, media, and all relevant NGOs.

At the first conference, Moldova’s president, Vladimir Voronin, declared that fighting corruption and organized crime were the government’s highest priorities, and he established the Coordination Council to lead the fight. The participation of high level international experts helped Moldovan officials and local NGOs establish working relations with Stability Pact institutions. The second conference developed recommendations for the National Action Plan to define Moldova’s role within the Stability Pact. The recommendations were published and widely disseminated and presented to Moldova’s Interministerial Committee for cooperation with the Stability Pact.

These conferences and other events sponsored by IPP have increased the efficiency and level of cooperation among the various branches of government and civil society representatives working on the Stability Pact’s regional initiatives and activities.

IPP distributed its policy analyses through its newly launched quarterly publication, *Public Policy Review*. The Institute produced a book series on education, European integration, and conflict management, and its website, [www.ipp.md](http://www.ipp.md), featured policy articles from over 40 newspapers and magazines. IPP also runs the Public Opinion Barometer Program, which has generated interest among analysts and the media as the most objective survey in the country.

IPP collaborated with think tanks and policy center networks from the region, including the OSI/LGI Policy Centers network, the Educational Training Foundation

(Torino), the Center for Educational Policy Studies (Ljubljana), the Southeast European Educational Cooperation Network, the Central European Initiative (Trieste), and the Partnership for Peace Consortium of Defense Academies.

<b>2001 Expenditures</b>	<b>4,606,000 ▶</b>
Civil Society	216,000
Culture	266,000
East East	119,000
Economic Reform	716,000
Education	603,000
Information	415,000
Law	524,000
Media	87,000
Public Administration	492,000
Public Health	433,000
Women’s Programs	117,000
Youth Programs	267,000
Other Programs	23,000
Administration	328,000

NOTE: The financial information presented above includes \$189,088 funded by non-Soros entities, principally in Economic Reform. Other Soros-supported organizations made grants in Moldova totaling \$391,699, principally in Education, Media, and Public Administration; these grants are not included above.

## FOUNDATION OPEN SOCIETY INSTITUTE–REPRESENTATIVE OFFICE MONTENEGRO

In 2001, the then Open Society Institute–Montenegro made significant efforts to help accelerate reforms and increase awareness about the need for change in Montenegro. The republic’s participation in the Stability Pact on an equal basis with other members and its ability to maximize international support depend on the success and pace of reform.

OSI–Montenegro worked with the government and NGOs to reform education, increase citizen participation in politics and policymaking, expand freedom of information, advocate for Romani rights, and make governance more efficient and transparent.

The foundation continued to assist in developing education reform frameworks and guidelines. A significant achievement in 2001 was the completion of *The Book of Change*, a collaboration between OSI–Montenegro and Slovene consultants, who helped outline the concept, principles, and goals of education reform as well as obtain the book's approval from the Montenegrin government. The book will help guide such changes as the introduction of civic education as a regular part of the curriculum and the extension of primary education from eight years to nine. The foundation also supported media campaigns that highlighted the need for curriculum development and raised public awareness of the education reform process.

OSI–Montenegro's Civil Society Program encouraged the public to become involved in government reform by participating in campaigns and advocating for legislation on issues such as corruption, organized crime, and trafficking in human beings. NGOs supported by the foundation helped prepare anticorruption legislation and assisted initiatives to create a national ombudsman's office.

Working with international donors, NGOs, and Montenegrin media organizations, the foundation pursued numerous activities to strengthen freedom of expression, develop media self-regulation, elaborate journalistic codes of behavior, and change libel from a matter of criminal to civil law. Media organizations came together and developed the Code of Journalistic Behavior, Montenegro's first media self-regulation act. In October 2001, the East East Program held an international conference on the principles of broadcasting in South Eastern European countries, which generated a declaration on basic broadcasting principles to guide legislation in the region.

The Roma Program focused on improving the education of Roma. Achieving quality education equal to what the majority population receives can advance Romani human rights and social integration as well as ease

Romani unemployment and poverty. The foundation provided stipends for 13 Romani secondary school students, with the goal of helping them become the first Romani university students in Montenegro.

Programs on law, civil society, and public administration and local government worked together to initiate legislation and raise public awareness about governance issues. These activities resulted in the drafting of laws that address crucial issues such as access to information, broadcasting regulation, political financing, conflict of interest, public administration, consumer protection, and rights for the disabled. Especially successful was the effort to bring together NGOs and authorities by supporting projects between local governments and NGOs in over 50 percent of Montenegro's municipalities.

In 2002, OSI–Montenegro was replaced by the Foundation Open Society Institute–Representative Office Montenegro.

2001 Expenditures	2,083,000 ▶
Civil Society	145,000
Culture	173,000
East East	55,000
Economic Reform	47,000
Education	547,000
Law	151,000
Media	216,000
Public Administration	163,000
Public Health	3,000
Roma	48,000
Women's Programs	76,000
Youth Programs	164,000
Other Programs	58,000
Administration	236,000

NOTE: The financial information presented above includes \$67,362 funded by non-Soros entities, principally in Culture and Youth Programs. Other Soros-supported organizations made grants in Montenegro totaling \$140,088, principally in Education, Media, and Youth Programs; these grants are not included above.

## FUND FOR AN OPEN SOCIETY–SERBIA

In 2001, the then Fund for an Open Society–Yugoslavia celebrated the tenth anniversary of its founding in 1991, only several days before the breakup of the former Yugoslavia and the beginning of warfare that lasted much of the decade. This turbulent time, however, also encompassed the evolution of civil society in Serbia and Yugoslavia. The downfall of Slobodan Milosevic in October 2000, parliamentary elections in December, and the establishment of a new government in January 2001, launched the country's democratic transition and laid the foundation for significant reforms to build open society.

OSI Chairman George Soros visited Belgrade in June 2001 to celebrate the Fund's 10th anniversary and review the successes and meet with government officials to discuss reform issues and the Fund's role. After operating in dangerous and difficult conditions for almost a decade, the Fund spent 2001 working with the new government to carry out key aspects of the country's democratic transition.

The Fund and its allies among professionals, students, think tanks, independent media, and trade unions had worked not only to challenge Milosevic, but also to prepare for life after his authoritarian regime. In anticipation of transition, many of these civil society groups developed comprehensive programs for the economy, judiciary, education, public health, social policy, local government, and public administration.

Previously "alternative" institutions now cooperate with state agencies and receive partial funding from the state budget. The Fund has also emerged as a focal point and sounding board for many international donors and NGOs considering involvement in Yugoslavia.

While continuing support for civil society, arts and culture, and human rights, the Fund gave priority during the first year of transition to education, judicial reform, local government and public administration, independent media, and projects confronting the recent past.

In education reform, the Fund supported the establishment of reform policy teams that contributed to a

comprehensive strategy of education reform. The strategy, recently presented to the international donor community, focuses on methodology, textbook production, and education management from preschool to higher education.

The Fund helped facilitate significant progress toward judicial reform in 2001. Many draft laws were prepared with the support of the Fund, including laws pertaining to the judiciary, local government, freedom of information, and the police. The Fund was a major actor in supporting the creation of the Center for the Training and Education of Magistrates, established by the government and the Association of Judges in December 2001.

The Fund also worked with a number of international organizations to build democratic institutions. The Capacity Building Fund (CBF), initiated in collaboration with UNDP, supports the development of individual ministries and other government institutions critical to the transition process and the functioning of a democratic state. In 2001, the CBF attracted additional bilateral support from the German, Dutch, and Swedish governments.

The range of activities and effectiveness of independent broadcast media in Yugoslavia is still hampered by legal and economic conditions. New media laws have yet to be voted on in Parliament, and the economy is still not strong enough to deliver sufficient commercial support to the media. The Fund worked to overcome these challenges in 2001 by sponsoring working groups preparing media legislation, and journalism training to cover war crimes tribunal, judicial, and educational issues. The Fund also focused on supporting the transformation of independent media management structures to help make these outlets sustainable in a market economy.

In early 2002, the Fund changed its name to the Fund for an Open Society–Serbia to reflect the new political realities within the country and the region.

**2001 Expenditures**                      **\$6,556,000** ▶

Civil Society	718,000
Conference & Travel	22,000
Culture	377,000
East East	124,000
Economic Reform	76,000
Education	1,015,000
Ethnic Minorities	223,000
Information	354,000
Law	369,000
Media	816,000
Public Administration	818,000
Public Health	31,000
Roma	204,000
Women's Programs	300,000
Youth Programs	436,000
Other Programs	52,000
Administration	622,000

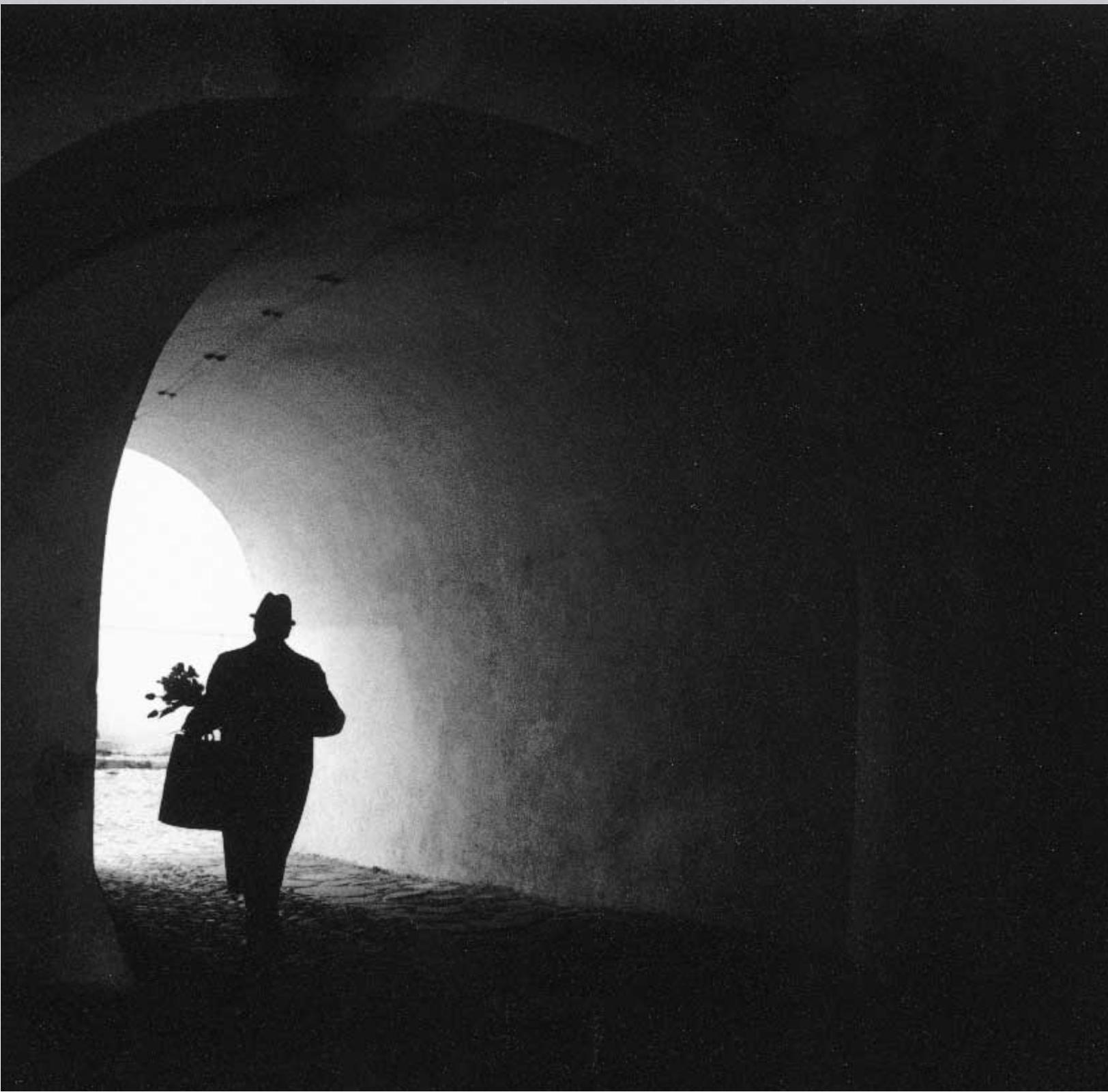
NOTE: The financial information presented above includes \$208,914 funded by non-Soros entities, principally in Culture, Ethnic Minorities, and Youth Programs. Other Soros-supported organizations made grants in Yugoslavia totaling \$2,356,550, principally in Education, Information, and Media; these grants are not included above.

# *Central Europe: EU Accession Countries*

From Tallinn to Prague to Sofia, a pivotal question occupied Central European policymakers and politicians in 2001: what are our chances of joining the EU? The second decade of independence for 10 former Eastern bloc states finds the accession process dominating the political and economic landscape. Joining this powerful multilateral institution symbolizes the final step to leaving the past behind and fundamentally redrawing the map of Europe.

Brussels' opening to the East is first a matter of politics. Enlargement of the EU is





intended to bring stability to a vast region long fractured by ethnic and territorial claims and to sweep away the last vestiges of communism's authoritarian rule.

In order to join the club, candidate states must bring their legal and economic systems into line with EU standards. Critics argue that the adoption of these standards can only guarantee formal harmonization among member states while true integration requires something more difficult: the acceptance and application of the open society values that underpin liberal democracy.

A number of issues of concern to OSI and the Soros foundations network remain stumbling blocks on the road to accession: minority rights, crime and corruption, labor and the free movement of people, and democratic practices.

**Minority rights**—particularly those of the Roma—are by no means guaranteed in such countries as Hungary, Slovakia, and Romania. New laws to protect vulnerable people will not resolve the problem alone. Rather, local government officials, police personnel, and social workers will have to carry out their duties impartially before disenfranchised citizens can exercise full rights in their own societies. OSI's European Union Accession Monitoring Program (see page 57) issued reports in 2001 on progress and problems in the candidate states on the issue of minority protection.

**Crime and corruption** is another troubling area. Trafficking of illegal goods is endemic in many aspiring member states, exacerbated by corruption in the customs and police services. In addition to such contraband as narcotics and cigarettes, traffickers send thousands of women into virtual slavery through Central and Eastern Europe every year. Citizens of countries already in the EU fear that integrating societies with poor law enforcement capabilities will worsen their own problems with crime.

**Labor and the free movement of people** have also become controversial issues. Many Westerners believe that integration will bring a flood of poor people from the East,

seeking employment and welfare benefits in the richer EU countries. While these fears may be overstated, they highlight the glaring differences in wealth between countries already in the club and those aspiring to join. The economies of the candidate states in Eastern Europe lag far behind their counterparts in the West, despite a decade of free trade in such areas as industrial goods. Whether or not the newly open economies of the East can compete with the mature, market-driven economies of the West remains to be seen.

**Democratic practices** may, in the end, constitute the most difficult hurdle for the countries of Central and Eastern Europe. In theory, no country may begin negotiations with the EU until it has fulfilled certain political criteria, including establishment of the rule of law, fair elections, and other democratic fundamentals. In practice, the EU has entered negotiations with countries where the political systems are still shaky—as evidenced by the popularity of extreme parties in several aspirant states. Even mainstream governments in the region sometimes promulgate policies that are inimical to the development of progressive open societies.

The European Union has raised expectations by drawing out negotiations with all 10 countries for years. Should it keep the aspirants in the waiting room too long—or fail to issue an invitation to some of them at all—it may call into question the cultural identity of 110 million Eastern Europeans. It is also possible that the citizens of Poland or the Czech Republic, where support for integration is tepid, will reject an invitation to join the club. Such a scenario would immensely complicate plans for a common political and economic space in Europe.

Despite these risks, the prospect of joining the EU has clearly accelerated reforms in the countries of Central and Eastern Europe. The possibility of EU membership also represents a significant achievement for the Soros foundations that over the past decade have played a leading role in establishing the open, democratic societies that make EU membership a possibility. The 10 accession

countries, as Aryeh Neier writes in his president's message (page 12), "are firmly on the path toward becoming open societies and their further progress will be aided by EU accession."

What remains as EU membership approaches is maintaining the momentum for improvement—in the same way that maintaining open society is vital in established democratic countries like the United States.

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**The following reports describe in more detail the work of OSI's EU Accession Monitoring Program and the Soros foundations in Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, and Slovakia. An entry for Turkey, which is negotiating to begin the EU accession process, can be found in the section on Central Eurasia.**

## EU ACCESSION MONITORING PROGRAM

During its first year of activity, the European Union Accession Monitoring Program worked closely with individuals and institutions from the 10 candidate states of Central and Eastern Europe (Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Latvia, Lithuania, Estonia, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, and Slovenia) to produce independent reports on several aspects of the EU's political criteria for accession.

The purpose of the reports is to help the European Commission evaluate candidate states' progress toward meeting the political criteria; to foster public awareness of the accession process generally and of the political criteria in particular; and to underline the importance of independent monitoring in ensuring governmental adherence to basic democratic principles.

The Monitoring Program presented its first two volumes of reports—on minority protection and judicial independence—to the Commission in October 2001. Each volume contains 10 country reports and a thematic overview. The country reports contain specific findings and recommendations for each candidate state government. The overviews, which analyze and comment upon regional trends and the accession process, include recommendations for the Commission.

The reports reveal that all 10 candidate states have engaged in significant efforts to improve the legislative and institutional framework for minority protection. All have adopted special government programs to facilitate the integration of vulnerable minority groups. However, there is still much to be done. No candidate state has yet adopted antidiscrimination legislation that is fully in compliance with the EU's Race Equality Directive. Police, prosecutors, judges, and other public officials have not received sufficient training in the application of existing minority rights legislation. And public officials have done little to win broader public support—a necessary precondition for effective implementation of minority rights policies.

The reports on judicial independence also describe

progress. Candidate states have established constitutional and legislative guarantees of the judiciary's independence, improved salaries, expanded competence, expedited the processing of cases, and increased the credibility of courts as a legitimate forum for dispute resolution. However, three broad problems continue to impair the development of fully independent judiciaries across the accession region: weak commitment to a culture based on the rule of law; insufficient institutional independence; and undue executive interference in administration of the judiciary.

Both volumes indicate that efforts in three key areas are needed. First, the EU should do more to articulate common European standards to measure candidate country performance. The EU should make clear that the same standards apply for both members and candidates by establishing a mechanism for monitoring compliance. Leading by example, EU member states should ensure more consistent application in their domestic practice of relevant international norms.

Second, candidate governments should make a greater effort to translate their desire for accession into an equally firm commitment to develop and apply effective policies. Too often, governments focus more attention on the adoption of EU-friendly policies than on their practical implementation.

Finally, both the EU and candidate governments should increase opportunities for civil society organizations to participate in policy development, implementation, and evaluation.

Following the publication of the reports, the Monitoring Program worked with OSI–Brussels and Soros foundations and grantees in the 10 candidate countries to promote debate and discussion of the reports' findings in the media, parliament, and public forums. The Program's website, [eumap.org](http://eumap.org), carries the full text of the reports and offers a wide range of resources (including original articles) on issues related to the political criteria.

In 2002, the Program plans to release a second set of reports examining minority protection and judicial capacity as well as new reports on corruption and, in cooperation with the Network Women's Program, equal opportunities

for women and men. The Program will also examine minority protection in the five largest EU member states, to underscore the point that the political criteria for accession apply within the EU as well as for new candidates.

**2001 Expenditures**

**\$508,000 ▶**

## **OPEN SOCIETY FOUNDATION– SOFIA (BULGARIA)**

The Open Society Foundation–Sofia is committed to creating programs that are appropriate for the country's changing political and economic situation and contribute to the long-term development of open society in Bulgaria.

In 2001, a new political movement, Simeon II, which challenged the established party system, won the 2001 parliamentary elections, and the candidate from the opposition Socialist Party was elected president. Throughout the year, the Foundation developed and maintained relations with the new government, members of Parliament, and main opposition organizations in an effort to ensure the continuation of civil society development and the EU accession process in Bulgaria.

The Foundation's priorities in 2001 focused on the country's preparation for entry into the European Union and NATO as well as development of programs for education, political reform, and human rights.

To promote European integration and regional stability, the Foundation supported efforts among Bulgarian and Yugoslav NGOs to build regional cooperation and stabilize civil society in Yugoslavia. OSF–Sofia also continued the European Lessons Program, which introduces European integration content in primary and secondary education curricula. During the 2001 academic year, the Program reached about 10,000 students and 400 teachers throughout the country.

The Education Program strengthened the Foundation's involvement in Bulgarian educational reform. It won support from the government's executive and judicial branches

by working with regional inspectorates to implement new state education requirements. OSF–Sofia cooperated with the Ministry of Education and Science in implementing the World Bank Education Modernization Project, and helped establish new forms of cooperation with Bulgarian universities through the Inter-University Fund.

The Democracy and Rule of Law Program supported high-quality legal education for students, judges, and lawyers; free legal aid services for Roma and other vulnerable groups; and improvement of prison conditions and the juvenile justice process. The Ministry of Justice, acknowledging the effectiveness of these programs, recognized the Foundation as a key partner for EU-approved judicial reforms in 2001.

The Civic Initiatives in Bulgarian Villages Competition mobilized small and isolated communities seldom considered in large-scale projects. With citizens' groups, NGOs, and the government working together, the initiatives ranged from the delivery of basic administrative services to communities to a coalition of senior citizens and young people to stimulate local tourism.

Each OSF–Sofia program includes a section or component devoted to promoting human rights through improving the social situation of minorities. In 2001, the Roma Program supported the development of a new Romani newspaper, several Romani TV programs, and four Romani radio programs to provide reliable coverage of Romani affairs and improve public attitudes toward the Roma. The Program also organized English language courses for Romani NGO and community leaders; provided support for 70 university students; held scholarship competitions for Romani high school students; and supported a summer school on Romani history, arts, culture, and language for Romani university students.

In October 2001, the Women's Program, the Roma Program, and OSF–Sofia's Public Health Program organized a conference titled "Education and Health Problems Confronting Romani Women," which identified successes and problems in accessing education and health care.

In 2001, the new Public Health Program increased its cooperation with major stakeholders such as the Parlia-

mentary Standing Committee on Healthcare and USAID. The Parliamentary Committee expressed interest in working with the Program on health care reform issues, while USAID invited the Program to join the National Health Insurance Fund's advisory board.

The Program also helped develop Bulgaria's first master's degree program in public health and completed the initial stage of the Palliative Care Project. The Project will work to put accessible, end-of-life care on the national agenda, develop special programs for nurses, and create hospice programs and networks.

### 2001 Expenditures **\$7,432,000** ▶

Civil Society	1,021,000
Culture	391,000
East East	123,000
Economic Reform	805,000
Education	1,059,000
Ethnic Minorities	91,000
Information	229,000
Law	855,000
Media	130,000
Public Administration	732,000
Public Health	586,000
Roma	305,000
Women's Programs	95,000
Youth Programs	455,000
Other Programs	35,000
Administration	519,000

NOTE: The financial information presented above includes \$168,325 funded by non-Soros entities, principally in Civil Society and Ethnic Minorities. Other Soros-supported organizations made grants in Bulgaria totaling \$1,913,771, principally in Economic Reform, Education, Human Rights, Media, Public Administration, and Roma; these grants are not included above.

## OPEN SOCIETY FUND–PRAGUE (CZECH REPUBLIC)

The Open Society Fund–Prague spent much of 2001 focusing on long-term issues such as the rule of law, ethnic integration, and civil society development, paying particular attention to how these issues affect the Czech Republic’s impending accession to the European Union.

In addition to supporting criminal justice reform and increasing access to free legal aid, the Fund’s Legal Program made anticorruption efforts a major priority in 2001. Corruption continues to undermine the Czech Republic’s substantial democratic reforms and erode public trust in government and the rule of law. Corruption also poses one of the most serious problems for the Czech Republic in regard to European Union accession. In response to this, OSF–Prague supported the local Transparency International’s anticorruption activities, including an initiative to develop anticorruption programs for the Czech police based on successful efforts in other countries. The Fund also initiated an investigative journalism program with a partner organization that seeks to expose corruption at the national and local levels.

OSF–Prague started several new programs to assist a nine-year public administration reform initiative launched by the Czech government in 2001. The programs will work to encourage public dialogue and participation in the reform initiative, support training for administrators, and foster cooperation between public agencies and NGOs.

The full integration of minorities into society continued to be a focus for action. OSF–Prague cooperated with regional pedagogical centers to develop multicultural education for primary and secondary schools in order to change majority attitudes toward marginalized groups. Romani programs focused on education and early childhood development. The School for Everyone program sought to make school environments more tolerant.

In coordination with the government, the Fund also offered a variety of programs to provide young Roma with stipends and scholarships for language education and study at secondary schools and universities. A multicultural center

created by OSF–Prague in 2000 extended programs like the Culture and Crossings Program, which provides multicultural education to primary and secondary school teachers, to other regions of the Czech Republic in 2001.

Equal opportunity laws exist in the Czech Republic, yet their implementation and enforcement is not a common practice. OSF–Prague supported a number of programs to fight discrimination and promote gender equality. The Healthy Parenthood Program, for example, worked to change approaches and attitudes toward childbirth and develop strategies to fight job and pay discrimination against women with young children.

OSF–Prague supported citizens’ advocacy groups in expanding public involvement in governance and challenging legislation that limited citizen participation in the decision-making process. The Fund presented the results of these civil society activities to the public and policymakers through publications and roundtable discussions.

OSF–Prague marked 2001, officially designated in the Czech Republic as the Year of Volunteers, by spinning off its Volunteer Development Program into an independent NGO. The Program has built a large network of volunteer centers throughout the country and received support from the Ministry of Social Affairs and international funders such as the C.S. Mott Foundation.

To further build up its endowment, OSF–Prague secured funding from the Foundation Investment Fund, established by the Czech government in 1992 to strengthen foundations as a source of independent support for nonprofit activities. In 2001, OSF–Prague received approximately \$40,000 in grants to support education initiatives.

2001 Expenditures	\$2,959,000 ▶
Civil Society	468,000
Criminal Justice	50,000
Culture	326,000
East East	109,000
Education	399,000
Information	178,000
Law	99,000
Media	6,000

Public Administration	168,000
Public Health	80,000
Roma	398,000
Women's Programs	96,000
Youth Programs	301,000
Other Programs	161,000
Administration	122,000

NOTE: The financial information presented above includes \$92,040 funded by non-Soros entities, principally in Civil Society, Education, and Youth Programs. Other Soros-supported organizations made grants in the Czech Republic totaling \$182,806, principally in Education, Civil Society, and Roma; these grants are not included above.

## OPEN ESTONIA FOUNDATION

With Estonia's impending membership in the European Union, Estonians have begun to develop greater interest in relations between their country and the EU and the crucial issues raised by integration with Europe.

According to a May 2001 opinion poll, 34 percent of Estonia's registered voters approved of joining the EU, and 55 percent were opposed. A record high 11 percent of voters said that they had yet to make a decision. During the polling, respondents frequently said that information from the media was often difficult to understand, while information from casual conversations and discussions was easier to come by and more trustworthy.

