





Introduction

A Common Mission

The goal of the Soros foundations network in more than 50 countries 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 common mission, the foundations established and supported by George Soros fund and operate a range of programs and activities. These initiatives deal with arts and culture; the strengthening of civil society; economic development and reform; education at all levels; human rights, with special attention to the rights of marginalized groups; legal reform and public administration; media and information, including publishing, electronic communication, and libraries; and public health. A priority in all these areas is to establish public policies and practices that advance open society values.

About Open Society

The Soros foundations network subscribes to 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.

About the Network

The Soros foundations network includes Soros foundations, network programs, U.S. programs, and other initiatives—as well as the Open Society Institute (OSI) and its offices. The Soros foundations are autonomous institutions established in countries or regions to initiate and support open society activities. Soros foundations are located primarily in the former communist countries of Central and Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union, but increasingly in other parts of the world as well. 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 28 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. Network programs address specific program areas—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 initiatives that deal with issues of global significance or benefit countries where no Soros foundation exists; the Central European University; and OSI offices in Brussels and Paris, 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. In 1956, he went 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. In addition to many articles on the political and economic changes in Central and Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union, Soros has written six books, including *Underwriting Democracy* (1991), *Soros on Soros: Staying Ahead of the Curve* (1995), and *Open Society: Reforming Global Capitalism* (2000). 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.

About this Report

Building Open Societies presents basic information about the activities and expenditures of the organizations in the Soros foundations network, which has developed into a major force in global philanthropy. Each entity in the network has a separate entry. Although this causes some repetition in the discussion of issues and

priorities, it is the best way to emphasize the independence of the network's major components and to enumerate its many parts. 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.

About 2000 Expenditures

In 2000, the Soros foundations network's expenditures totaled \$494,053,000. Some of these funds were contributed by 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 together are included in the relevant organization's expenditures as reported here. The Soros foundations network's total expenditures are summarized below.

Soros foundations. Following the report from each Soros foundation is a chart outlining 2000 expenditures in that country or region. Payments made by the Open Society Institute–Budapest, the Open Society Institute, 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 section is a chart showing the total expenditures for the Soros foundations.

Network programs. Following the section describing the activities of the network programs is a chart that contains each network program's total spending. This sum includes expenditures by individual Soros foundations as well as by the Open Society Institute or the Open Society Institute–Budapest.

The data is presented this way 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.

The activities and expenditures of the network grew significantly from 1994 (\$300 million) to the peak years of 1998 (\$574.7 million) and 1999 (\$560 million). For the next several years, it is expected that expenditures will remain at the current level of \$450–500 million annually.

TOTAL NETWORK EXPENDITURES	\$494,053,000
SOROS FOUNDATIONS	211,914,000
NETWORK PROGRAMS	127,420,000
U.S. PROGRAMS	92,294,000
OTHER INITIATIVES	13,552,000
CENTRAL EUROPEAN UNIVERSITY	18,466,000
ALL OTHER ORGANIZATIONS, PROGRAMS, & COSTS	83,279,000
INTERORGANIZATIONAL ELIMINATION	(52,872,000)

President's Message

A Global Alliance for Open Society

In 2000, the Open Society Institute and the Soros foundations network continued to take significant steps toward promoting open society at a truly global level—a direction we have been evolving in since the beginning. In the latter part of the 1980s and the first half of the 1990s, we developed as a network of foundations in the countries of the former Soviet empire. Although that network remains the focus of the largest part of our activities and expenditures, we have over several years expanded our geographical horizons to other parts of the world. Starting in 1993, we established foundations in South Africa, Southern Africa, Haiti, and Guatemala and, in 1996, launched a broad array of programs in the United States. In addition, we created the Burma Project to try to open one of the most closed countries on earth. Now, we are looking further. As a consequence,





it is becoming possible to describe our enterprise as an incipient effort to establish a global alliance for open society. As it proceeds, that effort will not follow the form the network took in the former Soviet bloc countries. The number of national or country foundations will not proliferate. We envision the disparate parts of this alliance united primarily by shared principles and goals.

We established one new regional foundation, the Open Society Initiative for West Africa (OSIWA), during the past year. With offices in Abuja, Nigeria, and Dakar, Senegal, OSIWA is committed to supporting independent media, the rule of law, human rights, the promotion of free and fair elections, Internet communications, efforts to combat corruption and promote good governance, and local assessment of economic development strategies. OSIWA's territory covers 18 countries in West Africa. In combination with the Open Society Initiative for Southern Africa (OSISA) and the Open Society Foundation for South Africa (OSF-SA) and a funding initiative for Burundi and Rwanda, the Soros foundations network is now active in more than half the countries of Africa.

The Soros foundations network also agreed in 2000 to provide support to a new independent foundation, Tifa, in Indonesia. Tifa's independence reflects sensitivity over the Soros name in Southeast Asia—due, in large part, to the fanciful but nevertheless effective efforts by Prime Minister Mahathir of Malaysia to demonize George Soros as the instigator of the 1997 financial collapse (supposedly to punish ASEAN countries for their embrace of the military junta in Burma). Its independence enhances Tifa's chances of obtaining support from other donors.

Tifa's representatives have established contacts with the Soros foundations network. Its activities in support of independent media, legal reform, women's rights, and the development of civil society are in keeping with the network's mission. OSI support for Tifa, however, is limited to programs approved annually for grants, and Tifa is not the exclusive vehicle for OSI funding in

Indonesia. Some OSI programs in Indonesia are conducted separately.

Another way we expect to develop the alliance is through support for nongovernmental organizations in various countries that are promoting the effective operation of a new intergovernmental body, the Community of Democracies (CD). The CD was launched at a June 2000 gathering in Warsaw of foreign ministers and other top officials from more than 100 countries. Poland and the United States initiated the effort, which is directed by a steering group that now also includes Chile, the Czech Republic, India, Korea, Mali, Portugal, and South Africa. The governments represented at Warsaw adopted a declaration of commitment to the building of democratic societies, which are defined to include multiparty elections, free media, and respect for minority rights.

OSI will not support the intergovernmental structures of the Community of Democracies. Rather, we expect to support nongovernmental groups that foster the CD's development as a mechanism for the promotion of democracy. In some cases, these will be established nongovernmental groups. Elsewhere, new groups will be formed.

The redistribution of resources involved in the evolution of OSI and the Soros foundations network is relatively modest. We anticipate that our global expenditures over the next several years will remain at their current level: between \$450 million and \$500 million per year. Of this amount, we expect that roughly 60 percent will be expended on programs focusing on the former Soviet bloc countries; roughly 20 percent on United States programs; and the remaining 20 percent on the rest of the world. Currently, the expenditures in the third category are somewhat short of 20 percent, but we expect that share to rise gradually.

This calculation includes our support to a number of organizations that operate globally. These include the Media Development Loan Fund, Internews, the International Crisis Group, Human Rights Watch, several other human rights organizations, Penal Reform

International, Transparency International, the International Women's Health Coalition, the Vera Institute of Justice, and Global Witness. These organizations address issues of critical importance to our goal of promoting open societies. They draw their support from multiple sources and are likely to sustain themselves for the long term, after OSI funding runs out.

In the region where the foundations network began, increasing emphasis is being placed on programs that serve the least advantaged. Programs focused on the Roma, the largest and most-abused minority in the Central and Eastern European (CEE) countries, are an important concern for the foundations in that region. OSI Roma Programs include the community organizing efforts of the Roma Participation Program and support for Romani media, Romani women's programs, and cultural initiatives. OSI's human rights grantmaking in the CEE region includes support for the European Roma Rights Center and for several local groups promoting Romani rights. A number of our education programs are designed to reach Romani children and youth, and we are exploring the establishment of a public health program focused on Romani communities.

Other programs for disadvantaged sectors include efforts to protect the rights of the mentally disabled; the International Harm Reduction Development program, which focuses on efforts to protect drug users in the region from HIV/AIDS and others from the

explosive spread of the infection, which is currently centered in the drug-using population; the work of the Constitutional and Legal Policy Institute on issues involving prisoners; our continuing efforts to deal with the prison-centered tuberculosis epidemic and multi-drug resistant tuberculosis in the former Soviet Union; the programs of the Network Women's Program dealing with such issues as violence against women; our program on child abuse; and a palliative care program focused on improved care for the dying.

The network's increasing emphasis on programs that address the needs of vulnerable populations is accompanied by an effort to see that these groups also obtain support from other sources. We operate with the knowledge that in 1997 George Soros informed everyone in the network that he plans to support the network only until 2010. Accordingly, 2001 marks the start of the network's final decade. With the end of the network in sight, if not close at hand, the importance of ensuring the sustainability of certain programs is acquiring heightened urgency. Our hope is that, by the decade's close, both the global alliance for open society and essential programs of the foundations network will be able to continue without Soros support. An important criterion for measuring our success will be the extent to which that goal is reached.

Aryeh Neier
May 2001





Soros Foundations

Promoting Peace and Democracy in Africa

Violence, poverty, and the HIV/AIDS epidemic are shaping the lives of Africa's people and hindering the development of open, democratic societies. To meet these challenges, the Soros foundations network in 2000 expanded its efforts in Africa, establishing a second regional foundation, the Open Society Initiative for West Africa (OSIWA). OSIWA joined the Open Society Foundation for South Africa and the Open Society Initiative for Southern Africa in working for peace and stability, human rights, fair elections, independent media, and the rule of law. ✨ All three foundations supported community radio, the primary means of communication throughout the continent, in efforts to educate and inform the public about HIV/AIDS and other infectious diseases and issues of truth and reconciliation in countries

where conflict and wars have caused severe divisions in society. Crime prevention efforts in South Africa focused on women who are victims of rape and domestic violence and young people who are either victims or perpetrators of crime.

The two regional foundations for Southern Africa and West Africa cover a total of 27 countries. At the end of 2000, Soros foundations also consisted of 28 national foundations, including South Africa, and foundations in Kosovo and Montenegro.

On the following pages, the Soros foundations report on their programs and activities in 2000. These reports provide only a brief overview of each foundation's work. For more detailed information about a particular foundation's activities, contact that foundation at the address provided in the directory on page 177. Many of the foundation reports refer to participation in network programs. For additional information about network programs, see the section beginning on page 86.

The priorities and specific activities of each Soros foundation are determined by a local board of directors and professional program staff. Foundation boards of directors are made up of distinguished local citizens from different ethnic, geographic, political, and professional backgrounds. Given the diversity of social, political, and economic conditions that prevails in the countries of the network, programs vary greatly in nature and significance from one foundation to another. Yet all foundation activities share in the common mission of promoting and supporting the development of open society.

In 2000, the Soros foundations in the 10 Central and Eastern European countries that are candidates for European Union (EU) membership continued to help these countries prepare for admission. The foundations promoted membership criteria that are also central to the network's mission—protection of the rights of Roma and other minorities, criminal justice reform, the reduction of corruption, and strengthening civil society participation in policymaking. Many of the foundations supported programs to inform leaders

about EU policies and to educate the public about the impact of European integration.

In the countries of the Stability Pact for South Eastern Europe, the foundations are also working to promote European integration through the development of peaceful, lawful, tolerant, and democratic states. The chances of achieving stability in the region increased greatly with the electoral defeat and overthrow of Yugoslavia's Slobodan Milosevic and his authoritarian regime in October 2000. The Fund for an Open Society–Yugoslavia worked tirelessly throughout the year in support of independent media, NGOs, student groups, independent trade unions, and others committed to democracy.

Earlier in the year, in another positive event, voters in Croatia turned that country's authoritarian government out of office. After being the former government's "public enemy" for almost a decade, the Open Society Institute–Croatia switched strategies in 2000 to become the new government's partner in pursuit of the democratization of social and political institutions. Local elections did not go as well in Macedonia in September, with journalists being threatened during the campaign, violence erupting at the polls, and irregularities reported in the voting—a precursor of the fighting that broke out in the beginning of 2001. Strengthening the rule of law and the democratic process remains a priority for South Eastern Europe.

The former Soviet countries of the Caucasus and Central Asia are at yet another stage of transformation. The countries, independent for a decade, have not moved quickly toward democratic reforms and greater openness. As in other parts of the network, the foundations in the region are attempting to persuade governments and institutions to adopt international standards of good governance, human rights, and economic policy.

Open Society Foundation for Albania

“To ensure the survival and sustainability of newly created public institutions, OSFA encourages a sense of ownership by the government and benefiting communities.”

Mimoza Gjika, Program Director

Public institutions give people a sense of community and security; without them, the social fabric will fray. Since the collapse of Albania’s state institutions in 1997, the Open Society Foundation for Albania (OSFA) has given high priority to institution building, particularly support for emerging nongovernmental policy institutes.

The Institute of Contemporary Studies, one of the most prestigious and specialized institutes in the country, provides policy analysis and contributes alternatives to government policy debates. In 2000, with the Foundation reducing its support, the Institute broadened its donor base in an effort to become an independent development policy consultant to international organizations. OSFA also promoted and supported a number of similar institutes under the Forum for Euro Atlantic Integration, which works to integrate the country within the framework of the Stability Pact and other regional initiatives.

OSFA continued to recognize the importance of educational institutions by establishing two student advising centers in 2000, one in the northern city of Shkodra and the other in the southwestern city of Vlora. The centers will provide young people with a wide range of resources to help them make more informed choices about their education and careers. OSFA provided training and technical assistance to the Black Box theater at the Academy of Fine Arts. Access to information was facilitated through continued training of librarians and increased computerization at four

public libraries outside Tirana. The libraries also received resources from the Ministry of Youth Culture and Sports and local municipalities, which helped ensure their sustainability.

In 2000, the Women’s Center organized a regional conference on violence against women, which brought together many women’s groups and helped establish the center as a hub for women’s issues activities in Albania. The Child Abuse Center and the Child Development Center consolidated their activities in 2000 and launched new multidisciplinary initiatives to help children in need, including mentally disabled children.

During the year, OSFA provided assistance to government agencies to improve local public services. The Foundation supported capacity building to upgrade public administrator professionalism, to establish “best practice” public relations offices, and to create model tax collection facilities in Tirana, Gjirokastra, and several other large cities.

To strengthen judicial institutions and public trust in them, the OSFA Law Program sponsored activities that encouraged people not to take the law into their own hands. OSFA supported a TV campaign that addressed issues of ownership, conflict, and blood vengeance. The Foundation also continued to support two legal counseling centers for the poor and four centers for conflict resolution.

As part of its continued effort to encourage skilled young people to stay in Albania, the Foundation established the OSFA Fellows Club to increase networking related to the OSFA Fellowship Program. The club provides opportunities for young professionals to make contacts and learn about openings in government administration. The Fellowship Program provides salary supplements to encourage qualified people to work in public institutions, rather than emigrate. The two programs worked together in 2000 to place 80 fellows in administrative positions at the Ministries of Justice, Finance, and Foreign Affairs.

OSFA implemented a large number of cost-sharing programs in 2000, which sought to promote OSFA-

developed models for administrative and institutional management among governments, foreign donors, and domestic businesses. During the year, OSFA contributed \$2,128,830, and donor's matching funds reached \$3,184,257. In the Cross-Border Media Project, for example, OSFA partnered with the Association for Greek Publishers. OSFA is planning to expand the project to Macedonian and Montenegrin media, with matching funds from the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA).

Several Foundation programs became independent or merged with other entities. The Book and Communications House and the National Debate Center became autonomous while the OSFA Media Training Center merged with the Albanian Media Institute and the Sports and Athletic Program became part of the Albanian Youth Council. OSFA will continue to support these institutions on a gradually declining scale while more donors are attracted to ensure sustainability in the future.

While OSFA recognizes that it can not facilitate complete, systematic institutional change, this year's activities reveal the Foundation's commitment to breaking new ground, planting seed money, and pursuing matching-fund efforts as part of an ongoing process of institution building.

www.soros.al

2000 EXPENDITURES	\$5,308,000
CIVIL SOCIETY	119,000
CRIMINAL JUSTICE	19,000
CULTURE	334,000
EAST EAST	67,000
ECONOMIC REFORM	561,000
EDUCATION	356,000
ETHNIC MINORITIES	59,000
INFORMATION	659,000
LAW	608,000
MEDIA	277,000
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION	352,000
PUBLIC HEALTH	398,000
WOMEN'S PROGRAMS	221,000
YOUTH PROGRAMS	734,000
OTHER PROGRAMS	224,000
ADMINISTRATION	320,000

NOTE: The financial information presented above includes \$40,835 funded by non-Soros entities, principally in Media and Ethnic Minorities. Other Soros-supported organizations made grants in Albania totaling \$3,278,536, principally for the Albanian Educational Development Program and Public Administration programs; these grants are not included above.

Open Society Institute Assistance Foundation—Armenia

“OSIAF–Armenia is encouraging efforts to achieve more democratic standards in law and politics, as appropriate for a member of the Council of Europe.”

Hasmik Gevorkyan, Board Chair

The invitation to Armenia to join the Council of Europe had a great impact on the political atmosphere in 2000. Some argued that membership would foster further development of the country’s democratic institutions. Others claimed that candidate status and the political elite’s desire for acceptance was more effective leverage for reform than actual membership. Political developments following the invitation, however, were not encouraging. The National Assembly drafted regressive media legislation, sections of which were overruled by the Constitutional Court. Transfer of the country’s penitentiary system from the Ministry of the Interior to the Ministry of Justice continued to lag. Issues of religious freedom and choice prompted unexpected controversy and intolerance.

Under these circumstances, efforts to build domestic institutions to meet European standards were—and continue to be—as necessary as ever. To contribute to these efforts, the Open Society Institute Assistance Foundation–Armenia pursued partnerships to promote democratic institutions throughout 2000. The Foundation was particularly active in the areas of institutional support, media and journalism, legal education and services, and technology and education.

Most of the Foundation’s advanced programs in 2000 were implemented through institutional partners. In many areas, partnership grants involving one or two carefully selected, long-term partners with a pre-negotiated strategy have yielded better results than traditional open grants involving several partners.

A number of partnership grants in the areas of law, media, and women’s programs have attracted the support of local NGOs and international organizations such as the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), the United States Information Service (USIS), and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).

In partnership with the Yerevan Press Club and Internews, Armenia, the Foundation supported “Journalists Against Terrorism and Violence,” a workshop organized by the East East Program in cooperation with USIS and several foreign embassies in Armenia. The workshop, which analyzed the assassinations of Armenia’s prime minister and speaker of the Parliament in October 1999, attracted widespread interest among politicians and journalists, drawing participants from five countries. OSIAF–Armenia also supported the production of 10 new titles in textbooks and resource materials for university journalism departments, as well as a course on investigative journalism for practicing journalists.

In June, the first group of law students graduated from the legal clinic at Yerevan State University. The clinic offers a fully accredited curriculum and has made significant progress in institutionalizing new methods of legal training. The clinic also facilitates access to justice by working closely with one of the Foundation’s institutional partners, the Bar Association of Armenia, to provide free legal aid to poor and vulnerable groups. After only one year, this project has strengthened its legal expertise and long-term sustainability by gaining public recognition and support from donors and consulting firms such as the American Bar Association–Central Eastern European Legal Initiative (ABA–CEELI) and Chemonics International.

Access to the Internet and technology was another priority in 2000. In cooperation with the USIS-funded School Connectivity Project, the Internet and Education Programs continued to expand the Millennium Project. Through this project, OSIAF–Armenia developed three electronic courses for educators and supported centers

providing training in computers, Internet literacy, and advanced management of information systems. Two international workshops, organized by the Foundation with support from OSI–Budapest, addressed Internet development in Armenia and the introduction of information technology into the education system.

Also in 2000, the Step by Step Program in preschools and primary schools became independent, but continued as OSIAF–Armenia’s institutional partner for both its Step by Step and Reading and Writing for Critical Thinking programs. OSI Public Health Programs supported two projects to help people with mental disabilities by developing community-based service models as more humane alternatives to the existing institution-based approach. Through the Penitentiary Reform Program, OSIAF–Armenia gave a partnership grant to raise awareness of prisoner’s rights and of problematic issues concerning imprisonment. In the Civil Society and Arts and Culture Programs, OSIAF–Armenia supported arts projects for prisoners, refugees, and disabled children.

For more information, visit: www.eurasianet.org/cen_eurasia/resource/armenia/index.shtml.

2000 EXPENDITURES	\$1,910,000
CIVIL SOCIETY	114,000
CULTURE	157,000
EAST EAST	47,000
EDUCATION	383,000
INFORMATION	553,000
LAW	90,000
MEDIA	86,000
PUBLIC HEALTH	125,000
WOMEN’S PROGRAMS	71,000
YOUTH PROGRAMS	116,000
OTHER PROGRAMS	9,000
ADMINISTRATION	159,000

NOTE: Other Soros-supported organizations made grants in Armenia totaling \$113,077, principally in Education and Women’s programs; these grants are not included above.

Open Society Institute–Assistance Foundation (Azerbaijan)

“In 2000, OSI–AF Azerbaijan enhanced its efforts to influence policy through programs in early education, textbook development, public health, culture, and information.”

Rauf Talyshinsky, Board Chair

The year 2000 was a year of continuing challenges for open society in Azerbaijan. The presidents of Azerbaijan and Armenia held meetings and negotiations over the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict, with little progress other than a readiness to continue meeting. The government of Azerbaijan conducted parliamentary elections in November, which were described by OSCE observers as a “crash course in manipulation.” The run up to the elections was particularly tense, as the elections were meant to be decisive for Azerbaijan’s accession to the Council of Europe. Despite observers’ criticism and concern about the continued failure to license regional TV stations, Azerbaijan and Armenia officially joined the Council of Europe on January 25, 2001.

In 2000, the Step by Step Program received its accreditation from the Ministry of Education, which allows Step by Step to develop courses at national teacher training institutes and possibly establish an income-generating teaching center. The Foundation opened an education, information, and Internet training center in the southern city of Lenkoran, the fourth center in a regional network. The first center, the Baku Education Information Center, created in 1997 as a joint project with the United States Information Agency, was registered in 2000 as an independent local NGO. The centers, which act as representative offices for OSI–AF Azerbaijan, provide the public with education,

AZERBAIJAN
Heidi Bradner



A refugee scavenging abandoned pipes from an oil field outside Barda

▶ A boy standing in front of freight cars in which refugees live in Barda ▶ A refugee family in the doorway of their home







The Azerbaijani capital of Baku behind a landscape of oil derricks

information, NGO resources, and Internet training and access. In cooperation with the Higher Education Support Program (HESP), the Foundation is also using the centers to develop university social sciences and humanities courses.

The Internet Program continued to help individuals and organizations in Azerbaijan become connected in 2000. The AzNet network, developed by OSI-AF Azerbaijan and the International Research and Exchanges Board, expanded to serve 18 organizations and 20,000 users in four cities. Documents were submitted to register AzNet as an NGO in 2001. Sixty organizations received grants for website development, fostering a 20 percent increase in the number of local websites in Azerbaijan.

The Internet, Publishing, and Library programs merged at the end of the year into a new, integrated OSI Information Program, which will increase cooperation and allow for better development of projects. The first result of this cooperation was the Community Information Project, a joint effort of the Internet and Library Programs to develop self-financing centers in regional libraries for community information, Internet, and other resources.

In the area of civil society, the Clinical Legal Education Program expanded from Khazar University to Baku State University. The two legal education centers are being encouraged to form a network with the center developed by the American Bar Association at Azerbaijan Private University. With Azerbaijan's membership in the Council of Europe, OSI-AF Azerbaijan began working with other organizations to develop legal information and public education programs in 2001 to enhance understanding of the benefits and protection that Council of Europe membership can provide.

Other civil society initiatives included a grant to Azerbaijan's Entrepreneurship Development Foundation to create and register Transparency Azerbaijan. As the Azerbaijan branch of Transparency International, the new nongovernmental organization will serve as a focal

point for anticorruption activities. In cooperation with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the United Nations Development Program, and the Initiative for Social Action and Renewal in Eurasia, OSI-AF Azerbaijan also plans to create a training service for accounting practices to improve standards of transparency and accountability among Azerbaijani NGOs.

www.osi-az.org

2000 EXPENDITURES	\$3,245,000
CIVIL SOCIETY	264,000
CONFERENCE & TRAVEL	78,000
CRIMINAL JUSTICE	47,000
CULTURE	128,000
EAST EAST	115,000
ECONOMIC REFORM	37,000
EDUCATION	719,000
INFORMATION	683,000
LAW	105,000
MEDIA	86,000
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION	14,000
PUBLIC HEALTH	139,000
WOMEN'S PROGRAMS	57,000
YOUTH PROGRAMS	244,000
ADMINISTRATION	529,000

NOTE: Other Soros-supported organizations made grants in Azerbaijan totaling \$812,007, principally in Education, Media, and Civil Society programs; these grants are not included above.

Open Society Fund–Bosnia and Herzegovina

“Our main goal is to create a society that young people can trust, where they can receive a good education, acquire knowledge, and focus their energies on benefiting themselves and their country.”

Senka Nozica, Board President

The Open Society Fund–Bosnia and Herzegovina (OSF–BH) underwent a major transformation in 2000. A new board with new leadership started the difficult process of reassessing the role of the Fund in light of the current reality in Bosnia and Herzegovina. The board selected priorities, outlined a course of action, and elicited cooperation around common objectives. The most important accomplishment of the year was the development of a new strategy to guide the Fund’s activities.

The new strategy is based upon the principles of sustainability, problem solving, synergy and partnership, and a regional perspective.

Sustainability is of major importance to the Fund’s mission. The degree to which society accepts and participates in the Fund’s programs and activities will determine how successfully OSF–BH is accomplishing its goals. The Fund will seek to strengthen institutions and processes that enable citizens to participate fully in shaping an agenda for social progress.

Problem solving using analysis, policy development, and public support for solutions will enable the Fund to promote positive social change. The Fund will also seek to garner public support and encourage the adoption and continuation of OSF–BH programs and policies by governmental institutions and other local stakeholders.

Increased synergy and partnership among OSF–BH programs and activities is another element of the Fund’s new strategy. Collaborative efforts are more effective

than isolated actions, so special attention will be given to fostering partnerships with international and national organizations and agencies.

OSF–BH will enhance and enrich its activities by viewing how issues impact not only the country but also the region as a whole. A regional approach will provide new insight to complex issues and help the Fund solve problems using the skills and experience of individuals and institutions from throughout the region.

Areas of particular concern for OSF–BH in 2000 included the development of youth organizations and furthering the rights of minorities and women.

Young people are often advocates for a more democratic and open society. Yet too often young people feel they occupy an “outsider” position in society. Bosnia and Herzegovina must accept responsibility for the well-being of its youth or risk a bleak future. The Fund believes that young people should be the principal advocates for change in their lives and that they should not rely only on programs that depend on the goodwill of adults, politicians, or institutions. Working with activists from 70 youth organizations, the Fund helped organize the Millennium Youth Conference, which established youth community councils to build coalitions among groups and strengthen youth organizations.

Another priority for OSF–BH is to address the needs of underprotected social groups, in particular Roma and women, both of which experience discrimination. The Roma Program aims to support and enhance the status of Roma through the education of Romani children and the creation of a strong network of Romani NGOs to serve as advocates for their community. The Program helped establish two preschool centers to better prepare Romani children for primary school and worked to get Romani parents actively involved in their children’s education. The Women’s Program supports the building of a culture in Bosnia and Herzegovina that is nondiscriminatory and nonviolent toward women.

www.soros.org.ba

2000 EXPENDITURES	\$2,458,000
CIVIL SOCIETY	10,000
CULTURE	235,000
EAST EAST	61,000
ECONOMIC REFORM	89,000
EDUCATION	455,000
INFORMATION	94,000
LAW	141,000
MEDIA	252,000
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION	14,000
PUBLIC HEALTH	82,000
ROMA	46,000
WOMEN'S PROGRAMS	79,000
YOUTH PROGRAMS	296,000
OTHER PROGRAMS	248,000
ADMINISTRATION	356,000

NOTE: The financial information presented above includes \$212,831 funded by non-Soros entities, principally in Youth Programs, Law, and other non-foundation activities. Other Soros-supported organizations made grants in Bosnia totaling \$821,844, principally in Education, Media, and International programs; these grants are not included above.

Open Society Foundation—Sofia (Bulgaria)

“The government, invited to start negotiations for full EU membership, steadily pursued European integration and NATO membership in 2000. Efforts toward integration were furthered by the end of the war in former Yugoslavia, which created new opportunities for promoting regional stability and cooperation.”

Georgi Genchev, Executive Director

In Bulgaria, the year 2000 was marked by political stability, which enabled the Open Society Foundation—Sofia to strengthen the administration of programs and policies, assess priorities relative to the current social and political environment, and continue its work in traditional priority areas.

The equal treatment of minorities, especially the Roma, remained at the top of the Foundation’s agenda. In Pazardjik, one of the most densely Romani-populated areas in Bulgaria, OSF—Sofia helped establish a resource center that quickly became trusted and widely used by the Roma. The center offers job skills improvement, computer courses, free English language classes, and preschool education for Romani children. It also serves as a mediator between Roma and the local administration. In another area of activity, the Roma Program sponsored a three-day National Festival for Romani Music and Song, edited a children’s book of Romani fairy tales, and financed a nationwide tour of a play, *Roma Story*.

Since gender issues are not widely recognized in Bulgaria, the advancement of equal rights legislation was another priority for OSF—Sofia. With the Ministry of Labor, the Foundation established a working group of more than 30 NGOs to develop a draft law for gender equality, which would guarantee equal opportunities for

women and men and prohibit social, political, and economic discrimination.

The Bulgarian Civil Society and Legal Initiatives Association, an NGO supported by the Foundation, established a center to analyze legal documents, provide recommendations to relevant government ministries and agencies, and train law school graduates in administrative law. The center made more than 30 proposals for changes to documents and filed approximately 10 lawsuits before the Supreme Administrative Court.

To sustain ongoing efforts in training local administrators, OSF–Sofia supported the Center for Institutional Studies in designing a comprehensive long-term program for staff training and development. The project focused on financial administration, civil society partnerships, local economic development, and project fundraising and design. Thirty Bulgarian mayors participated in the project’s five-week course held near Sofia.

With Bulgaria nearing eligibility for European Union structural funds, the Local Governance Program brought together experts to provide training for developing and managing projects financed by the funds. A comprehensive three-month training program was developed to train 15 trainers in regional policy and human resources development, EU employment policy, EU structural funds and policy, and EU social funds. After completing the program, the trainers will carry out similar courses for local administrators throughout the country.

To raise public awareness about the impact of European integration, OSF–Sofia supported information campaigns at 22 radio stations nationwide, providing a forum for public debate. The Foundation also helped to create an information network featuring leading analysts and representatives of governmental institutions to provide information for the regional media on European integration issues. Other outreach and education efforts included advocacy for European integration as a compulsory subject in the high school

curriculum. With regional education authorities participating, the project gained the support of government education committees and ministries.

Stability in the Balkans continued to be promoted through support for cooperation and partnership among regional NGOs. Prior to the Yugoslav elections that forced Slobodan Milosevic out of power, the Foundation sponsored a conference, “Toward a Peaceful Transition in Yugoslavia,” that brought together organizations from Bulgaria, Greece, Macedonia, and Yugoslavia to exchange ideas and experiences in support of a peaceful transition toward democracy.

A number of programs attracted outside funding and became more self-sustaining, with OSF–Sofia spinning off the Media Development Center, the NGO Resource Center, and the European Institute.

www.osf.bg

2000 EXPENDITURES	\$7,397,000
CIVIL SOCIETY	1,285,000
CULTURE	609,000
EAST EAST	324,000
ECONOMIC REFORM	510,000
EDUCATION	1,250,000
ETHNIC MINORITIES	112,000
INFORMATION	197,000
LAW	726,000
MEDIA	207,000
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION	424,000
PUBLIC HEALTH	595,000
ROMA	216,000
WOMEN'S PROGRAMS	77,000
YOUTH PROGRAMS	303,000
OTHER PROGRAMS	34,000
ADMINISTRATION	528,000

NOTE: The financial information presented above includes \$120,620 funded by non-Soros entities, principally in Civil Society and Administration. Other Soros-supported organizations made grants in Bulgaria totaling \$1,442,168, principally in Education, Public Administration, Roma, Human Rights, and Civil Society programs; these grants are not included above.

Open Society Institute—Croatia

“I believe that the Soros foundations network can have a major role in the processes that will lead to long-term stability in the region. We have a long way to go, and time is short: let’s try to make things happen.”

Tomislav Reskovic, Executive Director

After the fall of the communist regime, Croatia, unlike other postcommunist countries, faced a specific political change: one authoritarian regime was replaced by another, decked out in the trappings of democracy. Through manipulation by the state-controlled media, the social climate in Croatia was marked by animosity toward the values of open, civil society. The exceptions were various “pockets of resistance” in which individuals and institutions took a critical stand against the dominant political and social ideas.

In this context, the strategy of the Open Society Institute—Croatia was to support these pockets of resistance and create new ones. During this period, OSI—Croatia funded activities that were not within the system but against it or in spite of it. The regime perceived OSI—Croatia as one of the major opponents of its nationalist, authoritarian ideology and policy, and exhibited an extremely hostile attitude toward the foundation and its activities.

In 2000, after eight years of struggling to build open society, OSI—Croatia and Croatian society entered a new phase of transition. Parliamentary elections in January 2000 brought an end to authoritarian rule as voters swept the democratic opposition into power. Prior to the elections, OSI—Croatia supported the NGO coalition Voice 99, which mobilized citizens, increased voter turnout, and monitored the elections. The work of the foundation and Croatian NGOs successfully sensitized many citizens to the importance of voting,

not for a specific party, but for the principles of democracy.

The new government, a coalition of six parties led by the social democrats, faces an authoritarian heritage in numerous social and political institutions. This government, however, seems determined to accelerate the process of a second transition by promoting the protection of human rights, the rule of law, and ethnic tolerance.

Such a substantial shift in the sociopolitical environment required a new strategy for OSI—Croatia. After being the government’s “public enemy” for almost a decade, the foundation became a partner in 2000. Although the mission remains the same, the goals and activities are different. In addition to its traditional support for civic grassroots initiatives and in-house programs, the foundation started to develop policy activities designed to achieve systemic reform.

In September 2000, the government of Croatia and OSI—Croatia signed a letter of cooperation on four areas of the government’s reform project, “Strategy for the 21st Century.” The four areas include decentralization of public administration, education, small and medium enterprises, and cultural policy. This partnership enables OSI—Croatia to help the government move forward with reform, and it enables the foundation to advocate policies that benefit society by respecting the principles of personal freedom, equality, and social justice.

The major task of the decentralization project, started in October 2000 and implemented by the Croatian Law Center, is to provide policy analysis and advice on how to decentralize public administration to make it more efficient and compatible with the requirements of democratic society. The goal of the education component is to prepare feasible reforms for the education system, which is critical to the medium- and long-term development of society. The small and medium enterprises project aims to establish a policy center that will create more opportunities for the development of such enterprises as a means to fight unemployment. Finally, cultural policy will deal with

ideas about cultural identities and the challenge of overcoming the narrow, dangerous, and predominant cultural paradigm of an ethnically homogenized society in which multiculturalism is irrationally seen as the ultimate threat.

OSI–Croatia still faces a challenge common to all foundations in the countries of the former Yugoslavia: their societies, directly or indirectly affected by wars and ethnic conflicts, suffer from a high degree of disintegration and social mistrust. The danger to rebuilding multiethnic societies is clear. For OSI–Croatia, 2000 marked the year in which the foundation and its partners in government and civil society could finally begin to transform the country into a more tolerant and democratic society.

www.soros.hr

2000 EXPENDITURES	\$5,152,000
CIVIL SOCIETY	422,000
CULTURE	505,000
EAST EAST	243,000
ECONOMIC REFORM	137,000
EDUCATION	562,000
INFORMATION	290,000
LAW	1,236,000
MEDIA	229,000
PUBLIC HEALTH	198,000
WOMEN'S PROGRAMS	265,000
YOUTH PROGRAMS	545,000
OTHER PROGRAMS	32,000
ADMINISTRATION	552,000

NOTE: Other Soros-supported organizations made grants in Croatia totaling \$770,616, principally in Education, Economic Reform, Media, and Human Rights programs; these grants are not included above.

Open Society Fund–Prague (Czech Republic)

“As Czech civil society’s only major independent donor, the Open Society Fund–Prague has a special responsibility toward independent civic groups trying to increase opportunities for citizens to participate in decision-making and improve democratic practices throughout the country.”

Marie Kopecka, Executive Director

As the Czech Republic nears European Union membership, the Open Society Fund–Prague (OSFP) has focused on areas crucial to the country’s successful accession and worked to increase citizens’ involvement in public affairs and tolerance for ethnic differences.

The Legal Program, initiated in 1999 in cooperation with the Constitutional and Legal Policy Institute (COLPI) and local partners such as the Ministry of Justice, has played a particularly significant role in accession preparations. The Program helped make domestic legislation compatible with EU laws and regulations and pursued criminal justice reform and human rights education. Reducing corruption is also crucial to European integration, and OSFP supported the local branch of Transparency International throughout 2000 in its efforts to reduce police corruption. The Fund also helped publish a reference book of successful anticorruption strategies from all over the world.

Citizens in the Czech Republic are becoming less involved in public affairs. Much public disillusionment stems from an agreement between the country’s two major political parties excluding nonpartisan civic influence on policymaking and creating a political climate without real opposition to the government. OSFP responded in 2000 by offering a variety of community-building programs that empower citizens.

One of the programs, the Community Partnership Support Initiative, cofunded by the C.S. Mott Foundation, is a three-year assistance and grant scheme promoting partnerships for community governance and development among NGOs, local governments, and the private sector.

Promoting gender equality and fighting discrimination was also a priority in 2000. Although there is a national equal opportunities law, its implementation is far from common practice. The Fund remains the only substantial independent source of funding for antidiscrimination and equal opportunity programs in the country. OSFP continued to run programs on gender issues for primary and secondary school teachers throughout the year.