Improving understanding of the EU and what it means for Estonians was a significant priority for the Open Estonia Foundation (OEF) in 2001. Throughout the year, the Foundation's EU Program worked to improve knowledge of the institutions of the EU and pan-European associations, and promote discussions on how to bring those institutions and networks closer to the public. By December 2001 public support for the EU had increased to 58 percent.

One of the Program's major initiatives was a joint call with the government's EU Information Secretariat for EU

information project proposals by NGOs and civil society associations. The initiative funded 46 projects that supported or opposed the EU, reaching at least half a million people through the schools, debate programs, and a variety of public events. The state contributed more than \$100,000 to the initiative, and OEF contributed \$50,000.

Publishing was another area where the Foundation worked to raise awareness about EU membership and encourage Estonian NGOs to approach EU institutions. OEF supported the translation and publication of *A Guide to EU Funding for NGOs in the Candidate Countries*, which was produced by the Brussels-based Euro Citizen Action Service. The guide provides an overview of existing funding opportunities and has become a common reference for NGOs and local governments.

The EU Program also identified ways to give citizens a voice in shaping the accession policy process and to improve discussions between civil society and the government about EU expansion. In cooperation with the Estonian Institute for Future Studies, OEF launched an interactive online forum titled, "The Future of the European Union: Initiation of Thematic Discussions and Research in Estonia." The website discussions address issues such as political integration, federalism, the role of civic organizations in the union, and enlargement.

In addition to promoting discussion, the EU Program also provided strategic analysis of preaccession policies. Program-sponsored research conducted by the Jaan Tonisson Institute examined the country's existing Russian schools and higher education system and developed reform strategies to prepare them for accession.

Another major initiative, the Baltic-American Partnership Program (BAPP), which was founded in 1998 by the United States Agency for International Development and the Open Society Institute, continued to support the development of open society and help citizens participate in local and national governance. In 2001, BAPP supported the Council of Estonian NGO Round Table, which is a leading force in elaborating the Estonian Civil Society Development Concept, a proposal to the Estonian Parliament developed by Estonian civil society





Millennium celebration, Budapest, Hungary

organizations that defines principles, roles, and regulations for Estonia's third sector.

BAPP also carried out two open competitions targeted at organizational development of individual NGOs, and continued to assist the Network of NGO Resource Centers in its efforts to increase the sustainability and professionalism of NGOs and raise awareness of the nonprofit sector throughout Estonia.

OSI's East East Program helped fund 10 cross-border partnership projects in Estonia, and almost 100 Estonians participated, sharing experiences with their partners abroad.

2001 Expenditures	\$1,468,000 ▶
Civil Society	794,000
Culture	12,000
East East	128,000
Education	51,000
Information	13,000
Law	15,000
Public Administration	8,000
Public Health	95,000
Women's Programs	81,000
Youth Programs	137,000
Other Programs	28,000
Administration	108,000

NOTE: The financial information presented above includes \$669,576 funded by non-Soros entities, principally in Civil Society. Other Soros-supported organizations made grants in Estonia totaling \$1,136,969, principally in Culture, Education, Public Administration, and Public Health; these grants are not included above.

## SOROS FOUNDATION–HUNGARY

Since 1998, Hungary's right-wing government has cut social spending, initiated economic policies that favor upper-income groups and neglect the poor, and pursued legislation that centralizes government power and stifles democracy. In response, the Soros Foundation–Hungary

(SFH) has spent the last two years moving away from cooperation with the government, and instead focused on providing support for NGOs, strengthening public interest and involvement in democratic governance, and assisting marginalized groups, including the Roma. In anticipation of Hungary's entry into the European Union, the Foundation also worked to maintain strong connections with EU representative offices and helped NGOs prepare for working with the Union.

In 2001, much as it had done a decade earlier, SFH collaborated with NGOs and democracy advocates outside of the formal political party system to raise public awareness of the need to preserve and strengthen democratic practices in the country. One such organization, established by the Foundation, was the Nonprofit Resource Center, which provides free space, equipment, consultancy services, and not-for-profit loans to civil society NGOs.

SFH also focused on developing funding sources to give NGOs independence from the government and the ability to sustain and expand their work. The Foundation supported projects to develop private philanthropy for NGOs such as the Hospice and Palliative Care Foundation, which used a small SFH grant for a fundraising campaign to finance the construction of its Hospice House.

The Foundation helped sustain several initiatives to strengthen public awareness of the importance of democratic institutions, the Parliament, ombudsmen, an independent judiciary, and diverse media. SFH developed educational materials about corruption for police officers and supported publicity campaigns on corruption issues. The Foundation also worked to increase citizen involvement in public affairs by funding public interest programs on independent local television and radio stations covering freedom of information issues.

Throughout the year, the Foundation supported NGOs working to protect and advance the rights of marginalized or vulnerable groups such as the Roma, the poor and invalid, refugees, prisoners, and pensioners. The Roma Civil Rights Foundation focused on housing issues and promoting changes to end discrimination in housing laws. A mobile legal aid clinic sponsored by the

Foundation provided free professional legal services and training to resource-strapped NGOs.

To combat hatred based on race, religion, gender or ethnicity, SFH worked closely with NGOs to convince both the government and the public that Hungary must meet the antidiscrimination and equal treatment requirements of the Hungarian Constitution and the EU. The Hungarian Civil Liberties Union made progress in the area of patient's rights through its public information campaigns and work on legislative issues. Employment discrimination was challenged by the Difference Foundation, which brought a number of test cases to court.

The death of Miklos Vasarhelyi, chair of the Foundation, in summer 2001 marked the end of a great period of civil society development in Hungary. The Foundation's new chair, Gabor Halmai, and the seven-member board have pledged to work in Vasarhelyi's honor in pursuit of new strategies to promote open society in Hungary.

<b>2001 Expenditures</b>	<b>\$5,531,000 ▶</b>
Civil Society	620,000
Culture	1,054,000
East East	80,000
Economic Reform	74,000
Education	875,000
Information	295,000
Law	419,000
Public Health	606,000
Roma	902,000
Women's Programs	5,000
Youth Programs	20,000
Other Programs	171,000
Administration	410,000

NOTE: Other Soros-supported organizations made grants in Hungary totaling \$2,273,985, principally in Civil Society, Education, Media, Public Health, Roma, and Youth Programs; these grants are not included above.

## SOROS FOUNDATION–LATVIA

The Soros Foundation–Latvia (SFL) spent much of 2001 helping broaden the development and discussion of public policies and forming partnerships with NGOs to improve their capacity for developing civil society. Specific priorities included governance and electoral reforms, opening up the policymaking process, analyzing the impact of the EU on Latvia, and education reform.

In partnership with the local Transparency International chapter, SFL monitored campaign finance in local government elections. For the first time, voters received detailed disclosures on campaign expenditures and sources of party income. The monitoring activities, based on techniques originally developed in Latin America, helped foster a growing policy debate about reforming the party financing system to promote transparency and accountability. Monitoring activities also examined media impartiality and prompted public dialogue on the ethics and professionalism of election coverage. Discussion and scrutiny of the press compelled a group of media outlets to sign their first joint code of ethics. Based on these successes, election observers will carry out full-scale monitoring projects on the 2002 parliamentary elections.

The Foundation used technology in 2001 to expand interest in public policy and provide access to information by launching a website, [www.politika.lv](http://www.politika.lv). The site features opinion pieces, public discussion forums, and current policy analyses and research for policy analysts, policymakers, students, journalists, and others. The site, which has 9,000 users per week, focuses on issues such as ethnic integration, education policy, rule of law, and foreign affairs. Partnership arrangements with other Internet sites in Latvia bring [politika.lv](http://politika.lv)'s resources to more than 100,000 users. An English-language interface will be added in 2002. The site was launched in July at SFL's annual Public Policy Forum, where the prime minister, the speaker of Parliament, and other decision makers addressed 400 forum attendees on the theme, "Open Politics and Backroom Decisions in Latvia."

Through its Policy Development Program, SFL spon-

sored seven policy fellows who worked at five local policy institutes and NGOs, including the Latvian Center for Human Rights and Ethnic Studies, the Latvian Institute of International Affairs, and the Association for Street Children. The fellows examined issues such as monitoring the government anticorruption program, designing new policy approaches to street children, and assessing how compliance with the EU’s Race Directive will affect Latvia’s accession to the EU. Eight new policy fellows were chosen for 2002. Their work will focus on tracking court decisions in the application of human rights law, predicting the socioeconomic effects of EU integration on vulnerable groups in Latvia, and analyzing the impact of electronic media language use restrictions on minorities.

SFL’s new Education Policy Program produced the first report of an annual series on education featuring in-depth policy and discussion papers. Areas of special concern will be the introduction of bilingual teaching methods, and the gap between Latvia’s education financing, which is comparable to Eastern European levels, and its educational performance, which is at the low end of most performance measures in Europe.

2001 Expenditures	\$3,980,000 ▶
Civil Society	620,000
Criminal Justice	29,000
Culture	173,000
East East	60,000
Economic Reform	3,000
Education	962,000
Ethnic Minorities	131,000
Information	27,000
Law	868,000
Public Administration	73,000
Public Health	389,000
Women’s Programs	31,000
Youth Programs	133,000
Other Programs	37,000
Administration	443,000

NOTE: The financial information presented above includes \$601,587 funded by non-Soros entities, principally in Civil Society. Other Soros-supported organizations made grants in Latvia totaling \$330,703, principally in Education, Human Rights, and Public Administration; these grants are not included above.

## OPEN SOCIETY FUND—LITHUANIA

Lithuania continues to make significant progress in pursuing the political and administrative changes necessary for accession to the European Union. Yet society is struggling to keep up with the scale and scope of these changes. Tensions are growing, particularly in towns and villages where economic and social problems are most severe. In 2001, the Open Society Fund—Lithuania (OSFL) supported activities that helped people understand the changes that are sweeping the country, reaching out to groups left behind or marginalized by the transition process. Particular emphasis was given to issues of migration, labor and employment, education, information technology, access to justice, and poverty reduction.

Working with the Ministry of Social Security and Labor, OSFL initiated studies about the impact of the free movement of labor on Lithuania. One initial study analyzed former EU enlargements and statistical data to reveal that young and educated people, women, and unemployed specialists are the groups most likely to migrate, driven out by unemployment, bad living conditions, and low income. These results heightened public awareness of migration issues and will form the basis for larger surveys, migration process models, and new policy strategies.

Another study, *Improving Workforce Competitiveness as Lithuania Integrates into the European Union*, conducted with the Ministry of Education and Science, compared labor market demand in Lithuania and the EU to the structure of Lithuanian higher education programs. A survey of graduates revealed the need to revise and improve the provision of transferable skills, foreign languages, and information processing. The study has informed calculations

about future demand for specialists in various fields and helped universities develop new programs.

A third study supported by the Fund examined the impact of EU membership on Lithuania's foreign-trade policies. It concluded that about 70 percent of foreign trade will remain unchanged; trading partners who do not belong to the EU will be the most affected by the change. The study's methodology provides Lithuanian businesses with an effective tool for calculating price changes.

OSFL also initiated a comprehensive study on how widely information technologies are used and the attitudes and regulations people and governments have toward technology. Seventy-four percent of Lithuanians polled feel that the development of an information society will favorably influence the Lithuanian economy. With Parliament reviewing its conclusions, the study has become an important factor in official plans for Lithuania's development over the next 15 years. In cooperation with the Ministry of the Economy, OSFL launched a website to allow people to express their opinions about the development program.

Providing competent legal aid to those unable to afford it was another priority for the Fund in 2001. OSFL worked with the network's Constitutional and Legal Policy Institute (COLPI) to increase the capacity of a pilot public defender's office in Siauliai. Training courses in June increased the knowledge and practical skills of defense lawyers. In October, OSFL established a second defender's office in Vilnius with the support of the Ministry of Justice and the Lithuanian Bar Association. These are the first law offices in the region dedicated to providing comprehensive legal defense from arrest through trial.

In cooperation with the United Nations Development Program, OSFL started and sponsored the Social Exclusion and Poverty During Transition project, which facilitates integration for individuals and groups that have become socially excluded and financially impoverished as Lithuania undergoes political and economic transition. The project initiated a sociological survey in 2001, with a final report expected in 2003.

## 2001 Expenditures

**\$3,828,000** ▶

Civil Society	793,000
Culture	239,000
East East	84,000
Economic Reform	13,000
Education	604,000
Information	425,000
Law	206,000
Media	11,000
Public Administration	202,000
Public Health	482,000
Women's Programs	86,000
Youth Programs	157,000
Other Programs	18,000
Administration	508,000

NOTE: The financial information presented above includes \$679,493 funded by non-Soros entities, principally in Civil Society. Other Soros-supported organizations made grants in Lithuania totaling \$43,123, principally in Education; these grants are not included above.

## STEFAN BATORY FOUNDATION (POLAND)

With Poland's European Union membership approaching, the majority of the Stefan Batory Foundation's activities in 2001 addressed the issues raised by integration and its implications for Poland and the region. The Foundation's European Program focused on helping civil society organizations prepare for the opportunities created by European integration and examined ways to provide more and better information about the EU to the public and policymakers. The Program also worked on minimizing divisiveness between Poland and countries on the enlarged EU's periphery and how Poland could help make current and future European policy toward that area more proactive.

The Foundation worked with NGOs to implement a project it initiated to monitor the accessibility and transparency of European funds to the NGO sector. The project

established an NGO representative office in Brussels to help the groups have access to European institutions and other NGO networks, identify funding opportunities, and facilitate Polish-European projects.

To promote understanding of the EU among Polish students and the public, the Foundation launched a nationwide high school competition, “Simulations of EU Accession Negotiations,” which attracted more than 700 schools. The simulations mirror the structure and procedures of real negotiations and involve teams representing the EU Commission and negotiators from an EU accession candidate country. The teams debate a variety of key issues, draft protocols, and then reverse roles.

Acting as a bridge between East and West, the Stephan Batory Foundation launched a series of initiatives to raise awareness in EU countries about the possible negative side effects of enlargement on Poland’s eastern neighbors. The Foundation helped organize a second set of visits to the Polish-Ukrainian border for journalists from EU countries to acquaint them with an area that may soon become an EU external border. In cooperation with several NGOs, the Foundation produced policy papers in Polish, English, and Russian on Polish accession and the potential regional impact of EU enlargement.

The Foundation also produced a report on minority protection and an analysis commissioned by the Network Women’s Program on amending Polish law to meet EU standards. A joint conference with the Center for European Policy Studies brought politicians and experts from current and future EU members and non-EU neighboring states to discuss how to make future EU borders as friendly to non-EU Europeans as possible.

The Foundation continued to support NGOs by providing operating and organizational development funds to help them create long-term program strategies, diversify sources of financing, and improve management. In 2001, the Foundation awarded substantial institutional grants to 22 organizations, including a grant to the Academy for the Development of Philanthropy to promote philanthropy on the local and national level through training, counseling, and grantmaking. The Academy was the

Foundation’s implementing partner in a successful community foundations project from 1998 to 2000, which built a network of 12 community foundations. The Foundation’s Greenhouse project provided 56 microgrants for operational costs and management training to small organizations from areas where civil society initiatives are still rare.

The Foundation gave 40 grants for easily replicable organizational models that can get more people involved in NGO activities. Development of the Polish nonprofit sector also came from innovative projects such as the Information Internet NGO service run by the Forum of Non-Governmental Organizations. The Foundation also supported the Working Community of Social Welfare Organizations, which built a network of regional NGOs involved in social welfare issues.

The Equal Chances local scholarship project addresses discrepancies in educational opportunities by providing scholarships that allow students from low-income families in rural areas to continue their high school education. In 2001, 26 grassroots NGOs trained by the Stephan Batory Foundation awarded 900 scholarships through local donations and matching grants from the Foundation.

<b>2001 Expenditures</b>	<b>\$8,120,000 ▶</b>
Civil Society	2,139,000
Criminal Justice	184,000
Culture	697,000
East East	698,000
Economic Reform	44,000
Education	257,000
Ethnic Minorities	77,000
Information	253,000
Law	552,000
Media	65,000
Public Administration	150,000
Public Health	397,000
Roma	27,000
Women’s Programs	416,000
Youth Programs	815,000

Other Programs	270,000
Administration	1,079,000

NOTE: The financial information presented above includes \$1,446,071 funded by non-Soros entities, principally in Civil Society, Criminal Justice, Law, Women's Programs, and Youth Programs. Other Soros-supported organizations made grants in Poland totaling \$2,700,188, principally in Education, Human Rights, Information, Public Administration, and Public Health; these grants are not included above.

## OPEN SOCIETY FOUNDATION—ROMANIA

The Open Society Foundation—Romania continued to provide funds and resources for the Soros Open Network (SON), which comprises 12 member organizations from the Foundation's most successful programs. In 2001, the Foundation introduced a program to prevent child abandonment and institutionalization, conducted public opinion surveys, and held debates and competitions that helped the public and policy experts analyze Romania's accession to the European Union.

In addition to carrying out programmatic activities, the Foundation's Women's Program also prepared to join SON as the Partnership for Equality Center. The Center will focus on gender and education, violence against women, human rights, microfinance for rural women, and providing information about the international women's movement and EU accession. During the year, SON member organizations made substantial progress in the areas of ethnic relations, community development, public health, and education.

The Center for Legal Resources completed a draft law against trafficking in human beings that became law in December. It also developed programs to prevent drug abuse among youth, foster police transparency and accountability, and provide services for ex-offenders.

The Euroregional Center for Democracy promoted

ethnic, religious, and racial tolerance by joining the Council of Europe's "Link Diversity Campaign," which collected hundreds of essays and posters from young people in a contest celebrating the region's diversity. The Center also launched a funding and partnership database for NGOs. By the end of the year, the Center's network of partners exceeded 430 NGOs and institutions from countries throughout Central and South Eastern Europe. Other efforts to improve interethnic relations included support by the Ethnocultural Diversity Resource Center for a program to develop multiethnic communities in South Eastern Europe.

Improving the situation of the Roma is a growing concern for EU candidate states like Romania. The Resource Center for Roma Communities has helped implement a national strategy to reduce prejudice and negative stereotypes toward the Roma. The Center has also administered EU-funded programs for Romani communities, published books with Romani content, trained Romani activists, and helped create Romani NGO networks.

Community involvement in civil society was strengthened through the Community Safety and Mediation Center's efforts to improve cooperation among public authorities, NGOs, and local law enforcement agencies. The Center established the first mediation service in Iasi offering alternative methods for solving community, school, and labor conflicts. The Center also developed new ways for community groups and authorities to combat child abuse and domestic violence, which were presented at a domestic violence conference in December.

The Concept Foundation helped 10 public libraries form a national network of information and education centers; created online community media archives; and supported drama programs to reduce the impact of violence on youth. The Center for Rural Assistance established three new centers to provide isolated communities with modern communications systems and educational and cultural activities.

The Economic Development Center awarded over \$1.5 million for microcredit business activities in 2001 to more than 2,700 beneficiaries in rural areas. The Center also

provided training and consultancy services to small business managers through a project financed by the EU and the Romanian government.

In 2001, public health programs focused on regional cooperation and policy reform. The Center for Health Policies and Services developed a program to prevent cervical cancer, an initiative to create the first MA program in EU Public Health, and a regional project to study the impact of HIV/AIDS on the Roma.

A number of programs prioritized education development and reform at the national and regional levels in 2001. The Center for Education and Professional Development Step by Step reached 18,250 children and trained 1,700 education professionals through its child-centered classroom programs. The Center also addressed child protection, a key issue for Romania's EU accession, by working with day care centers in 10 cities on parenting skills and access to services. The Second Chance Program, conducted by the Center Education 2000+, offered education opportunities for children who have had to drop out of school. The Center also administered the Improving Education for Roma Children—Focus Romania Program, which creates education models for Romani children based on the experience of South Eastern European NGOs. The program was developed within the framework of the Stability Pact for South Eastern Europe.

<b>2001 Expenditures</b>	<b>\$12,621,000 ▶</b>
Civil Society	1,010,000
Culture	290,000
East East	277,000
Economic Reform	1,221,000
Education	2,621,000
Ethnic Minorities	525,000
Information	112,000
Law	1,926,000
Media	64,000
Public Administration	340,000
Public Health	1,434,000
Roma	284,000
Women's Programs	337,000

Youth Programs	318,000
Other Programs	982,000
Administration	882,000

NOTE: The financial information presented above includes \$70,523 funded by non-Soros entities, principally in Civil Society and Economic Reform. Other Soros-supported organizations made grants in Romania totaling \$1,154,176, principally in Culture, Education, Human Rights, Public Administration, and Roma Programs; these grants are not included above.

## OPEN SOCIETY FOUNDATION—BRATISLAVA (SLOVAKIA)

In 2001, the Open Society Foundation—Bratislava continued to support and promote projects that developed the rule of law, established inclusive policymaking procedures, and facilitated systemic changes to expand democracy and open society in Slovakia. The Foundation had particular success in the areas of governance, protection of minorities and other vulnerable groups, and education.

OSF—Bratislava worked during the year to develop and advocate for legislation that will substantially improve the sustainability of Slovakia's NGO sector. The legislation adopted by parliament allows Slovak citizens to designate 1 percent of their taxes to nonprofit organizations of their choice.

The Foundation played an active role in implementing new constitutional amendments to create a National Judicial Council with expanded powers to protect the judiciary's institutional independence. The Foundation also helped promote legal reforms that established a new institutional ombudsman's office for human rights protection. OSF—Bratislava sponsored public discussions to raise awareness and encourage citizens to use these new laws and agencies.

The Court Management Project worked to streamline court proceedings and introduced technology to increase

transparency in the legal system. The Project developed measures that reduce the time it takes to bring cases to trial by 40 percent. It also helped introduce computer software that randomly allocates cases to judges, which reduces the potential for corruption in the case selection process.

Combating intolerance toward ethnic, racial, and sexual minorities was another priority in 2001. OSF–Bratislava worked with the media on several educational campaigns to promote tolerance, including the country’s first media campaign using TV, billboards, and newspapers to combat violence against women. The campaign encouraged people to denounce gender violence and sought to change laws and public policies. The Foundation collaborated with police departments to prepare a manual for police officers about how to identify and prevent racially motivated attacks. OSF–Bratislava also helped establish a center for monitoring attacks and providing assistance to victims and the public.

The Roma and Women’s Programs organized the first national meeting of Slovak Romani women leaders to discuss discrimination, education, and the special position of Romani NGOs in the nonprofit sector. Representatives from well-run projects shared their experiences and discussed their expansion with donors. Future meetings may center around pilot projects on Romani drug abuse, Romani journalists, and early childhood education supported by OSI network programs. The Foundation also funded four Romani NGOs monitoring Romani-related events and coordinating activities at the local and regional level. Ultimately, these groups will develop into Romani umbrella organizations that can work with the Foundation, donors, and government agencies to systematically meet the needs of Romani communities.

OSF–Bratislava supported higher education reform with seminars and workshops focusing on changes in the system and approximation with European higher education standards. The forums examined legislation, financing, quality assurance, and compatibility with the European system, and prompted OSF–Bratislava to call for further analysis of higher education financing in Slovakia over the last 10 years. In 2001, the Ministry of

Education issued a study produced by the Step by Step Program’s Wide Open School Foundation that promotes new approaches to Romani primary and secondary school education.

During the year, the Foundation and the British Council continued to participate in the efforts by Maturita Reform and the National Institute of Education to establish a national testing and records system for high school graduates. After a number of workshops on increasing coordination and communication between Slovak secondary and tertiary education systems, academics and education officials submitted an initial proposal for changes to the Slovak Rector’s Conference at the end of 2001.

<b>2001 Expenditures</b>	<b>\$3,614,000 ▶</b>
Civil Society	96,000
Criminal Justice	2,000
Culture	269,000
East East	51,000
Economic Reform	2,000
Education	694,000
Ethnic Minorities	16,000
Information	335,000
Law	339,000
Media	27,000
Public Administration	195,000
Public Health	204,000
Roma	167,000
Women’s Programs	93,000
Youth Programs	234,000
Other Programs	524,000
Administration	366,000

NOTE: The financial information presented above includes \$15,277 funded by non-Soros entities, principally in Ethnic Minorities. Other Soros-supported organizations made grants in Slovakia totaling \$745,645, principally in Civil Society, Education, Media, and Roma Programs; these grants are not included above.

## REGIONAL REPORTS

# *Russia and Ukraine*

Fundamental open society values remain tenuous in Russia in light of President Putin's efforts to strengthen the state and the "free pass" on human rights issues awarded to Russia by the United States for its support of the war on terrorism. Elected to a four-year term in April 2000, Putin has used administrative redesign and executive fiat to divest authority from corrupt regional officials and recentralize power in Moscow. By the end of 2001, federal institutions were stronger than at any point in the postcommunist period.

A strong state can be important for the protection of civil liberties. Only a state





that has the power to collect taxes can protect individual freedoms. Only a state that has legitimate public authority can guarantee the rule of law. Yet an unstinting focus on building the apparatus of the state can have its own unintended negative consequences. Excessive centralization can compromise open society.

The foundation in Russia has worked to ensure that local organizations, grassroots actors, and horizontal regional networks are not left behind during Putin's central state building. Foundation programs function closely with provincial institutions and actors to build new sets of relationships. The Small Towns program, for example, supports local economic development in scores of communities to exert systemic influence on local governments across the Russian Federation. The Culture Program coordinates the fundraising efforts of regionally based cultural institutions cut off from traditional forms of financing. Rule of law reform efforts seek, among other things, to strengthen public interest law through impact litigation.

There are still a number of open questions for the democratic development of Russia. Levels of pretrial detention, for example, remain staggeringly high and the system of public defense largely unreformed. While jury trials are to be introduced in all 89 regions, the country is still far from establishing the effectiveness of a judicial system based on jury trials. The press, while open and free, remains hamstrung by fundamental structural constraints such as limits on advertising revenue, lack of investment, and management limitations.

Putin himself has been both friend and foe to the human rights community. Recognizing the imperative for Russia to become a full-fledged member of the international system of democratic states, he helped galvanize the Civic Forum of NGOs in 2001. But sustained prosecution of war in Chechnya and continued troubles with ethnic and racial discrimination make Russia a questionable democracy.

In the first part of 2001, Ukraine witnessed its largest demonstrations since the end of the communist period. These actions were stimulated by the so-called “tape scan-

dal” documenting President Kuchma's authoritarian behavior, including alleged involvement in the killing of a maverick Internet journalist. Yet the scandal died down due to insufficient evidence, and business as usual re-emerged in Ukrainian politics. The Ukrainian state remained plagued by difficulties: the reformist prime minister was sacked; the president fought with Parliament about widening his scope of power and authority; and vested interests continued to pursue policies that would constrain the growth of a market economy.

While Ukraine, by comparison, is light years ahead of authoritarian Belarus, open society principles and practices in various areas remain under threat. Corruption, for example, is still a growth industry in Ukraine despite various efforts to curb the trend. Human rights advocacy is in an abysmal state, and public health, specifically HIV, is an escalating problem.

In 2001, the Ukrainian foundation concentrated on protecting civil liberties, including the rights of student activists, the rights of journalists, the public's right to information during election campaigns, and the right to vote.

The Open Society Institute also remains engaged in Belarus even though there has been no Soros foundation in that country since 1997 when the government forced it to close. In 2001, the OSI–Paris Belarus Project and Soros foundations in neighboring countries supported grassroots efforts in education, human rights, and other areas. Many of the initiatives sought to prepare a new generation of leaders for a time when a government more conducive to civil society emerges.

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**The following reports describe the activities of the Open Society Institute–Russia, the International Renaissance Foundation (Ukraine), and the International Soros Science Education Program, which works in Belarus and Georgia as well as Russia and Ukraine.**

## OPEN SOCIETY INSTITUTE–RUSSIA

Over the past several years, the Open Society Institute–Russia has worked to strengthen its ties with other civil society organizations and continue its work in education, community development, public health, women’s rights, media, culture, and regional cooperation. In 2001, OSI–Russia united several programs into a new program bloc called the Social Contract. The goals of the Social Contract are to support emerging civil society groups; consolidate civil society networks; increase interaction among NGOs, the media, local governments, and the business community; and further strengthen the rule of law and good governance in Russia.

The Conflict Areas Program, a Social Contract initiative, focused on practical peacekeeping work in potential conflict zones in the Northern Caucasus and launched a new informational Internet portal, the Caucasus Knot ([kavkaz.memo.ru](http://kavkaz.memo.ru)). The portal contains a database of 155 regional NGOs and provides current information about the Caucasus as well as background history on ethnic groups, religious and cultural traditions, political and public figures, nongovernmental organizations, and the mass media.

Support for secondary education and the humanities and social sciences in higher education continued in 2001 through the Educational Megaproject. In higher education, the Megaproject focused on 33 Russian regional universities hosting Internet centers created with OSI support. The core program of the Megaproject is the Chairs Support Program (CSP) for chairs of humanities departments. CSP participants receive support to pursue two- to three-year projects, with leading Russian and foreign universities and research institutes acting as resource centers. In 2001, the Program was implemented in about a quarter of all Russian liberal arts universities with 52 chairs from 24 universities and 22 resource centers participating.

OSI–Russia launched a new component to the Megaproject called “Festival of Humanities,” which recognizes and supports universities as social and cultural enti-

ties that have a significant impact on local communities and society at large. The three festivals held in 2001 focused on developing tolerance, 10 years of the CIS, and challenges faced by new liberal arts universities.

OSI–Russia also launched [auditorium.ru](http://auditorium.ru), an informational and educational Internet portal. Its goal is to use new information technologies to promote the development of education and research in the social sciences and humanities in Russia. During 2001, more than 800 books selected by OSI–Russia experts were put into an electronic format and placed on the portal.

As part of its efforts to promote cultural and regional development, the foundation actively participated in the Volga Cultural Capital Program. Modeled on a similar European program and aimed at the social and cultural integration of the Volga region, the Program stimulates regional development, supports new management models, and helps cities create positive images and develop infrastructure. The Program is one of the largest recent undertakings in regional cultural policy in Russia.

The number of participants involved in the Pushkin Library Megaproject increased from 5,000 libraries in 2000 to 15,000 libraries in 89 regions in 2001, a strong sign of the program’s success and the growing interest in helping libraries develop as civic centers. Sixteen countries from the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS), the Baltic region, Eastern Europe, and Mongolia also took part in the Megaproject’s various projects and contributed over \$8.5 million in cofinancing.

The Small Towns of Russia Program focused on the economic, social, and cultural development of local communities and the critical role these communities can play in the development of open society. By the end of 2001, local administrations, together with consulting companies, outlined a strategy for the development of 35 municipal units to bring communities, local governments, and businesses together to plan development policies. The Program created two resource centers in the towns of Ekaterinburg and Saratov to disseminate information about municipal development strategy plans. Through these centers, another 40 small towns have joined the project since November 2001.

## 2001 Expenditures \$40,785,000 ▶

Civil Society	3,145,000
Criminal Justice	643,000
Culture	2,611,000
East East	259,000
Economic Reform	455,000
Education	8,977,000
Information	12,637,000
Law	1,638,000
Media	1,219,000
Public Administration	1,081,000
Public Health	2,954,000
Women's Programs	349,000
Youth Programs	262,000
Other Programs	888,000
Administration	3,669,000

NOTE: The financial information presented above includes \$522,932 funded by non-Soros entities, principally in Culture, Education, and Public Health. Other Soros-supported organizations made grants in Russia totaling \$4,192,938, principally in Civil Society, Education, Media, and Public Health; these grants are not included above.

## INTERNATIONAL RENAISSANCE FOUNDATION (UKRAINE)

In 2001, the International Renaissance Foundation (IRF) executive board devised a new strategy, *Civil Society Development 2001 and Beyond*, which was approved by OSI chairman and IRF founder George Soros. The new strategy aims to increase IRF programs supporting the development of NGO networks in Ukraine. IRF also prioritized support for initiatives that protected civil liberties and strengthened democracy as well as continued activities addressing education, penitentiary reform, and health policy.

The Law Against the Abuse of Power project helped monitor illegal actions against student activists, published materials based on monitoring results, created public advi-

sory centers for youth, and provided free legal aid and services. The project organized four public hearings on human rights, attracting representatives from government, media, and civil society organizations. Publication and distribution of 15,000 copies of the brochure *I have the right* provided citizens with information on the rights of people threatened or detained by the police or prosecuted for legal political activity and listed addresses for human rights organizations and legal clinics. The project also supported press conferences and articles on the oppression of students' rights, including a column hosted on the Republic Institute's website.

In Ukraine, freedom of speech and information is extremely limited for journalists and the public. National television channels and newspapers are controlled by oligarchs or influenced by the state. Despite the obstacles, NGOs effectively translated the popular outrage over the September murder of Ukrainian journalist Georgiy Gongadze into a strong and coherent response, prompting the government to bring the perpetrators to justice.

One of the Foundation's most important recent goals has been to increase its support for independent journalists who provide objective coverage of the political situation in Ukraine. In cooperation with the Media Program, IRF supported the establishment of the first independent public radio station in Ukraine, which will begin broadcasting in 2002. The station will provide listeners with a variety of news and current affairs programs and formats, including talk radio.

Scheduled 2002 parliamentary elections were a catalyst for efforts to strengthen democracy in 2001. IRF supported initiatives that facilitated democratic practices and transparency by bringing together major NGOs engaged in electoral monitoring to create the All-Ukrainian Public Monitoring Committee. Increased cooperation among previously separate and isolated NGOs allowed them to break the control of information by government and oligarchy media. By publishing a special weekly supplement in regional media, the Monitoring Committee provided timely and comprehensive information about the mass media, voters' rights, and election administration

to help citizens become informed voters. These and other activities and initiatives allowed IRF to play an integral role in coordinating the efforts of other Western donors in Ukraine.

<b>2001 Expenditures</b>	<b>\$6,544,000 ▶</b>
Civil Society	188,000
Criminal Justice	5,000
Culture	601,000
East East	150,000
Education	1,343,000
Ethnic Minorities	330,000
Information	220,000
Law	684,000
Media	425,000
Public Administration	505,000
Public Health	608,000
Roma	113,000
Women's Programs	301,000
Youth Programs	144,000
Other Programs	195,000
Administration	733,000

NOTE: The financial information presented above includes \$92,796 funded by non-Soros entities, principally in Media and Public Health. Other Soros-supported organizations made grants in Ukraine totaling \$2,168,512, principally in Economic Reform, Education, Media, and Public Administration; these grants are not included above.

## INTERNATIONAL SOROS SCIENCE EDUCATION PROGRAM (ISSEP)

Initiated in 1994, ISSEP has supported excellence in science education in Russia, Georgia, Ukraine, and Belarus by providing support to educators and students and by supplying educational institutions with equipment and materials necessary for the advancement of science education.

In 2001, the Program worked with the Russian government to identify and fund more than 5,500 high school teachers, professors, associate professors, and graduate and undergraduate students as well as 272 Soros Emeritus Professors and High School Teachers. ISSEP developed a new advanced selection system using computer analysis to assess potential grant recipients, as well as survey more than 120,000 undergraduate students in 305 universities around the country.

The Program also launched the Natural Sciences Today initiative, which informed high school teachers of recent scientific advances through lectures delivered by Soros Professors at 58 conferences in 34 regions of Russia. ISSEP continued to publish the *Soros Educational Journal*, featuring review articles written by distinguished Soros Professors. The journal is distributed to all high school and university libraries in the country and is also published in Georgian.

The Program compiled a new, authoritative 10-volume *Encyclopedia of Contemporary Natural Sciences*. The Russian government allocated \$450,000 to print 40,000 copies of the encyclopedia, which was very well received by the national and international scientific media, and was distributed free of charge to schools, universities, and regional and city libraries.

Total ISSEP expenditures in 2001 were \$3,897,176. ISSEP received \$1.9 million from national and local governments in Russia and \$500,000 from the government of the Republic of Georgia. No contributions were received from Belarussian or Ukrainian sources in 2001.





## REGIONAL REPORTS

# *Africa*

Over the past few years, the Soros foundations network expanded its activities in Africa as many countries began the transition to democracy in the midst of worsening problems for the continent's people. War, crime, and human rights abuses proliferated in places marked by an absence of the rule of law. The HIV/AIDS epidemic continued to take a profound toll on the region's health and education systems, productivity levels, and overall social and economic stability.

New practices such as regular multiparty elections appeared to take root in several countries, signaling progress toward open, democratic societies.

Yet traditional relationships based on ethnicity, special interests, sexism, and nepotism remained strong throughout the continent.

The three Soros foundations in Africa reported numerous achievements in 2001. The Open Society Foundation for South Africa, for example, supported innovative criminal justice and crime prevention projects as well as community radio efforts that inform marginalized communities about public health issues and promote democratic participation.

The Open Society Initiative for Southern Africa (OSISA) funded voter education initiatives and, in Zambia and Malawi, campaigns to prevent incumbent presidents from running for unconstitutional third terms. The Open Society Initiative for West Africa (OSIWA) promoted freedom of information laws and supported truth and reconciliation activities in Sierra Leone and Ghana.

Through the three Soros foundations, OSI supports open society initiatives in 28 countries in Africa and occasionally provides funding to organizations in other countries as well. OSISA covers Angola, Botswana, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, Swaziland, Zambia, and Zimbabwe. OSIWA handles Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chad, Cote d'Ivoire, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Liberia, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone, and Togo.

As elsewhere, OSI also funds special initiatives in addition to the work of the foundations. In Africa, the most prominent is Nurcha, a South African NGO committed to providing decent housing for the millions of people still living in the overcrowded, unsanitary settlements of apartheid. Using loan guarantees and other financial instruments to release funds to developers for building houses and to poor people for obtaining homes, Nurcha has contributed to the construction of 100,000 houses for about half a million people. With the support of the South African government, the Open Society Institute, and other international and domestic donors, Nurcha has become a

major influence in the housing field and a catalyst for institutional change.

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The following reports describe some of the work of the Open Society Foundation for South Africa, the Open Society Initiative for Southern Africa, and the Open Society Initiative for West Africa.

## OPEN SOCIETY FOUNDATION FOR SOUTH AFRICA

The Open Society Foundation for South Africa (OSF-SA) continued to promote open society values by supporting institutions and civil society organizations working in the areas of criminal justice, media, education, and human rights and democracy building.

The institutions for constitutional democracy are firmly in place in South Africa, yet the country's democratic development continues against a backdrop of inherited inequality and deep pockets of poverty. Democratic transition has also been slowed by high crime rates and the toll that HIV/AIDS has taken on almost every facet of life.

Crime and violence remain dire threats to democracy, impeding civic participation in democratic institutions. This danger is compounded when increased levels of crime are directed at the most vulnerable members of society—the poor, women, and children. In 2001, the Foundation's Criminal Justice Initiative focused on these groups through innovative criminal justice and crime prevention projects, and encouraged the exchange of ideas and debate among organizations working on criminal justice issues. The program supported domestic violence legislation monitoring and school-based youth-at-risk programs, as well as gun control, sex worker, and justice activities that fostered engagement between civil society organizations and the state.

Increasing access to information, particularly for marginalized rural communities where newspapers, TV,

and radio are not often available, remained a priority for the Media Program. In 2001, the Program provided studio and transmission equipment to seven radio stations, enabling them to immediately go on air upon receiving their licenses. In response to the growing popularity of community radio throughout Africa, the Program collaborated with the Open Society Initiative for Southern Africa and the World Association for Community Broadcasters to host a series of workshops on community radio development and planning. Participants came from Ghana, Mozambique, Namibia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Togo, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.

OSF-SA also supported the National Community Radio Forum, the country's largest broadcaster association, in its successful efforts to get regulators to expedite licensing procedures, and draft legislation to create a government-funded media development agency to promote media diversity in 2002.

South Africa will assume the first presidency of the African Union when it is launched in mid-2002. The increased integration that the Union promises to bring to a continent as diverse as Africa poses both challenges and opportunities. Among a myriad of pressing issues, the structural causes of violence must be addressed, authoritarian regimes confronted, and weak states supported. Soros foundations and initiatives in Africa will work to promote regional integration as well as continue their individual and collective efforts to develop civil society and democracy throughout the continent.

<b>2001 Expenditures</b>	<b>\$6,984,000 ▶</b>
Civil Society	1,048,000
Criminal Justice	2,775,000
Economic Reform	53,000
Education	1,632,000
Information	47,000
Media	837,000
Public Administration	1,000

Youth Programs	23,000
Other Programs	11,000
Administration	557,000

NOTE: The financial information presented above includes \$22,512 funded by non-Soros entities, principally in Media. Other Soros-supported organizations made grants in South Africa totaling \$2,011,966, principally in Civil Society and Economic Reform; these grants are not included above.

## OPEN SOCIETY INITIATIVE FOR SOUTHERN AFRICA

The Open Society Initiative for Southern Africa (OSISA) continued to support programs in human rights, democracy building, education, media, and information technology in 2001. The Initiative's varied activities shared a common goal of reducing poverty, HIV/AIDS, and political instability, which remain major problems for most of the countries in the region, including the nine served by OSISA.

OSISA confronted challenges to democracy in Angola, Lesotho, Malawi, Zambia, and Zimbabwe with support for programs on constitutional issues, civic education, and electoral monitoring. OSISA played a key role in building relations between civil society actors and the media.

In Angola, the Initiative was particularly active in civil society efforts to revitalize the search for a peaceful solution to the country's 27-year civil war. Several workshops bringing together the churches and other peace activists were held during the year in search of solutions to the war. Late in 2001, the civil society "Campaign Against War" gathered momentum, and the two warring parties began to make overtures about peace talks. Nevertheless, the situation in the country remained troubling.

Hopes for peace in Zimbabwe were dashed as the government intensified its sometimes violent occupation of white-owned farms. Violence also continued against ordinary Zimbabweans (both black and white) in cities,

towns, and villages, especially against those perceived as opponents of the regime. Opposition groups estimate that about 200 antigovernment demonstrators and activists were killed during the year. OSISA assisted several organizations involved in monitoring political violence, providing legal assistance to victims, and pursuing constitutional reforms that more accurately reflect the will of the people.

In Zambia, deeply flawed presidential, parliamentary, and local elections followed a successful civil society campaign to prevent President Chiluba from obtaining an unconstitutional third term. During the election campaign, the Initiative funded efforts to mobilize women voters and candidates, voter education for youth, and information campaigns to improve election media coverage. In Malawi, OSISA also supported civil society efforts to prevent President Muluzi from standing for an unconstitutional third term by organizing meetings for Malawian activists to learn from colleagues in Zambia and Zimbabwe.

Although Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia, and Swaziland are comparatively more stable than their other neighbors, they are still faced with a number of challenges. In Botswana, ethnic tension between the Batswana majority and the Kalang'a minority are growing due to perceptions that the Kalang'a dominate public office. In Lesotho, the Interim Political Authority (IPA) prepared for 2002 parliamentary and presidential elections, the first since 1998, when the country plunged into crisis after the opposition did not accept the election results and the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) intervened militarily to quell rioting and stabilize the country. In Namibia, President Sam Nujoma announced that he would not seek a fourth term, a move welcomed by democracy advocates who have seen Nujoma as an obstacle to democratization efforts.

OSISA and the other Soros foundations in Africa participated in a workshop on legal reform and human rights held in Dakar, Senegal. The workshop identified critical human rights and legal reform issues in Africa, and fostered discussion about how the Africa foundations and OSI can work together to address these issues. A second workshop is planned for 2002.

In 2001, OSISA initiated a new Economic Policy Reform Program that will support advocacy efforts dealing with national, regional, and international economic issues. The Initiative will work with organizations targeting local and national economic planning, trade and investment, regional integration, and globalization issues. It is critical for OSISA to increase its efforts to fight the intertwined problems of poverty and HIV/AIDS in order to make further progress toward creating open societies in Southern Africa.

**2001 Expenditures** **\$6,108,000** ▶

## OPEN SOCIETY INITIATIVE FOR WEST AFRICA

In 2001, the Open Society Initiative for West Africa (OSIWA) consolidated itself as a regional organization distinct from other democracy funders in its ability to fill existing needs and gaps while maintaining the flexibility to respond quickly to new challenges. OSIWA's overall mission is the promotion of open society where good governance, basic freedoms, and citizen's empowerment prevail. OSIWA is dedicated to building a West Africa where civic participation is vibrant and where citizens understand democracy's essentials as well as its strengths and limitations. OSIWA seeks to add value to civil society organizations through support to catalytic and innovative initiatives. Program priorities include:

- human rights, notably women in politics, prisoner's rights, and transitional justice;
- good governance, encompassing constitutional review mechanisms and electoral reform;
- media and communications, incorporating community radio and electronic information for libraries;
- and economic reform to foster accountability and combat corruption.

OSIWA became fully operational in 2001 with the opening of the regional office in Dakar, Senegal, in May.

The Dakar office is responsible for funding and program development in all OSIWA countries except Nigeria, which has its own program office in Abuja.

Though OSIWA formally covers 18 countries, the foundation in 2001, in consultation with government and civil society leaders throughout the region, decided to prioritize support to Ghana, Guinea, Cote d'Ivoire, Liberia, Mali, Nigeria, Senegal, and Sierra Leone. The eight represent a mix of Anglophone and Francophone countries and include states where prospects for open society have recently increased as well as states where openness has been gravely threatened. Ghana, Mali, Nigeria, and Senegal, for example, are undergoing positive political transitions, despite prevailing social unrest in Nigeria and Senegal. Liberia, Guinea, and Sierra Leone are intertwined in conflict fueled by competition for resources and political power. Cote d'Ivoire, a previously politically and economically stable country, is facing grave social and political turmoil.

During 2001, OSIWA was at the forefront of supporting research, advocacy, NGO engagement, and legal reform in relation to Truth and Reconciliation activities in Sierra Leone and Ghana. OSIWA supported an NGO poll to foster participation in President Kufor's government-initiated TRC process in Ghana, placed international humanitarian and human rights law experts in Sierra Leone's Attorney General's office, and sponsored a sensitization meeting for traditional rulers from throughout Sierra Leone to prepare communities to participate in truth and reconciliation processes.

Due to a pervasive lack of access to justice for detainees in the subregion, OSIWA seeks to support organizations and legal reform initiatives that promote defense for prisoners and address other key pretrial detention issues and alternatives to incarceration. In Mali, prisons currently hold more pretrial detainees than sentenced prisoners. Ghana's constitution guarantees the right to a fair hearing yet detainees usually spend three to five years without trial and overcrowding has led to the spread of infectious diseases. In Nigeria, where prison overcrowding and lack of access to justice is notorious, OSIWA funded a police-community intervention designed

to allow marginalized communities to become stakeholders in deciding criminal justice priorities.

The electoral process is a fundamental element of open society. OSIWA supports programs for electoral law reform, the monitoring of voter registration, the training of electoral officers and monitors, the use of election petitions, and civic education. Buoyed by Ghana's positive presidential election experience in late 2000 and the peaceful transfer of power that followed, OSIWA decided to support the creation of an institute for electoral reform in the region. It is crucial for NGOs and policymakers alike to ensure credible mechanisms are in place for free and fair elections that can lead to stability and reduced corruption for the entire region.

Cognizant of the array of restrictions to open media in West Africa, OSIWA's media program responded with support for programs that raise the level of professional journalism, reduce media self-censorship, promote freedom of information laws, develop electronic information for libraries, and strengthen community radio. Radio is the primary means of communication in a region where the vast majority of people lack access to print journalism or television. In Nigeria and Sierra Leone, where community radio is a new broadcasting arena, OSIWA initiated debate and training programs to bring together practitioners, broadcasters, and government officials to create a favorable climate for the sector. Community radio was also a priority for the Mano River Union countries (Guinea, Liberia, and Sierra Leone) to provide people with independent and objective news and forums for reconciliation.

OSIWA's first full year as an operating foundation revealed the breadth of impediments to open society in such an enormous and enormously diverse region. Nevertheless, its progress in capacity building, strategic grantmaking, and policy formulation reveals a foundation at the forefront of efforts to build regional stability from within while at the same time, helping to end the region's isolation by drawing upon the resources of the larger Soros foundations network.

**2001 Expenditures**

**\$4,050,000 ▶**





## REGIONAL REPORTS

# *Southeast Asia*

Southeast Asia is a region of widely diverse cultures with almost half a billion people undergoing rapid political, economic, and social change. Within the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), more than half of the 10 member states—Brunei, Burma, Cambodia, Laos, Malaysia, Singapore, and Vietnam—still have authoritarian or semiauthoritarian governments. Over the next few years several of these nations will probably go through some kind of leadership change. The region's three nominal democracies—Thailand, the Philippines, and Indonesia—are fraught with problems of corruption and

political accountability. Since 1994, OSI's Burma Project has brought the world's attention to the plight of the Burmese people living under a tenacious military dictatorship, and helped prepare the country for an eventual democratic transition. In 2001, OSI started to officially expand its efforts to promote open societies in the Southeast Asian region. The Burma Project/Southeast Asia Initiative has been able to draw upon the wealth of expertise and experience of organizations and individuals who have participated in democratic transitions in Asia, as well as in Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union. The Initiative, rather than tackling problems country by country, will provide general support to established Asian organizations and enhance the outreach and effectiveness of ongoing programs with a regional focus. It will also help community-based grassroots programs that are underfunded or programs targeting women and marginalized minority populations that mainstream funders are reluctant or unable to fund.

## BURMA PROJECT

The two-year “dialogue” between the Burmese military regime, the SPDC, and Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, the country's leading proponent of democracy who was released from house arrest on May 6, 2002, has instilled new hope within the international community and among Burmese around the world working for democratic change in their country.

When that change will come is anyone's guess, but March 2002 marks the 40th year of military rule in Burma. After decades of bumbling misrule, the generals still have no idea about how to manage a country or a modern economy without oppression and coercion. Decades of economic mismanagement and corruption have relegated resource-rich Burma to the world's lowest rankings of countries that are unable or unwilling to deliver health, education, and other essential services to

their citizens. The Burmese military government spends 222 percent more for defense expenditures than on health and education programs. Confronted with a currency in free fall, a rampant HIV/AIDS epidemic, and a sporadic dialogue with the democratic opposition, the Burmese generals recently purchased a batch of Russian MIG fighter jets and a nuclear reactor from Moscow.

Given the problems of the country and the tenacity of the junta, a genuine transition to democracy could be years away—or just around the corner. In any case, the better Burma is prepared for transition, the more successful and sustainable that transition is likely to be. Resisting the regime under such precarious circumstances has affected the morale and resources of the major opposition groups inside and outside the country, such as Daw Aung San Suu Kyi's National League for Democracy (NLD) and the National Coalition Government of the Union of Burma (NCGUB), which exists in exile in Washington, D.C. However, decades of resistance have also added to the resilience, creativity, and humor of the democratic opposition.

Whenever political change does come, the basic foundation for sustaining that change and building a democratic, open society will depend on the country's human resources. A solid education system based on critical thinking, the right to uncensored information, and the ability to question with impunity is essential to a democracy.

Working toward that goal, the Burma Project supports a range of popular education and language programs for ethnic refugee youth in Thailand and India; the special English program headquartered in Thailand's Chiang Mai near the Burmese border reaches over 1,000 students a year. A teacher-training workshop jointly funded by USAID and OSI in 2001 attracted over 30 teachers from both inside Burma and the border refugee camps and schools. Such programs will be replicated inside Burma as soon as conditions permit.

An initiative implemented during 2001 was an internship program that placed eligible Burmese drawn from Burma-focused organizations at the Burma border for six months to a year with a variety of nonprofit organizations

in Southeast Asia, Europe, and the United States. The program, supported by the U.S. Department of State and cost-shared by OSI, allowed over 30 young Burmese to experience a different culture and work environment and integrate that experience on return to their local organizations. Based on the success of the internship program, OSI expects to increase the number of interns and the range of the program in 2002.

In 2001, after years of supporting a wide range of programs and efforts by the democratic opposition in exile, the Burma Project began to narrow its focus to give preference to funding border and cross-border initiatives. In anticipating an eventual democratic transition, the Burma Project is also preparing programs for ethnic and Burman youths at the border and elsewhere, to ease their reintegration into a democratic Burma and enhance their ability to work together to rebuild the country.

The Burma Project's media and information efforts have helped make the international community aware of Burma's problems. Foreign investors are pulling out of the country, strengthening the impact of existing sanctions on doing business in Burma. This international pressure is crucial, but the ultimate agents of change for Burma are Burmese residing inside the country, which includes the enlightened elements of the military.

## INDONESIA

The problems of Indonesia are enormous, but the biggest is corruption, which threatens every major institution in the country. Civil service positions are bought and sold. The tax office extorts payments in return for reducing an individual or corporation's tax liability. Patronage networks provide access to irregular "slush funds" that supplement government budgets.

Everyone acknowledges the problem, but little is done about it. Few of the guilty are prosecuted for corruption, anticorruption initiatives are often co-opted, and even institutions such as local parliaments are prone to "democratic corruption."

In response to Indonesia's problems, OSI funded the establishment of an indigenous foundation, Tifa, that aims

to attract a variety of other funders to support its work in the long term. Tifa, founded by a dozen Indonesians from the civil society sector who are committed to fostering open society in their country, focuses on capacity building, local government, human rights, media, and legal reform. The foundation works mostly in Java, though it is committed to reaching out to outlying islands and regions in Indonesia's archipelago.

OSI's Southeast Asia Initiative, in collaboration with OSI network programs and grantees such as the Media Development Loan Fund, will take on the challenge of supporting projects outside Tifa's current operating area. OSI will focus on Indonesia's outer island communities in order to create a more civil society in all of Indonesia, encompassing hundreds of different ethnic and religious groups. Much of the state-sponsored military violence inflicted upon the Indonesian people over the past three decades has occurred in the outer islands, far away from Indonesian business, government, and media centers in Jakarta. The socioeconomic instability resulting from this violence has played a key role in Indonesia's broader political predicament.

With the government decentralizing, democratic participation at the regional level is essential to ensure that local elites and low-level government officials are not the sole beneficiaries of this new redistribution of power.