Another major initiative, the Healthy Parenthood Program, seeks to change approaches to childbirth and strengthen legislation on the employment of women with young children. The Program conducted trainings for childbirth specialists and the public, comparative research on obstetrics in the Czech Republic and the EU countries, and worked to improve current maternity and child welfare laws.

Xenophobia and intolerance toward ethnic minorities among many Czechs is due to ignorance about different cultures, stemming from suppression of cultural diversity during the communist regime after the Second World War. In 2000, OSFP established a multicultural center to create a space for communication, learning, and research about various European and non-European cultures and identities. The center also supports such learning in schools and institutions outside of Prague. A new multicultural program, School for Everybody, was developed in 2000 by a group of experts invited by OSFP to create a multicultural environment in primary schools. With OSFP support, Masaryk University Brno helped prepare a new multicultural curriculum, which will be implemented as a two-year pilot program in 2001 and 2002. The Foundation also conducted a Romani education program supported by the Ministry of Education that trained teachers, got Romani parents

involved in their children's education, and provided mentoring for Romani students.

Other ongoing Fund activities in 2000 included support to spin-off organizations, which, as planned, has decreased each year, and assistance to OSI network programs, such as East East and Cultural Link.

www.osf.cz

2000 EXPENDITURES	\$3,274,000
CIVIL SOCIETY	425,000
CRIMINAL JUSTICE	46,000
CULTURE	292,000
EAST EAST	119,000
EDUCATION	623,000
INFORMATION	143,000
LAW	204,000
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION	177,000
PUBLIC HEALTH	120,000
ROMA	240,000
WOMEN'S PROGRAMS	80,000
YOUTH PROGRAMS	388,000
OTHER PROGRAMS	268,000
ADMINISTRATION	149,000

NOTE: The financial information presented above includes \$118,804 funded by non-Soros entities, principally in Youth Programs and Civil Society. Other Soros-supported organizations made grants in the Czech Republic totaling \$412,241, principally in Education, Information, and Civil Society programs; these grants are not included above.

Open Estonia Foundation

“Estonia will soon be ready for Europe as a state, but there is much to be done to make it ready as a society.”

Peep Pruks, Board Chair

The Open Estonia Foundation (OEF) celebrated its 10th birthday in April 2000. During the past decade, the Foundation’s programs have carried out a vision of democracy, civil society, social responsibility, and equal opportunity for all people in the democratic process of development. One of the year’s highlights was the Fifth Open Society Forum, “Public Policy and Civil Society,” in which civil society leaders, politicians, and researchers discussed the relationship between the policymaking process and civic organizations.

Over the last 10 years, OEF has awarded grants and funded projects totaling more than \$25.6 million. The Foundation has supported kindergartens and innovative school projects as well as contemporary art, policies protecting elderly citizens, and reform in many aspects of the law.

OEF undertook a significant change in focus in 2000. Since the Foundation’s activities have always shifted as Estonia’s socio-economic situation changes, the Foundation decided to concentrate on two main areas: European integration and enlargement and the development of civil society.

Started in 2000, the European Program aims to provide the public with a greater understanding of the institutions of the European Union and pan-European associations. The Program will bring those institutions and networks closer to the people, and provide opportunities for citizens to shape public policy in the various sectors of the accession process. In order to attain its goals, the Program will arrange seminars, conduct surveys and political analysis, and distribute support for projects.

The Foundation’s mission to support the development of civil society in Estonia is carried out by the Baltic–American Partnership Program (BAPP), supported by the Baltic–American Partnership Fund established in 1998 by the United States Agency for International Development and the Open Society Institute. The aim of BAPP is to create an environment in which citizens can and are willing to participate in decision-making processes at all levels of society. In 2000, BAPP continued its efforts to build public awareness about civil society, and the NGO sector in particular, through the publication of a supplement on civil society developments in the most widely read Estonian and Russian language newspapers. In addition, BAPP continued to work on strengthening the third sector through the support of nine regional NGO resource centers and the provision of training and grants to individual NGOs, particularly at the community level.

Many long-term programs became independent in 2000 and continued in the form of self-sufficient organizations funded by other sources. The Estonian Cultural Endowment, for example, will now fund the Open Estonia Book, a series of major philosophical works in Estonian translation. Scholarships to the Central European University will be awarded by the Euro College of Tartu University. Open Internet access points will be run by local governments. Several ethnic integration projects continue under the aegis of the Integration Foundation.

As these and other programs moved into their next phase of development, new initiatives such as the Praxis Center for Policy Studies were established in the summer of 2000. Praxis is an independent, nonprofit research center based in Tallinn. Its mission is to improve and contribute to the policymaking process in Estonia by carrying out policy research and fostering public debate.

www.oef.org.ee

2000 EXPENDITURES	\$2,155,000
CIVIL SOCIETY	477,000
CULTURE	176,000
EAST EAST	138,000
EDUCATION	296,000
ETHNIC MINORITIES	38,000
INFORMATION	151,000
LAW	6,000
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION	67,000
PUBLIC HEALTH	265,000
WOMEN'S PROGRAMS	3,000
YOUTH PROGRAMS	325,000
OTHER PROGRAMS	58,000
ADMINISTRATION	155,000

NOTE: The financial information presented above includes \$372,436 funded by non-Soros entities, principally in Civil Society programs. Other Soros-supported organizations made grants in Estonia totaling \$178,759, principally in Culture and Public Health programs; these grants are not included above.

Open Society Georgia Foundation

“In addition to being an important donor in Georgia, the Foundation worked to spread the principles of open society to deeply divided regions to help defuse conflicts.”

Mikhail Chachkhunashvili, Executive Director

For the Open Society Georgia Foundation (OSGF), the development of open society in regions of conflict is an important goal requiring innovative action. In 2000, the Foundation supported local NGOs in war-torn Abkhazia and South Ossetia, and made plans to open subsidiaries in both regions in 2001. New offices were also opened in the conflict-free areas of Telavi and Akhaltsikhe. The Akhaltsikhe office is particularly significant because it serves an area where many residents belong to ethnic minorities.

Through 30 national and regional programs, the Foundation continued to implement initiatives that positively influence many spheres of life in Georgia. Education was again made a priority as the Foundation supported projects that emphasize new kinds of knowledge and skills.

With the International Higher Education Support Program (HESP), the Social Science Support Program helped introduce new academic disciplines to Georgia and many other countries of the former Soviet Union. Eleven new courses in political science, international relations, and sociology received funding after three grants competitions were held in the past year. At Tbilisi State University, the Department of Political Science held a summer school session for social science professionals to improve their proficiency in English. Social sciences texts were translated and prepared for publication.

OSGF also worked with the Ministry of Education to draft a new statute on management of education

systems during conferences organized in cooperation with the Institute for Educational Policy (IEP). The statute gives schools the right to make decisions concerning funds, human resources, and curriculum development. For the first time, schools can elect their director, board of trustees, and the teachers' board. The Education System Management Decentralization Program, a component of OSGF's Megaproject, will implement the statute.

The Reform Support Agency, another part of the Megaproject, developed an information database of education statistics and a computer model of the education system. Georgia has also transferred the selection of textbooks to the competition-based approach promoted by OSGF. The Education Program equipped 10 study rooms, opened five computer centers, and held contests in a variety of subjects in several regions. Sunday civic education classes and summer schools teaching academic subjects also received funding.

Nearly 15,000 young people participated in classes provided by the Foundation's Internet Program in 2000. The Electronic Publishing Program funded the winning projects of a competition titled "Georgian Information on the Internet." Higher education institutions received access to OSI's Electronic Information for Libraries (EIFL) scientific literature database.

The Foundation's anticorruption activities attracted particular attention following George Soros's visit to Georgia in November 2000. With funding from OSGF and the United States Agency for International Development, the Anticorruption Working Group distributed a copy of the "State Anticorruption Program," a questionnaire, and a return postage-paid envelope to citizens throughout the country. In cooperation with the Constitutional and Legal Policy Institute (COLPI), the Foundation is planning future anticorruption activities.

Reform of the penitentiary system was another important focus. The Foundation supported Former Prisoners for Human Rights, an NGO that makes

information on prisoners' rights available in prisons and wherever individuals are first detained.

The Local Government Program, in partnership with the Local Government and Public Service Reform Initiative (LGI), funded local NGO activities, contributing to better community relations and the transparency of local government bodies. OSGF also funded the Georgian Institute of Public Administration, which provided training to local government administrators.

Other OSGF activities in 2000 included anti-corruption and investigative journalism projects supported by the Mass Media Program; small loans for publishers; a round table on amending the tax code funded by the Economic and Business Development Program; and Health Program support for urgently needed projects to address drug addiction.

www.osgf.ge

2000 EXPENDITURES	\$5,369,000
CIVIL SOCIETY	166,000
CONFERENCE & TRAVEL	1,000
CRIMINAL JUSTICE	12,000
CULTURE	449,000
EAST EAST	140,000
ECONOMIC REFORM	41,000
EDUCATION	2,447,000
INFORMATION	574,000
LAW	156,000
MEDIA	106,000
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION	81,000
PUBLIC HEALTH	250,000
WOMEN'S PROGRAMS	63,000
YOUTH PROGRAMS	243,000
OTHER PROGRAMS	1,000
ADMINISTRATION	639,000

NOTE: The financial information presented above includes \$385,875 funded by non-Soros entities, principally in Education. Other Soros-supported organizations made grants in Georgia totaling \$712,885, principally in Education, Information, and Economic Reform programs; these grants are not included above.

Fundacion Soros–Guatemala

“Many of the Fundacion’s programs promoted peace and tolerance in an effort to build a truly open, multicultural society in Guatemala.”

Ricardo Stein, Executive Director

The first change in government since the signing of the peace accords in 1996 slowed the peace process in Guatemala during 2000. In response, the Fundacion Soros–Guatemala committed significant resources to facilitating dialogue among different sectors of society at national and local levels. This focus built on previous efforts to help the country develop a culture of tolerance and increase the participation of traditionally marginalized groups.

Fundacion grants played a substantial role in promoting dialogue among various groups in 2000. For the first time ever, civil society organizations participated in negotiations with the government and the private sector about a new fiscal pact. Facultad Latinoamericana de Ciencias Sociales (FLASCO), a Fundacion grantee, provided technical support to organizations participating in the negotiations. The purpose of the fiscal pact, signed in May, is to increase government revenues, reform the tax structure and tax collection, redefine government spending and social investments, and ensure financing to implement the peace accords.

The Vision Guatemala Program, which promoted dialogue at the national level in 1999, shifted to the municipal level in 2000. It worked with communities and local officials to develop their ideas about the common good and what kind of society they wanted to create over the next 20 years. The information will be used to complement planning at the national level. The United Nations Development Program (UNDP), a cosponsor, held a number of conferences examining the Vision Guatemala Program and is considering

implementing it elsewhere in Latin America.

Through its funding, the Fundacion also helped train newly elected municipal authorities in the basics of transparent government and provided leadership training for nongovernmental organizations. The effort allowed civilians and municipal authorities to meet, discuss, and implement local development plans. At the national level, the leadership program focused on helping peasant organizations analyze and influence labor legislation, rural development policy, and wages and salaries in rural areas.

The Fundacion’s Board of Directors voted to develop a strong Media Program to foster critical thinking, citizenship, and leadership, particularly among women, indigenous peoples, and youth. During 2000, the Fundacion supported and enhanced the capacity of organizations producing educational TV programming. In 2001, a similar effort will be carried out to improve radio production capacity. Contacts have been established with OSI’s Network Media Program to ensure the necessary technical support.

Independent civilian control of the police and military is crucial for civil society in Guatemala. In 2000, the Fundacion expanded its programs for gun control and civil oversight of the police to address issues such as legislative control of the intelligence services, individual privacy rights, and legislation defining what constitutes a state secret. The program educated media professionals on intelligence, security, and defense issues, and used the media to inform the public.

Promoting peace and tolerance through education was another priority area in 2000. The Fundacion embarked on an ambitious program to influence reform of the K-12 social studies curriculum by introducing long-ignored elements and interpretations of Guatemalan history. The Fundacion also sponsored a research project called “Why We Are How We Are” by the Centro de Investigaciones Regionales Mesoamericanas (CIRMA). The project analyzes the forms of social exclusion that have marked

Guatemala’s history, not only between indigenous and nonindigenous populations, but also within different ethnic groups.

Cultural programs highlighted peace and Guatemala’s rich diversity. Support went to the Fundacion Mario Monteforte Toledo for its annual literary contest on peace-related topics. The Fundacion also began a close collaboration with the Children’s Museum to develop a strong multicultural program and to introduce the multicultural character of Guatemalan society in its exhibits.

www.soros.org/natfound/guatemala

2000 EXPENDITURES	\$3,272,000
CIVIL SOCIETY	1,720,000
CRIMINAL JUSTICE	232,000
ECONOMIC REFORM	335,000
LAW	180,000
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION	50,000
OTHER PROGRAMS	325,000
ADMINISTRATION	430,000

NOTE: Other Soros-supported organizations made grants in Guatemala totaling \$112,711, principally in Media work.

Fondation Connaissance et Liberte (Haiti)

“We report here on a rural grassroots enterprise showing promise for development and democracy. At a time when our political future seems particularly dark, we consider this a sign of hope for our country’s marginalized populations.”

Inette Durandis, Board Chair

Jean-Bertrand Aristide was inaugurated once again as Haiti’s president on February 7, 2001. The November 2000 elections that gave Aristide the presidency and the parliamentary and general elections of May 2000 were denounced by the opposition and the international community. As Aristide begins to govern, controversy surrounding him and his party persists. International bilateral and multilateral aid has been suspended until the new government agrees to address the continuing crisis regarding the current Parliament’s legitimacy. Aristide’s return is viewed by many with ambivalence and the opposition’s repeated calls for civil disobedience and general protest against the new government have gone unheeded. For most people, there is no alternative to Aristide on the current political scene.

Despite the uncertainty and tension surrounding the elections and their outcome, the Fondation Connaissance et Liberte (FOKAL) continued the pursuit of its objectives and helped to shape democratic values and practices in cooperation with its many partners.

FOKAL completed its fifth year of operation in 2000. Working with a reduced budget, FOKAL was still able to expand the Community Library Program as well as the Site Development Program with its Step by Step and Economic Development components. There is now an established network of over 40 libraries throughout the country. Fondation programs have expanded to seven rural sites and received strong support and participation from teachers, parents,

farmers, women, and youth organizations.

With approval from the Open Society Institute, the Fondation reallocated funds to purchase and renovate a building to create a new resource center. The center will provide the community with access to computers and the Internet, library resources, English language and debate programs, training for young people in information technology, community development, and business.

FOKAL helped a rural farmers NGO, Association des Paysans de Vallée (APV), turn a donor-sponsored project into a sustainable business. APV was started 10 years ago by young university graduates who returned to their rural provinces wanting to help develop education and entrepreneurship. After several years of awarding small grants to APV, FOKAL decided to provide support for its fruit-processing project in 2000. The commercially promising project produces, packages, and distributes tropical jams, jellies, and peanut butter. FOKAL introduced the idea of turning the project into a commercial enterprise in which, for the first time in Haiti, the farmers could be shareholders.

FOKAL also developed an Agriculture and Environment Program with APV aimed at enhancing fruit and peanut production while protecting the environment. APV established a partnership in 2000 with Farmer to Farmer, a program supported by the United States Agency for International Development to help improve quality control and farming techniques. FOKAL and APV are currently preparing an application to the Inter-American Development Bank for a long-term loan. After consultation, OSI's Economic and Business Development Program agreed to provide technical assistance to establish a business plan for APV's products and to create a management information system. FOKAL's assistance is temporary, with the expectation that APV will find new partners to make the enterprise sustainable.

The work with APV is an exciting way to demonstrate to young people that they can return to their

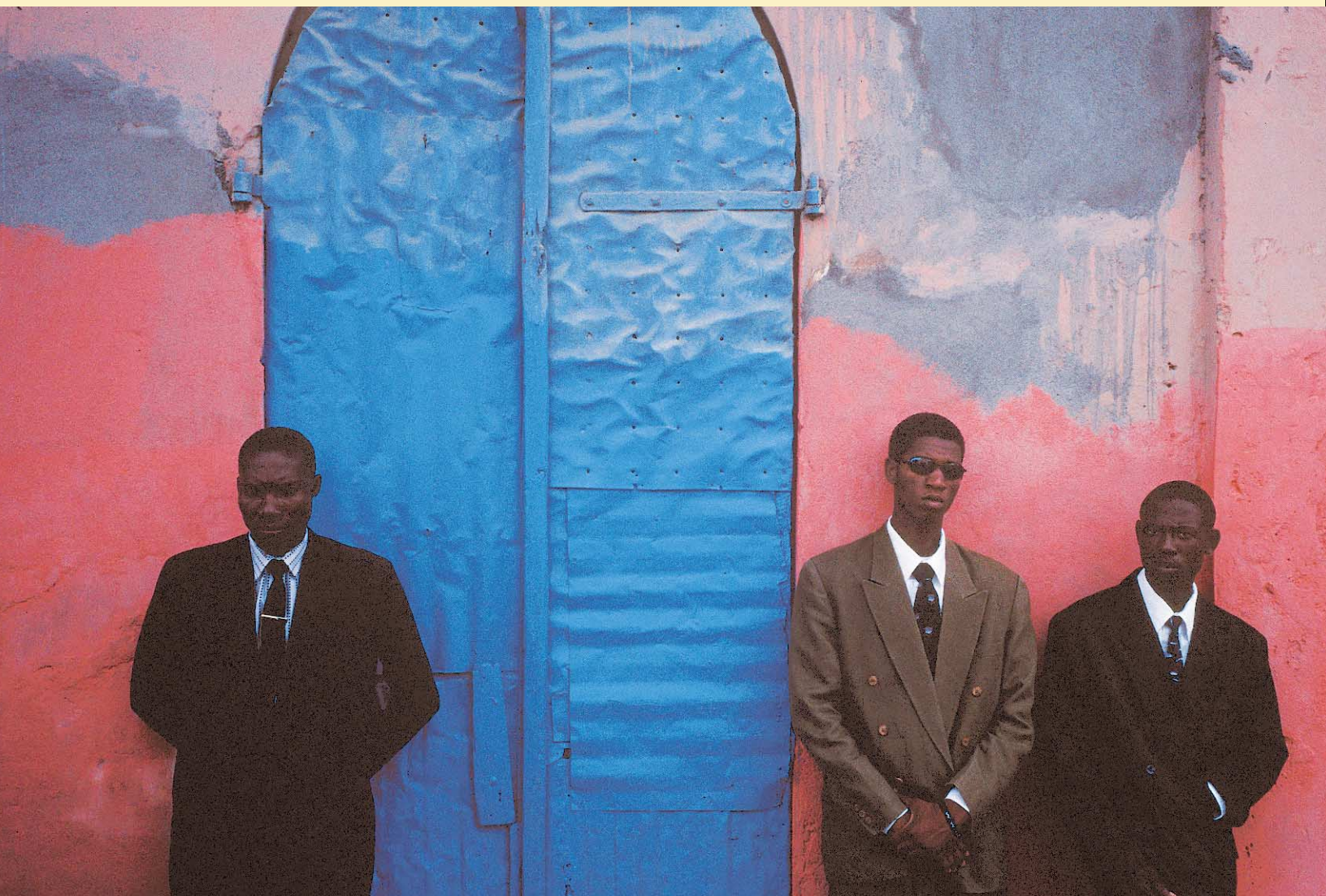
province of origin and invest in economically and socially viable projects. It is also a vehicle for introducing democracy at the grassroots level, with the local entrepreneurs holding shares in APV's future. As the rural workers face a unique opportunity to become shareholders, considerable effort must be made to ensure that they become informed participants who understand the sophisticated entrepreneurial process and who actively take part in making sound decisions.

www.soros.org/natfound/haiti

2000 EXPENDITURES	\$3,614,000
CIVIL SOCIETY	149,000
CONFERENCE & TRAVEL	20,000
CULTURE	60,000
ECONOMIC REFORM	557,000
EDUCATION	991,000
INFORMATION	687,000
MEDIA	40,000
PUBLIC HEALTH	180,000
WOMEN'S PROGRAMS	59,000
YOUTH PROGRAMS	59,000
OTHER PROGRAMS	387,000
ADMINISTRATION	425,000

NOTE: The financial information presented above includes \$25,617 funded by non-Soros entities, principally in Economic Reform. Other Soros-supported organizations made grants in Haiti totaling \$202,598, principally in Civil Society programs; these grants are not included above.