Empowering the outer-island communities takes time and dedication. One way is to build on the interests and resources of local community groups such as women's savings clubs, farming and fishing organizations, religious education centers, and youth sports clubs. OSI is exploring the opportunities to network and develop projects among these organizations.

## OTHER SOUTHEAST ASIA INITIATIVES

In addition to its work in Burma and Indonesia, OSI made a substantial number of grants in 2001 to organizations in other Southeast Asian countries, including Laos, Cambodia, Vietnam, Thailand, and the Philippines. The Burma Project/Southeast Asia Initiative currently supports several efforts crucial to maintaining a





Rebel soldiers, Kwathoolei, Burma

vibrant civil society and democratic development in Southeast Asia, among them:

- *ASEAN People's Assembly*: The first assembly took place on Batam Island, Indonesia, during the ASEAN ministerial meeting in Singapore in 2000. It attracted around 300 participants, including representatives from Asian governments, independent NGOs, private and government think tanks, and academia. The Assembly's success comes at a time when ASEAN's reputation and clout as a major regional force is at an all-time low due to the slow pace of political reform among its newest members, especially Burma, and the resurgence of Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir as the most visible spokesman for the group.
- *Human Rights Initiatives*: OSI continues to support human rights advocacy training around the region, and is collaborating with leading legal and civic organizations in Asia to strengthen established human rights institutions in the area.
- *Journalism Center in Hong Kong*: The center, launched with a donation of facilities and resources by Freedom Forum, will be run by the Hong Kong University's Media Center in collaboration with OSI and the Media Development Loan Fund (MDLF). Priorities include training of journalists in the region (including China) and other writers and activists interested in investigative reporting, media management, and information technology.

OSI's network programs are playing a crucial role in Southeast Asia by linking individuals and organizations with their counterparts in other parts of the globe that have undergone similar transitions. The East East, Women's, Media, Public Health, and Information programs are among the OSI network programs engaged in Southeast Asia.

**2001 Expenditures**

**\$4,332,000 ▶**

## REGIONAL REPORTS

# *The Americas*

After more than a decade of transition that brought democratically elected civilian governments to power in almost every country in the Western hemisphere, the new millennium has begun with growing popular complaints that democracy has not “delivered the goods.” Crime rates are unacceptably high and still rising, corruption remains pervasive in public institutions, traditional political parties are discredited, and persistent unemployment and underemployment have contributed to the loss of faith in democracy’s promise of a better life.

Guatemala is one of the countries where the obstacles to successful





consolidation of democratic institutions remain formidable. During 2001, OSI began to reorient its work in Guatemala toward a long-term strategy aimed at building leadership and institutional capacity to improve the administration of justice and the formulation of public policy. The foundation is also trying to develop programs to stimulate job creation in rural areas.

The outlook for the hemisphere, however, is not entirely gloomy. One of the bright spots is Peru, which suffered under the authoritarian rule of President Alberto Fujimori for most of the 1990s. Fujimori came to power after two “democratically elected” governments failed to stem the spreading violence caused by the Sendero Luminoso rebel organization’s terrorist actions and the use of state terror against it.

Disastrous economic policies and corruption compounded the impact of the violence in reducing living standards for Peru’s citizens. From 1992 to 2000, the Fujimori government dismantled almost all intermediating institutions between the individual and the state and placed increasing powers in the hands of security agencies like the armed forces, the police, and especially the intelligence service.

Fujimori’s rule ended in 2000 after evidence documenting massive bribery of politicians and journalists led to a public outcry that eventually forced his resignation. In 2001, voters elected Alejandro Toledo as president. The new government includes a number of prominent human rights activists and leaders of other civil society organizations.

In response to the political opening in Peru, OSI decided in 2001 to provide support for efforts aimed at deepening and consolidating democratic values and institutions there. The gap between Lima and the rest of Peru is one of unequal political power, economic development, and ethnic and racial empowerment. Much of OSI’s work in Peru will be aimed at rebuilding local institutional capacity to provide meaningful channels of political participation for citizens—particularly outside Lima.

In addition, OSI’s work in Peru will support efforts to ensure accountability for human rights abuses committed

by guerrilla groups and state agents over the past 20 years. One such effort is the Truth and Reconciliation Commission appointed when the new government took office. OSI will also seek to build civil society capacity and engagement to help ensure the success of efforts to restructure the armed forces, the police, and intelligence agencies to function effectively within a democratic framework.

Another country that presents an opening for helping build an open, democratic society is Mexico, where more than 70 years of one-party rule ended in 2001 when Vicente Fox, the candidate of the Partido de Avanzada Nacional, defeated the presidential candidate of the Institutional Revolutionary Party (PRI). OSI is exploring ways to help strengthen the rule of law in Mexico, and considering how best to respond to emerging threats to democracy in a number of other Latin American countries.

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**The following reports describe the work of the Soros foundations in Haiti and Guatemala. The OSI representative office in Peru is scheduled to open in 2002.**

## FUNDACION SOROS–GUATEMALA

The peace process in Guatemala came to a standstill in 2001, with increasing verbal and physical confrontations between the government and civil society. In an effort to diffuse mounting tensions, the Fundacion Soros–Guatemala focused on developing new political and civic leadership, broadening the participation of marginalized groups in public life, and using education and the media to promote tolerance and facilitate dialogue between different sectors of society.

New social leadership grants targeted youth, women, and indigenous peoples. The grants complemented the Fundacion initiative, Instituto de Gerencia Politica (INGEP), which aims to strengthen the political party system. INGEP, implemented by the Rafael Landivar Jesuit University, seeks to develop new leadership as older leaders in democratic political parties and social organizations leave public life. Studies of political participation and citizenship building sponsored by the Fundacion and carried out by the Asociacion de Investigaciones Economicas y Sociales (ASIES) focused on the democratic values of teachers and the role ideology plays in the political participation of different social groups in Guatemala.

Efforts to support and strengthen the production capacity of educational radio and television programs began to yield results in 2001. In April, the program *La Camioneta* (The Bus) aired the first of 50 half-hour television broadcasts that present the creative talents of Guatemala's youth and examine the country's major problems from the perspective of young people. The program also explores how much influence the peace accords have had on young Guatemalans.

The Fundacion awarded grants to Centro de Accion Legal y Derechos Humanos (CALDH) and Voces Nuestras to create two radio programs. CALDH's program will focus on congressional activity to educate the general public about major issues and increase contact between congressmen and their constituents. Voces Nuestras will produce a radio novella about the country's recent history and address once taboo issues like racism, intolerance, vio-

lence, repression, and ethnic and cultural differences.

The Fundacion furthered an ambitious program for K-12 social studies curricula with a grant to the National Academy of History and Geography. The Academy will produce an atlas that introduces ignored interpretations of history using a collection of 240 maps tracing the history of Guatemala from pre-Columbian times to the 20th century.

In 2001, the board of directors approved the creation of justice, public policy, and rural development institutes to promote open society values such as peace and justice, public participation in government, and a private sector that meets the employment and income needs of the population. These institutes are scheduled to open in 2002.

2001 Expenditures	\$3,651,000 ▶
Civil Society	1,904,000
Criminal Justice	217,000
Economic Reform	534,000
Law	251,000
Public Administration	52,000
Other Programs	178,000
Administration	514,000

NOTE: Other Soros-supported organizations made grants in Guatemala totaling \$11,660, principally in Economic Reform; these grants are not included above.

## FONDATION CONNAISSANCE ET LIBERTE (HAITI)

Since the 1980s, Latin America and the Caribbean have endured a long and painful transition toward democracy, from ferocious dictatorships and bloody military coups to the establishment of fraudulent democracies.

Corruption, drug trafficking, crippling foreign debt, and an increasing gulf between rich and poor have further hindered efforts at reform.

It was in this steadily worsening political and econom-

ic climate that the Fondation Connaissance et Liberte (FOKAL) began its sixth year of operation in Haiti. Yet the Fondation, working with a reduced budget, still managed to collaborate with its many partners in promoting democratic values and practices in 2001. FOKAL added 10 new libraries to its Community Library program. The Sight Development Program, with its Step by Step and Economic Development components, introduced a micro-entrepreneur initiative for selling reading glasses to adults. FOKAL also established a new youth resource center, which should be fully operational in 2002, to host and support art exhibits, conferences, debates, and economics education.

Collaboration with network programs continued and expanded throughout the year. New training modules to include children with special needs were added to the Step by Step program. In the Debate program, the parliamentary debate format was introduced for university students. The English Language program offered a national seminar for in-service teachers financed by the Office of Public Diplomacy of the United States Embassy. The Economic and Business Development Program sponsored a new unit for the development, production, and marketing of educational reading material in Creole.

The Fondation also launched a new initiative with the Women's Program to consolidate and develop a national network of women's organizations by providing computers and Internet connectivity. FOKAL and the Women's Program gave further support to this emerging network of women's organizations by promoting joint advocacy activities.

Partnerships with international organizations played a key role in advancing open society in 2001. Funding from UNESCO enabled the Fondation to build a new Step by Step school and training center, introduce art workshops for abused and abandoned children, and develop skill-training programs for rural youth. The Haitian Ministry of Education agreed to collaborate with the Fondation in building a Step by Step primary school in a rural area with funds from the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA).

FOKAL worked with a French NGO, Fondation Energies pour le Monde (FONDEM), on the installation of solar-power lighting systems at four rural Step by Step and Library Program sites. Association Monique Calixte (AMC), a French nonprofit association, continued to support the development of a community youth library that will become part of the Fondation's resource center. FOKAL also signed a convention with the Japanese Embassy on collaboration in educational projects and possible long-term partnerships.

**2001 Expenditures** **\$3,856,000** ▶

Civil Society	501,000
Conference & Travel	19,000
Culture	148,000
Economic Reform	527,000
Education	947,000
Information	634,000
Media	82,000
Public Health	81,000
Women's Programs	137,000
Youth Programs	51,000
Other Programs	297,000
Administration	431,000

NOTE: The financial information presented above includes \$77,085 funded by non-Soros entities, principally in Culture, Economic Reform, and Education. Other Soros-supported organizations made grants in Haiti totaling \$448,624, principally in Education; these grants are not included above.

# *Law, Criminal Justice, and Human Rights*

Just as the events of September 11 confirmed that no one is immune from the threat of terrorist violence, so their aftermath has made clear the risk that overzealous responses pose to democratic values. In the name of “fighting terrorism,” governments around the globe have intensified repression of internal dissent, cracked down on journalists, and detained large numbers of noncitizens indefinitely. Some officials have sought to bestow new legitimacy on long-standing disputes by recasting them as part of the antiterrorist crusade.





The terror attacks and the varied responses they provoked have thrust into the public arena a series of profound and largely unresolved questions about the relationship between criminal prosecution and military action, the relevance and applicability of the laws of war, and the difficulty of ensuring impartial justice when the stakes are so high.

At the same time, the year witnessed historic progress toward a functional system of international criminal law. Former Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic, the first sitting head of state to be indicted by an international court, was dispatched to The Hague for trial on charges of genocide and other crimes stemming from the wars in Bosnia, Croatia, and Kosovo. With more than the required 60 countries ratifying, a new permanent International Criminal Court will be established on July 1, 2002, with jurisdiction over crimes against humanity, war crimes, and genocide.

The unprecedented developments of 2001 underscored the priorities of the Soros foundations network in contributing to the rule of law, the protection of human rights, and the fair and effective administration of justice as fundamental elements of open societies. In the post-September 11 environment, civil society organizations—including many partners and grantees of the Soros network—have assumed leading roles in monitoring abuses, generating informed debate, and protecting the rights of vulnerable minorities.

Our legal programs contribute to a variety of initiatives designed to improve the performance and responsiveness of criminal justice systems, and to enable lawyers, judges, and other rule-of-law actors inside and outside government to address legal problems effectively and in a manner consistent with the protection of individual rights. To this end, the Open Society Institute and the Soros foundations network support initiatives to:

- consolidate competent, independent, and responsible courts;
- broaden access to legal representation;
- promote alternatives to, and reduce levels of, incarceration;

- build capacity within the legal profession to pursue litigation in the public interest;
- develop university-based clinical legal education;
- assist in police and penitentiary reform;
- combat corruption;
- expand access to information and media freedom;
- and enhance mechanisms to secure accountability for instances of abuse.

Over the past two years, the Open Society Institute, expanding beyond the countries of Central and Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union, has begun to address legal and human rights issues in other parts of the world. OSI has supported official efforts to establish the truth about past abuses in Ghana and Peru, nourished legal education and human rights advocacy in Sierra Leone, and contributed to international awareness about restrictions on political freedom in Zimbabwe. In 2002, OSI will form a new legal institute to give greater coherence to these efforts and oversee its law reform and human rights work internationally.

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**The following reports describe some of the work of the Soros foundations network in the area of law, criminal justice, and human rights. The Constitutional and Legal Policy Institute is a network program that works closely with Soros foundations on legal reform. The Democracy Coalition Project helps civil society groups promote democracy internationally. The Network Women's Program and the Roma Programs seek to eradicate discrimination against women and Roma and improve their status in society.**

## CONSTITUTIONAL AND LEGAL POLICY INSTITUTE

The Constitutional and Legal Policy Institute (COLPI) contributes to the development of open societies in the countries of Central and Eastern Europe, Central Asia, and Mongolia by promoting the rule of law, respect for human rights, and modern democratic institutions. An important aspect of COLPI's mission has been to bolster the legal programs of the Soros foundations by developing policy recommendations and conducting pilot projects on institutional reform.

COLPI focuses on implementing programs in the areas of criminal justice, particularly in penitentiary and police reform, juvenile justice, access to justice and legal aid, judicial reform, media legislation, anticorruption, and legal education with a focus on clinical legal education. COLPI emphasizes projects that benefit disadvantaged groups in society, such as detainees, the indigent, women, children, and national minorities.

In 2001, COLPI reduced its regionwide activities and concluded a number of programs in its traditional areas of activity such as drafting of NGO legislation and training of penitentiary and judicial personnel. COLPI is increasing its focus on areas where grave problems persist by developing operational pilot projects aimed at criminal justice, police reform, and access to justice.

COLPI launched an ambitious pilot project on juvenile justice in autumn 2001 in Kazakhstan. The project aims to decrease juvenile detention and incarceration rates through justice system reforms that promote alternative sanctions for juveniles suspected or convicted of a crime. In Ukraine and Latvia, COLPI began considering projects on pretrial detention that develop alternatives to detention and ensure reasonable lengths of pretrial detention. COLPI worked to increase legal aid in Lithuania, expanded community policing in Mongolia, implemented pilot projects on access to justice in Bulgaria and Poland, promoted alternative sentencing in Latvia and Uzbekistan, and supported anticorruption efforts in Georgia.

Victims' care issues—providing victims with support

as they participate in the criminal justice system—are crucial to humanizing the process and increasing public support. COLPI is exploring victims' care issues within Mongolian community policing projects and will extend this work to Ukraine in 2002. A more comprehensive policy research project on how authorities can meet victims' needs by adhering to domestic and international standards is also under development.

Through its advanced training programs and support for human rights lawyers, COLPI is emerging as a key international actor in supporting efforts to bring strategic human rights cases before domestic and international courts. Legal training programs implemented in cooperation with the NGO INTERIGHTS, the Bulgarian Helsinki Committee, and the Dutch Helsinki Committee helped lawyers effectively use domestic and international laws to remedy human rights violations. These programs continued to make progress in addressing the lack of human rights legal expertise in Central Asia, the South Caucasus, and the Balkans.

A number of pilot projects worked to identify needs and emerging reform issues such as access to justice and judicial automation. These projects helped establish COLPI as a catalyst for long-term, self-sustaining legal reform programs in the region by attracting funding or interest from international donors such as the World Bank, UNDP, UNHCR, OSCE, Council of Europe, USAID, MATRA (Holland), and GTZ (Germany).

**2001 Expenditures**      **\$10,057,000** ▶

## DEMOCRACY COALITION PROJECT

The unprecedented growth of democracy over the past 15 years has created opportunities and challenges for the development of a peaceful and sustainable world. For both newer and more established democracies, however, progress toward more open democratic societies is fragile

or in retreat. The ability of these countries to sustain democratic reforms depends on an informed citizenry that holds political leaders accountable as well as steady support from other democracies.

The Democracy Coalition Project, an initiative started in 2001 by the Open Society Institute, seeks to support civil society coalitions around the world that promote democratic reforms in their own countries and abroad. Working with leading organizations and individuals in the democracy movements of selected countries, the Project will support national coalitions in their efforts to inform and influence public debate. The Democracy Coalition Project will focus on issues such as strengthening citizen access to information and independent media; improving accountability, independent judiciaries, and the rule of law; bolstering civil society; supporting democracy in neighboring countries; democratizing global and regional institutions; and strengthening the Community of Democracies.

The Project was inspired by and seeks to build upon the June 2000 Community of Democracies meeting in Warsaw, a first time gathering of governments committed to the democratic path. Over 100 governments have endorsed the Warsaw Declaration, which calls for states to cooperate in strengthening democratic institutions, processes, and values domestically and internationally.

The Democracy Coalition Project has functioned as an entity of OSI, which provides operational funding during the start-up phase. Approximately 20 target countries representing every major region of the world have been selected in the first year. Project staff, led by Codirectors Robert Herman and Ted Piccone, will include field-based regional directors for Latin America, Europe, the former Soviet Union, North Africa and the Middle East, Sub-Saharan Africa, and Asia. Morton Halperin, senior fellow at the Council on Foreign Relations and director of the OSI Washington Office, will serve as the Project's senior advisor. The Project's international advisory board is composed of a diverse group of prominent individuals from around the world known for their commitment to promoting democracy.

**2001 Expenditures**

**\$305,000** ▶

## NETWORK WOMEN'S PROGRAM

The Network Women's Program works to promote the advancement of women's human rights, gender equality, and empowerment as an integral part of the process of democratization. The Program, established in 1997, works with 28 women's programs in the Soros foundations network.

In 2001, the Program linked new OSI regions with established programs in other Soros network countries and focused on gender sensitive education, violence against women, young women's human rights, mass media and gender policy, equal opportunities in the EU accession process, women's oral histories, Romani women's leadership, information initiatives, and women's health.

Empowering Education, coordinated by the International Renaissance Foundation in Ukraine, is aimed at secondary education students and raises awareness about human rights and gender equality. The program includes eight national teams from Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Lithuania, Moldova, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan. The Empowering Education Summer Camp, held in Ukraine, attracted 101 participants, including eight attendees from Burma, Indonesia, Laos, and Thailand.

In cooperation with the Network Media Program, the Women's Program provided grants to support the global campaign, "16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence." NGOs submitted proposals for public awareness campaigns to stop violence, promote gender-sensitive public policy, and strengthen NGO advocacy and prevention programs. The 2001 competition resulted in grants to organizations not only in OSI's traditional regions of activity, but also in Nigeria and Indonesia.

Mass Media and Gender Policy, a subregional program coordinated by OSI–Russia and the Soros Foundation–Kazakhstan, began in May 2001. It aims to foster a community of skilled journalists and analysts who will help change coverage and public perceptions of gender issues. Teams of journalists and analysts from 14 former Soviet Union countries and Mongolia are working on

country-specific presentations, many of which use the creation of documentary films to explore issues like the exploitation of women in the labor market, gender roles and stereotypes, reproductive rights, women's political leadership, women and religion, and the trafficking of women.

The Equal Opportunities for Women and Men in the European Accession Program, coordinated by OSF–Romania and implemented in close cooperation with OSI's EU Monitoring Program, examines gender issues in the accession process and evaluates women's legal status within candidate countries. Country-based teams are developing national monitoring reports, and in June the program launched a website to disseminate information from its reports and other resources.

The Women's Program, in collaboration with the Information Program, held its fourth and last annual translation competition, focusing on the theme “Women, Economic Empowerment, and Globalization.” Publishers in 21 countries, including Turkey, received grants to translate 32 titles from English into local languages.

In July 2001, the Women's Oral History Program collaborated with the Soros Foundation–Kyrgyzstan to host the “Women's Memories: Oral Histories from Transition” workshop. Twenty researchers from nine countries in the region, along with international scholars, advised participants' research projects on ethnic minority women, violence against women, military conflict, and rural women.

The Roma Women's Initiative continued to focus on the empowerment of Romani women activists in 2001, holding workshops throughout Central and Eastern Europe. Workshops focused on women's human rights advocacy, the Romani rights movement, and organizational development, bringing together Romani women from many regions. In August 2001, the Network Women's Program supported the attendance of three Romani women activists at the UN World Conference against Racism in Durban, South Africa.

In collaboration with Zenska Infoteka and OSI–Croatia, the Women's Program facilitated development of national and regional information networks to

promote gender sensitivity among policymakers, activists, journalists, and scholars. In 2001, participants from 15 countries acquired research and organizing skills in media monitoring and project development. The Program also published national directories of women's NGOs and a training CD-rom.

The Women's Program collaborated with the Network Public Health Program to support programs implemented by the Central and Eastern European Women's Network for Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights (ASTRA). The Network provided women's groups with training in the use of media to advocate for prochoice policies. In November 2001, the Women's Program and OSF–Bratislava cosponsored an international workshop, “Reproductive Health and Reproductive Rights for the Third Millennium in the Visegrad Countries,” with participants from the World Health Organization, the Council of Europe, the International Planned Parenthood Federation, ASTRA, and the Public Health Program. The workshop contributed to national plans to strengthen advocacy, build partnerships, and develop organizational capacity.

**2001 Expenditures**

**\$5,246,000 ▶**

## ROMA PROGRAMS

Direct and indirect racial discrimination continues to be the main barrier to full participation in society for all Roma. Such discrimination is a contributing factor to the poor living conditions that many Roma throughout Central and Eastern Europe endure—the slum-like housing, chronic unemployment, poor health, lack of access to public services, segregated schools, and, increasingly, the racially motivated violence that authorities fail to prevent or punish. Asserting the rights of Roma to equal protection under the law and empowering them to become active members of their communities and the larger society is a top priority for the Soros foundations network.

Many Soros foundations and network programs support efforts aimed at improving the social, political, and economic situation of Romani populations. These efforts address a range of open society issues, including legal and education reform, media access, youth outreach, and women's empowerment. In addition, four centrally funded OSI grants programs focus on human rights, culture, high impact civic campaigns, political participation, and support for Romani-led advocacy organizations. In 2001, the Soros foundations network spent approximately \$7,763,000 on Roma programs.

## EDUCATIONAL REFORM

Education initiatives included the Special School Initiative of the Step by Step preschool program, which focused on teaching the mainstream curriculum to Romani children misplaced in schools for the mentally handicapped in Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Hungary, and Slovakia. Initial results from this three-year pilot program show that 64 percent of participating second-grade children were achieving at the mainstream level and could be integrated into mainstream third grade classes. In 2002, the project aims to ensure that its recommendations, including an end to shunting Romani first graders into these schools, are implemented by the start of the 2003 school year.

Step by Step also continued to press for no-fee preschools for Romani children, more Romani teaching assistants in the classrooms, development of curricula that meet Romani needs, increased parent and community involvement in the education process, and thorough early childhood pedagogy and antibias training for teachers and administrators.

The Roma Participation Program (RPP) provided grants to local Romani NGOs for civic action and community organizing that worked in alliance with national and regional civil society supporters. A two-year grant to DROM, a Romani-Bulgarian NGO, led to the successful integration of some 600 Romani pupils from a segregated school into the mainstream schools in the city of Vidin. No Romani students failed after the first academic year,

and their grade point averages were comparable to their non-Romani peers.

In early 2001, the RPP cosponsored a conference in Bulgaria on the success of these desegregation efforts, facilitating the country's first high-level public debate on equal education for Roma. Bulgarian President Peter Stoyanov addressed the conference and fully endorsed school desegregation, noting that resolving Romani issues was critical to helping Bulgaria's accession to the EU. During the year, the RPP worked with regional education authorities to establish a desegregation unit to support the Vidin initiative and expand the project to five more Bulgarian cities. By fall 2002, the RPP aims to promote desegregation throughout Bulgaria and begin similar projects in the Czech Republic, Hungary, and Slovakia.

To create a new generation of Romani leaders, OSI launched the university scholarship program, which awarded scholarships to more than 400 Romani students from Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Macedonia, Romania, Slovakia, and Serbia for study at accredited universities in their home countries. The program receives joint funding from the United States government as part of its contribution to the International Nazi Persecutee Relief Fund.

Other network education programs supported English language training for Romani leaders at foreign language schools and provided tuition grants for undergraduate study at the American University in Bulgaria. The International Higher Education Support Program provided support to Romaversitas, an Invisible College elite tutorial program for Romani university students in Hungary and Macedonia. Ten of the network's foundations coordinated tutoring and mentoring programs for Romani high school and university students, and foundations throughout the region helped provide Romani communities with educational services ranging from school supplies to scholarships. The Open Society Fund-Prague continued to support the Kolin Roma School, a unique private secondary school, which also offers distance learning for adults.

## HUMAN RIGHTS AND POLITICAL PARTICIPATION

OSI's Human Rights Advocacy Fund supported a number of important initiatives aimed at asserting Romani rights and increasing access to the political system. Major funding (\$1 million in 2001) went to the European Roma Rights Center (ERRC) for its efforts to provide legal protection for victims of human rights violations and for the monitoring of the conditions of Roma in Europe. In 2001, the ERRC campaigned for antidiscrimination legislation in EU candidate countries and was at the forefront of advocating Romani rights as a critical part of the EU accession agenda and the World Conference Against Racism.

OSI's EU Accession Monitoring Program (see page 57) worked with in-country experts to conduct systematic reviews of Central and Eastern European candidate state governments' efforts to meet the political criteria for accession to the European Union. The report on minority protection, which focused on the Roma, is being used to stimulate debate in each country on the development of public policy to address the problems, including discrimination, faced by Romani communities.

The Roma Political Leadership Program finished its first year with strong results in Bulgaria and the Czech Republic. The Bulgarian group of 10 participants formed a Romani lobby in the Parliament. The Czech group spearheaded a project to get the Romani community to participate in the first national census in a decade and to support EU accession. Second year programs are underway in both countries with plans to expand the program to new countries in 2002.

## MEDIA AND INFORMATION

The Network Media Program and Soros foundations assisted the development of Romani media through support for Romany language media outlets, start-up media ventures, and established publications as well as the training of Romani journalists. The Information Program disseminated translations of texts about the

Roma into local Eastern European languages, held Romani book fairs, and maintained an Internet-accessible digital archive of Romani-related materials. The Program also initiated a project to develop publishing in Romani dialects, focusing on books by and about Roma. Over the next three years, the Program will support a major project of the University of Manchester, England, and the University of Graz, Austria, to codify all known Romany dialects in the region and train local Roma in linguistic data collection. The project will attempt to standardize the language and provide electronic access to materials to help produce bilingual and multidialectal dictionaries for law, human rights, medicine, and education.

## YOUTH, WOMEN, AND HEALTH

Street Children, funded in collaboration with the King Baudouin Foundation and administered by Soros foundations, provided food and shelter to impoverished young people, including Romani youth. The Debate Program is incorporating Romani students into its debate club activities to improve their debating and critical thinking skills and has published a Romani debate book. Soros foundations provided vocational and leadership training for Romani youth and supported a variety of Romani youth organizations.

The Network Women's Program empowered women's rights activists by linking Romani women in Central and Eastern Europe and promoting their work at grassroots, national, and international levels. The Information Program and the Roma Participation Program collaborated on efforts to increase the computer literacy of Romani women in NGOs. OSI also worked with the OSCE to establish five new Romani women's associations.

In 2001, the Network Public Health Program developed plans to identify grantmaking opportunities to improve the health of Romani communities. The Program will support two health projects in Romania and Slovakia in 2002 to increase Romani access to health care and strengthen advocacy for Romani health needs at the national and regional levels. The International Harm

Reduction Development program continued to implement programs and provide services to address drug use and HIV prevention in Romani communities, including special projects targeting the needs of sex workers.

The Network Economic and Business Development Program worked with local business organizations to provide technical and financial assistance to Romani NGOs in Hungary focusing on sustainable job creation programs.

The International Policy Fellowships supported two first-time Romani fellows to conduct research and produce policy recommendations for issues affecting Romani participation in political and social life. Mihai Surdu will conduct a cost-benefit analysis of school desegregation in Romania. Eva Sobotka will evaluate national and regional policies affecting Romani political participation in the Czech Republic, Slovakia, and Poland.

## CULTURAL IDENTITY

OSI's East East Program and Roma Culture Program facilitated interaction between people and better understanding of Romani traditions. Throughout the year, East East supported exchanges of Romani activists and researchers and increased its focus on Romani issues in South Eastern Europe. The Roma Culture Program awarded grants for scholarly research on Romani ethnology, history, musicology, linguistics, and for innovative cultural programs created by and for young Roma.

OSI established a Roma Literary Awards Program to honor Romani achievement in literature and promote outstanding prose and poetry written by Central and Eastern European Roma. The Program also seeks to highlight the Romany language through literature and broaden public awareness of literary diversity in Central and Eastern European countries.

*On the Margins*, a series of two OSI-commissioned studies written by Ina Zoon, examined Romani access to public services in Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Macedonia, Romania, and Slovakia. The reports call for

improving Romani access to social protection, health care, and housing, and underscore the effects of bad policies and how direct and indirect discrimination have marginalized the Roma. The studies have reinforced OSI's commitment to supporting Romani NGOs in their efforts to advocate for equal access to public services and a larger role in making public policy.

# *Public Health*

The health of people living in the countries of Central and Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union is significantly worse than the health of populations in Western Europe.

Economic and societal transitions, lifestyles, environmental problems, new and re-emerging diseases, and disinvestment in state-run health care delivery systems have caused the health of populations in these countries to plummet and inequities to grow.

Policymakers, however, remain focused on treating individuals, giving short shrift to a public health approach to promote health and prevent disease. The public





health infrastructure is largely invisible and has limited financial resources, compared with curative services.

Public health problems are diverse and widespread:

- **Lack of equity.** Although the EU accession countries have experienced rapid improvement in the health of their populations over the last decade, equity issues are far from resolved. For example, a Romani man in the Czech Republic can expect to die 10 years earlier than his non-Romani neighbor.
- **Infectious diseases.** Russia, Ukraine, and Moldova now have the fastest growing HIV/AIDS epidemics in the world, compounded by pandemics of tuberculosis and sexually transmitted infections.
- **Shorter life expectancy.** In Western Europe, almost nine in every ten 18-year-olds can expect to reach retirement age. In Russia, only one in every two has the same expectation.
- **Corrupt systems.** Central Eurasia, facing relatively high levels of infectious diseases and child mortality, also struggles with the challenge of implementing health reform in the context of endemic corruption.

## NETWORK PUBLIC HEALTH PROGRAMS

The Network Public Health Programs support initiatives in the region that encourage sustainable change in public health policy and practice. The Programs tackle these issues with four approaches: public health education and information; professional development; community involvement; and policy reform.

### PUBLIC HEALTH EDUCATION

Promoting healthy societies requires information and skills. The Public Health Programs support the development of public health education and information systems that generate timely and reliable data.

### Workforce Development

In Central and Eastern Europe, the public health workforce is small and has had little opportunity for training in the latest public health concepts and practices. Working with the Association of Schools of Public Health in the European Region (ASPHER) and schools in the region, OSI has supported the development of graduate-level public health curricula and promoted faculty exchanges and continuing education.

Other initiatives in 2001 involving graduate-level public health education included collaboration with the Nordic School of Public Health and their partners in the Baltic region and initiatives to develop new public health departments within medical faculties in Russia, Macedonia, and Moldova.

A fellowship program offered in conjunction with the Hadassah Braun School of Public Health gave young faculty the opportunity to receive master's degrees in public health and apply newly learned skills in their own teaching programs. The E-learning Institute, operated with the U.S. Centers for Disease Control, trained public health educators from six countries in distance learning methods; participants could also apply for support to introduce web-based public health courses in their institutions.

### Infosystems

To promote access to health data and information, the Public Health Programs gave grants to support national public health information servers in seven countries. Through a joint program with the National Center for Health Statistics in the United States, support also went to national statistics offices in Hungary, Lithuania, and Russia to standardize data collection efforts.

### PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

High quality of care is the only valuable output of any health care delivery system. The Public Health Programs support efforts by training institutes and professional associations to raise the skills of providers in the region.

### Open Society Institute Seminars

OSI provided a grant to the Albert Schweitzer Institute to sponsor regional seminars on topics such as quality of care in abortion, regional preparation for the United Nations General Assembly on HIV/AIDS, and the health status of Roma. Health professionals, activists, and journalists representing 25 countries participated.

### Salzburg International Medical Seminars

Since 1993, OSI has collaborated with the American Austrian Foundation in training over 4,000 physicians in new areas of clinical care. In 2001, the Public Health Programs and the Soros foundations initiated a program to create a network of past participants to foster their growth as teachers and leaders in their societies.

## COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Community involvement in identifying and articulating health needs reflects basic open society principles and makes for effective public health interventions. The Public Health Programs support initiatives that encourage the participation of the socially marginalized.

### International Harm Reduction Development (IHRD)

IHRD's work in the region has expanded over the past six years in response to the dramatically increased rates of injecting drug use and the burgeoning HIV epidemic. The region now has the steepest rate of new HIV infections in the world. The countries most affected are Russia and Ukraine, with Moldova, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, and Romania also seeing sharp increases.

Harm reduction, a pragmatic approach to drug use and its consequences, is the most effective strategy for containing the HIV epidemic among injecting drug users. Its primary goal is to empower drug users to protect their health. Needle/syringe exchange and substitution therapy (e.g., methadone) are at the center of harm reduction health interventions. These interventions are augmented by other services, including basic medical care, safer sex education and condom distribution, HIV testing and referrals to health and social care services, drug education,

linkages to legal assistance, and counseling.

In 2001, IHRD expanded its work with special initiatives on sex workers, street children, prisoners, and Romani communities. IHRD also strengthened its policy and advocacy activities to complement existing direct service, technical assistance, and training programs. IHRD launched a policy initiative that attempts to institutionalize harm reduction methods in national AIDS programs and to ensure that repressive drug policies do not impede the expansion of harm reduction efforts.

IHRD's efforts to encourage international donor support for harm reduction were especially successful in 2001. The UK Department for International Development (DFID) granted over \$6 million to fund an expanded, three-year harm reduction program coordinated by OSI–Russia. DFID also granted IHRD \$90,000 to bring participants from Russia and Kyrgyzstan to the International Harm Reduction Conference in Delhi, India. In December 2001, the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) signed a \$2 million cooperative agreement with the Soros Foundation–Kazakhstan. With an additional contribution of \$1 million from OSI, the number of OSI-supported harm reduction programs in Central Asia will nearly double. IHRD will continue to provide capacity building and organizational development assistance to more than 170 direct service organizations.

### Women's Health

With the goal of improving the quality of abortion services, the Network Public Health Programs supported the introduction of medical abortion (commonly known as RU-486) in Albania, Latvia, Lithuania, and Slovakia and the introduction of manual vacuum aspiration (MVA) abortion in Macedonia, Moldova, and Russia.

OSI also provided a grant to ASTRA, a regional network of sexual and reproductive health NGOs, which organized a workshop on media advocacy skills for its member organizations. The workshop was a response to the growing strength of the antiabortion movement, which, through its influence on ministries of health and hospital administrators, has made strides in reducing

access to abortion, hampering, for instance, abortion training activities in Latvia, Lithuania, and Slovakia. OSI will continue to support training in quality of care and efforts to keep abortion legal, safe, and accessible for all women in the region.

The Public Health Programs initiated a small grants fund with the Alliance for Cervical Cancer Prevention, a Gates Foundation–supported venture of five organizations working to prevent cervical cancer internationally. The OSI grant, matched 1:1 by the Alliance, has expanded the purview of the Alliance’s own small grants fund beyond the developing world to Central and Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union. The Programs also provided continuing support for a pilot project underway in Bucharest, Romania, to introduce cervical screening.

### **Prison Health**

Living conditions and health care services in prisons in the former Soviet Union are wholly substandard and the health of prisoners is markedly poorer than that of the population at large. There is a need to improve public health by strengthening the competence of health care services in prisons and their position within the prison hierarchy, and by increasing the involvement of public health services in prisons.

In 2001, the Network Public Health Programs established a small grants fund to be managed by the International Centre for Prison Studies and Penal Reform International. Grantmaking, which will begin in 2002, will focus on projects promoting the integration of prison and public health systems to improve health both inside prisons and in the wider community.

### **Romani Health**

Throughout Central and Eastern Europe, the health of the Roma is generally worse than the health of the population at large. The Romani community has a higher infant mortality rate and an average lower life expectancy than the majority community. Isolation, neglect, and discrimination contribute to the Romani community’s lack of access to proper health care.

The Public Health Programs supported Soros foundation efforts in Macedonia and Romania to assess Romani health status as the basis for health policy reform. In addition, a program was developed for 2002 to increase access to health services and keep Romani health on the agenda at the national and regional levels.

### **Palliative Care**

The Palliative Care Initiative (PCI) in Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union, launched in July 2000 in collaboration with OSI’s Project on Death in America, works to enhance the provision of hospice and palliative care in the region through public and professional education and health care policy initiatives.

In 2001, PCI funded regional resource training centers, national and regional education programs, travel grants and scholarships, and grants for translation and distribution of key educational materials.

PCI also participated in a number of regional initiatives, including work with the World Health Organization in Geneva to integrate palliative care into all the programs and activities of the WHO Cancer Unit. PCI has awarded a grant to the European Association for Palliative Care to establish a palliative care resource center at the Karolinska Institute in Stockholm, Sweden. PCI also made capacity-building grants to the Eastern and Central Europe Palliative Care Task Force, King’s College in London, Sheffield University, and the Pain and Policy Studies Group at the University of Wisconsin.

### **Mental Disabilities**

People with mental disabilities in Central and Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union have few, if any, options other than institutional care. As a result, there are staggering numbers of people living in a vast network of institutions that are lacking in services, physical accommodation, and respect for human rights.

Reorganized in early 2002 with the establishment of an office in Budapest, OSI’s Mental Disability Advocacy Program (MDAP) aims to promote the human rights, inclusion, and active participation in society of people with

mental disabilities in the region. The program focuses on public policy, service delivery, and advocacy.

Public policy work promotes government policies that will assure an integrated network of community-based support services for people with mental disabilities.

Service delivery focuses on effective community-based services as alternatives to long-term institutionalization. Advocacy advances the visibility and interests of persons with mental disabilities in civil society, national and local governments, the donor community, and the international human rights movement.

In 2001, MDAP made grants to nongovernmental organizations in 16 countries, mostly for alternative services, and provided on-site technical assistance and training to grantees. A framework for a model site program was also established, and new initiatives developed for Russia, Mongolia, and Tajikistan.

## POLICY REFORM

The Network Public Health Programs support efforts to encourage the development of health policies and services based on public health principles, evidence, and best practice, rather than on entrenched interests and tradition.

### International Policy Fellows

In collaboration with OSI's International Policy Fellowships program in Budapest, the Public Health Programs awarded six fellowships in public health in 2001, including support for the analysis of:

- opportunities and barriers to the use of health impact assessment in Hungary;
- access by sex workers to medical, social, and psychological services in the Baltics;
- reproductive health policy in Latvia;
- reform of medical informatics in occupational medicine in Russia;
- role of supranational organizations in the politics of health care reform in Central and Eastern Europe;
- design of pharmaceutical policy in Armenia.

### Health Care Sector Reform

The Public Health Programs partner with the governments of Spain, Norway, and Greece, the WHO, World Bank, European Investment Bank, and the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine in the European Observatory on Health Care Systems. The Observatory sponsors and disseminates research on health sector organization and performance.

### Regional Advocacy

In order to encourage cross-border collaboration in health policy, the Public Health Programs awarded four grants to regional research institutions in 2001 for:

- development of a model for mass media public education campaigns on HIV/AIDS prevention in the former Soviet Union;
- assessment and development of a pharmaceutical policy for the former Soviet Union;
- cost-effectiveness analysis of the medical management of patients with hypertension in the Baltics;
- a study on tobacco use in South Eastern Europe.

### HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Sexually Transmitted Infections

The Public Health Programs supported a series of innovative programs to bring the infectious disease epidemics of Central and Eastern Europe to the attention of the world. In addition to joining the Stop-TB partnership and sponsoring the development of the Global Plan to Stop TB, the Programs gave significant support to Harvard-based Partners in Health to treat multi-drug resistant tuberculosis in Russian prisons. In conjunction with Imperial College, the Programs sponsored an exercise to model the HIV/AIDS epidemic in the region. In addition, seven promising public health professionals received training in sexually transmitted infection research at the University of Washington.

**2001 Expenditures**

**\$17,142,000 ▶**

## PROGRAM REPORTS

# *Information and Media*

Information is the lifeblood of a democracy, ensuring the active participation of people in the decisions of governance and guarding against the rule of despots who flourish when people live in ignorance and isolation. Democracies emerging from decades of authoritarian rule must tear down old barriers to information and rigid ways of thinking and, in their place, build new information systems and a culture based on reason and knowledge, not prejudice and dogma.

When the first Soros foundation started operating in Hungary before the collapse of communism, George Soros supported



**Е КРИВ?**



**АРОДНИ ПОКРЕТ ОТПОР!**



the dissemination of alternative views by distributing photocopiers to civil society institutions. In the years after 1989, Soros foundations provided direct support to struggling independent media outlets as well as Internet connectivity to civil society organizations, especially in areas of conflict, to assure that new governments did not revert to the old traditions of control and manipulation of information.

Today, such subsidies and grants for equipment are mostly no longer necessary in Central and Eastern Europe where the Soros foundations began their work. Only in Central Asia and other parts of the world where the Soros foundations network is expanding does the need for basic direct support still apply.

Yet, throughout the network, promoting the free flow of information remains relevant and vital to the building of open societies in which freedom and security for all people are the ideals—and the attainable goals.

Many steps must be taken to raise the knowledge base of professionals in countries still emerging from the isolation imposed by totalitarianism. With OSI support, the Electronic Information for Libraries (EIFL) project offers libraries low-cost access to thousands of business, social science, and humanities journals. OSI's Information Program also provides information and communications technology (ICT) software, pilot projects, and training.

Journalists must be trained to raise the quality of reporting, especially investigative journalism that can expose official corruption and stimulate reforms. OSI's Media Program continues to fund such training. In some places in the world, the most basic vehicles for communication of information must take precedence. OSI and the Soros foundations network have supported the development of community, private, and public radio committed to open society goals in Mongolia, Macedonia, South Africa, Mozambique, Lesotho, and elsewhere. OSI also supports organizations working for free media in their countries, monitoring and publicizing cases of infringement on media freedom and defending journalists.

Women and disenfranchised minorities such as the

Roma must have access to media outlets so that their voices will be heard in the public debates and policy deliberations that affect their lives. (For more on women and Roma, see the section on Law, Criminal Justice, and Human Rights on page 100.)

OSI has long worked to open up libraries to the public, making all the knowledge stored on their shelves and computers available to any reader. Under communism and other authoritarian systems, libraries offered only documents affirming the official view while keeping politically incorrect information locked away.

These and other OSI initiatives in publishing and Internet availability advance open society through the promotion of diverse, reliable, and independent sources of information as well as incisive and responsible journalism.

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**The following reports describe some of the work of the Soros foundations network in the area of information and media. The Information Program and Media Program are OSI network programs. Project Syndicate provides commentaries on open society issues to member newspapers around the world. The Open Society Archives and Central European University Press are affiliated with Central European University.**

## INFORMATION PROGRAM

The Information Program, started in 2001, is a consolidation of OSI's Internet and Library programs and its Center for Publishing Development. Over the previous five years, these three network programs did much to open up closed societies. They helped bring Internet connectivity to more than 35 countries, funded independent policy and human rights voices online, assisted libraries in serving their communities, and supported the publication of thousands of books critical for education and public debate.

The new Information Program brings together these programs to promote the equitable deployment of knowledge and communications resources—providing access to content, tools, and networks—for civic empowerment and effective democratic governance. The Program focuses on six areas: information policy; open access to online information; information and communications technology (ICT); technology for civil society; libraries; and translations and publishing.

The Program helps create a free flow of information by supporting policies that encourage investment in infrastructure, protecting basic liberties in the new media environment, and enhancing citizen access to government information. In 2001, the Program supported the expansion of the Global Internet Policy Initiative (GIPI), which carried out assessments of Internet policies and reform in transition and developing regions such as Central Asia and South Eastern Europe. In response to the events of September 11, the Program worked with the Electronic Privacy Information Center to address the challenges posed by new systems of state surveillance deployed after the attacks.

Open access to online information is a major priority that has guided the Program's support for the multicountry coalition of library consortia, Electronic Information for Libraries (EIFL). EIFL provides low-cost access to thousands of business, social science, and humanities journals, and will soon add science and technology publications to

its catalog. By the end of 2001, almost 3,000 libraries in 40 countries had access to EIFL.

The Program addressed the information technology needs of the nonprofit sector through an initiative to develop low-cost ICT software toolsets for nonprofit organizations unable to afford mission critical software applications. One of the most exciting projects supported by the toolset program was the Martus Human Rights data management system developed by Benetech. The project creates open source software so that human rights groups can compile secure human rights abuse information and use the data as a powerful weapon against human rights violators.

During the year, the Program provided ICT support and advice to organizations to increase their effectiveness and encourage the growth of civil society networks. The Program funded local and international pilot projects, including the development of an international network of ICT trainers and consultants to NGOs with the Association for Progressive Communications. It also supported a number of NGO portals such as MANGO in Macedonia and Idealist in Russia. Together with the Network Women's Program, the Information Program is building a network of Women's Information Centers. In cooperation with the social justice network OneWorld International, the Program conducted an in-depth study of the use of ICT by NGOs in South Eastern Europe.

The year 2001 was the last year for awarding grants to libraries for new community-centered services. Nearly 150 projects were funded in 11 countries. The Information Program also helped establish a series of training centers for innovative library management. In 2001, the Program supported 12 model public libraries in Eastern Europe that serve as community centers. These libraries play a leading role in bringing local authorities closer to citizens and meeting specific, everyday information needs—training senior citizens and the unemployed in ICT skills or organizing public debates on issues such as crime prevention in the local community. Building on many years of work with libraries, the Program inaugurated a pilot local community

informatics project in Veszprem, Hungary, the first of a series of projects that seek to enrich civic life in particular communities by enhancing communication between local government, employers, civil society, and educational institutions.

The Program's translation and publishing activities in 2001 focused on the CEU/OSI Translation Project, a major initiative designed to meet the need for local language versions of key social sciences and humanities texts on emerging open society issues. In 2001, OSI supported the publication of more than 450 titles on subjects such as multiculturalism, the Roma in Europe, the information society, women's issues, lesbian and gay issues, Islam and politics, European integration, and human rights. The Program also worked with the Dutch government to initiate a new Books Across Borders project to revitalize the book market in the former Yugoslavia. At the end of the year, oversight of the Program's translation and publishing activities was transferred to the newly established Next Page Foundation, based in Sofia, Bulgaria.

**2001 Expenditures**      **\$8,669,000 ▶**

## NETWORK MEDIA PROGRAM

The Network Media Program assists in the development and establishment of media systems marked by freedom, pluralism, and the inclusion of minority voices and opinions. The Program works to promote quality journalism and bring media attention to critical open society issues. In 2001, the Program provided support to media outlets, either helping them to become self-sustaining or simply survive adverse conditions. The Program also helped foster favorable environments for media by working to develop media legislation and media legal advocacy, as well as supporting professional associations and training for journalists and media managers.

The Media Program continued to pursue a strategy that empowers and builds the capacity of media organizations, enabling them to implement models of media development appropriate for the regions and countries where they work. The Program has also facilitated cooperation among media organizations across regions to address common issues. One example is the South Eastern Europe Network of Professionalization of the Media, a consortium uniting media centers in the region to increase journalists' skills, develop cross-border cooperation, and strengthen organizational capacity. Conferences on media development in South Eastern Europe and the Caucasus, organized with the Peace Institute of Slovenia, an OSI grantee, also facilitated cooperation among journalists' associations.

The Network Media Program cooperated with other OSI network programs to raise media awareness about issues important to open society and to help NGOs work with the media to communicate their message to policymakers and the general public. In 2001, the Media Program worked with the Network Women's Program on an international media campaign to counter violence against women. In cooperation with the Mental Disabilities Advocacy Program, the Media Program developed a similar campaign to eliminate discrimination against people with mental disabilities. NGOs and their media partners in 19 countries carried out media and advocacy campaigns using radio and television public service announcements, survey and research results, radio and television programs, news articles, and news conferences.

Other project partners included the Centers for Independent Journalism in Hungary, Slovakia, and Romania, which sought to promote the coverage of Romani issues and the hiring of Romani journalists in mainstream media.

In addition to its activities in South Eastern Europe, the Caucasus, and Central Asia, the Program in 2001 began working more closely with Soros foundations and initiatives in Southern and West Africa and, most recently, in Southeast Asia. The Program's expansion to new regions emphasizes sharing experiences with local media

stakeholders and supporting promising projects that could lead to further development of local and regional media systems. Successful OSI-supported community radio and journalism projects in Central and Eastern Europe, Mongolia, and South Africa serve as a basis for new projects in West African countries. The Network Media Program is also examining a number of possible projects in Southeast Asia.

**2001 Expenditures**      **\$5,783,000** ▶

## PROJECT SYNDICATE

Nine years ago, OSI's Privatization Project established Project Syndicate to enhance the independence of media and strengthen the journalistic, ethical, and business practices of privately owned newspapers in post-communist Eastern Europe. Since then, it has expanded far from its original region to become a truly international forum for global debate.

In developing and developed nations alike, newspapers play a vital role in helping citizens understand and define democracy and the role of government and markets. Project Syndicate helps readers become more aware of the issues and decisions that affect their lives by featuring distinguished voices from around the world and across the political spectrum, including thinkers such as Francis Fukuyama, Michael Ignatieff, Richard von Weizacker and Peter Singer, specialists in regional affairs like Kanan Makiya of Iraq, Xiao Qiang of China, and Jorge Arrate of Chile, distinguished scholars such as Joseph Stiglitz in economics and Paul Berg in chemistry, and political players like Mario Monti, Richard Haass, and Mikhail Gorbachev.

A voluntary global association of newspapers, Project Syndicate had 127 member papers in 71 countries by the end of 2001. In addition to support from OSI, Project Syndicate activities in developing countries are largely

maintained through the financial contributions of member papers in developed countries.

Significant expansion occurred in 2001 as 46 new newspapers from 17 countries joined the association. Project Syndicate increased its Asian presence and strengthened its commitment to troubled regions with 15 new papers from Asia, including *Tempo* in Indonesia, *New Dawn* in Pakistan, *The Nation* in Thailand, and *The Edge* and *Malaysiakini* in Malaysia. Latin American membership also increased with new members such as *La Nacion* in Costa Rica. New members from Central Asia and the former Soviet states included *PressTIGe* in Uzbekistan and *Dilis Gazeti* in Georgia.

The association's presence in Europe also grew, bringing in new members such as *Le Figaro* in France and *Corriere Della Sera* in Italy. With nine African members, including newspapers in Chad, Zimbabwe, South Africa, Congo, and Zambia, Project Syndicate plans on expanding membership in Africa in 2002.

Project Syndicate worked to disseminate critical ideas in 2001 by deepening its ties to two institutes: Harvard University's Center for International Development, which helps create the editorial content for five series; and the Institut fur die Wissenschaften vom Menschen in Vienna, whose director, Krzysztof Michalski, edits the "Worldly Philosophers" series.

Nobel laureate Joseph Stiglitz became the third regular contributor, alongside Jeffrey Sachs and Rudiger Dornbusch, to Project Syndicate's monthly commentator series. Another new series, "European Economies," edited by Niels Thygesen of the University of Copenhagen, examines key issues in Europe's ongoing economic transformation.

Two new regional series, "The Asian Century" and "The New New World: Latin America Explored," emphasize Project Syndicate's ongoing development of commentaries addressing regional problems with global repercussions. Similar to the Russia and China series, the Asian and Latin American commentaries are written by opinion leaders from within the regions, with complemen-

tary analyses by academic specialists. Using these regional commentary series as a model, Project Syndicate will launch a new series on Africa in 2002, co-edited by Sara Sievers and Gregg Zachary, to increase awareness of the importance of major issues in Africa and their relevance to the rest of the world.

**2001 Expenditures**                      **\$911,000** ▶

## OPEN SOCIETY ARCHIVES

In 2001, the Open Society Archives (OSA), affiliated with Central European University since 1998, continued to grow steadily as it revised its mission in response to social and political change in Central and Eastern Europe. In addition to its traditional functions as an archive, library, educational institute, and events organizer focusing on the Cold War and communism, the Archives increased its collections and activities on issues such as human rights. In order to more effectively carry out its growing local and international activities, OSA also upgraded its computer systems and streamlined its management structure in 2001.

During the year, the Archives acquired documents, books, and papers as well as a full set of the original studio equipment of Radio Free Europe and Radio Liberty. OSA also received important donations from the families of outstanding political figures of the past, including the documents of the late Hungarian prime minister from 1955–56, Andras Hegedus, and the military historian Peter Gosztonyi. Collections of films produced by the Communist Workers' Militia and interviews with Hungarian Gulag victims were invaluable additions to the Archives' audiovisual holdings.

OSA made steady progress in its core archival work of processing materials and neared completion of its unique periodical collection. The collection contains 40,000 microfiche and microfilm entries relating to Central

Europe and the former Soviet Union from 1950 to the present. It also holds complete sets of *Pravda* from 1917 and the *New York Times* from 1941. OSA's staff and resources give it the ability to microfilm extensive holdings, which has made it a vital resource for researchers and educators. The Archives' website helps users sort through the holdings by providing online research aids for finding the most important sections of the Archives.

The Archives' growing human rights collection and its intensified activity in the field of human rights indicate its expansion beyond the topics of communism and the Cold War. OSA has approached other research and archives organizations about setting up an International War Crimes Repository. In May 2001, it began development of a DNA and Human Rights Program that will gather documents and recommend policies on such important matters as data protection and the right to information in the growing field of DNA collection and analysis.