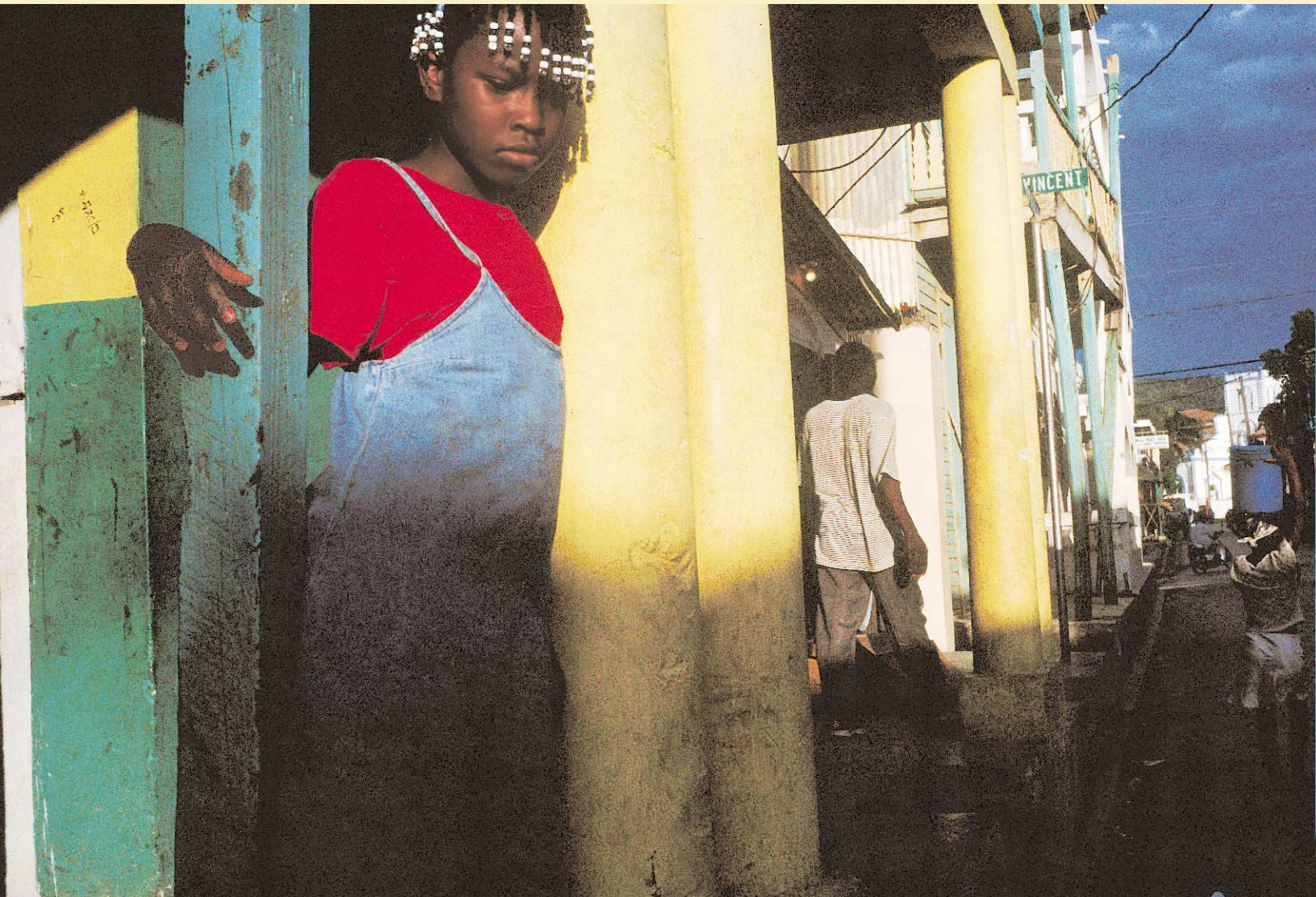
HAITI
Alex Webb



Funeral, Port-de-Paix



Port-au-Prince



Port-de-Paix



Port-au-Prince

Soros Foundation–Hungary

“Our previous strategy based on cooperation with the government was no longer appropriate in 2000. Now our main focus should be civil control of the government, which continues to centralize and concentrate power and resources.”

Miklos Vasarhelyi, Board Chair

Hungary’s right-wing government increased its control over state agencies and institutions in 2000, as it favored the middle and upper-middle classes and neglected minorities and other disadvantaged groups. In response, the Soros Foundation–Hungary (SFH) increased its support for civil sector NGOs and focused on vulnerable groups, regional public health, and access to information in remote areas. The Foundation also renewed its support for diverse cultural activities in the face of the government’s increasingly limited and nationalistic cultural policies.

Funding for the NGO sector was a challenge. Many NGOs have high expectations about funding once Hungary accedes to the European Union. Yet many organizations lost funding in 2000 as international donors and NGOs that financed civil society initiatives began leaving Hungary. SFH addressed this funding gap by helping NGOs develop new financing capabilities through the Foundation’s Nonprofit Loan and Incubator House Program, established last year.

The Foundation’s various legal programs supported human rights organizations that protected vulnerable groups such as patients, the poor, and minorities. Programs for the Roma, Hungary’s largest and the most marginalized minority, promoted the integration of the Roma into Hungarian society and sought to increase their ability to influence decisions that affect their lives. SFH also worked to apply international and European

Union human rights standards to Hungary and supported initiatives to increase the professionalism of organizations involved in human rights monitoring and advocacy, minority protection, prison affairs, and legal aid services.

Education programs played a major role in creating opportunities for disadvantaged groups in 2000. The Foundation helped design and create new methodologies and roles for teachers working with minority, disadvantaged, and disabled students from preschool to university. To develop teachers not only as instructors, but also as mentors involved in the lives of special needs students was a priority for the education programs.

The Public Health Program helped individuals and communities without access to adequate health care by promoting self-help and community-based techniques for addressing health issues. The Foundation also sponsored activities focusing on independent/assisted living for the chronically ill, harm reduction, and alternatives to institutionalization for the mentally disabled.

Throughout the year, SFH supported efforts to reduce the gap between Hungary’s information “haves” and “have nots.” A primary goal of the Foundation’s Library Program is to bring increased amounts and new forms of information to isolated communities. Remote libraries will function as public access centers to computers and other information technology and will provide people with services to help them use new technology and information effectively.

The Foundation has long viewed arts and culture as an important means of promoting the ideals of open society and democracy. The Arts and Culture Program has tried to offset the government’s substantial monopoly in funding culture by promoting diverse and innovative cultural activities. In 2000, the Program supported a variety of cultural education and information projects and Romani cultural activities. Development of management skills was also emphasized to enable diverse artists and cultural

organizations to find new audiences and sponsors throughout the country and Europe.

www.soros.hu

2000 EXPENDITURES	\$8,404,000
CIVIL SOCIETY	1,314,000
CULTURE	1,173,000
EAST EAST	107,000
ECONOMIC REFORM	42,000
EDUCATION	1,883,000
INFORMATION	815,000
LAW	257,000
PUBLIC HEALTH	952,000
ROMA	1,047,000
WOMEN'S PROGRAMS	27,000
YOUTH PROGRAMS	130,000
OTHER PROGRAMS	106,000
ADMINISTRATION	551,000

NOTE: Other Soros-supported organizations made grants in Hungary totaling \$1,864,843, principally in Education, Information, Public Health, Roma, and Human Rights programs; these grants are not included above.

Soros Foundation–Kazakhstan

“Our society is not truly democratic or lawful in comparison with other developed countries. That is why our strategic goal is to assist Kazakhstan in meeting international standards.”

Evgeny Zhovtis, Board Chair

The 21st century world is increasingly integrated. Borders are vanishing, information and people are circulating more freely, and countries are frequently working together to pursue political and economic opportunities. While this growing trend toward freedom and integration has touched Kazakhstan and other countries in the region, there have also been setbacks and delays in efforts to establish open society. In 2000, the Soros Foundation–Kazakhstan (SFK) continued its efforts to expand open society and help the country become more integrated with the outside world.

Cooperation among domestic institutions and foreign donors is critical to hasten the growth of open society and rule of law in Kazakhstan. Working together, these partners can promote tolerance and transparency through new legislation, reform of public institutions, and equipping people with the skills and information to make these changes work.

Throughout the world, the legislation of different states is being brought into harmony, not only in commercial law, but also in civil legislation, which defines relationships between the state, society, and individuals. The aim of new legislation is to expand human rights and freedoms and to limit coercion by the state. The Foundation supports the Republic of Kazakhstan in efforts at legislative reform, including assisting in the development of legislation and facilitating consultation with international experts.

The Women’s Program, working with several local women’s NGOs, began an extensive analysis examining

whether laws and agreements protecting women's rights are upheld and enforced in Kazakhstan. Women's rights experts and advocates trained by SFK also participated in the development of a national domestic violence law.

In addition to domestic legislation, Kazakhstan needs to meet the obligations set forth by the United Nations and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE). The Legal Reform Program provides assistance to policymakers and legal experts who are making reforms that comply with international norms. A major accomplishment for SFK in 2000 was assisting with the process of transferring control of the country's penitentiary system from the Ministry of the Interior to the Ministry of Justice, the standard arrangement in most developed, democratic countries.

SFK programs, including the NGO Support Program and the Public Policy Program, seek to strengthen public organizations and institutions. SFK worked in 2000 to reorient several NGOs from providing social services to advocating reforms. The Central Asian Agency for Political Research, for example, held seminars and public forums to debate local problems. Such increased activism helped SFK's local partners become visible and self-sustaining; more than half received financing from local governments. The Public Policy Program collaborated with the Eurasia Foundation to implement public policy research projects that are likely to lead to the formation of Kazakhstan's first public policy think tank.

As SFK assists in the reform of the country's laws and institutions, it is also providing training to the experts and activists who will strengthen Kazakhstan's civil sector. The Travel Grants Program allowed 191 Kazakhstan citizens to travel abroad in 2000 to develop their skills and meet with foreign colleagues interested in promoting open society. Under the East East Program, over 100 students, teachers, journalists, and activists attended regional events addressing crucial economic and social issues.

Kazakhstan still has far to go before democracy and the rule of law are as entrenched here as in other developed countries. SFK's goal is to assist the country in meeting international standards and applying best practices from around the world while still respecting the unique ethnic composition, traditions, and relationships in Kazakhstan.

www.soros.kz

2000 EXPENDITURES	\$4,902,000
CIVIL SOCIETY	170,000
CONFERENCE & TRAVEL	181,000
CRIMINAL JUSTICE	67,000
CULTURE	408,000
EAST EAST	251,000
ECONOMIC REFORM	203,000
EDUCATION	1,337,000
INFORMATION	37,000
LAW	216,000
MEDIA	164,000
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION	270,000
PUBLIC HEALTH	364,000
WOMEN'S PROGRAMS	240,000
YOUTH PROGRAMS	577,000
OTHER PROGRAMS	1,000
ADMINISTRATION	416,000

NOTE: The financial information presented above includes \$414,943 funded by non-Soros entities, principally in Education and Youth programs. Other Soros-supported organizations made grants to Kazakhstan, totaling \$771,749, principally in Education programs; these grants are not included above.

Kosova Foundation for Open Society

“Investing in young people, the largest population group in Kosovo, is crucial. If there is going to be open society in Kosovo, they are the ones who will shape and own it.”

Ekrem Beqiri, Board Chair

Kosovar society, although still recovering from war, took determined steps toward an open and democratic future in 2000. The most important moves were a successful voter registration drive and Kosovo’s first free and democratic local elections in October. During the campaign and the elections, the Rule of Law Program provided support for the Registration Appeals Commission, which enabled individuals to file appeals if they had been prevented from registering or voting. The Youth Program and OSI’s East East Program supported a variety of projects by local youth organizations to educate young people about the election process.

The successful voter registration and elections, however, did not solve the many problems that hampered the efforts of the international community and the local population to help Kosovo recover from the devastation of war. Almost two years after the war, Kosovo still lacks basic institutions and services.

Before the war, the Kosova Foundation for Open Society (KFOS) played a crucial role in promoting, supporting, and encouraging civil society initiatives in Kosovar society. With the end of the war, KFOS has worked to build a popular sense of inclusion and citizenship as fragile democratic institutions develop in Kosovo.

The establishment of the first Romani NGO in Kosovo marked the start of 2000. The KFOS Minority Program, together with the Romani community in Podujeva, successfully established the Romani NGO

“Shpresa Demokratike” (Democratic Hope). The Romani Education Program focused on the integration of Romani children into the education system. The work of the Education and Human Rights Programs to integrate Roma was in stark contrast to the violent attacks against Roma that occurred in past years throughout the region. The Women’s Program offered a number of trainings that focused on building economic opportunities for Romani women.

The Human Rights Program also supported the One World International Festival of Documentary Films, featuring films highlighting human rights issues. Traditionally shown in Prague, One World was the first international film festival organized in Kosovo.

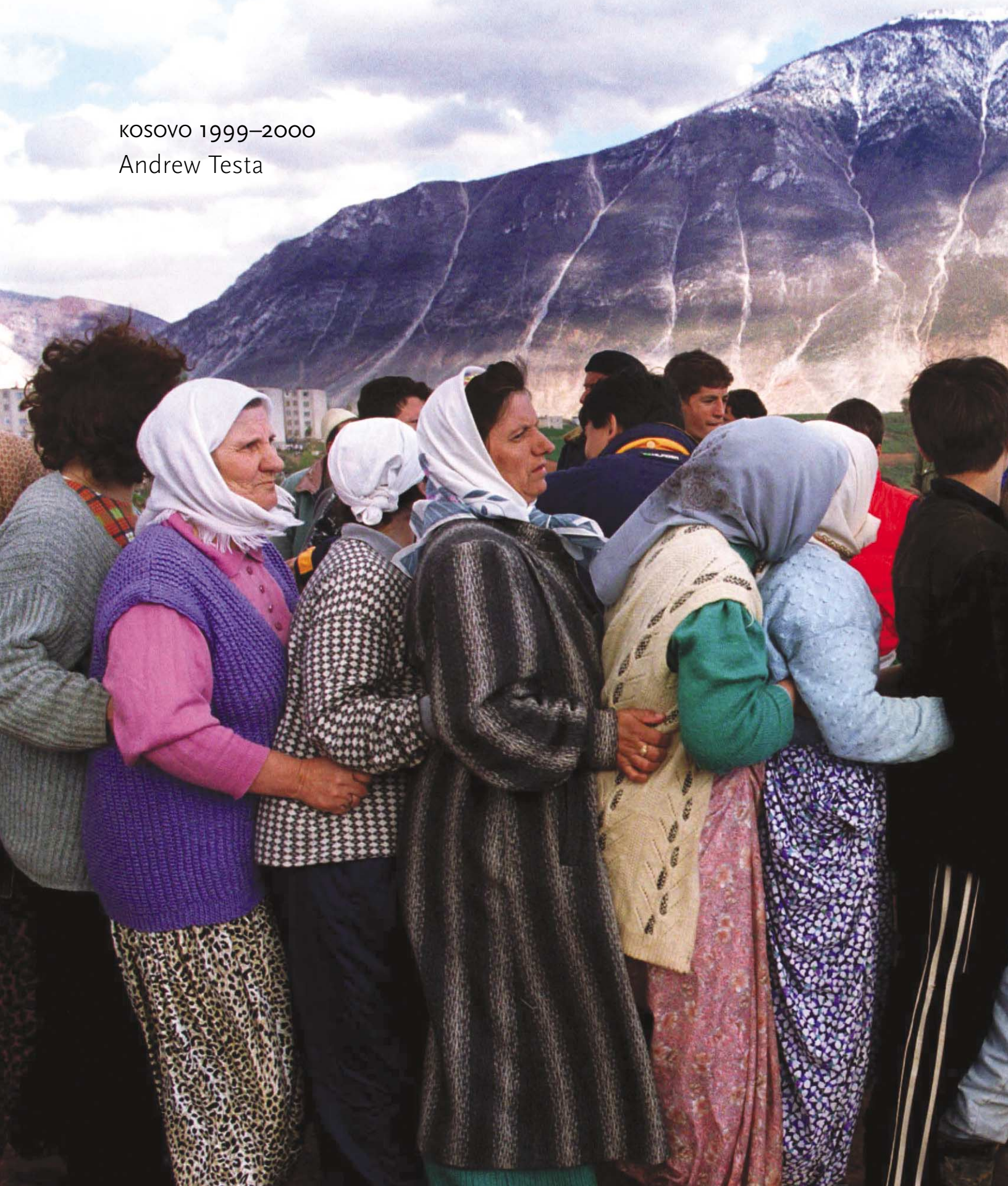
Promoting tolerance and open society among young people was the main focus of the Youth Program. The Program organized a Youth Week with the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK) Youth Department and many other activities with the youth organizations of political parties. Throughout the year, the Women’s Program brought together women’s groups in Kosovo to share ideas and develop activities such as the East East Program’s regional women’s conference held in July in Pristina. The conference featured a round table on domestic violence and law enforcement that attracted public attention and raised awareness. Other activities in this area included training programs with NGOs and support for the Shelter for Women Victims of Violence.

In 2000, KFOS successfully established the Kosova Education Center (KEC), which is the only education NGO actively carrying out important reforms in Kosovo’s education system. The Center fills a gap left over from the war when the former education policy institutes ceased to exist. The NGO Program organized seminars for trainers on Reading and Writing for Critical Thinking (RWCT), quality education, and school administration in order to create a much-needed core group of local trainers.

The joint Library and Internet Program worked throughout the year to establish model libraries in

KOSOVO 1999–2000

Andrew Testa





Refugees from Kosovo lining up for food in Kukes, Albania, April 1999

► Violence in Mitrovica, February/ March 2000





Kosovo. Along with substantial book collections, the libraries contain Internet centers that provide a long isolated population with unprecedented access to global information. The joint KFOS Internet and Education Program supported the Schools On Line project, which enables teachers and students to use modern technology in the classroom.