OSA is also broadening its focus and becoming more involved in international activities by increasing the number and range of its grants. Recent grants supported an interview project with Hungarian ex-President Arpad Goncz, a new Balkan history textbook, and sociological research in Romania. The Archives hosted international and regional researchers at its Summer University during which researchers could examine party archives made accessible by communism's collapse. In an effort to attract and serve even more researchers, OSA posted its Reference Information Paper series on the web and invited CEU M.A. and Ph.D. students to do more research to expand the series. Paper topics ranged from the life and work of Raoul Wallenberg to the environment to forced labor camps under communism.

OSA outreach projects had considerable international impact. OSA ran catalog projects in four archives in Russian and one in Poland and worked with national archives from Europe and the Americas on its Kosova Aid Project, which sent 4,000 archival boxes to the Kosova Archives. Archives staff participated in more than 15 conferences abroad, and OSA was a guest exhibitor at the

annual meeting of the Society of American Archivists in Washington, D.C.

The Archives organized several exhibitions at the Galeria Centralis that examined politics and society. *Spartakiads* focused on the history of the political use and abuse of the mass gymnastics movements. The Chinese poster exhibition presented posters from the Chinese Cultural Revolution and ran at the same time as an exhibition held by the Chinese Embassy in the CEU building adjoining the Galeria. Taken together, the two exhibitions presented starkly opposing views of the same topic. *The Millennium Exhibition* opened on December 31, 2001, ushering in the new year with images by a variety of artists depicting publicly funded millennium events, programs, and works of art in Hungary.

**2001 Expenditure**                      **\$1,927,000** ▶

NOTE: The Open Society Archives expenditures are included in the total expenditures of \$22,173,000 for Central European University.

## CENTRAL EUROPEAN UNIVERSITY PRESS

Reflecting the intellectual strengths and values of its parent institution and the Open Society Institute–Budapest, the Central European University Press publishes books on the political philosophy and practices of an open society, legal studies, nationalism, human rights, conflict resolution, open media, gender studies, economics, medieval studies, literature, and international relations.

The publishing program focuses on issues important to Central and Eastern Europe as well as on the past and present history, society, culture and economy of the countries of the former Soviet Union and its neighbors. The CEU Press operates by standards common to university presses, including peer review and editorial committee

approval. Its books are produced regionally and sold internationally.

In less than nine years, CEU Press has brought out over 100 titles, many of them in both hard cover and paperback. Its bestseller is *Between Past and Future*, a collection of essays on the revolutions of 1989 in Eastern and Central Europe and their aftermath. This book, edited by Sorin Antohi and Vladimir Tismaneanu, has been reprinted several times since its first release in 2000.

Runners-up on the top list of CEU Press books are *The Road to War* in Serbia by Nebojsa Popov and *Science and the Open Society*, edited by Mark Notturmo, closely followed by Jan Neruda's *Prague Tales*, the leading title in the Central European Classics series. Among titles published in spring 2002 are *Political Corruption in Transition* and a collection of documents on the 1956 Hungarian Revolution.





## PROGRAM REPORTS

### ARTS AND CULTURE NETWORK PROGRAM

Arts and culture reflect open society values and influence public attitudes, yet they seldom receive adequate recognition and resources from either governments or society. In 2001, to counteract the lack of support, the Arts and Culture Network Program promoted cultural and artistic collaboration throughout the network; fostered structural changes in cultural policy; and developed an autonomous and innovative arts sector. The Program's goal is to stimulate cultural activities while respecting and celebrating differences between countries.

The Program's Cultural Link and Cultural Policy projects continued in 2001, with a special focus on Central Asia, the Caucasus, and Mongolia. Cultural Link enables professionals to cooperate in the exchange and development of arts and cultural projects that provoke debate within society; introduce experimental, innovative forms of art; shape cultural policy; and challenge social, ethnic, and religious prejudices.

In 2001, Cultural Link supported 188 international artistic projects in 22 countries that addressed the influence of culture, ideology, geography, and time on artistic styles and traditions. Grants went to projects that had international scope and incorporated a variety of disciplines such as literature, performance art, visual arts, and new media. The "One World" human rights film festival held in Prague, Bratislava, and Warsaw presented powerful films on war, state repression, discrimination, and intoler-

ance. In Kosovo, young Polish artists worked with Albanians and Serbs on projects to restore the region's artistic and cultural life. The Program also supported workshops and art exhibits in Lithuania examining the country's postcolonial experience.

The Cultural Policy project supports the development of legislation and fiscal policies for alternative funding of the arts, living heritage projects, nonprofit organizations, privatization of culture, cultural activities in rural areas and small cities, and making cultural institutions more flexible and self-sustainable. The project also assists in the education of arts administrators and policymakers and aims to develop cultural policy and resource centers as well as implement new entrepreneurial models within cultural institutions. By the end of its first year, the project had awarded grants to 90 cultural organizations from 23 countries.

In September 2001, the Program introduced Bridge of Understanding, a new project to stimulate networking, communication, and cooperation between Central Asia, the Caucasus, and Mongolia as well as link the cultures of these areas with cultures from other Soros network countries.

The Bridge of Understanding competition is open to cultural and artistic projects that involve one or more of the following countries: Azerbaijan, Armenia, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan. During the pilot competition in 2001, the project received 183 proposals from 21 countries and awarded 20 grants to applicants from 11 countries. Winning proposals explored topics such as the role of literature in conflict prevention, cultural relations between Tajikistan and Hungary, and cooperative art exchanges between Mongolia and the Czech Republic.

Throughout the year, the Program also supported initiatives of other network programs using art to address gender issues, Roma and national minorities, and human rights.

**2001 Expenditures**

**\$3,069,000 ▶**

## **EAST EAST PROGRAM: PARTNERSHIP BEYOND BORDERS**

The East East Program: Partnership Beyond Borders supports the exchange of people and ideas to transcend national borders and create partnerships that strengthen open society. The Program's goal is to provide a platform for individuals and organizations to share their knowledge and experiences about political, social, and economic development and reform with counterparts from other countries and regions.

In 2001, the Program marked its 10th year of operation by supporting 220 international initiatives to organize regional and global expertise in social innovation and advocacy to affect change. Civil society and NGOs in Central and Eastern Europe and Central Asia used the resources of the East East Program to exchange experiences, best practices, lessons learned, and models of development. Program participants also collaborated in finding innovative solutions to transnational challenges, analyzed comparative trends in social, economic, and political development, and identified alternative approaches to overcoming racism, stereotypes, and prejudice. Other initiatives worked to strengthen coalitions to influence regional policies and public dialogue on issues such as future EU border policies and economic development in the South Caucasus.

In addition to addressing far-ranging policy questions, East East also supported an array of initiatives on social issues ranging from refugee assistance to education in juvenile prisons to trans-boundary commissions for water resource management. The initiatives shared a common purpose of developing realistic proposals to address fundamental open society issues such as empowerment of disadvantaged and marginalized sectors of society; multiculturalism; lack of access to information; and ways to increase participation in governance and strengthen democratic institutions.

The East East Program Subprogram for Southeast Europe completed its work promoting civil society initiatives in the region. After 2001, the East East Program will

build on the work of the Subprogram by continuing to develop and support civil society and policy-oriented initiatives in South Eastern Europe. Projects piloted in 2001 included monitoring and evaluating educational reform in South Eastern Europe, examining alternatives to reduce barriers to foreign direct investment, developing regional cooperation among student networks, and analyzing international aid policies to South Eastern European countries.

In 2001, the East East Program began preparations to expand into Southeast Asia, offering the Program as a model for international partnerships with civil society institutions and NGOs in the region.

**2001 Expenditures**                      **\$2,792,000 ▶**

## ECONOMIC AND BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

In an effort to help build a market economy and create new jobs, the Economic and Business Development Program (EBDP) assists Soros foundations in their work to promote the restructuring of transitional economies. EBDP has become an important catalyst for economic development, playing a crucial role in several areas, particularly microfinance, small business development, targeted economic policy initiatives, retraining of redundant military personnel, and entrepreneurship education. In collaboration with Soros foundations and their local resources, EBDP builds and strengthens local institutions using financial programs to provide access to capital and educational programs to provide business skills training.

Creating a small business sector is a dramatic structural change in transitional economies. A major problem faced by emerging small businesses is the lack of access to credit due to limited resources and management experience and an underdeveloped banking sector. EBDP helps

eliminate these barriers by supporting various lending programs targeting micro-, small- and medium-sized businesses. The Program supported a number of urban and rural microbusiness lending programs in Albania, Bulgaria, Croatia, Hungary, Lithuania, Macedonia, Moldova, Romania, Russia, Ukraine, and Uzbekistan. In 2002, the Program will develop new microcredit initiatives in Guatemala and Haiti. EBDP helped the development of small- and medium-sized enterprises in Bosnia and Herzegovina and Bulgaria through support for business credit programs. The lending programs, in addition, may target specific sectors such as private, nongovernment organizations in Bulgaria and small private publishers in Macedonia and Hungary.

The Economic and Business Development Program uses the Soros Economic Development Fund (SEDF), an independent nonprofit foundation, as its primary source for funding its micro- and small-business lending programs. SEDF also provides other types of program-related investments such as loans, guarantees, and equity investments to financial institutions involved in economic development programs. SEDF's activities seek to fulfill needs that local financial institutions or international donors do not cover.

New and existing microbusinesses and small businesses not only need access to capital, but also training and assistance in business management practices. In 2001, EBDP provided assistance for small business development centers in Bulgaria, Croatia, and Ukraine. The aim of these centers is to teach practical skills such as business and investment planning, marketing, and business accounting, as well as to assist business people in rebuilding commercial ties between small enterprises in the region. In Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan, the Program provided support to small business incubation centers where new companies can obtain assistance in how to start a business and gain business skills training. These centers also give new companies access to on-site technical assistance and support as well as allow them to share administrative expenses.

A final concern of the Economic and Business

Development Program is teaching business and economic skills at the secondary school and university level. In 2001, the Program continued to support Junior-Achievement after-school programs in countries such as Albania, Azerbaijan, Haiti, Moldova, and Mongolia. At the university level, EBDP assisted the University of Osijek in Croatia in developing a graduate program in entrepreneurship.

**2001 Expenditures**      **\$6,398,000** ▶

## INTERNATIONAL POLICY FELLOWSHIPS

The International Policy Fellowships (IPF) program identifies and supports research by open society leaders in countries throughout the Soros foundations network. IPF is affiliated with the Center for Policy Studies (CPS) at Central European University (CEU) and cooperates with partners such as the Woodrow Wilson Center in the United States. The program strives to build local policymaking capacity and prevent “brain drain” by providing professional policy training and ensuring that fellows have substantial mobility and intellectual freedom while conducting research in their home countries.

International Policy Fellows have explored alternative ways to jumpstart needed reform in transition countries and prompt public discourse about open society issues. They have promoted emerging grassroots movements and secured outside funding for new and sustainable local initiatives. Policy fellows have had notable successes in influencing the policies of governments and institutions in transition countries, where independent researchers have tremendous opportunities to address gaps in social science research and analysis that must be filled in order to devise well-informed policies.

Thirty fellows were accepted to carry out research projects from March 2001 through March 2002, as well as seven alumni fellows who received Continuing

Fellowships. Throughout the year, fellows often succeeded in progressing beyond their stated project objectives to impact policy in a significant way. Linguist Csilla Bartha’s presentations to a new Hungarian parliamentary committee on behalf of the Hungarian Deaf Association resulted in her participation in developing a bilingual education program for the Hungarian education system. International Policy Fellow Natalija Vrečer became a government advisor on migration issues after presenting a policy paper to Slovenian officials. With help from colleagues, Vrečer also succeeded in challenging Slovenian laws restricting the rights of refugees and foreigners at the Constitutional Court.

Fellows published hundreds of articles and papers both locally and abroad, and worked together to organize news conferences and publish books, such as the CEU Press publication *Reinventing Media*, which includes chapters by 10 alumni and current media fellows. IPF fellows established national and regional institutions, including the Institute for Public Policy Analysis in Georgia, the Center for Public Policy Strategies in Lithuania, and the Press Freedom Center in Hungary.

In 2001, cooperation between IPF and CEU was significantly strengthened. The two institutions established an annual faculty fellowship program that supports two CEU faculty members and allows them to pursue individual policy research on a full-time basis. An expanded IPF mentoring scheme benefited fellows and CEU faculty members by increasing information exchange and research assistance.

IPF also developed a strategic partnership with the Network Public Health Programs, which created five new Public Health Policy Fellowships within the IPF scheme. This arrangement will ensure that the public health fellows are exposed to other social policy research problems and approach their own research and activities in an interdisciplinary way.

The Internet is an important tool for innovative policy research and IPF is utilizing Internet solutions to bring cohesion to the knowledge, training, and computer resources of IPF field researchers. In 2001, the program

launched a new training website ([www.policy.hu](http://www.policy.hu)) that provides nearly 200 current and alumni fellows with a resource for posting materials and learning how to use Internet tools to further their research. The website has become the fellows' single best source of publicity and is developing into a central resource for original Central and Eastern European social policy research.

IPF received a budget increase from the OSI Board in 2001, which enabled the program to accept 50 fellows for the 2002 program rather than the previous annual limit of 30 fellows. The new group includes fellows from countries such as Indonesia, Turkey, India, and Pakistan. The increased diversity, experience, and numbers of the new group will make 2002 one of the most exciting and fruitful fellowship years to date.

## 2001 Expenditures

\$857,000 ▶

## LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND PUBLIC SERVICE REFORM INITIATIVE

The Local Government and Public Service Reform Initiative (LGI) promotes effective democratic government in the countries covered by the Soros foundations network. LGI focuses on supporting local government and public administration reform and decentralization; improving the administration of public services; and assisting in the formulation of public policy. Beyond its continued support to local community and advocacy groups, think tanks, and training organizations, LGI has started to gradually improve the services of its regional policy center.

The Initiative's most valuable assets are the professional networks that it has established and continues to cooperate with. By 2001, the Local Government Information Network (LOGIN) had established partners in seven countries. The LOGIN database, containing more than 3,000 case studies, guidelines, and best

practices reports, was an important resource for helping policymakers and researchers understand and implement legislation and reforms. LGI provided support for the Public Administration and Local Government Center in Belgrade to develop legislation to decentralize and democratize governance, which is under consideration by the Serbian Parliament. Public policy institutes working with the Soros foundations network have stabilized their cooperation under LGI's Public Policy Centers Initiative, which has brought together regional policy centers for a multicountry study of the Schengen treaty and European Union enlargement.

The Initiative also continued to provide financial and professional support to the Network of Institutes and Schools of Public Administration (NISPAcee), which brings together working groups to develop curricula. In 2001, LGI staff launched and coordinated a new working group on multiethnic issues. The Initiative enhanced cooperation with Soros foundations at the regular annual meeting, which focused on cooperation between foundations and LGI to develop professional strategies.

Several research and development activities between LGI networks and international partners came to a close in 2001. The Local Government Policy Partnership program (LGPP), a joint effort by OSI/LGI and Britain's Department for International Development (DFID), completed examinations of utilities regulation, education management and finance, and public perceptions of local government. The Fiscal Decentralization Initiative organized a forum for policymakers in Romania, which resulted in the preparation of new proposals for the government's fiscal reform efforts. LGI also helped complete reports on indicators of democratic governance in Hungary, Latvia, Poland, and Romania. The Initiative provided support to local government associations to examine issues of unemployment, regionalization, e-democracy, and the impact of EU accession on local legislation to improve their position during negotiations with the European Union.

Direct technical assistance to policymakers by LGI is provided through expert database networks that list hundreds of English- and Russian-speaking specialists. In

cooperation with the UNDP, LGI provides technical assistance on designing decentralization reform strategies in Central Asia and has contributed to the redesign of local government legislation in Macedonia and Croatia.

In cooperation with the World Bank Institute, LGI started new training programs on urban management in Kosovo as well as joint programs with the International Finance Corporation focusing on small- and medium-sized enterprise development. LGI also cofunded a management of multiethnic communities project with the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) in Bosnia and Herzegovina. The Initiative's policy fellowship program accepted 12 new participants to start studies in September.

LGI produced several new publications in 2001, including a series of comparative papers on the development of local governance in South Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union over the past 10 years. The series was accompanied by a Russian language version focusing on Central Europe. The multiethnic project provided the basis for two books, and the LGPP program produced two reports on local governance and utility regulation. The LGI "Discussion Paper" series published five new issues focusing on public sector reform, solid waste removal, and district-level development policies. The Initiative continued to produce its quarterly professional newsletter, *Local Government Brief*, which has a circulation of 1,200 copies in English and 1,000 in Russian.

**2001 Expenditures**

**\$7,234,000 ▶**

# *Promoting Open Society in an Altered Landscape*

The September 11 attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon affected much of the world's population—New York City schoolchildren and Afghan merchants, black Muslims in Detroit and imams in Jakarta—in intensely personal ways, and may have affected life and politics in ways that will reverberate for some time.

Yet, as much as the world was altered, not everything changed on September 11. The United States still imprisons two million men and women, half of whom are racial minorities. Each year, 600,000 of





them return to their communities—feared, jobless, and undereducated. In some urban high schools, half of the students drop out before graduation. Forty million people still lack health insurance. Millions of poor, single women with children face the end of their welfare benefits. Those employed after welfare-to-work may now be in the first waves of the unemployed.

The most important thing that we can do is stay focused on assisting these and other marginalized communities by addressing barriers to opportunity, democracy, and justice—the same priorities that launched the Open Society Institute’s U.S. Programs six years ago. At the same time, we have to meet the heightened challenges to human rights in the United States that have been brought on by the U.S. response to September 11.

The altered political and cultural landscape provides some significant opportunities for advancing open society. After years of assaults on government, public servants such as firefighters, police officers, emergency workers, and others are now looked upon with new respect and admiration. The government’s response to the anthrax crisis threw a harsh spotlight on the consequences of 20 years of disinvestment in public health. The lapses in airport security have caused many to question the wisdom of decentralized, privatized approaches to matters of critical public infrastructure. Whether these developments will have a ripple effect on the increasing privatization of other government functions like prisons and schools remains to be seen, but the discussion has shifted in positive ways.

One thing September 11 brought home is that, because of the nation’s lack of broad public engagement in international affairs, Americans have little context for understanding the attacks or making sense of the response to them. In fact, the average street vendor in Port-au-Prince may be more familiar with global issues than the average American college graduate. Because even the increasingly influential human rights movement lacks a real public constituency, human rights concerns are certainly taking a back seat to military and security issues.

In overlooking the poor human rights records of new-found allies like Pakistan and Uzbekistan, the United States

breaks faith with those struggling for freedom around the world, while sowing the seeds for more repression. We must work to build public awareness and support for international engagement in the United States with the intensity and sophistication that we have applied to campaigns on drug policy reform, gun violence, and other domestic issues.

The United States’ behavior at home is a critical part of this equation. Many of the administration’s measures after the September attacks raise grave civil liberties concerns. These concerns include the detention, often without charges or access to counsel, of more than a thousand immigrants; the “voluntary” questioning of thousands of others; and the plans to try suspects in military tribunals—denying suspects both the right to a lawyer of their own choosing and the right to appeal.

These tactics also undermine American efforts to lead the fight against terrorism. Spain has understandably refused to extradite terrorism suspects who might be tried before a tribunal that could sentence them to death on the basis of a split verdict with no possibility of appeal. Countries like Peru, rightly criticized by the United States for their past use of secret military courts, cannot have failed to notice that in our own confrontation with terrorism we do not practice what we preach.

According to U.S. Attorney General John Ashcroft, we should all keep silent. In an extraordinary assertion, he warned that those who even raise questions about the administration’s antiterrorism policies give aid and comfort to the nation’s enemies. As OSI stated in a full-page *New York Times* ad taking issue with the attorney general’s smear, “When we look back at crises in our history, including the two world wars of the last century, we are often shamed that more did not speak out about incursions on liberty that to many seemed justified by the imperatives of the moment. America will be a stronger country, and its response to the challenges of terrorism more effective, if we encourage and protect dissent and criticism precisely when it is important.”

Gara LaMarche

*OSI Vice President and Director of U.S. Programs*

## CRIMINAL JUSTICE INITIATIVE

In 2001, OSI's U.S. Programs integrated its grantmaking on criminal justice reform issues into the Criminal Justice Initiative (CJI). With the goal of reframing the public debate on crime and prisons, CJI promotes equity throughout the criminal justice system to reverse the trend of mass incarceration of poor people of color and supports efforts to create political and financial incentives to reduce prison expansion. CJI also supports research, policy advocacy, and grassroots activism to channel resources away from incarceration and into community renewal, such as housing, education, career development, and youth programming.

CJI encompasses three main programs: the Gideon Project, The After Prison Initiative, and the Community Advocacy Project. Other components of the Criminal Justice Initiative are the Policy and Research Program, the Soros Justice Fellowships, and the Baltimore Criminal Justice Program. In addition, OSI continues its drug policy initiatives, which promote alternatives to incarceration for low-level drug offenders and advance strategies to reduce drug-related harm.

**THE GIDEON PROJECT**, named for the landmark U.S. Supreme Court ruling in *Gideon v. Wainwright* guaranteeing the right to legal counsel for the indigent, was created to promote the fair administration of criminal justice through research, advocacy, and legal representation. The Gideon Project has four funding priorities: improving public defense services, increasing prosecutorial accountability, combating racial profiling, and ending the death penalty.

In the area of public defense services, the National Legal Aid and Defender Association received a major capacity-building grant to develop three efforts: a website offering technical assistance to public defenders around the country to improve their training and services; a communications campaign on the profession, which is often unacknowledged and underfunded; and leadership train-

ing for public defender managers. The Brennan Center for Justice was funded to create a Community Justice Institute, which will encourage community organizations to forge alliances with lawyers on issues of mutual concern. Brooklyn Defender Services will develop a best-practices model for public defenders of mentally ill clients. The Defender Association of Seattle received renewal funding for its work with community groups to reduce racial disparities in policing and prosecution of drug offenses, school truancy, and driving with suspended licenses.

Racial profiling was again spotlighted as a result of several widely publicized incidents and the increased focus on Arab Americans in the wake of September 11. The Gideon Project led OSI's efforts to support Arab and Muslim organizations, as well as civil rights and civil liberties advocates, as they confronted profiling and other forms of discrimination.

Prosecutorial accountability is an issue of growing concern as legislative reforms have expanded the power of prosecutors in recent years—often with troubling consequences. In 2001, the Gideon Project and OSI's Law and Society Program funded the Center for Public Integrity (CPI) to study wrongful convictions stemming from prosecutorial misconduct. CPI and the Constitution Project also participated in a roundtable discussion on prosecutorial accountability convened by OSI.

Death penalty reform has gathered momentum as reports mount of wrongful convictions in capital cases. With OSI support, the Innocence Project of Cardozo Law School's Innocence Network assists 18 investigative projects around the nation examining claims of wrongful conviction. Murder Victims' Families for Reconciliation, a 2,000-member anti-death penalty organization, was funded to convene its first national conference. Occurring shortly before the execution of Timothy McVeigh, the conference received wide media coverage and offered an important voice of opposition to the death penalty.

**THE AFTER PRISON INITIATIVE** encourages social and justice policies and practices that facilitate the reintegration into society of people leaving prison and jail

and strengthen the capacity of their families and communities to receive them.

**Restorative Reentry Practices** support collaborations between government and communities to rethink parole and other community penalties. To improve and coordinate policymaking around reentry, the Council of State Governments received a grant to create a national, bipartisan Reentry Policy Council consisting of influential public officials and policymakers, neighborhood organizations, and community leaders, including former prisoners with expertise in justice and social policy.

**Justice Reinvestment** aims to shift financial incentives away from incarceration and toward community development. The George Washington University Institute on Crime, Justice & Corrections was awarded a grant to develop cost-saving parole reforms in various states and to redirect public investment to community development in high incarceration communities.

**Eradication of Civil Barriers to Reintegration** seeks to eliminate postprison obstacles to housing, employment, education, and political participation. OSI awarded DemocracyWorks a grant to launch a public education campaign about recent legislation that restores voting rights to more than 36,000 Connecticut residents who are on probation.

**New Leadership Development** promotes the influence of community leaders who have criminal convictions in justice policy discussions and decision-making. To combat the “civic death” of high-incarceration individuals and communities, OSI is helping to establish the national NuLeadership Policy Group, a coalition of organizations led by former prisoners, and also awarded a grant to Columbia University’s Institute for Research on African American Studies to engage scholars and activists in articulating a body of knowledge grounded in the African American experience of the U.S. criminal justice system.

**THE COMMUNITY ADVOCACY PROJECT** addresses the massive destabilization of communities that has occurred over the past 30 years as the country invested in prisons and punitive criminal justice policies. Soaring rates of

incarceration and prison construction have gone hand-in-hand with divestment in public education, social welfare programs, and economic development. Families, neighborhoods, and society suffer the consequences, including higher rates of children with a parent in prison, lack of employment opportunities, and crime. The Community Advocacy Project supports organizing efforts by those most affected by incarceration to oppose these policies and to devise new approaches to criminal justice and community development. Through the funding of advocacy and grassroots organizing, the Project supports communities often left out of the decision-making process, communities that reject tough-on-crime strategies and incarceration as the final answer to criminal justice problems.

The Community Advocacy Project’s grantmaking strategy comprises four program areas:

**Youth- and Community-Led Justice Movement Building** recognizes that young people are often at the forefront of social justice movements and aims to nurture a new generation of activists through its grantmaking. Funding in 2001 supported the Ella Baker Center for Human Rights’ campaign, “Books Not Bars,” which challenges California’s prison growth and policies through media advocacy, grassroots organizing, and hip-hop music—all driven by young people. OSI also supported the New York City Prison Moratorium Project, a youth-led, grassroots organization dedicated to halting prison expansion and organizing corporate accountability campaigns, while advocating for a fair, effective, and humane criminal justice system.

**Broad-based Coalitions to Oppose Prison Expansion and Mass Incarceration** support advocacy efforts among unlikely allies to oppose prison expansion and to propose public policies that invest criminal justice dollars in community development. Critical Resistance is a nationwide organization that brings together urban and rural prison activists, former prisoners, college students, and other constituencies to translate local struggles to oppose prisons into a national movement to challenge the prison-industrial complex. The southern-based Grassroots Leadership’s Public Safety and

Justice Campaign facilitates coalition building among a wide range of constituencies, including correctional officers' unions, faith-based organizations, and former prisoners, to oppose for-profit, private prisons.

**Mobilization of Former Prisoners and Families for Policy Reform** was developed in 2001 in response to the needs of the growing population of former prisoners—600,000 of whom were released during the year—and their families. Grantmaking will start in 2002 to fund organizing activities among this often politically invisible constituency.

**Arts and Culture as Tools for Organizing New Constituencies Around Justice Policy Reform** supports artistic expression—from documentary film and video to spoken-word performance—that has the potential to organize new constituencies to advocate for criminal justice policy reform. Blackout Arts Collective and its project “Lyrics on Lockdown” received funds to bring its message to prisons, community groups, and performance spaces across the country. A volunteer organization of young professionals of color, the collective tackles themes such as racial profiling and mass incarceration.

**THE POLICY AND RESEARCH PROGRAM** supports advocacy-oriented research and policy analysis that encourages evidence-based criminal justice policy reform. A grant to the Institute on Taxation and Economic Policy resulted in a study that highlighted the failure of government subsidies to private prison corporations to benefit local communities in terms of jobs and local development. A grant to the Urban Institute’s Justice Policy Center supported two Reentry Research Roundtables that gathered researchers, policymakers, and practitioners, including experts on reentry who are also former prisoners, and produced a policy monograph, *From Prison to Home: The Dimensions and Consequences of Prisoner Reentry*, which garnered significant media coverage and has become an important resource on the current reentry phenomenon. Grants to the Sentencing Project, which carries out research, advocacy, and communications work on sentencing reform and

alternatives to mass incarceration, supported reports and analyses that popularized issues of minority overrepresentation and led to congressional and state legislative hearings.

For information on the Soros Justice Fellowships, see page 160. For the OSI–Baltimore Criminal Justice Program, see page 163.

## FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMS

The power of a community emanates from the strength of the individuals within it. Social change rarely occurs without the singular vision and drive that one individual can bring to the process. Guided by this belief, OSI is committed to investing in individuals who act as agents for debate and change within their communities, their professional fields, and society.

**THE COMMUNITY FELLOWSHIPS PROGRAM** connects grassroots activism with policy change by supporting indigenous leaders of marginalized communities. As key stakeholders in, and champions of, social activism, community fellows bring diverse perspectives to important policy debates and act as agents of change in their communities. Operated in Baltimore and New York City, the fellowships are awarded to a broad range of activists.

In Baltimore, 10 community fellows were chosen in 2001. Christopher Wright, a teacher, established Achieving Success through Knowledge, an after-school science program that nurtures technological proficiency and academic excellence among the city’s youth. Lacey Benton, a businesswoman, established Youth Entrepreneur Associates, a program that motivates teens to develop career goals, acquire employment skills, and increase self-sufficiency through entrepreneurship. Tony Shore, an established artist, created Access Art, a southwest Baltimore youth arts center, which provides disadvantaged youth with a safe environment to explore creative arts and to develop valuable art-related and vocational skills.

In New York City, 10 community fellows were supported in 2001. Majora Carter, an activist, used her fellowship to create Sustainable South Bronx, a nonprofit dedicated to implementing sustainable development projects that are informed by community needs and environmental justice values. Luna Yasui, a law student, created the Immigrant Day Laborer Advocacy Project, which utilizes a comprehensive community advocacy model to insure the workplace rights of New York's immigrant day laborers. Yasui worked with cleanup crews at the World Trade Center site. Walter "George Stonefish" Willis, a former prisoner, launched the First Nations Empowerment Project to build fair representation of native peoples living in New York City.

**THE SOROS JUSTICE FELLOWSHIPS** support the mission of OSI's Criminal Justice Initiative (CJI). The fellowships support individuals who further OSI's mission of reducing the nation's overreliance on punishment and incarceration policies, and restoring discretion and fairness to the U.S. criminal justice system. CJI funds professionals in law, public health, the media, and other fields to design and implement projects that are consonant with CJI's three main programs: the Gideon Project, The After Prison Initiative, and the Community Advocacy Project.

Soros Justice Senior Fellows enable experienced activists, academics, and community leaders to improve the level of national discussion and scholarship, organize communities, and prompt policy debate on criminal justice reforms. Fellows devote up to one year researching, writing, or initiating projects. Since 1997, the program has supported 38 senior fellows, including lawyers, public health experts, academics, and former prisoners. The 2001 fellows included Michael Jacobson, who designed strategies to reduce the number of technical parole violators returned to prison. David Zlotnick highlighted federal judges' concerns about the harsh impact of mandatory minimum sentencing laws. Ashanti Witherspoon developed resources for former prisoners reentering society.

Soros Justice Postgraduate Fellows identify and nur-

ture advocates for change at the local and national level. Postgraduate fellowships fund two-year projects implemented in partnership with leading nonprofit agencies whose activities are related to criminal justice. Since 1997, the program has supported 61 postgraduate fellows. The 2001 fellows included Heba Nimr, of INS WATCH/La Raza Centro Legal, who mobilized immigrants to protect their civil rights in immigration proceedings and to change local law enforcement policies on detention of noncitizens. Vanita Gupta, of the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund, challenged race-biased drug sentencing laws affecting nonviolent prisoners. Jordan Schreiber, of Contra Costa Public Defender, promoted drug treatment and mental health services for the poor through outreach and advocacy.

Soros Justice Media Fellows support journalists to improve the quality of news coverage of issues that are at the heart of CJI's work. The program frees journalists from constraints that often discourage them from pursuing in-depth stories. Fellows devote up to one year on their reporting projects, which receive wide dissemination. Since 1998, the program has supported 20 media fellows working in print, photography, radio, and television. The 2001 fellows included Adrian LeBlanc, whose series of articles documented the detrimental ways in which children of incarcerated parents absorb prison culture; Steven Rubin, who photographed refugees and other detainees, documenting incarceration's impact on them and their families; and Sasha Abramsky, whose book, *Hard Times Blues: How Politics Built a Prison Nation*, portrays the political forces in California that led to the implementation of the "three strikes law."

**THE SOROS ADVOCACY FELLOWSHIP FOR PHYSICIANS** is administered by OSI's Medicine as a Profession (MAP) program. It encourages physicians to engage in community service to promote public health. The program, which was expanded to provide one- to two-year fellowships, has supported 17 fellows to date. For example, Oxiris Barbot is working with the National Hispanic Medical Association and the Latin American

Youth Center to develop an advocacy education program to address the health concerns of young Latinos. Bob Goodman is collaborating with Public Citizen, a public interest advocacy organization, to reduce the influence of the pharmaceutical industry in medical education and training. Kenneth Thompson is working with the Consumer Health Coalition in Pittsburgh to develop a series of “Black Papers” on the health status of the African American community in Pittsburgh.

## GOVERNANCE AND PUBLIC POLICY

The pervasive influence of political campaign contributions from special interests seeking political favors challenges the core principles of an open and democratic society. In the last months of 2001, campaign finance reform finally captured sufficient public attention, with the collapse of politically wired corporate giant Enron, to give a final push to the legislation banning soft money. While this victory demonstrates the vitality of the movement OSI has helped to build, it is just a first step. Deeper reform of the system for funding politics, along with other improvements to the democratic process, can ensure that government responds to the needs and interests of the many, not the rich and powerful few.

Another challenge to effective representative government is the ongoing shift of responsibility for the delivery of social services from the federal to the state and local levels. This devolution of authority, exemplified by the 1996 welfare reform law, has created new demands and opportunities for citizen participation and for policy reform to hold government at all levels accountable.

Public access to an independent media is another necessary component of a flourishing democracy. And yet, at a time when new technologies make it possible for information to be disseminated more quickly and more widely than ever, recent changes in media policy suggest that

these new avenues for communication will be controlled by an ever-shrinking number of media corporations. Countering this concentration and securing public access to an array of independent media voices are crucial to maintaining a vibrant sphere of democratic communication.

The program on Governance and Public Policy’s grantmaking to promote campaign finance reform achieved important successes during the year, in addition to the passage of McCain-Feingold. One notable accomplishment is the increasing involvement of civil rights organizations in the movement, as they recognize the connection between the current “pay-to-play” system and the disenfranchisement of minority and marginalized communities. OSI grantees, including the Common Cause Education Fund, Public Campaign, and the think tank Demos, have helped to forge these successful alliances with civil rights groups such as the NAACP Legal Defense Fund. Additionally, OSI made its first grant to the Fannie Lou Hamer Project, the first minority-led organization to focus on campaign finance reform.

Several devolution grantees spent the past year preparing for the reauthorization of Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) funds. The National Campaign for Jobs and Income Support, an OSI-funded coalition of community organizations working on welfare-related issues, will bring the voices of people affected by welfare reform to the congressional debate, while the State Fiscal Analysis Initiative (SFAI), a network of 22 state-level groups that analyze state budgets, contributes by assessing the impact of TANF funds on state budgets. Another grantee, the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, contributes similar fiscal analysis on a national scale. The Center used its expertise to respond quickly to the federal budget proposals and economic stimulus packages developed in reaction to the events of September 11 and the sharp national economic downturn, analyzing their likely impact.

Media policy grantmaking has funded several significant battles for media diversity. Consumers Union used OSI’s grant to hire an economist to quantify the effects of

media consolidation on the public, in preparation for FCC and court hearings on the issue. The new Center for Digital Democracy received support to promote the idea of a sustainable nonprofit presence online, and the Alliance for Better Campaigns, a grantee of both the media reform and political reform subprograms, is continuing its struggle for free television airtime for political candidates by launching a campaign to build grassroots constituencies around the country.

## MEDICINE AS A PROFESSION

The transformation of medical practice in the last 30 years has been nothing short of revolutionary. Physician authority, once supreme, faces fierce competition from new sources of medical information found on the Internet or supplied by drug companies, who now pitch their products directly to consumers. In an environment of shrinking autonomy, physicians face a barrage of challenges to their ethical conduct and professional standards.

There are signs that the marketplace approach to medicine and health care is losing credibility. Dissatisfaction with health care profiteering is growing, creating widespread support for reform and revitalization of the medical profession. The Medicine as a Profession (MAP) program is able to take advantage of this climate to stimulate greater opportunities for change.

**PHYSICIAN-CONSUMER PARTNERSHIPS FOR HEALTH CARE** supports alliances between organizations of medical professionals and consumers of health care services. These collaborations engage physicians in civic life as advocates for those whose needs are often ignored by policymakers.

Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston received funding to establish a group of physicians and patients to explore how cross-cultural differences affect medical encounters and treatment outcomes, especially when patients are African American and physicians are white.

The South Carolina Medical Association Foundation and the South Carolina Appleseed Legal Justice Center were funded to educate uninsured and underinsured consumers about health insurance eligibility and coverage under private and publicly funded health plans, such as Medicaid.

**THE SOROS ADVOCACY FELLOWSHIP FOR PHYSICIANS** encourages physicians to engage in community service as concerned citizens and advocates involved in promoting public health. Please see the Fellowships section on page 160 for a detailed description.

**THE STRATEGIC GRANT PROGRAM** supports projects that contribute to MAP's mission of promoting professionalism, civic participation, and high ethical standards among physicians. Grantees to date include the Health Privacy Project, which devised consumer protection rules that became part of federal health privacy regulations in 2001. Public Citizen's Sidney Wolfe and Peter Lurie received support for their program to train medical students and young physicians to do research and advocacy on public health issues. Physicians for Human Rights (PHR) was funded to establish chapters in medical schools to make human rights an important aspect of medical education.

**THE SOROS SERVICE PROGRAM FOR COMMUNITY HEALTH (SSPCH)** fosters service among medical students by placing them in community-based organizations where they assist in projects to benefit public health and learn advocacy skills. The program offers a summer internship, a one-year preclinical program, and one-month clerkships for third- and fourth-year students. To date, 85 students from 28 medical schools have participated in the Service Program.

**MAP FORUMS** bring MAP board members together with physician leaders and social scientists to assess challenges to medical professionalism. Launched in 2000, the forums are a joint project of OSI and the

United Hospital Fund, and the proceedings and papers they yield receive wide publication and distribution. In 2001, forums were convened on “Medicine and the Information Revolution,” “Professional Responsibility for Competence and Quality,” and “Professional Responsibility for Access and Equity in Health Care.”

## OSI–BALTIMORE

Baltimore has been besieged by more than its share of urban woes. Crime, high levels of drug use, failing public education, and depleted civic pride are just some of the persistent barriers to revitalization. OSI–Baltimore was established as an experiment in philanthropy and advocacy to address locally many of the issues that define OSI’s national agenda and that prevent Baltimore from moving ahead.

The Baltimore office’s unique approach combines grantmaking, advocacy, and networking with local partner groups to confront the social, political, and economic concerns facing the city. The office applies the substantial resources and skills of a national foundation, and also engages the expertise and knowledge of local residents who serve as staff and as members of the board of directors.

Many of the Baltimore programs concentrate on policy reform and on how public monies are spent. They help organizations to think about sustainability, to pursue state and federal funding, and to develop the advocacy skills to work with the executive branch in the city and state budget process. The Baltimore office’s overarching goal continues to be to help build strong nonprofit and public sectors that can sustain programs and policies that “open” Baltimore’s society and ensure social and economic justice. OSI–Baltimore also sponsors the educational forum series “Forging Open Society: Generating Ideas, Partnerships, and Solutions” that draws leaders from government, religious institutions, academia, and the community for substantive discussions with national experts to stimulate action.

**THE DRUG ADDICTION TREATMENT PROGRAM’S** primary goal is to ensure that Baltimore residents who are drug-dependent and without health insurance get the treatment and services they need. OSI–Baltimore has worked over the past three years with the city to significantly increase state funding to the Baltimore Substance Abuse Systems, which administers public treatment programs, to fill gaps in treatment services. In 2001, the city received the second installment of a \$25-million state funding increase promised by the governor. Integrating a variety of services needed by drug-dependent patients in one location is an important strategy. To that end, the Baltimore City Health Department was funded to mesh primary health care with drug addiction treatment services for men. The Citizens’ Planning and Housing Association was funded to work on the community level to build acceptance for drug treatment facilities.

### BALTIMORE’S CRIMINAL JUSTICE PROGRAM

complements OSI’s national Criminal Justice Initiative. It focuses on the return of former prisoners to their communities and incarceration alternatives for juvenile offenders. Grantmaking supports demonstration projects, advocacy, technical assistance, and evaluation, and encourages partnerships between nonprofit providers and correctional agencies.

The Criminal Justice Program sponsors Reentry Roundtables, bimonthly meetings of nonprofit providers to discuss improving transition services and opportunities for prisoners as they return to the community. These roundtables have proved successful in solving problems and building partnerships between providers and city and state officials. The Center for Behavioral Health, Criminal Justice, and Public Policy at the University of Maryland received a grant to provide technical assistance to key reentry programs.

**THE WORKFORCE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM** funds solutions to the unemployment problems city residents face, from childcare to transportation, as well as job training, placement, and retention.

Because workforce development involves interrelated issues, no single strategy or agency can do it alone. The Job Opportunities Task Force received funding to bring together workforce development practitioners to share information and best practices and to explore policy issues. OSI–Baltimore also laid the groundwork in 2001 for the Baltimore Fund, a new community development venture capital fund.

**THE EDUCATION AND YOUTH DEVELOPMENT** program supports efforts to improve in-class and after-school learning opportunities for Baltimore’s public school students. In 2001, the program made a major five-year grant to the Fund for Educational Excellence to support high school reform in the Baltimore Public Schools System. Under the plan, nine neighborhood high schools will be restructured, and six to eight new Innovation Schools will be created in partnership with universities or other institutions. The program leveraged more than \$21 million of additional funding from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and from Baltimore-based funders. Advocates for Children and Youth received a grant to increase the use and availability of sustainable, public funding sources for programs to benefit children and youth.

**THE BALTIMORE URBAN DEBATE LEAGUE** engages Baltimore public high school students in the art of policy debate to impart critical thinking and communications skills. Operated in partnership with Towson University, the Barkley Forum at Emory University, and the Fund for Educational Excellence, the program encompasses 17 high schools. The year 2001 marked a new local summer debate camp run by Towson University. The Baltimore City Public School System assumed oversight of the debate program from OSI–Baltimore and the Fund for Educational Excellence received a grant to evaluate the program.

**THE ACCESS TO JUSTICE PROGRAM** provides institutional support to public interest law groups in Baltimore while also cultivating connections between

them and the communities they serve. Maryland Legal Services Corporation received a grant for a series of educational forums examining the role of lawyers in creating an agenda of social change. Casa of Maryland was funded to extend its community lawyering with Latino day laborers into Baltimore. As the Latino population in the region has grown, so has its vulnerability to abusive labor practices and its need for legal advocacy and organizing expertise. OSI–Baltimore also provided support to the Public Justice Center for its policy advocacy, including a groundbreaking effort to establish a right to counsel in important civil cases under state law.

**THE SOROS SERVICE PROGRAM FOR COMMUNITY HEALTH (SSPCH)**, an OSI Medicine as a Profession initiative, seeks to enhance the exposure, perspective, and commitment of medical students to vulnerable special-needs populations in Baltimore. The Program has funded a consortium of community agencies in Baltimore to develop community-level training sites for mentoring medical students through summer internships and clerkships. In 2001, the Program conducted a study which indicated that free medical and social services at “safety net” organizations are critically important to residents, most of whom are uninsured and underserved by area hospitals.

The Community Fellowships Program is described in the Fellowships section on page 155.

## **PROGRAM ON LAW AND SOCIETY**

Since 1997, the Program on Law and Society has made grants to promote full access to fair and impartial justice. Open society depends on a legal system that delivers justice not just to the rich and powerful but to the poorest and most vulnerable members of society. Yet, according to a recent poll funded by OSI, 62 percent of Americans (and 90 percent of African Americans) surveyed believe

there are “two systems of justice in this country—one for the rich and powerful and one for everyone else.” In 2001, the Program on Law and Society concentrated its activity on three broad goals: increasing access to civil legal assistance for low-income people and marginalized communities; protecting access to fair and impartial courts; and improving lawyers’ conduct and their accountability to the public.

It is fundamental to the concept of the rule of law that people have the ability to enforce their rights and to resolve disputes. Yet, in the United States, most of the legal needs of low-income people go unmet because of lack of resources and politically motivated restrictions that limit legal aid for the poor. The Access to Justice grant-making program makes grants to expand poor people’s access to quality legal aid by increasing support (financial and public) for legal aid programs; expanding public interest law opportunities; and facilitating partnerships and collaboration among groups seeking to support low-income and marginalized communities.

In 2001, two grantees—the Project for the Future of Equal Justice and the Project to Expand Resources for Legal Services—continued work to expand financial and public support for legal aid. This work is informed by OSI-funded public opinion research, which found broad support for legal aid but limited awareness of its availability.

To promote community lawyering, the Advancement Project continued to develop the Community Justice Resource Center (CJRC), which provides legal, communications, and policy support nationwide to the racial justice and community lawyering fields. CJRC funding complements the Program on Law and Society’s investment in two related projects: the Funders’ Collaborative for Racial Justice Innovation, started by the Rockefeller Foundation, which encourages partnerships between lawyers and community groups that promote racial justice; and the Civil Rights and Racial Justice Initiative, which fosters collaboration among legal aid and civil rights groups.

After years of lower-court litigation challenging congressional restrictions on the work of federally funded legal aid lawyers, the Brennan Center for Justice at NYU

Law School succeeded in persuading the U.S. Supreme Court to overturn the restriction barring federally funded lawyers from challenging welfare reform laws.

The year 2001 was significant for promoting the use of technology to increase access to quality legal aid. Pro Bono Net is developing LawHelp, a national online legal information system that provides self-help information for individuals with legal problems and resources for lawyers and nonlegal advocates serving low-income people. Pro Bono Net has collaborated with a number of national organizations, such as Lawyers’ Committee for Civil Rights, to build issue-focused practice groups through LawHelp. In 2001, the Legal Services Corporation funded more than 20 states to build websites using LawHelp’s platform.

An independent judiciary is an essential component of the U.S. democratic system, serving as guardian of the Constitution and legal rights. However, the ability of U.S. courts to render fair and impartial justice is increasingly threatened. The cost of campaigns for elected state judges is skyrocketing—forcing judges to raise money in the same manner as politicians, raising concerns that justice is for sale. Special interest groups are spending millions of dollars to influence judicial decisions and to press for the selection of judges who serve their narrow interests, rather than the public interest. Misleading, partisan attacks on judges’ decisions are bringing politics into the courtroom and undermining public confidence. And government-imposed restrictions impair the ability of poor and marginalized populations to receive legal assistance or judicial protection.

The Judicial Independence grantmaking program supports broad-based, nonpartisan efforts to achieve an accountable and independent judiciary through system-wide reform and increased public support for independent courts. Over the last few years, OSI has endeavored to build a field of organizations, reflecting a wide range of expertise, working in partnership through the Justice at Stake Campaign, a national bipartisan partnership of organizations and individuals working to keep the courts fair and impartial through public education, civic engage-

ment, and reform. Justice at Stake coordinates development of joint goals and strategies and provides communications and planning assistance to its partner organizations.

In 2001, the Campaign engaged in efforts to educate the public and the media about threats to judicial independence, especially in state judicial elections, and worked to promote needed reforms. The National Center for State Courts held a symposium to consider ways to address the increasing politicization of judicial campaigns consistent with constitutional free speech guarantees. The symposium helped to implement the “Call to Action” issued by chief justices of state supreme courts following the December 2000 Summit on Improving Judicial Selection. In addition, an American Bar Association commission recommended that states consider public funding reforms for judicial campaigns.

OSI grants also helped broaden the range of partners participating in the Campaign. Pennsylvanians for Modern Courts and two Texas groups, Campaigns for People and Texans for Public Justice, were funded to conduct statewide public education campaigns on the need to reform judicial elections. The League of Women Voters received funds to support citizen education projects in 14 state and local League organizations. And the Committee for Economic Development received a grant to engage leaders of the business community on judicial independence issues.

Finally, the Legal Profession Program has focused on promoting higher standards of conduct and improved accountability among lawyers. Starting in 2001, the Program on Law and Society narrowed its focus to a few ongoing projects, including the Equal Justice Works (formerly NAPIL) fellowships program, which has placed more than 200 public interest fellows in the field since funding began in 1997.

## PROGRAM ON REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND RIGHTS

In recent years, medical science has devised new options for contraception and very early termination of unintended pregnancy. Emergency contraception (the “morning-after pill”) works up to 72 hours after unprotected sex by preventing fertilization or by interrupting the implantation of a fertilized ovum in the uterine wall. The method is especially warranted as a backup to condoms, which are now widely used to protect against sexually transmitted diseases. Mifepristone (“RU-486”), which blocks the production of hormones needed to sustain pregnancy, is now licensed for use in the United States through the seventh week. It is used in combination with another drug that produces moderate contractions and the equivalent of a heavy menstruation.

These new early options have the potential to shift the political, ethical, and medical terrain on abortion, as has the debate over stem cell research, which made it clear that most Americans do not attach much moral significance to very early embryos. The ease of administering these therapies also makes possible the reintegration of services into primary medical care settings. Over time, this development should diminish the need for freestanding abortion clinics, which are frequent targets of protest and violence.

OSI grantmaking in 2001 supported efforts to promote early options through consumer education, provider training, and the elimination of barriers to access. A program-related investment was also made in the Women’s Capital Corporation, the U.S. and Canadian distributor of the dedicated emergency contraception product PLAN B.

Because only 11 percent of Americans are aware of emergency contraception, OSI supported the “Back Up Your Birth Control” national public education campaign sponsored by the Reproductive Health Technologies Project in collaboration with hundreds of partner organizations throughout the country. A grant to the American Forum, a national clearinghouse of progressive opinion, is also ad-

vancing efforts to increase local news coverage of reproductive health developments, especially in the southern states.

A grant to the University of California at San Francisco's Center for Reproductive Health Research and Policy contributed to the American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology's decision to endorse advance provision of emergency contraception to all patients. The Public Health Institute's Pharmacy Access Partnership received funds to train California pharmacists to provide emergency contraception without a prescription. OSI is also supporting the Center for Reproductive Law and Policy and other organizations in their petition to the Food and Drug Administration for approval of over-the-counter emergency contraception.

Nationwide training in medical abortion was advanced through major grants to allow the Planned Parenthood Federation of America and the National Abortion Federation to educate their members. Support for the New York National Abortion Rights Action League (NARAL) helped produce a groundbreaking agreement by the city's Health and Hospitals Corporation to mandate residency training in up-to-date abortion procedures. Pilot projects are also under way to provide emergency contraception and mifepristone in New York's two largest networks of publicly assisted maternal and infant health care: the Community Healthcare Network and the Medical and Health Research Association.

OSI supported Planned Parenthood of Western Washington's Fair Access to Contraception Project, which prevailed in the U.S. District Court in Seattle in *Erickson v. Bartell Drug Co.* (2001), arguing that failure to provide health insurance coverage for contraception constitutes unfair discrimination against female employees. To prevent further compromise of judicial protections for reproductive rights by potential conservative nominees to the federal courts and the Supreme Court, OSI is supporting the Emergency Campaign for Choice, a national public education and grassroots organizing campaign developed collaboratively by nine national women's groups.

## PROJECT ON DEATH IN AMERICA

The Project on Death in America (PDIA) entered its third three-year funding period with the continued mission of improving public policy, attitudes, and the conditions that affect the care of terminally ill people and their caregivers. Thanks to the efforts of many PDIA grantees, palliative care, which encompasses quality of life for patients with life-threatening illnesses, is increasingly on the public agenda. In the next two years, PDIA will focus on building leadership and infrastructure in the palliative care field.

**THE PDIA GRANTS PROGRAM** in 2001 focused on building capacity among individual and organizational grantees. The Center for the Advancement of Health received a major first-time grant to undertake a report on the state of the grief and bereavement field and to develop policy recommendations. PDIA also funded the Pain and Policy Studies Group at the University of Wisconsin to evaluate the extent to which the regulation of opioid medications affects pain management.

Growing evidence suggests that the health care system fails children and families when they are confronted by a life-threatening condition. In close collaboration with the National Association of Children's Hospitals, the Society of Pediatric Nurses, and the New York Academy of Medicine, the Education Development Center will develop a framework that children's hospitals will use to improve care for gravely ill children and their families. Six leading hospitals will test program materials, undertake new practices and policies, and measure progress toward establishing new quality indicators for family-centered pediatric palliative care.

Today, only 18 percent of Americans receive comprehensive end-of-life care, and African Americans often face additional barriers. To help define a research, education, and policy agenda to improve care for African American patients, PDIA gave a grant to North General Hospital in New York City to establish the Initiative to Improve Palliative Care for African Americans.

**THE FACULTY SCHOLARS PROGRAM**'s goal is to build a cadre of clinicians, researchers, and educators with expertise in palliative care. To date, it has supported 78 faculty scholars from 50 medical schools and 3 nursing schools. They represent a variety of disciplines, including medical ethics, economics, geriatrics, neurology, pediatrics, psychiatry, and critical care. For seven years these faculty scholars have sown the seeds of institutional change in clinical practice, medical education, and research, and are now mentoring another generation of committed practitioners. Faculty scholar Joanne Hilden, a pediatric oncologist, founded the end-of-life care task force for the Children's Oncology Group, a national network of pediatric cancer specialists. Its goals are to ameliorate the physical and emotional suffering of pediatric cancer patients through better medical practices and education of health care providers.

**NURSING LEADERSHIP** grants have helped nursing professionals from 22 subspecialty organizations transform the way end-of-life care is provided in academic, hospital, and community settings through education and networking. Training nurses in palliative care and fostering networks of nursing leaders has been the focus of this program's grantmaking.