By the end of 2000, the Step by Step Program had successfully introduced a new child-centered methodology to more than 150 classrooms. The Step by Step methodology gives young people confidence to act and think independently, preparing them to participate in creating an open and democratic society.

American University in Bulgaria (AUBG) summer courses enabled 316 Kosovar students to acquire skills in leadership, entrepreneurship, public administration, and media. The Arts and Culture Program launched a Cultural Management Program in cooperation with the UNMIK Department of Culture.

www.soros.org/natfound/kosovo

2000 EXPENDITURES	\$2,599,000
CIVIL SOCIETY	113,000
CULTURE	265,000
EAST EAST	95,000
EDUCATION	862,000
ETHNIC MINORITIES	9,000
INFORMATION	465,000
LAW	38,000
MEDIA	68,000
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION	5,000
ROMA	69,000
WOMEN'S PROGRAMS	102,000
YOUTH PROGRAMS	180,000
OTHER PROGRAMS	80,000
ADMINISTRATION	248,000

NOTE: The financial information presented above includes \$60,667 funded by non-Soros entities, principally in Information and Roma programs. Other Soros-supported organizations made grants in Kosovo, totaling \$926,659, principally in Education and Media programs; these grants are not included above.

Soros Foundation—Kyrgyzstan

“The successes of democracy in Kyrgyzstan are fragile and need firm and persistent support.”

Mirgul Smanalieva, Board Chair

In light of the difficult economic and political situation in the country, the Soros Foundation—Kyrgyzstan works to strengthen nascent democratic achievements and develop them through support for civic initiatives with lasting impact. In 2000, the Foundation focused on building civil society institutions, fostering legal reforms, promoting public policy and local governance, and encouraging small businesses.

Building on past accomplishments, the Foundation established a more systemic approach to its education program. Methodology resource centers serving all schools in the country continued to introduce new curricula. Other educational programs gained official recognition; for example, the Kyrgyz Institute of Education recommended the inclusion of the Reading and Writing for Critical Thinking (RWCT) and Street Law programs in school curricula. The next step for the Foundation is to focus on educational policy to further develop previous achievements in this area.

The growth of Kyrgyzstan's third sector increased the need for support of NGOs in 2000. Through various programs, the Foundation supported NGOs working in inter-ethnic relations, women's and environmental issues, and human rights. A number of associations among NGOs were formed during the year, and the Foundation prepared to spin off programs that are likely to be self-sustainable in the future. Several women's crisis centers received support, and their networking allowed them to take stronger stands on gender policy issues. The Foundation will continue to strengthen the ability of the third sector to sustain its overall development and make its voices heard.

The Soros Foundation—Kyrgyzstan increased its

support for legal consultation centers, which provide free legal services to members of socially vulnerable populations. The Law Program, working with the Constitutional and Legal Policy Institute (COLPI), continued to focus on the rule of law and human rights issues. The Street Law Program developed a civics textbook for use in all schools as part of its ongoing efforts to introduce democracy and civic education to school curricula.

Decentralization is posing many challenges to the daily operation of local governments in Kyrgyzstan. In 2000, the Public Administration Program and the Local Government and Public Service Reform Initiative (LGI), an OSI network program, supported projects to promote community building. More than 20 projects throughout the country received funding. Local governments shared the costs of these projects, setting an example for local businesses and other donors. Nationwide training programs for public servants were also supported as an essential complement of projects in public administration and community building.

The Foundation continued to work with Soros foundations in Central Asia on joint projects. In 2000, the Foundation held a summer camp for schoolchildren and teachers from Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan and supported joint projects by women's NGOs from the three countries. The goal of these projects was to build understanding among people across borders and demonstrate that differences do not prevent cooperation.

Recognizing the inter-relatedness of many project areas, the Foundation encouraged closer integration among programs in 2000. For example, the Public Administration Program and the Economic Reform Program organized joint trainings for local governments and credit unions in order to foster more coherent local economic development policy.

www.soros.kg

2000 EXPENDITURES	\$4,428,000
CIVIL SOCIETY	388,000
CONFERENCE & TRAVEL	97,000
CULTURE	210,000
EAST EAST	172,000
ECONOMIC REFORM	77,000
EDUCATION	740,000
ETHNIC MINORITIES	109,000
INFORMATION	342,000
LAW	341,000
MEDIA	184,000
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION	244,000
PUBLIC HEALTH	447,000
WOMEN'S PROGRAMS	84,000
YOUTH PROGRAMS	400,000
OTHER PROGRAMS	224,000
ADMINISTRATION	369,000

NOTE: The financial information presented above includes \$221,275 funded by non-Soros entities, principally in Public Health and Education. Other Soros-supported organizations made grants in Kyrgyzstan, totaling \$1,002,591, principally in Education, Economic Reform, Human Rights, and Media programs; these grants are not included above.

Soros Foundation—Latvia

“The legitimacy of civil society oversight of government decision-making was confirmed this year when one of our grantees, an anticorruption NGO, gained full access to closed-door discussions about the privatization of the largest remaining state company in Latvia.”

Sarmite Elerte, Board Chair

The Soros Foundation—Latvia (SFL) focused its efforts in 2000 on broad issues of rule of law, ethnic integration, and civil society. As Latvia stepped up its efforts to accede to the European Union, SFL addressed increasing public concerns over corruption, the quality of public policy and governance, and civil society participation in policymaking.

SFL helped to improve anticorruption efforts in 2000 by supporting the activities of DELNA, the local Transparency International chapter, in its role as watchdog over the last of the large-scale privatization processes. Libraries received support to enhance their work with local governments in providing access to information on decision-making. Support also went to youth groups dealing with cheating and exam-purchasing among high-school students and to environmental groups seeking to reinvigorate public hearings about the environmental impact of new building proposals.

In its effort to reform governance and public policy, SFL launched the Public Policy Development Program to improve capacity for quality analysis and ensure that the process is open to a wide variety of actors. A public forum in July with a keynote address by the prime minister of Latvia brought together members of government, academia, and NGOs to discuss issues of public access to decision-making. In another positive development, the Foundation selected and placed seven policy fellows in the most promising

independent policy institutes.

The Riga Graduate School of Law, a long-term project with the Latvian and Swedish governments, produced its first graduates in International Comparative Law in 2000. The law school is rapidly becoming a progressive center for legal thinking, offering the legal community short-term executive development courses, an extensive law library, and a legal journal, supported in cooperation with the University of Latvia Faculty of Law.

Prison sentencing reform was another area of governance where significant progress was made in 2000. The SFL Prison Program and the Police Reform Program have helped introduce alternative sentencing mechanisms to more than half of Latvia’s municipalities. In Saldus, for example, alternative sentences were given in 20 percent of cases in 2000, compared to zero in 1999. Next year, the Saldus local government will assume full financing of the alternative sentencing support mechanism. Other program activities worked toward reducing the percentage of pre-trial incarcerated persons; improving support and social rehabilitation mechanisms for ex-offenders; and improving health, education, and work opportunities during incarceration.

Ethnic integration remained a high priority, with the Foundation continuing to support Open Schools, a multiyear program which assists minority language schools in the transition to bilingual teaching methods and also introduces multicultural curricula into all schools. The Foundation also commissioned policy work on barriers to acquiring citizenship and on stereotyping in the media.

The Mental Health and Mental Disabilities Advocacy Program was launched in 2000 with pilot projects seeking alternatives to institutionalized care. A needs assessment outlined the severe problems in this branch of the health care system, problems that overlap with issues of human rights and human dignity. The needs assessment will serve as the basis for a rapid expansion of future SFL support.

A number of Foundation programs either ended or

were absorbed by other entities in 2000. The Internet Program, with a network of 50 public Internet access points, will continue through local governments that have agreed to maintain these access points in order to provide low-cost, high-quality Internet access to individuals outside of the capital. The Publishing Program closed after much success in bringing modern social sciences and humanities classics to a public readership and helping develop a modern, self-sufficient publishing industry.

Step by Step, the program that introduced child-centered education to Latvia, is poised for a future as a public-private partnership of the Foundation, local governments, and teaching colleges. Step by Step activities will be further energized by a new NGO established by the parents of children in the program. This is the first example in Latvia of parents organizing to advocate for education reform.

www.sfl.lv

2000 EXPENDITURES	\$5,816,000
CIVIL SOCIETY	662,000
CRIMINAL JUSTICE	99,000
CULTURE	326,000
EAST EAST	115,000
EDUCATION	1,272,000
ETHNIC MINORITIES	136,000
INFORMATION	417,000
LAW	1,418,000
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION	214,000
PUBLIC HEALTH	231,000
WOMEN'S PROGRAMS	42,000
YOUTH PROGRAMS	384,000
OTHER PROGRAMS	45,000
ADMINISTRATION	455,000

NOTE: The financial information presented above includes \$414,652 funded by non-Soros entities, principally in Civil Society programs. Other Soros-supported organizations made grants in Latvia, totaling \$278,015, principally in Education, Public Administration, and Human Rights programs; these grants are not included above.

Open Society Fund—Lithuania

“In 2000, Lithuanian society and government became increasingly aware of an overall lack of nonpartisan analysis and far-sighted strategy in policy discussions. This growing awareness confirmed that OSFL’s focus on public policy issues comes at precisely the right time.”

Egidijus Aleksandravicius, Board Chair

The Open Society Fund—Lithuania (OSFL) marked its 10th anniversary in 2000 as a newly restructured foundation by focusing on three principal areas: partnership and collaboration, public policy development, and the provision of information to the public to reduce social tensions and increase education opportunities.

Partnership and collaboration involving municipalities, NGOs, the private sector, the public, and other partners is crucial to strengthening civil society. The Law Program reinforced reforms to the criminal justice system by increasing the participation of governmental and nongovernmental organizations and specialists working on the penal code and proposals for making the police more sensitive to civilian concerns. Continuing assistance was given to projects providing legal education and free legal aid via legal clinics and a public law office.

OSFL also supported partnership and collaboration focusing on public health. The Public Health Initiatives Program encouraged regional municipalities to collaborate with local NGOs and the community in establishing health care education and improvement programs. NGOs and municipalities submitted over 200 joint proposals to an open grant competition entitled “Improving Public Health.” The Fund selected and supported 45 projects on issues such as health education, disease prevention, and a healthy environment.

Public policy activities started in 1999 became even more significant in 2000. In Lithuania, there is a growing gulf between the country's politicians and specialists and the majority of the population. Lack of broad public debate, independent policy analysis, and transparency has dampened much of the population's interest and participation in policy discussions. In response, OSFL has helped NGOs and independent experts become more involved in policymaking, and in 2000 it held an open competition for public policy analysis projects dealing with EU integration. Selected projects will study the consequences of migration, open employment policies, flexible forms of employment, and the challenges of an information society.

Education reform was another policy focus for OSFL in 2000. The Education Program presented studies that analyzed the equality of standards in general education, regional differences in education, and the state of civil development. Discussions by the public, regional school committees, and parliament emphasized the inadequacy of education policy analysis in the country and called for capacity building to more effectively influence policymaking processes. A successful regional project, Developing a Model for Regional Education Policy, was identified for possible replication as a capacity-building model for other regions.

Cultural policy was a new area of activity for the Fund in 2000. A study of government expenditures on culture and a research project on cultural needs in the Jurbarkas region prompted public discussion about funding, decentralization, creation of new models of culture, and culture's role in fostering civil society.

In an effort to reduce marginalization and mistrust among diverse community groups and promote discussion and access to information, the Fund supported public libraries as centers of information, education, and culture. Special priority was given to children and teenagers, persons with disabilities, and the integration of minorities into the community via library services. The first stage of the Internet Portal: Museums of Lithuania project was completed in 2000.

The project will link users to over 250 museums through a common and continually expanding electronic network. OSFL reached out to isolated communities by providing support for the development of pilot projects in distance education, giving students access to courses in economics, business, mathematics, and information technology via the Internet.

www.osf.lt

2000 EXPENDITURES	\$4,578,000
CIVIL SOCIETY	489,000
CULTURE	439,000
EAST EAST	149,000
ECONOMIC REFORM	38,000
EDUCATION	802,000
INFORMATION	536,000
LAW	409,000
MEDIA	40,000
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION	79,000
PUBLIC HEALTH	767,000
WOMEN'S PROGRAMS	19,000
YOUTH PROGRAMS	295,000
OTHER PROGRAMS	77,000
ADMINISTRATION	439,000

NOTE: The financial information presented above includes \$562,600 funded by non-Soros entities, principally in Civil Society programs. Other Soros-supported organizations made grants in Lithuania, totaling \$328,811, principally in Education, Public Health, and Human Rights programs; these grants are not included above.

Foundation Open Society Institute–Macedonia

“With the signing of the Stability Pact and the initializing of the Stabilization and Association Agreement with the European Union, the Foundation Open Society Institute–Macedonia faced the urgent task of reformulating its strategy from immediate responses to crises to long-term support for the government and the civil sector.”

Vladimir Milcin, Executive Director

In 2000, the Foundation Open Society Institute–Macedonia (FOSIM) established successful, long-term partnerships with other Western donors. FOSIM’s reputation as an implementing partner during the Kosovo refugee crisis led many Western governmental agencies to expand and further their partnerships with the Foundation following the signing of the Stability Pact and the initializing of the Stabilization and Association Agreement with the European Union.

Realizing its limited human and financial resources, the Macedonian government cooperated with FOSIM in the fields of education, public administration reform, economic reform, and police training. Germany’s Ministry of Foreign Affairs partnered with the Foundation in these efforts through its Institute for European Politics, as did the Individual Learning and Training Projects for Innovation and Strategy.

The Ministry of Education adopted a national education strategy in June 2000. The new strategy is complementary to FOSIM strategy for establishing a national system for teacher training and providing an equal start to pupils enrolled in primary classes. The Vocational Education and Training Reform project was funded with the PHARE Program, while the Functional Literacy–Community Development project was funded with UNICEF. In Romani education, the Foundation is

still the only actor with a long-term strategy for integrating Roma by reducing dropout rates and increasing Romani participation in higher education.

The Foundation’s largest partner in 2000 was the Swiss Agency for Cooperation and Development, which supported two projects: the NGO Support Centers for Institutional Development, which will be established in four impoverished towns with ethnically diverse populations, including Roma; and Children, Theater and Education, a project of the Children’s Theater Center.

The Children’s Theater Center was one of a number of Foundation spin-offs that attracted the attention and financial support of other donors. The MULTIMEDIA Performing Arts Resource Center, HOPS, Junior Achievement, EuroBalkans, the Civil Society Resource Center, Educational Resource Centers, and the Center for Contemporary Arts received support from the U.S. Embassy, Pro Helvetia, Kultur Kontakt, European Cultural Foundation, UNESCO, Freedom House, and Press Now. The Association for Protection of Roma Rights, which started in the town of Stip with the support of FOSIM and OSI–Budapest, received additional resources from Pax Christi, Holland, for the Mobile Legal Assistance project.

The need for further cooperation to strengthen the rule of law and the democratic process became clear during Macedonia’s local elections in September. Before the elections, FOSIM and the Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA) cosponsored a voter education campaign. In partnership with the National Democratic Institute (NDI), the Institute for Sustainable Communities, and the Royal Embassy of Norway, FOSIM helped ethnically diverse NGOs form the Citizens for Citizens Coalition to monitor the elections.

Despite these efforts, journalists were threatened throughout the campaign. FOSIM responded by providing legal assistance for members of the media through the Network of Lawyers for the Legal Protection of Media and Journalists. On election day, random violence and shootings at polling places by the country’s

ruling parties shocked the Macedonian public. In addition, international observers identified many forgeries and irregularities during the elections.

The Foundation sponsored summer schools on regional issues with Ohrid Summer University and funding from the Higher Education Support Program (HESP) and the University of Cagliari–Italy, Friedrich Ebert Stiftung, and the Central European Initiative.

The Women’s Program hosted the Regional Training for Romani Women’s NGOs, which included participants from countries of the former Yugoslavia and Bulgaria. The EuroBalkan Institute’s Research Center for Gender Studies organized an international seminar on feminist philosophy.

www.soros.org.mk

2000 EXPENDITURES	\$5,315,000
CIVIL SOCIETY	472,000
CRIMINAL JUSTICE	2,000
CULTURE	403,000
EAST EAST	193,000
ECONOMIC REFORM	196,000
EDUCATION	1,205,000
ETHNIC MINORITIES	17,000
INFORMATION	550,000
LAW	205,000
MEDIA	181,000
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION	93,000
PUBLIC HEALTH	336,000
ROMA	388,000
WOMEN’S PROGRAMS	263,000
YOUTH PROGRAMS	402,000
OTHER PROGRAMS	7,000
ADMINISTRATION	402,000

NOTE: The financial information presented above includes \$629,499 funded by non-Soros entities, principally in Education, Information, and Culture. Other Soros-supported organizations made grants in Macedonia, totaling \$154,968, principally in Education, Public Administration, and Roma programs; these grants are not included above.

Soros Foundation–Moldova

“Free and unrestricted access to information is one of the most important conditions for the development of open society. In Moldova, with its weak economy and low standard of living, the Foundation supports the transformation of public libraries into information centers that serve citizens’ cultural needs and ensure their access to information.”

Arcadie Barbarosie, Board Chair

In 2000, the Soros Foundation–Moldova (SFM) continued to concentrate its efforts on improving access to information, democratizing education at all levels, decentralizing authority in public administration, improving rural economic development, and strengthening civil society.

Of the Foundation’s various priority area programs, the Library Program, featured in this report, made a considerable contribution to promoting positive change. Moldovan libraries are now increasingly known as institutions that provide unlimited access to first-rate information.

Started six years ago, the Library Program has promoted and increased access to information, a defining factor in democracy. The Program addresses the three main areas of activity within an informational institution: collections, librarians, and user services.

As a result of the Program, the most prestigious academic journals and daily newspapers from abroad are now available through central, scientific, and university libraries, which have also received grants to develop their specialized collections. In 2000, a number of libraries created a national consortium for subscribing to electronic journals. This effort to share information resources was a joint initiative of the Open Society Institute and EBSCO Publishing. SFM provided each library in the consortium with the technical

equipment required to gain access to electronic journals and information on a global level.

The professional development of librarians was another priority area of the Library Program. Partnerships between the Foundation, donors, and institutions such as the Deutsche Bibliotekarische Institute and the French Alliance enabled Moldovan librarians to make study visits to Germany and France in 2000. The Foundation's successful English for Librarians program expanded to a university and a cultural center in Balti, the second largest town in the Republic of Moldova.

Library automation has been another major accomplishment. SFM and the Network Library Program (NLP) have helped automate 11 libraries. Initially, the Program focused on the automation of central and university libraries. Following the Republic of Moldova's administrative/territorial reorganization, the Program shifted to information and documentation centers affiliated with county-level public libraries.

The revitalization of local public libraries is largely due to their participation in a grant competition for improving services to public library users. In cooperation with the NLP, the Foundation selected and supported five projects designed by public libraries from Chisinau and rural areas and several county-level information centers. The projects seek to transform public libraries into cultural information centers responsive to community needs.

In December, the Foundation and the Network Library Program began cofunding a preservation project of national importance. The National Center of Restoration project was developed by the National Library of Moldova to protect and safeguard the national heritage contained in the collections of diverse institutions such as libraries, archives, and museums.

www.soros.md

2000 EXPENDITURES	\$5,178,000
CIVIL SOCIETY	237,000
CRIMINAL JUSTICE	2,000
CULTURE	338,000
EAST EAST	127,000
ECONOMIC REFORM	492,000
EDUCATION	847,000
INFORMATION	562,000
LAW	569,000
MEDIA	77,000
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION	358,000
PUBLIC HEALTH	542,000
WOMEN'S PROGRAMS	143,000
YOUTH PROGRAMS	380,000
OTHER PROGRAMS	149,000
ADMINISTRATION	355,000

NOTE: The financial information presented above includes \$118,684 funded by non-Soros entities. Other Soros-supported organizations made grants in Moldova, totaling \$402,832, principally in Education, Media, and Human Rights programs; these grants are not included above.

Mongolian Foundation for Open Society

“Despite some setbacks in the scope and speed of democratic reforms in Mongolia, a majority of Mongolians still have a lasting belief in democracy and open society.”

L. Sumati, Board Chair

While Mongolia has faced significant challenges in its political and economic transition, the country continues to chart a course that corresponds closely to the principles of open society. The main political forces in the country often disagree on the means, speed, and extent of reform, especially economic reform, but there is little disagreement that Mongolia should continue to pursue democracy.

In 2000, the Mongolian Foundation for Open Society (MFOS) continued to support reforms in education, public access to information technology, enhancement of civil society, and a variety of initiatives in arts and culture, media, and publishing.

School 2001, a nationwide school improvement project launched in 1998, enabled teachers and school administrators from 72 secondary and teacher training colleges in 2000 to acquire skills in management, curriculum development, student assessment methods, and new teaching strategies. Partner schools have become centers of innovation and in-service training. The Foundation provided grants to 47 schools in 2000 to develop educational materials and to facilitate the exchange of experiences and the dissemination of information and new ideas. A review of current school policies and plans is underway to bring them closer to the innovative practices implemented through School 2001 partner schools.

MFOS supported efforts to advance information and communication technology in 2000. The Foundation

launched the Mongolian Information Development Application Scheme (MIDAS) to provide small grants for the development of applications that use computer networks to make career opportunities and entrepreneurial skills available to the public. The Foundation also took steps to introduce the use of electronic information in public libraries, media organizations, and health institutions.

MFOS collaborated with the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science, the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), and the National Statistical Office to conduct a national, consolidated survey of the Mongolian publishing industry. The survey gave particular attention to the production and availability of educational materials and textbooks. A white paper resulting from the survey will be submitted to the government to serve as a framework for developing the industry.

Launched in December 1999, the Community Policing Project conducted a series of trainings in April 2000 for police officers and local officials in the Songino Khairhan and Sukhbaatar districts. The Project, a three-year partnership with the Mongolian police supported by MFOS and the Constitutional and Legal Policy Institute (COLPI), aims to create a safer environment for citizens, foster cooperation between police and communities, aid crime prevention, and enhance public order.

In the area of judicial reform, MFOS and COLPI supported the government's establishment of the Mongolian Judicial Training Center. In 2000, 219 out of Mongolia's 360 judges attended intensive training sessions to improve their expertise in various specialty areas of the law. Through MFOS, the Center received and started a grant project from the Netherlands government to prepare 12 judges as permanent trainers for the Center. MFOS and COLPI also advanced legal education with support for a law clinic established by the Mongolian State University law school.

The Foundation's promotion of management and fundraising skills for artists and art managers helped

increase non-MFOS funding for contemporary artists and art productions to over \$170,000 in 2000. Mongolian artists and their productions received critical acclaim for new dance, theater, documentary, and musical productions, with several artists receiving the highest professional art awards in Mongolia. OSI and MFOS also worked to raise awareness among policymakers and art managers of the need to move from a highly centralized system of state-owned art institutions to a more diverse and self-sustainable model.

www.soros.org.mn

2000 EXPENDITURES	\$3,435,000
CIVIL SOCIETY	44,000
CULTURE	335,000
EAST EAST	60,000
ECONOMIC REFORM	23,000
EDUCATION	1,119,000
INFORMATION	391,000
LAW	454,000
MEDIA	208,000
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION	1,000
PUBLIC HEALTH	298,000
WOMEN'S PROGRAMS	45,000
YOUTH PROGRAMS	228,000
OTHER PROGRAMS	100,000
ADMINISTRATION	329,000

NOTE: The financial information presented above includes \$64,310 funded by non-Soros entities, principally in Information and Law programs. Other Soros-supported organizations made grants in Mongolia, totaling \$1,274,001, principally in Education and Media programs; these grants are not included above.

Open Society Institute–Montenegro

“OSI–Montenegro has emphasized regional cooperation in dealing with the challenges of transition and worked to ensure that Montenegro interacts with the rest of Europe as an open, free, and just society.”

Sasa Brajovic, Acting Executive Director

In 2000, the Open Society Institute–Montenegro completed its first full year of operation as an independent foundation and focused on building institutions that will promote open society principles and practices amidst continuing social and economic transition. OSI–Montenegro utilized regional experts and programs from the Soros foundations network as well as other donor organizations. Network programs that worked with OSI–Montenegro in 2000 included the Constitutional and Legal Policy Institute (COLPI), the Institute for Educational Policy (IEP), the Local Government and Public Service Reform Initiative (LGI), and the Media Program.

Concerned about responding to the transition needs of Montenegrin society, OSI–Montenegro contributed to the development of institutions and leadership for reforms in education, law, public administration, and local government.

Education reform projects initiated in Montenegro over the past three years continued to be a priority in 2000. OSI–Montenegro supported the establishment of the National Council for Educational Reform, which consists of representatives from preschool to adult education, and provided technical assistance to the Council and the Ministry of Education throughout the year. The foundation also organized four international seminars to familiarize local experts with democratic transitions and to develop human resources within the

Ministry of Education. The Step by Step Program expanded to include 16 elementary schools (60 classes) with model centers at the preschool level in three towns.

In the area of legal reform, OSI–Montenegro established and provided initial support for a judicial training center to advance the education, professionalism, and independence of judges and judiciary officials. Support also went to the Institute for Comparative Law, which aims to promote the legal profession and harmonize local legal systems with international standards, and the Institute for Administration, Judiciary, and Local Government, a research and education center.

In addition to legal institutions, OSI–Montenegro participated in the creation and support of important media, academic, and civil society institutions in 2000. The Montenegro Media Institute, a project undertaken in cooperation with five donors, seeks to promote regional cooperation and offers continuing education for journalists and media professionals. The Center for Banking, Finance and International Economics provides professional development for young Montenegrin economists, monitors economic transition, and promotes international economic standards. The Center for the Development of Nongovernmental Organizations of Montenegro provides NGOs with educational, legal, and other resources to promote their growth.

During the year, OSI–Montenegro supported more than 50 NGOs, including eight projects involving the drafting of new laws in public procurement, property restitution, sex trafficking, free access to information, electronic media regulations, consumer protection, health care reorganization, social security, and transportation safety.

Recognizing the importance of the media in transition societies, OSI–Montenegro supported the production of more than 160 hour-long radio and television programs as well as nine journalism research projects. These activities addressed transition issues such as privatization and corruption as well as the role

of the media as observer and promoter of change in the transition process. Special attention was devoted to local media and media working in minority languages.

OSI–Montenegro helped approximately 100 experts in various disciplines participate in foreign conferences in 2000. The subprogram for South Eastern Europe hosted three international seminars, and the foundation provided more than 40 Montenegrin artists with opportunities to exhibit their work and participate in professional development abroad.

www.soros.org/natfound/montenegro

2000 EXPENDITURES	\$1,890,000
CIVIL SOCIETY	119,000
CULTURE	140,000
EAST EAST	76,000
ECONOMIC REFORM	33,000
EDUCATION	521,000
INFORMATION	81,000
LAW	129,000
MEDIA	208,000
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION	142,000
PUBLIC HEALTH	1,000
ROMA	35,000
WOMEN'S PROGRAMS	75,000
YOUTH PROGRAMS	112,000
OTHER PROGRAMS	1,000
ADMINISTRATION	217,000

NOTE: The financial information presented above includes \$50,517 funded by non-Soros entities, principally in Youth Programs. Other Soros-supported organizations made grants to Montenegro, totaling \$135,000, principally in Public Administration programs; these grants are not included above.

Stefan Batory Foundation (Poland)

“Civil Society is increasingly global and open. While nations continue to have frontiers, civil societies are increasingly interconnected. The Batory Foundation is actively engaged in expanding civil society beyond national frontiers in the region and the world.”

Aleksander Smolar, Board Chair

The Stefan Batory Foundation launched two new programs, initiated several new projects, and co-organized two large international events in 2000: the World Forum on Democracy and the Annual General Assembly of the European Foundation Center. The Foundation also moved to a new building, and Anna Rozicka was appointed the Foundation's new executive director as Jacek Wojnarowski, who had managed the Foundation for more than 10 years, became director of the Trust for Civil Society in Central and Eastern Europe.

Assistance to NGOs continued to be a major priority for the Foundation. Most of the grants awarded by the Foundation in the fields of civil society, education, and culture were channeled to local organizations from small towns and villages. One recipient, the Local Community Program, worked with communities to reduce the exclusion of their physically and socially disadvantaged members. The Cultural Program supported projects intended to stimulate cultural activities in rural areas. Each of these programs awarded more than 200 grants to local organizations or coalitions operating outside large cities.

The NGO Program awarded 23 institutional grants and launched the Greenhouse Competition, a new project to improve the operational capacity and strengthen the institutional structure of small organizations. The project awards small grants to

organizations in often-neglected areas of Poland where civil society initiatives are still rare and the nonprofit sector is underdeveloped.

To help ensure equal access to education for rural populations, the Foundation's Youth Program launched the Local Scholarship Project. It provides training and financial assistance to help local organizations create scholarship programs for students who wish to continue their secondary education. It also prepares the organizations to seek additional funding from the local community, government, business, media, and other sponsors. Starting in 2001, the Foundation will match these funds with grants and distribute them as student scholarships.

Using a grant from the Ford Foundation, the Stefan Batory Foundation launched a new Anticorruption Program in 2000. The Program, conducted in cooperation with the Helsinki Foundation for Human Rights, aims to increase public awareness of the benefits of fair and transparent decision-making; advocate for legislative changes to allow greater public participation in policymaking; support independent media and investigative reporting; and help citizen “watchdog” groups monitor the decision-making of local authorities. A two-month media anticorruption campaign placed 400 billboards in the largest Polish cities and distributed 45,000 anticorruption postcards and thousands of information leaflets. The campaign, widely covered by newspapers, radio, and television, inspired 30 private and public media groups to launch their own anticorruption activities.

The European Program started in June and aims to promote Poland's role as a bridge between the European Union (EU) and Eastern Europe. The Program will initiate public debate on the future constitutional makeup of the EU, promote information about European integration in schools, and monitor decision-making procedures of EU assistance programs and the use of public funds for NGOs. In November, the program organized “On the Future of Europe,” a debate between Germany's Foreign Minister Joschka Fischer

and Poland's former Foreign Minister Bronislaw Geremek.

The World Forum on Democracy in June 2000, co-hosted and organized with Freedom House, attracted more than 380 intellectuals, policymakers, NGO activists, and academics. Speakers included Madeleine Albright, Raul Alfonsin, Kofi Annan, Jerzy Buzek, Francis Fukuyama, Jose Ramos-Horta, Aryeh Neier, Amos Oz, Michel Rocard, George Soros, and Alejandro Toledo. They addressed issues such as globalization, humanitarian intervention, international law, transition to open and free societies, promotion of minority rights, and the rule of law. The gathering culminated in a far-reaching appeal for a global alliance of democratic states that would transcend cultural, economic, and historical differences.

www.batory.org.pl

2000 EXPENDITURES	\$13,505,000
CIVIL SOCIETY	1,789,000
CRIMINAL JUSTICE	128,000
CULTURE	679,000
EAST EAST	944,000
EDUCATION	801,000
ETHNIC MINORITIES	58,000
INFORMATION	202,000
LAW	323,000
MEDIA	70,000
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION	174,000
PUBLIC HEALTH	736,000
ROMA	25,000
WOMEN'S PROGRAMS	385,000
YOUTH PROGRAMS	279,000
OTHER PROGRAMS	5,612,000
ADMINISTRATION	1,300,000

NOTE: The financial information presented above includes \$1,208,179 funded by non-Soros entities, principally in Public Administration, East East, Women's Programs, and Civil Society programs. It also includes expenditures of \$5,218,261 on completion of a new office building. Other Soros-supported organizations made grants in Poland, totaling \$1,722,099, principally in Education, Information, Public Health, Women's Programs, Roma, and Human Rights programs; these grants are not included above.

Open Society Foundation—Romania

“Romania’s ethnocultural diversity is one of its greatest riches. Two important resource centers, including one focusing on the Roma, are sharing this understanding with the entire society.”

Renate Weber, Board Chair

The Open Society Foundation—Romania is the pivotal resource center for the Soros Open Network (SON), a flexible organizational structure introduced in 2000 to oversee an informal network of 11 spin-off organizations from the Foundation's most successful programs. By the end of 2000, SON had already achieved significant results in the areas of ethnic relations, education, community safety, economic development, rural assistance, and public health.

Two member organizations focus specifically on the concerns of ethnic minorities in Romania, which has a tradition of ethno-centered nationalism. In 2000, the Ethnocultural Diversity Resource Center, in cooperation with foreign donors and domestic professional organizations, provided a research database featuring periodic surveys on interethnic relations, comparative research on minorities in the government, and reports on the situation of national minorities in Macedonia and Slovakia as well as Romania. The Center's Alter Image Project included an itinerant photography exhibition on cultural diversity in Romania as part of its traveling photography exhibition.

With a more specific mission, the Resource Center for Romani Communities aims to reduce prejudice and negative stereotypes affecting the Roma and supports the efforts of Romani communities to improve their living conditions. In 2000, the Center focused on getting leading Romani NGOs as well as other NGOs involved in Romani issues to coordinate their work with

Romani communities. The Center trained more than 150 young Romani NGO workers in debate, leadership, proposal writing, project management, community development, democracy, and the English language. Ten books were published in 2000 to increase the level of information about Romani culture, language, and traditions. More than 20 Romani NGOs received grants and 88 Romani university students received scholarships.

Comprehensive educational reform was another major focus for SON in 2000. The Center Education 2000+ supported reform by offering educational consultancy services for drafting and implementing strategies to increase the efficiency of instruction and administration at the local school level. The Center also coordinated an intensive teacher training program at the local and national level.

The Community Safety and Mediation Center did much to improve the ways communities and officials deal with crime and violence. The Center completed the first public survey on community safety in 2000 and introduced comprehensive legal and counseling services for vulnerable victims. Community safety requires close cooperation among public authorities, NGOs, and local law enforcement agencies. The Center brought these groups together through a new interagency work model that helped strengthen a national media awareness campaign to prevent violence against children.

Throughout the year, the Economic Development Center facilitated access to micro-credits for economic activities in rural areas and developed a network of 35 local partners as well as a unique methodology in micro-financing. The Center also provided training sessions, marketing information, and consultancy services to its beneficiaries. Projects to improve the skills of public workers and add value to the activities of local public agencies were developed in partnership with USAID.

In partnership with local administrations, the Center for Rural Assistance has created a network of 30 local development agents and 15 rural social workers. The Center opened two TeleCenters, community centers

situated in rural areas that offer access to various communication and education tools, with three more expected to open in 2001.

To improve primary health care in Romania, the Center for Health Services and Policies established four centers for continuous medical education; over 1,300 physicians had participated in various courses by the end of 2000. The Center supported NGOs and professional health organizations and helped in the elaboration and analysis of coherent health policies. In partnership with key stakeholders, the Center initiated several projects to promote health policy development by assessing available resources and the country's health needs, especially for vulnerable populations, and then establishing priorities and planning specific, measurable policies.

www.son.ro

2000 EXPENDITURES	\$10,275,000
CIVIL SOCIETY	257,000
CONFERENCE & TRAVEL	3,000
CULTURE	356,000
EAST EAST	335,000
ECONOMIC REFORM	935,000
EDUCATION	2,324,000
ETHNIC MINORITIES	527,000
INFORMATION	603,000
LAW	903,000
MEDIA	47,000
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION	341,000
PUBLIC HEALTH	1,436,000
ROMA	330,000
WOMEN'S PROGRAMS	263,000
YOUTH PROGRAMS	417,000
OTHER PROGRAMS	134,000
ADMINISTRATION	1,064,000

NOTE: The financial information presented above includes \$124,937 funded by non-Soros entities, principally in Ethnic Minorities programs. Other Soros-supported organizations made grants in Romania, totaling \$1,401,408, principally in Education, Public Health, Roma, and Women's Programs; these grants are not included above.

RUSSIA
Jacqueline Mia Foster



Lake Lama, north of the Arctic Circle



Young ballerinas, the School for Classical Ballet, Moscow

Nickel smelter, Norilsk





Hot mineral waters of Dari on the island of Sakhalin

Open Society Institute–Russia

“The Small Towns of Russia Program is dedicated to the memory of academician Dmitri Likhachev, who used to say that good deeds in the sphere of culture are most readily evident in the provinces—in the big cities they are too easily ignored.”

Ekaterina Genieva, Board Chair

The Open Society Institute–Russia continued to develop and implement national programs promoting open society in 2000, with notable achievements in rural development, media, and conflict resolution.

In 2000, a new program, the Small Towns of Russia Program, exerted a marked impact on the economic, social, and cultural development of communities with populations of less than 50,000. Thirty-five small towns from 27 regions in the country participated in the program, which brought local governments together with representatives from the local community and local businesses to design a strategy to enhance municipal development and improve the investment climate. Several leading Russian consulting companies assisted in the effort. In addition, training in municipal development strategy was provided to 110 local administrative directors and managers. Acting on their own initiative, program participants went on to establish an interregional economic cooperation association for small and medium-sized towns.

The Russian Media Support Program worked with regional and central mass media to effectively promote the ideas of open society. The Program facilitated the widespread distribution of objective and useful information to the public. OSI–Russia allocated approximately \$1.5 million to enable all national, regional, and local newspapers, magazines, television studios, and information agencies to study new

information technologies. Other projects facilitated wider distribution of news from these media outlets and helped them gain access to paid Internet information resources, archives, and databases. The North Caucasus Media and Civil Society Program organized the first contests for Russian regional independent radio. The contests distributed over \$100,000 to 27 independent radio stations and 15 NGOs to help them with development and daily operations.