**THE SOCIAL WORK LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT AWARDS PROGRAM** promotes collaboration between social work schools and service provider organizations. The goal is to develop expertise among social workers in end-of-life issues and bereavement counseling for their work with terminally ill patients and their families. Twenty-three individuals have received awards to date. In 2001, Shirley Otis-Green of City of Hope National Medical Center in Duarte, California, was chosen for her work developing a community partnership model for cancer centers serving Spanish-speaking patients and their families.

**PDIA'S INTERNATIONAL PALLIATIVE CARE INITIATIVE** ended the second of a three-year commitment to enhance

hospice and palliative care in Eastern Europe. Widespread interest and support from partner organizations helped the European Association for Palliative Care to increase the capacity of existing organizations. The Eastern and Central European Palliative Care Taskforce (ECEPT) was created to advance policy, professional education of nurses, doctors, and social workers, and advocacy within the region.

## SOUTHERN INITIATIVE

In the South, where the vestiges of centuries-old inequalities and injustices remain tenacious and visible, particular challenges exist for those committed to civic engagement and participatory democracy. Racial and class delineations of years past have been reshaped, but hardly erased, as changing demographics add greater diversity to this region and new barriers to social, political, and economic justice. At the same time, the changing South is bristling with energy and opportunities for change.

With its Southern Initiative, OSI seeks to support grassroots organizations working for reform in political participation, education, and criminal justice. The Southern Initiative's grantmaking strategy aims at empowering people to advocate for policies that will improve their communities' material, spiritual, and intellectual resources. Since its inception, the program has focused on funding community organizing efforts at both the regional and local levels in the South, including Texas.

With OSI funding, Project South in Georgia conducted a study comparing state and federal wages and then engaged in a public education campaign that prompted lawmakers to increase the state minimum wage to match the federal rate. The Center for Democratic Renewal, an advocacy and research institute in Atlanta, monitors and documents white supremacy organizations and hate crimes, which have increased across the South. The Center's Southern Action Program received funding for community interventions to prevent hate crimes; for

*Climate Reports*, a publication on state-level activities related to intolerance; and for work to build networks of social justice leaders in 11 states.

Southern Echo conducts leadership development and education in African American and marginalized communities in Mississippi. With OSI support, Southern Echo has been working with grassroots organizations to ensure that, as political boundaries are reshaped to reflect population shifts, African American communities attain fair representation. Southern Echo's redistricting team provides training and technical assistance for community groups in Mississippi as well as South Carolina, Tennessee, Louisiana, Alabama, and Florida, as these groups design their own electoral districts using the newest census data.

Esperanza, an arts and social justice organization in San Antonio, Texas, was funded for Puentes de Poder, a leadership training program that fosters community and political activism on local issues. Esperanza was at the center of a political controversy when the San Antonio City Council withheld funding to the group in 1997, claiming its activities were more political than artistic. But in May 2001, Esperanza scored a major victory and set an important legal precedent on public arts funding when a federal judge ruled the city council's action unconstitutional and ordered Esperanza's funding restored.

## YOUTH INITIATIVES

Perhaps no single group in U.S. society is as marginalized and vilified, blamed and even feared, as young people. Despite falling juvenile crime rates, the perception remains that young people are a threat to society. Such thinking has led to increased "zero tolerance" policies in schools across the country, to the detriment of the most vulnerable young people. Yet young people remain the country's greatest national resource.

OSI's Youth Initiatives program integrates low-income, marginalized youth into the democratic process

by supporting efforts that cultivate their perspectives and help develop their skills in advocacy, self-expression, and critical thinking. Priorities include funding for formal debate, youth-generated media, and the arts. In addition, OSI is a lead partner in an initiative seeking to improve education by restructuring low-performing high schools and developing small, effective learning environments.

**THE YOUTH MEDIA PROGRAM** believes that young people's voices need to be heard and that promoting youth-generated media is an important way to engage them in a national conversation. Print, radio, video, television, and the Internet present boundless opportunities for young people to become not simply consumers but producers of news and information. Youth media offers outlets for self-expression and training for a new generation of media professionals.

In 2001, Project HIP-HOP, a youth-led project in Boston that is inspired by the civil rights movement, was funded to support its communications programs, including the *Rising Times* newspaper, a weekly radio show, a website, and a video documentary. Sound Portraits Productions, known for its cutting-edge documentaries such as the OSI-supported "Witness to an Execution" on National Public Radio, received funding for Youth Portraits—the stories of young people living on the margins of society. The Manhattan Neighborhood Network received support for the Youth Channel and its pilot partnership with four public access centers in Denver, Atlanta, Cambridge, and Detroit that will increase media access for disadvantaged youth.

**THE URBAN DEBATE PROGRAM** promotes the principles of open society by teaching young people to command attention with words, form logical arguments, and engage in debates on public policy issues. The Program funds debate leagues in 12 urban school districts across the country, which operate in collaboration with university debate programs. In 2001, the Providence Urban Debate League (PUDL) received second-year funding for its programs in nine high schools. Sponsored

by the Swearer Center for Public Service at Brown University, the PUDL also sponsors debate tournaments and workshops at the Rhode Island Training School, a juvenile detention facility.

The New York Urban Debate League (NYUDL), created in 1997 as an OSI-operating program, received continued funding through the IMPACT Coalition, a community-based organization that now administers the NYUDL, currently in 43 New York City high schools. In addition, OSI's Urban Debate Program made a grant to create the National Urban Debate Initiative, an umbrella organization that provides technical assistance to strengthen the work of Urban Debate Leagues across the country.

OSI-Baltimore funds the Baltimore Urban Debate League (BUDL), which is modeled on the New York Urban Debate League.

**OSI'S EDUCATION STRATEGIES** advance opportunities and resources for youth through initiatives for school reform and after-school programs. In 2000, OSI, the Carnegie Corporation, and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation joined with New Visions for Public Schools, the United Federation of Teachers (UFT), the Council of Supervisors and Administrators, and the New York City Board of Education to create the New Century High Schools Consortium for New York City. The goal of this reform initiative is to create smaller, more educationally sound high schools through partnerships between school districts and communities. With a five-year, \$10 million commitment from OSI and each of the other foundations, the first grants were awarded in 2001 to eight school districts and their community partners to plan the creation of new schools, and the transformation of large, poorly functioning high schools.

Planning grant recipients included the Center for Alternative Sentencing & Employment Services, which partnered with the city's Alternative High School Superintendency to create the Preparatory School for Court Involved Students, serving students recently released from juvenile detention facilities. The Education Alliance at

Brown University and the Queens High School Superintendency submitted a plan to transform August Martin High School into small learning communities with a K-12 option.

### **OSI ALSO SUPPORTS THE AFTER-SCHOOL**

**CORPORATION (TASC)**, a nonprofit organization created in 1998 by OSI founder George Soros to address the growing need for after-school experiences for young people. With an initial five-year, \$125 million challenge grant, TASC has generated substantial private funding to support the match requirements, while building partnerships with the New York City Board of Education and the community-based groups operating after-school programs. In 2001, OSI extended its support to TASC for two more years.

TASC's successes in supporting high-quality programs throughout New York State are substantial. A total of 205 programs now operate in New York's public schools, 148 of them in New York City serving 49,000 young people, from kindergarten through 12th grade between the hours of 3 and 6 p.m. The programs are run by 130 community organizations that provide after-school activities such as homework assistance, recreational sports and arts, computer training and community service.

**THE ARTS INITIATIVE** focused in 2001 on strengthening community-based organizations that provide high-quality arts experiences for communities that have traditionally had the least resources. Grants were made to stabilize and increase the capacity of outstanding organizations that represent model approaches to arts programming for young people and the public. The New England Foundation for the Arts in Boston received a planning grant for their Building Communities through Culture program, a series of collaborations between artists and community leaders. The Culture Project in New York City is developing and producing *The Exonerated*, a new play based on interviews with exonerated death row inmates. Also funded was the New York City Hip-Hop Theatre Festival, which offers young people and the hip-

hop community a rare opportunity to hear and to talk about the social, political, and economic issues that concern them.

## OTHER U.S. INITIATIVES

**OSI DRUG POLICY REFORM EFFORTS** continued in 2001, with an emphasis on alternatives to incarceration for low-level drug offenders and on efforts to decrease drug-related harm. OSI focused its grantmaking on support for the Drug Policy Alliance, the new research, advocacy and policy entity that resulted from the merger of The Lindesmith Center and the Drug Policy Foundation; and for the Tides Foundation's Fund for Drug Policy Reform, a funders' collaborative which now oversees the grants formerly awarded directly by OSI.

**THE FUNDERS' COLLABORATIVE FOR GUN VIOLENCE PREVENTION**, funded by OSI, the Irene Diamond Fund, and private donors, supports efforts to prevent and reduce the harm caused by the widespread availability and misuse of guns. In 2001, a grant to the Center for Investigative Reporting supported the production and distribution of *GunShots*, a documentary about gun trafficking in the United States. Community events were organized for the film's Bay Area screening, and the producers hope to arrange a national broadcast of the film in 2002. A grant to the Million Mom March funded the gun control organization's second annual conference in Washington, D.C., drawing members from the group's more than 200 chapters to participate in training, advocacy, and planning for a national strategy. The Educational Fund to Stop Gun Violence received support for its Firearms Litigation Clearinghouse, which provides information and assistance to plaintiffs suing the firearms industry.

The Funders' Collaborative supported state-level organizations that enable ordinary citizens to become effective

advocates. New Yorkers Against Gun Violence received funds for its ongoing work. SAFE Colorado received a grant to send high school students to Washington, D.C., for advocacy training provided by the Alliance for Justice. The Michigan Partnership to Prevent Gun Violence was funded for legal costs associated with its challenge to a state law liberalizing restrictions on the carrying of concealed weapons. Women Against Gun Violence in California received a grant to organize educational and advocacy workshops for women on the issue of gun violence.

**THE NEW YORK CITY COMMUNITY INITIATIVE** was established to provide exceptional grassroots organizations an opportunity to build their capacity to serve disadvantaged communities. It offers comprehensive technical assistance to help organizations acquire new resources in areas such as fundraising, technology, strategic planning, and community organizing. In 2001, Jews for Racial and Economic Justice received a grant for building coalitions between Jews and other communities to support social justice campaigns. Funding to the Malcolm X Grassroots Movement supported community-organizing activities in central Brooklyn. Art Start received support for creative arts projects that serve at-risk youth living in shelters and juvenile detention centers.

NYC AIDS Housing Network received funding to advocate for housing and related services and for sound public policies for people living with HIV/AIDS. A grant to the Human Rights Project supported its work to link issues such as environmental justice and welfare reform within a human rights context. The Latin American Workers Project was funded to develop community leadership and immigrant workplace projects.

AFGHANISTAN  
James Hill



Father and daughter in  
refugee camp in  
Northern Alliance terri-  
tory, October 2001



Girls studying the Koran near Northern Alliance–Taliban front line, October 2001



Women out in the streets of Taloqan after Taliban fled the city, November 2001



Traders and shoppers near marketplace in Khoja, Bahawaddin, October 2001





Taliban defectors moving toward Northern Alliance lines, November 2001



Watching U.S. planes attack Taliban positions, November 2001



Taliban soldiers in detention, December 2001



ТОР: Antiwar protest, 1991; ВОТТОМ: Barricade in support of independent media, 1992

YUGOSLAVIA, 1991–2001  
Goranka Matic

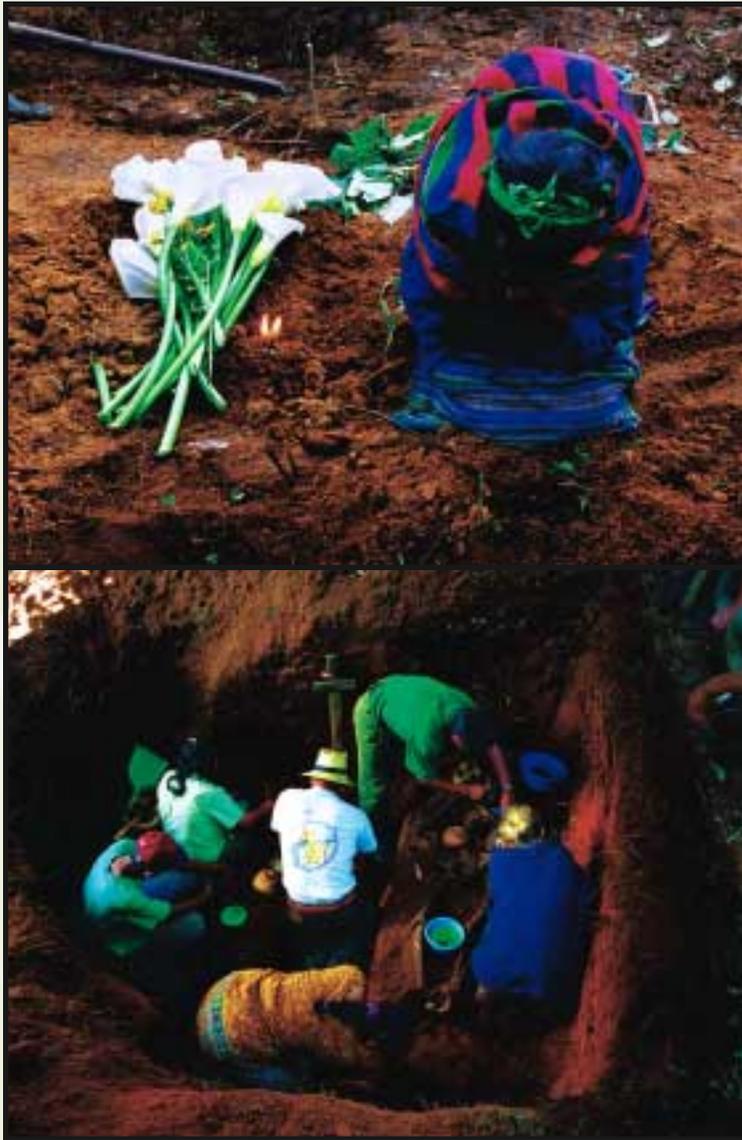


TOP: Demonstration against the war in Bosnia, 1993; BOTTOM: Popular movement  
Otpor graffiti, 2000; BACKGROUND: Student protest, 1996



## THE DISAPPEARED Jonathan Moller

Forensic teams unearthing the graves of the disappeared in Guatemala offer the possibility of healing for families and society.











WOMEN'S LIVES  
Jason Eskenazi

Women gathering for Islamic holiday services, Dagestan





Medical school, Tajikistan



Sock factory outside Moscow, Russia

Marketplace, St. Petersburg, Russia



MUSLIMS  
IN AMERICA  
Edward Grazda



End of Friday prayer  
services, Queens,  
New York

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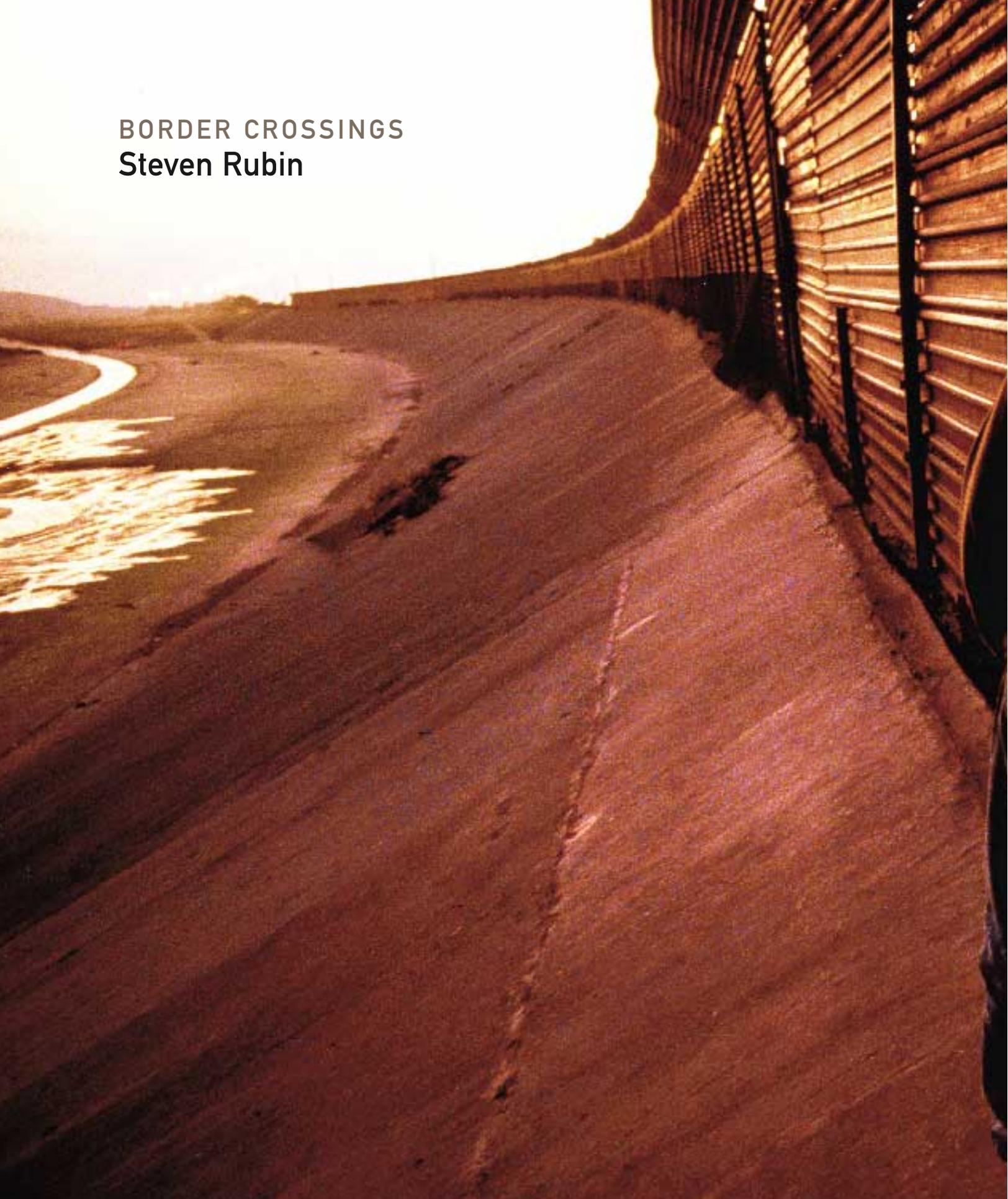


TOP LEFT: Faith Camii Mosque, Brooklyn, New York

BOTTOM LEFT: Malcolm Shabazz Mosque, Manhattan, New York

ABOVE: Outside the Medina Mosque, Manhattan, New York

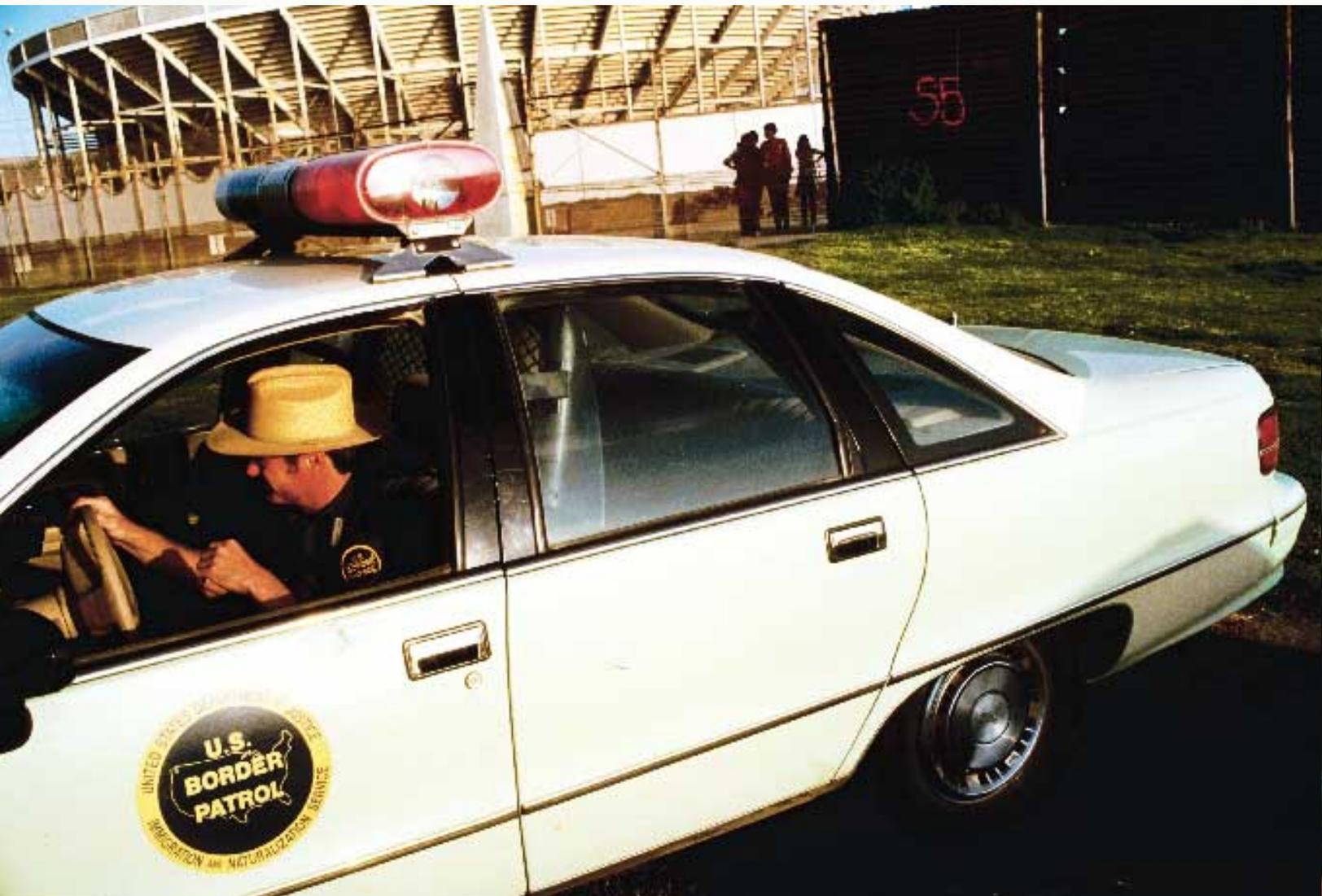
**BORDER CROSSINGS**  
**Steven Rubin**





Heightened security measures after September 11 raised concerns about racial profiling and other civil liberties abuses, which have often marred the U.S. government's treatment of aliens.

PHOTO: Mexican side of the U.S.–Mexican border



Patrol car, Mexican-American border



INS returning undocumented immigrants to Mexico



Undocumented immigrants returning to Mexico

## 2001 FOUNDATION EXPENDITURES

\$186,768,000

Open Society Foundation for Albania	5,149,000
Open Society Institute Assistance Foundation–Armenia	1,889,000
Open Society Institute Assistance Foundation–Azerbaijan	3,339,000
Open Society Fund–Bosnia and Herzegovina	4,061,000
Open Society Foundation–Sofia (Bulgaria)	7,432,000
Open Society Institute–Croatia	3,812,000
Open Society Fund–Prague (Czech Republic)	2,959,000
Open Estonia Foundation	1,468,000
Open Society Georgia Foundation	5,532,000
Fundacion Soros–Guatemala	3,651,000
Fondation Connaissance et Liberte (Haiti)	3,856,000
Soros Foundation–Hungary	5,531,000
Soros Foundation–Kazakhstan	4,142,000
Kosova Foundation for Open Society	2,595,000
Soros Foundation–Kyrgyzstan	3,932,000
Soros Foundation–Latvia	3,980,000
Open Society Fund–Lithuania	3,828,000
Open Society Institute–Macedonia	5,997,000
Soros Foundation–Moldova	4,606,000
Mongolian Foundation for Open Society	3,880,000
Foundation Open Society Institute–Representative Office Montenegro	2,083,000
Stefan Batory Foundation (Poland)	8,120,000
Open Society Foundation–Romania	12,621,000
Open Society Institute–Russia	40,785,000
Open Society Foundation–Bratislava (Slovakia)	3,614,000
Open Society Foundation for South Africa	6,984,000
Open Society Initiative for Southern Africa	6,108,000
Open Society Institute Assistance Foundation–Tajikistan	1,778,000
Open Society Institute Assistance Foundation–Turkey	1,073,000
International Renaissance Foundation (Ukraine)	6,544,000
Open Society Institute Assistance Foundation–Uzbekistan	4,813,000
Open Society Initiative for West Africa	4,050,000
Fund for an Open Society–Serbia (Yugoslavia)	6,556,000

Expenditures for the Central Eurasia Project, Burma Project/Southeast Asia Initiative, and EU Accession Monitoring Program are listed with the 2001 Program Expenditures on page 149.

## 2001 PROGRAM EXPENDITURES 158,432,000

### NETWORK PROGRAMS

Arts and Culture Program	3,069,000
Children and Youth Programs	17,109,000
Constitutional and Legal Policy Institute	10,057,000
East East Program	2,792,000
Economic and Business Development Program	6,398,000
English Language Programs	1,278,000
EU Accession Monitoring Program	508,000
Information Program	8,669,000
Institute for Educational Policy	1,414,000
International Policy Fellowships	857,000
International Higher Education Support Program	15,280,000
Local Government and Public Service Reform Initiative	7,234,000
Media Program	5,783,000
Open Society Education Programs—South East Europe	411,000
Public Health Programs	17,142,000
Roma Participation Program	1,316,000
Scholarship Programs*	15,205,000
Women's Program	5,246,000
Total Network Programs	119,765,000

\*Scholarships: Expenditures include U.S. government grants of \$5,881,185. Scholarships also received approximately \$7,940,000 in third-party support from other organizations that is not reported as Network Scholarship Programs' expenditures.

### OTHER INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS

OSI—Paris Belarus Support	1,958,000
Burma Project/Southeast Asia Initiative	4,332,000
Central Eurasia/Middle East Projects	2,290,000
Landmines Project	222,000
Project Syndicate*	911,000
Global Legal Program	504,000
Democracy Coalition Project	305,000
Other Programs	5,972,000
Total Other International Programs	16,494,000

\*Project Syndicate includes contributions of \$499,000 from non-Soros sources.

Central European University	22,173,000
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## 2001 U.S. PROGRAMS EXPENDITURES \$103,072,000

Criminal Justice Initiative	11,235,000
Drug Policy Reform	4,977,000
NYC Community Initiatives (includes NYC Community Fellowships)	1,638,000
OSI-Baltimore	9,267,000
Governance and Public Policy	3,705,000
Program on Law and Society	8,612,000
Medicine as a Profession	2,832,000
Program on Reproductive Health and Rights	7,474,000
Project on Death in America	5,105,000
Soros Documentary Fund <sup>1</sup>	5,673,000
Southern Initiative	1,225,000
Youth Initiatives	3,859,000
Education <sup>2</sup>	10,219,000
The After-School Corporation (TASC)	19,816,000
Other U.S. Initiatives	7,436,000

1. Expenditures include multiyear commitments to the Soros Documentary Fund, which became part of the Sundance Institute in 2001.

2. Expenditures include multiyear commitments to the New Century High School Consortium for New York City.