Programs to prevent and resolve conflict were another priority in 2000. OSI–Russia continued its Hot Spots Program, which started as a response to the situation in Chechnya and the most troubled region of Russia, the North Caucasus. With support from OSI–Russia, effective aid was delivered to the victims of conflicts in Daghestan, Ingushetia, Kabardino-Balkaria, Karachi-Cherkess, North Ossetia-Alania, and the Krasnodar and the Stavropol regions. The Program also facilitates postconflict settlement, supports conflict prevention measures, promotes initiatives aimed at peacemaking and mutual understanding, studies the roots of conflict, encourages dialogue, and disseminates information for education in the spirit of nonviolence. A network of permanent centers in the North Caucasus conflict regions compiles objective information and supports peacemaking initiatives and various efforts to aid victims. OSI–Russia provided direct aid to refugees and displaced civilians, supported projects for the psychological and social rehabilitation of children, assisted disabled military personnel, and distributed textbooks to refugee camps in Ingushetia. Support was also provided to the only laboratory in Russia that identifies the bodies of people who died in armed conflict.

The foundation contributed to efforts to provide the public with objective information about conflict in the region. OSI–Russia supported a poster campaign with the message “Chechnya: I hate to hate,” and a television series featuring ethnic Caucasians and representatives from the region.

www.osi.ru

2000 EXPENDITURES	\$56,574,000
CIVIL SOCIETY	4,396,000
CONFERENCE & TRAVEL	12,000
CRIMINAL JUSTICE	493,000
CULTURE	4,519,000
EAST EAST	388,000
ECONOMIC REFORM	915,000
EDUCATION	9,498,000
INFORMATION	18,541,000
LAW	1,603,000
MEDIA	5,014,000
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION	1,661,000
PUBLIC HEALTH	3,352,000
WOMEN'S PROGRAMS	545,000
YOUTH PROGRAMS	262,000
OTHER PROGRAMS	429,000
ADMINISTRATION	4,970,000

NOTE: The financial information presented above includes \$3,497,749 funded by non-Soros entities, principally in Information and Education programs. Other Soros-supported organizations made grants in Russia, totaling \$2,659,027, principally in Education, Public Health, Media, Public Administration, and Human Rights programs; these grants are not included above.

INTERNATIONAL SOROS SCIENCE EDUCATION PROGRAM (ISSEP)

Initiated in 1994, ISSEP supports excellence in science education in Russia, Georgia, and Ukraine by providing support to educators and students and by supplying educational institutions with equipment and materials necessary for the advancement of science education. ISSEP's grant programs supported more than 300 Emeritus Professors and Soros Emeritus High School Teachers in 2000. ISSEP's total 2000 expenditures were \$3 million. ISSEP also received nearly \$772,000 from the Russian government, \$500,000 from the government of the Republic of Georgia, and more than \$200,000 from the Ukrainian government.

Open Society Foundation—Bratislava (Slovakia)

“Free access to information encourages a more vigorous civil society, an active press, and the strong involvement of civic, environmental and citizens’ groups—all of which contribute to a healthy democracy and the free exchange of opinions and ideas.”

Alena Panikova, Executive Director

As Slovakia has become more democratic and open over the last several years, the Open Society Foundation—Bratislava has taken a new approach to the challenges and opportunities created by political change. The Foundation has strengthened its role as an initiator and advocate for change in society and as an independent partner to governmental, nongovernmental, and international institutions. It has also become a trusted intermediary between the Slovak government and the European Commission delegation in negotiations related to European integration. OSF—Bratislava is now poised to build upon and expand its past efforts to spur democracy in Slovakia.

One of the most significant changes in 2000 was Parliament's adoption of a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) in May. This was a victory for OSF—Bratislava, the Constitutional and Legal Policy Institute (COLPI), the Network Media Program, and the many Slovak NGOs that had waged a vigorous information campaign to promote its adoption. In October, OSF—Bratislava organized a regional meeting on the implementation of the FOIA with NGO experts from countries such as Bulgaria and the Czech Republic. The FOIA went into effect in January 2001.

The Foundation also published a FOIA handbook outlining the rights and responsibilities of public administration officials—the only one of its kind in

Slovakia. The handbook, prepared in cooperation with the Ministry of Interior and under the auspices of the Slovak Republic Government Office, was distributed in early 2001 to all state administrative institutions and local self-government offices.

During the year, OSF–Bratislava participated in Maturita Reform’s efforts to establish a national testing system for high school graduates. National testing would provide graduates with a more reliable education record and improve their chances for employment or admission to universities. Working with the British Council, the Foundation will provide support for this project to the State Pedagogical Institute, which was assigned by the Ministry of Education to implement the examination.

The Street Law Program contributed to education reform in Slovakia by training high school teachers in civil rights education, criminal law, and human rights. Teachers use the information in their ethics and social sciences classes as well as in school meetings and discussions with students and police. Another successful training series was held for municipal police, addiction and crime prevention specialists, and police spokespersons. More than 1,500 participants attended 68 training sessions organized in 2000.

After four years of collaboration, the Career Development Program and a local partner in Bratislava, the Center for Professional Information at the Family, Work, and Social Affairs Research Institute, completed and published a 16-volume career guide, *World of Labor*. The guide provides a comprehensive orientation to the labor market. In 2000, some 5,500 copies were distributed free-of-charge to all elementary and high schools in Slovakia, consulting centers, labor offices, and libraries. It was also offered online at www.svetprace.sk. The youth magazine *Friend (Kamarat)* printed a special supplement, and the Ministry of Education distributed the supplement to all students graduating from high schools.

In cooperation with OSI’s International Harm Reduction Development and East East programs, the

Foundation’s Methadone Maintenance Program hosted several study visits for experts from countries such as Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, and Tajikistan. Study tours to Slovakia and Poland enabled physicians from the former Soviet Union to learn more about methadone treatment as a substitution therapy for drug users.

www.osf.sk

2000 EXPENDITURES	\$3,173,000
CIVIL SOCIETY	169,000
CRIMINAL JUSTICE	5,000
CULTURE	348,000
EAST EAST	74,000
ECONOMIC REFORM	23,000
EDUCATION	691,000
INFORMATION	328,000
LAW	101,000
MEDIA	108,000
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION	132,000
PUBLIC HEALTH	306,000
ROMA	162,000
WOMEN’S PROGRAMS	129,000
YOUTH PROGRAMS	138,000
OTHER PROGRAMS	218,000
ADMINISTRATION	241,000

NOTE: Other Soros-supported organizations made grants in Slovakia totaling \$714,942, principally in Education, Public Administration, Economic Reform, Human Rights, and Roma programs; these grants are not included above.

Open Society Institute–Slovenia

“I want to thank the Slovenian foundation’s board and staff for their excellent work and strong commitment during its eight-year existence. The foundation made important contributions not only in Slovenia but also in the region. My foundation network always looked to the Slovenia foundation as a valuable resource.”

George Soros, Chair, Open Society Institute

On July 14, 2000, George Soros announced that the Open Society Institute–Slovenia would complete its work by the end of the year 2000. Numerous open society advocates and organizations, however, will continue to be supported by the Soros foundations network, including the Peace Institute in Ljubljana, which has become a new and important network partner in Slovenia.

The closing of OSI–Slovenia after eight years of intensive work running a relatively large program structure was a complex and sensitive process accomplished with professional dignity and respect for all of the important achievements of the foundation and its personnel.

During its existence, OSI–Slovenia founded the Institute for Internet Research (MIRK) and the Pros and Cons Debate Center, and cofounded the Legal and Information Center of Nongovernment Organizations and the Slovene Science Foundation. All these organizations have found new sources of support over the last several years and are well established enough to continue their programs.

Some programs developed within OSI–Slovenia will continue their activities either as new independent entities or by merging with existing local institutions. These programs include the SRCe student information center, the “Show Your Tongue” screenwriting school, D-Day documentary films, the Ljudmila New Media

Laboratory, DTP studio, the Step by Step program, the regional Youth Program, and the Library Program. The Media, Civil Society, and East East programs have been transferred to the Peace Institute.

In addition to these programs, OSI–Slovenia supported over 500 civil society projects and events and the founding of multimedia and education centers in the biggest cities and university centers. The well-known Ljudmila digital and media laboratory as well as an NGO server based in Ljubljana provided more than 300 nongovernment and nonprofit organizations with e-mail addresses and websites. The foundation gave grants to Slovene students studying at American and English universities and to postgraduate humanities and social science students studying at the Central European University in Budapest. OSI–Slovenia also cofunded faculty members at the Ljubljana and Maribor universities and cofinanced study trips abroad for Slovene scientists, artists, and journalists as well as scholarly visits to Slovenia by foreigners.

2000 EXPENDITURES	\$2,553,000
CIVIL SOCIETY	313,000
CULTURE	427,000
EAST EAST	159,000
ECONOMIC REFORM	30,000
EDUCATION	214,000
INFORMATION	282,000
LAW	121,000
MEDIA	187,000
PUBLIC HEALTH	263,000
ROMA	5,000
WOMEN'S PROGRAMS	60,000
YOUTH PROGRAMS	92,000
OTHER PROGRAMS	117,000
ADMINISTRATION	283,000

NOTE: The financial information presented above includes \$1,000,601 funded by non-Soros entities, principally in Education, Youth Programs, Information, and Culture programs. Other Soros-supported organizations made grants in Slovenia, totaling \$894,248, principally in Education and Roma programs; these grants are not included above.

Open Society Foundation for South Africa

“An informed and active citizenry is an essential cornerstone for building the institutions on which democracy relies.”

Zohra Dawood, Executive Director

Despite six years of democratic rule and a constitution containing a visionary bill of rights, South Africa remains a developing democracy. In 2000, the Open Society Foundation for South Africa (OSF-SA) continued to work toward the consolidation of democracy in South Africa through support for programs that actively promote a culture of democracy, human rights, good governance, and the rule of law.

High levels of crime in South Africa pose a grave threat to the development of democracy. The Criminal Justice Initiative, while relatively new, had a significant impact in 2000. The Initiative provided support to projects addressing the democratic transformation of criminal justice institutions. Local crime prevention was another focus, with priority given to women who are victims of rape and domestic violence, children, and young people as either victims or perpetrators of crime. OSF-SA also supported the Bureau of Justice Assistance in 2000 with its work with the Ministry of Justice in rape investigation, anticarjacking, and pretrial services. Several rural crime prevention initiatives in the past year proved very effective.

Community radio stations have transformed the airwaves in South Africa over the past five years. The Media Program remains the country's single largest donor in the community radio sector, providing grants and operational support and assisting stations in the development of programming and information-sharing networks using e-mail and Internet-based technology. This support has led to the development of South

Africa's first community radio—Internet networks, which use technology to share programming.

With the elections in November, the Media Program supported the production of *Voters, the Elections, and Radio: Local Government Elections 2000*, a manual for use by stations that had never before covered local elections. The Program also provided grants to develop the capacity of radio staff to cover the elections. Ongoing support was given to organizations concerned with freedom of expression and access to information issues.

Community radio was also used in local crime prevention efforts through an innovative partnership between the Media Program and the Criminal Justice Initiative. Selected community radio stations collaborated with community-based organizations to produce programming on issues such as violence against women, the exploitation of children, and youth crime prevention. The project not only developed community broadcasters' skills in crime reporting but also generated informed debate in local communities.

The Education Initiative in 2000 focused its attention on the Eastern Cape and the Northern Province, seeking to implement models that promote the development of effective education in mathematics, science, and technology. Related activities included the professional development of teachers, school managers, and governance teams.

Out of a population of 40 million, 10.7 million South Africans are under the age of 30. High unemployment rates, particularly among black youth, and lack of educational opportunities under apartheid have resulted in lives of poverty, insecurity, and violence for many South African young people. In response, the OSF-South Africa Board of Directors renewed its commitment to youth-based development work in 2000. The board emphasized the need for collaboration between the Youth Program and other programs including Rural Development, Micro- and Small Enterprise Development, and the Criminal Justice Initiative. Working with the Criminal Justice Initiative, the Youth Program organized successful events,

including national workshops on youth-at-risk and school-based crime.

Judge Navi Pillay, president of the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda, delivered the 6th Annual Open Society Lecture (available at www.osf.org.za) in November 2000. She placed a strong emphasis on the importance of international criminal justice in promoting open and global societies, and in ensuring the protection of human rights and the observance of the rule of law.

www.soros.org/natfound/safrica

2000 EXPENDITURES	\$8,968,000
CIVIL SOCIETY	2,063,000
CRIMINAL JUSTICE	2,084,000
ECONOMIC REFORM	454,000
EDUCATION	2,010,000
LAW	2,000
MEDIA	668,000
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION	634,000
WOMEN'S PROGRAMS	2,000
YOUTH PROGRAMS	468,000
OTHER PROGRAMS	8,000
ADMINISTRATION	575,000

NOTE: Other Soros-supported organizations made grants in South Africa, totaling \$198,623, principally in Women's Programs, Civil Society, and Public Health programs; these grants are not included above.

Open Society Initiative for Southern Africa

“Southern Africa faces multiple challenges. Together with many committed, courageous people, OSISA is helping communities and countries face those challenges and find solutions to their problems.”

Lucy Muyoyeta, Executive Director

The Open Society Initiative for Southern Africa (OSISA) continued to support programs that strengthen member countries' capacities to address problems in a challenging environment. HIV/AIDS and poverty are major problems facing most countries of the region, including the nine served by OSISA: Angola, Botswana, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, Swaziland, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.

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. The board of OSISA created an HIV/AIDS fellowship to help guide the development of a significant intervention for OSISA in this area. In its education programs, OSISA supported efforts in response to the epidemic, including projects that ensure marginalized children have access to education. OSISA's media support included funding for communications projects about HIV/AIDS and assistance for rural community radio stations.

Given the high levels of poverty in the region, OSISA is expanding its advocacy regarding economic issues. Throughout 2000, OSISA continued to support programs primarily through grant giving and partnerships with organizations in many parts of the region.

Parliamentary elections in Zimbabwe were among the most significant regional events in 2000. The newly formed Movement for Democratic Change (MDC) won 59 seats while the ruling ZANU-PF won 61 seats. For

the first time in Zimbabwe's history, there is formidable opposition in Parliament, despite the ruling party's efforts to intimidate voters and candidates both during and after the elections through a campaign of terror targeting opposition members, the media, the judiciary, and white farmers and their workers. Zimbabwe also faced economic crisis in 2000. As the region's second most powerful economy after South Africa, Zimbabwe's faltering economy could have widespread repercussions.

Violent conflict in Angola continued despite government assurances that it had effectively won the war against the rebel UNITA movement. UNITA's leader Jonas Savimbi, refusing to concede defeat, continued to wage a guerilla war against the government. Millions of Angolans remain displaced by the war and face starvation. The government applied tremendous pressure on the media, arresting a number of journalists and charging them with defamation of government officials and the state. Journalists in the provinces faced extra-legal intimidation through unwarranted evictions from their homes and confiscation of their vehicles by authorities.

Floods hit much of the region in 2000, with Mozambique suffering the worst damage and destruction. An estimated 700 people died, more than 700,000 were left homeless, and vital infrastructure was destroyed. In Swaziland, political problems erupted in this usually quiet and stable country after disagreements within the ruling royal family led to the eviction of two chiefs and their subjects from their land.

To promote human rights and democracy, OSISA funded projects focusing on election monitoring, citizen participation in electoral processes, human rights education, and litigation. Due to the deteriorating situation in Zimbabwe, a great deal of OSISA support pertaining to elections was directed to activities in that country.

www.osiafrica.org

2000 EXPENDITURES

\$6,973,000

Open Society Initiative for West Africa

"The Open Society Initiative for West Africa supports the rule of law, respect for human rights, and economic self-empowerment so that democracy and market economics become foundations for development throughout West Africa."

Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, Board Chair

In 2000, the Soros foundations network welcomed its newest member and third foundation in Africa—the Open Society Initiative for West Africa (OSIWA). OSIWA covers 18 countries, including the 16 member countries of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) plus Cameroon and Chad. ECOWAS member countries include Benin, Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, Cote d'Ivoire, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Liberia, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone, and Togo.

OSIWA was founded to address a range of challenges to open society in West Africa. There is a need for independent and diverse media to deal with the crucial social and political issues of the region. Problems of human rights and judicial reform are particularly pressing in conflict-torn countries such as Sierra Leone. OSIWA programs will also work to increase use of the Internet to enrich libraries and enhance technical capacity, create effective election monitoring mechanisms, and provide critical assessment of international assistance policies and practices.

Throughout the first half of the year, civil society representatives, academics, policymakers, and human rights activists gathered to review and explore the health of democracy and open society values in West Africa and outline program areas with clear linkages to intractable problems in this diverse region. This group

of founders, comprised of individuals from Anglophone, Francophone, and Lusophone countries, formed the first OSIWA Board of Directors. Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, a Liberian national based in Cote d'Ivoire, serves as chair.

West Africa is a region marked by considerable contrast. Accordingly, OSIWA seeks diverse solutions to the broad range of dilemmas faced by democracy builders. Recent successful democratic transitions in countries such as Ghana, Nigeria, and Senegal stand out against autocratic regimes in Liberia and Togo and the aid dependency of countries such as Niger.

Home to over 108 million people, Nigeria is the powerhouse of West Africa and was therefore selected as the location for a start-up office. Nigeria also embodies many of the problems common to the region. In August, OSIWA set up operations in Nigeria's federal capital, Abuja. With OSIWA's legal incorporation complete, the foundation was officially launched in December at a ceremony presided over by President Olusegun Obasanjo, Nigeria's first civilian ruler in three decades.

The primary means of communication in the region is radio, as the vast majority of West Africa's population lives without regular access to print journalism or television. For most people the radio is the most affordable and accessible means of staying informed about their community and the world beyond. OSIWA's media project in 2000 focused on the exploration of radio capacity for the region, building on lessons learned from the positive examples of public health information dissemination and truth commission reporting in South Africa and the tragic example of hate radio in Rwanda. OSIWA and potential partners examined the viability of regional and subregional democracy radio projects, particularly to reach audiences in Guinea, Liberia, and Sierra Leone with independent news programming. In addition, OSIWA supported a media and diversity conference in Nigeria that examined the pivotal role the press can play in covering ethnic strife.

Efforts to promote human rights and rule of law in the region first focused on Sierra Leone. In cooperation with the United Nations, the government has agreed to set up a truth and reconciliation commission and a special criminal court to help the country come to terms with the atrocities of its brutal war. The nature of the conflict in Sierra Leone and the use of child soldiers have raised several difficult questions such as whether child perpetrators should be held accountable for heinous crimes. To help establish the Court, OSIWA supported an international NGO to provide technical assistance to judges and provided funding for community outreach and public education on truth and reconciliation activities. OSIWA also provided assistance to researchers to travel to hard-to-reach areas and record witness testimonies.

The region's economic development has been severely stunted due to widespread corruption on all levels. OSIWA supported a pilot initiative to build the capacity of civil society in Ghana and Senegal by monitoring the development of international assistance and its transparency, equity, and efficacy.

OSIWA is unique in its coverage of a large number of countries at varying levels of economic and political development. It is still in its infancy. The challenges it faces promoting open societies in West Africa are daunting. However, it has made a promising start by enlisting the participation of individuals from the region committed to the principles of the Soros foundations network and dedicated to putting those principles into practice in their countries.

2000 EXPENDITURES	\$1,538,000
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Open Society Institute Assistance Foundation–Tajikistan

“With many decision-makers and organizations open to reform and democratization, OSIAF–Tajikistan strengthened its presence in legal and education reform and human rights.”

Zuhra Halimova, Executive Director

Peace and stability in Tajikistan began to emerge in 2000 as the effects of civil war faded. The country, however, continues to face major challenges with instability in neighboring countries and an economic crisis plaguing the region.

In 2000, the Open Society Institute Assistance Foundation–Tajikistan cooperated productively with government agencies and other partners.

The Law and Human Rights Program implemented legal reform projects, advocacy courses on human rights, and a variety of training courses for teachers, students, judges, lawyers, and other law enforcement personnel. The Program also supported a summer law school, police reform and the humanization of the penitentiary system, and development of the Legal Information Center. A special training program on the legal and administrative systems of foreign countries was attended by university professors, judges, and representatives of the President’s Office on Constitutional Rights and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The Program organized seminars on the family court system, the death penalty, penitentiary system reform, the rights of prisoners, and the self-immolation of women who find no other escape from oppression. More than 600 legal professionals benefited from the services of the Legal Center and the distribution of books to law libraries.

The Women’s Program initiated projects pertaining to gender issues, women’s rights, and the social equality

of women in society. More than 500 women participated in various activities inside and outside of Tajikistan. Materials published and distributed in 2000 focused on a range of topics, including self-immolation, women and drugs, and women’s involvement in Central Asian efforts to achieve peace and stability.

OSIAF–Tajikistan and the Ministry of Education signed a memorandum of understanding for plans to improve the education system’s financial situation. As part of the program, a team of education professionals will carry out an analysis of education system issues, and then make recommendations for a reform strategy and its implementation. OSIAF–Tajikistan also organized a number of training education seminars in 2000. Fifty-three methodologists and educational specialists attended training seminars on the Transformation of Educational Leaders. As part of a project on regional cooperation in Central Asia, 65 students and teachers attended the Evergreenia Summer camp in Issyk-kul.

More than 150 teachers participated in national training programs organized by the English Language program, which also sent 13 teachers to programs outside of the country.

Scholarship programs enabled four students to enroll in the Central European University and helped 36 other students participate in either national seminars and summer schools or attend university programs in the United Kingdom, the United States, and other countries. The Foundation also helped distribute more than 2,000 new textbook titles in the social sciences to university libraries in Tajikistan.

A major development in 2000 was the introduction of harm reduction efforts in Tajikistan through the Public Health Program. Twenty-seven health care professionals participated in a training on HIV/AIDS and drug abuse, and three NGOs received grants to start needle exchange programs in several cities.

The Mass Media Program focused on developing independent media in Tajikistan by enhancing the professional skills of journalists, and supporting NGOs that advocate journalists’ rights. Three international

conferences in Dushanbe, Khujand, and Kurghanteppa addressed issues of the mass media and elections. Journalists also attended seminars on domestic violence, violence against children, and gender policy.

The Publishing Program provided training for independent publishers on textbook development, and initiated popular training sessions on electronic publishing. Through the Arts and Culture Program, 30 artists, journalists, and cultural experts participated in a discussion on modern art broadcast on state television. Twenty professionals in art and culture attended events outside of Tajikistan, and an open competition awarded 11 grants for the development of arts and culture in Tajikistan. The East East Program sent 49 Tajik citizens to participate in a variety of seminars, forums, and conferences held in other countries.

www.soros.org/tajikistan

2000 EXPENDITURES	\$1,347,000
CIVIL SOCIETY	76,000
CONFERENCE & TRAVEL	62,000
CULTURE	52,000
EAST EAST	48,000
EDUCATION	240,000
INFORMATION	86,000
LAW	192,000
MEDIA	46,000
PUBLIC HEALTH	167,000
WOMEN'S PROGRAMS	84,000
YOUTH PROGRAMS	36,000
OTHER PROGRAMS	4,000
ADMINISTRATION	254,000

NOTE: Other Soros-supported organizations made grants in Tajikistan, totaling \$49,298, principally in Education and Human Rights programs; these grants are not included above.

International Renaissance Foundation (Ukraine)

“We have gradually reformed the Foundation to create an organization that responds to the current situation more effectively and distributes money fairly due to increased transparency.”

Yevhen Bystrytsky, Executive Director

The International Renaissance Foundation (IRF) continued to strengthen NGOs in 2000, notably through the September launch of a new project to bring about legislative reform. The Changes to Ukrainian Legislation Project plans to advocate for legislative changes and help build a positive attitude among the Ukrainian public toward NGOs and charities. The initiative is beneficial for NGOs as well as for governing institutions, business enterprises, and donor organizations. IRF’s primary role will be to create networks that work toward the common goal of making the third sector in Ukraine self-sustainable. Plans for early 2001 included round tables with parliamentary deputies and businessmen; a nonprofit sector exhibition at the Parliament; and a conference on introducing changes in tax code, NGO, and charity legislation.

Another new initiative in 2000 was the Public Policy Development Program, which seeks to change the way decisions are made by government administrative bodies. The project, much of which will be implemented by the International Center for Policy Studies, is expected to bring about new procedures for administrative decision-making, improved policy analysis and strategic planning skills within the government, and the modernization of the Cabinet’s information base. Project activities in 2000 included consultations with Western experts to familiarize Ukrainian officials with policy analysis methods and strategic reform planning.

The Foundation also helped create the Information Resource Center, a special subdivision within the Cabinet's Secretariat that will modernize the government's information systems and test ways of using technology to increase participation in the administrative decision-making process.

Bringing much needed reform to Ukraine's public finance system was another focus for IRF. The Foundation's Democratization and Reform of Local Self-government Program developed a project to design a more transparent and effective public finance system as old administrative principles are rejected and decentralization moves forward. The project submitted a draft budget code for consideration by public finance experts from the government's legislative, executive, and administrative bodies as well as various public organizations. This resulted in a discussion on key provisions and several proposals to Parliament's Budget Committee on how to improve the budget system, organize the budgetary process, and devise new interbudgetary relations.

Studies supported by the Penitentiary System Reform Program in 2000 revealed that alternative sanctions would lower the costs of running the country's penal system and reduce the destructive social, psychological, and medical consequences of imprisonment. The research was conducted by a group of experts, including lawyers, economists, sociologists, demographers, psychologists, doctors, and human rights activists.

Education initiatives in 2000 included a grant competition to conduct a "megaproject" involving various departments in regional Ukrainian colleges. The project will create five national centers for improving learning, teaching, and research methods in five fields: political science, sociology, history, European studies, and education.

www.irf.kiev.ua

2000 EXPENDITURES	\$6,709,000
CIVIL SOCIETY	16,000
CRIMINAL JUSTICE	20,000
CULTURE	480,000
EAST EAST	325,000
EDUCATION	1,007,000
ETHNIC MINORITIES	403,000
INFORMATION	540,000
LAW	597,000
MEDIA	252,000
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION	737,000
PUBLIC HEALTH	528,000
ROMA	91,000
WOMEN'S PROGRAMS	319,000
YOUTH PROGRAMS	345,000
OTHER PROGRAMS	244,000
ADMINISTRATION	805,000

NOTE: The financial information presented above includes \$134,147 funded by non-Soros entities, principally in Ethnic Minorities. Other Soros-supported organizations made grants in Ukraine, totaling \$2,625,192, principally in Education, Economic Reform, Public Administration, and Human Rights programs; these grants are not included above.

Open Society Institute Assistance Foundation— Uzbekistan

“Despite an atmosphere of fatigue among foreign donors and advocates of democracy, OSIAF–Uzbekistan has kept a positive attitude and avoided mistakes that could lead to confrontation or disappointment. We remain committed to finding ways to promote the principles of an open society in a country that is still far from being open.”

Alain Deletroz, Executive Director

The most striking development in Uzbekistan in 2000 was the increase of terrorist activity along the southern border. In August, many inhabitants of Tashkent were shocked when armed attackers killed soldiers near the mountain resort of Chimgan, a popular weekend destination. At that time, the Open Society Institute Assistance Foundation–Uzbekistan was holding a seminar and a summer debate camp in Chimgan and had to evacuate 150 participants in a few hours. In addition to political violence, 2000 was marked by increasing press censorship and economic stagnation as the lack of economic reform reduced foreign investment and fueled unemployment, especially among young people.

Despite these negative events, OSIAF–Uzbekistan successfully cooperated with government agencies in developing programs throughout the year. The Education Program gained popularity among teachers, school directors, and professors in 2000. It helped provide universities and schools with 28,000 books, conducted a number of projects with the Ministry of Secondary Education, and organized three summer schools for young teachers in cooperation with the Ministry of Higher Education. These projects

introduced schools and universities to methods of interactive training that effectively developed students’ and teachers’ critical thinking skills. Some 3,500 schoolchildren and teenagers participated in Karl Popper Debates organized by the Youth Program.

The Mass Media Program’s journalism clubs completed their first year of operation, providing an informal and professional setting for discussion. At club meetings, journalists obtained important first-hand information from guests, including heads of United Nations offices and foreign embassies, as well as experts from other international organizations.

The Arts and Culture Program sponsored a documentary photography exhibit, “East of Magnum 1945-1990: Recalling 45 Years of the Cold War,” featuring work from the international agency Magnum Photos. The Program also published a book about the life and creativity of the scientist and researcher Galina Pugachenkova. The fifth international festival of modern music, “Ilhom–XX,” welcomed the British vocal group Hillert; ensembles from Israel, Italy, Poland, and the United States; and musicians and composers from many other countries.

The Law Program supported a law journal and established a legal clinic at the University of World Economy and Diplomacy in Tashkent. OSIAF–Uzbekistan also helped open legal information centers in 13 regions and sponsored the publication of law school textbooks on the theory of the state and law, criminal law, and agrarian law. With the Constitutional and Legal Policy Institute (COLPI), the Foundation organized two regional seminars on international instruments for defending human rights.

The Public Health Program focused on children’s health education and antismoking campaigns. Schoolchildren in Tashkent participated in activities celebrating a “healthy generation” and a competition for the best antismoking illustration, with the winner’s artwork displayed on billboards throughout Tashkent. The billboard competition prompted city officials to require tobacco companies to mount a billboard

UZBEKISTAN
Jason Eskenazi



Maternity hospital, Kokand



Bus stop, Fergana Valley



Cotton picking, Bukhara

campaign to discourage teenagers from smoking. OSIAF–Uzbekistan and the Andijan branch of Central Asia Free Exchange (CAFE) published an Uzbek language translation of *Where There Is No Doctor* by David Werner and distributed copies to nonprofit medical organizations.

With support from the Library Program, the Fundamental Library of the Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Uzbekistan received modern computers, an automated library system, and an electronic EBSCO database containing 3,500 of the world’s major magazines and newspapers. All of the library’s basic functions, from cataloguing books to assisting readers, are now automated. The Foundation helped establish six library associations in various regions to support the development of libraries.

www.soros.org/natfound/republic-of-uzbekistan

2000 EXPENDITURES	\$4,124,000
CIVIL SOCIETY	240,000
CONFERENCE & TRAVEL	4,000
CULTURE	247,000
EAST EAST	28,000
ECONOMIC REFORM	290,000
EDUCATION	1,239,000
ETHNIC MINORITIES	27,000
INFORMATION	549,000
LAW	327,000
MEDIA	107,000
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION	11,000
PUBLIC HEALTH	71,000
WOMEN'S PROGRAMS	213,000
YOUTH PROGRAMS	229,000
OTHER PROGRAMS	123,000
ADMINISTRATION	419,000

NOTE: Other Soros-supported organizations made grants in Uzbekistan, totaling \$350,420, principally in Education programs; these grants are not included above.

Fund for an Open Society–Yugoslavia

“We hope that our country has finally and irreversibly set itself on the path of democracy and development.”

Sonja Licht, Board President

In 2000, Yugoslav society made a dramatic, historic U-turn. The electoral defeat and subsequent overthrow of President Slobodan Milosevic by the people in October 2000 was a crucial turning point for democracy in Yugoslavia and South Eastern Europe. This abrupt, dramatic change was the result of prolonged and painstaking endeavors by all of the democratic forces in Yugoslavia. For years, these forces were subject to repression, and the long struggle for an open society cost some people their lives. Slavko Curuvija, founder of an independent daily and a news magazine, was murdered in the spring of 1999; Ivan Stambolic, the former president of Serbia removed by Milosevic in 1987, was kidnapped in the summer of 2000 and has never been found. Journalists were arrested, and members of the Otpor People’s Movement and opposition parties were detained and often physically abused.

Preparing civil society to resist this repression and lead the struggle for democratic change was the Fund for an Open Society–Yugoslavia’s overriding priority in 2000. The Fund’s programs focused on providing support to independent media, NGOs, independent think tanks, independent trade unions, minority organizations, and local governments in towns ruled by the democratic opposition. Even programs not directly related to the struggle for democratic political change—such as those in the areas of culture, publishing, youth, women, and the Roma—reflected the need to have people in all segments of society face the challenges of change and modernization.

Election campaign activities were carried out by the entire nongovernmental sector and headed by a group of NGOs working within the Coordination of Non-Governmental Organizations. The Fund supported the Center for Free and Democratic Elections, which contributed 15,000 field monitors to the approximately 50,000 volunteers from 100 NGOs that took part in the “Exit 2000” election monitoring campaign. Voter turnout was a record 75 percent, and election monitoring was very thorough. The monitors received support from the Otpor People’s Movement, with a network of more than 100 cities and towns throughout Serbia, and from the Group 17 Plus, a think-tank coalition NGO. The independent print and broadcast media, particularly radio and television outlets belonging to the Alternative Network of Electronic Media (ANEM), headed by Radio B92, played a major role in this historic enterprise. The fact that some media, notably TV B92, were on the air on October 5 fully ready to broadcast under chaotic and dangerous circumstances is a testament to how prepared they were for change.

The election campaign was also marked by exceptional levels of cooperation and coordination between nongovernmental and governmental donors that had assisted civil society in Serbia. These organizations included the German Marshall Fund, the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), Freedom House, Norwegian People Aid, Swedish Helsinki Committee for Human Rights, the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), the International Research and Exchanges Board (IREX), the UK Government Department for International Development (DFID-UK), and others. The Fund for an Open Society–Yugoslavia participated in information exchange and maintained intensive communications with these donors during the campaign.

In addition to assisting campaigns leading up to the December legislative elections, the Fund supported expert groups to advise the new government during the difficult transition period. The Fund also helped

projects dealing with reforms of the judiciary, public administration, local self-government, the media, and all levels of education. Once the new government was established, the Fund sought the cooperation of various ministries in a number of these projects.

The historic events of 2000 revealed much about the role of civil society in bringing about change. Today, the Fund for an Open Society–Yugoslavia faces challenges that are in no way easier or less complex than what came before; yet these challenges are a pleasure shared by all whose societies have taken a turn toward democracy.

www.fosyu.org

2000 EXPENDITURES	\$6,475,000
CIVIL SOCIETY	1,117,000
CONFERENCE & TRAVEL	5,000
CRIMINAL JUSTICE	2,000
CULTURE	523,000
EAST EAST	118,000
ECONOMIC REFORM	192,000
EDUCATION	892,000
ETHNIC MINORITIES	147,000
INFORMATION	470,000
LAW	230,000
MEDIA	1,215,000
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION	181,000
PUBLIC HEALTH	26,000
ROMA	196,000
WOMEN'S PROGRAMS	255,000
YOUTH PROGRAMS	353,000
ADMINISTRATION	553,000

NOTE: The financial information presented above includes \$473,349 funded by non-Soros entities, principally in Culture, Media, Ethnic Minorities, and Civil Society. Other Soros-supported organizations made grants in Yugoslavia, totaling \$1,170,596, principally in Education, Information, Public Administration, Human Rights, and Civil Society programs; these grants are not included above.

SOROS FOUNDATIONS 2000 EXPENDITURES	\$211,914,000
OPEN SOCIETY FOUNDATION FOR ALBANIA	5,309,000
OPEN SOCIETY INSTITUTE ASSISTANCE FOUNDATION--ARMENIA	1,910,000
OPEN SOCIETY INSTITUTE--ASSISTANCE FOUNDATION (AZERBAIJAN)	3,245,000
OPEN SOCIETY FUND--BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA	2,458,000
OPEN SOCIETY FOUNDATION--SOFIA (BULGARIA)	7,397,000
OPEN SOCIETY INSTITUTE--CROATIA	5,152,000
OPEN SOCIETY FUND--PRAGUE (CZECH REPUBLIC)	3,274,000
OPEN ESTONIA FOUNDATION	2,155,000
OPEN SOCIETY GEORGIA FOUNDATION	5,369,000
FUNDACION SOROS--GUATEMALA	3,272,000
FONDATION CONNAISSANCE ET LIBERTE (HAITI)	3,614,000
SOROS FOUNDATION--HUNGARY	8,404,000
SOROS FOUNDATION--KAZAKHSTAN	4,902,000
KOSOVA FOUNDATION FOR OPEN SOCIETY	2,599,000
SOROS FOUNDATION--KYRGYZSTAN	4,428,000
SOROS FOUNDATION--LATVIA	5,816,000
OPEN SOCIETY FUND--LITHUANIA	4,578,000
FOUNDATION OPEN SOCIETY INSTITUTE--MACEDONIA	5,315,000
SOROS FOUNDATION--MOLDOVA	5,178,000
MONGOLIAN FOUNDATION FOR OPEN SOCIETY	3,435,000
OPEN SOCIETY INSTITUTE--MONTENEGRO	1,890,000
STEFAN BATORY FOUNDATION (POLAND)	13,505,000
OPEN SOCIETY FOUNDATION--ROMANIA	10,275,000
OPEN SOCIETY INSTITUTE--RUSSIA	56,574,000
OPEN SOCIETY FOUNDATION--BRATISLAVA (SLOVAKIA)	3,173,000
OPEN SOCIETY INSTITUTE--SLOVENIA (CLOSED JUNE 2000)	2,553,000
OPEN SOCIETY FOUNDATION FOR SOUTH AFRICA	8,968,000
OPEN SOCIETY INITIATIVE FOR SOUTHERN AFRICA	6,973,000
OPEN SOCIETY INITIATIVE FOR WEST AFRICA	1,538,000
OPEN SOCIETY INSTITUTE ASSISTANCE FOUNDATION--TAJIKISTAN	1,347,000
INTERNATIONAL RENAISSANCE FOUNDATION (UKRAINE)	6,709,000
OPEN SOCIETY INSTITUTE ASSISTANCE FOUNDATION--UZBEKISTAN	4,124,000
FUND FOR AN OPEN SOCIETY--YUGOSLAVIA	6,475,000





U.S. Programs

Advancing Democracy in a Changing Climate

The 2000 election posed some profound dilemmas for American democracy. For OSI's U.S. Programs it also marked the first shift in a presidential administration since our launch five years ago. The Clinton administration's criminal justice and welfare reform policies, among others, were not, by any means, wholly consonant with open society values. But in a number of other areas of concern to OSI—reproductive health and choice, access to legal services for the poor, and media policy reform—the administration made valuable strides. The political climate surrounding those issues is now changing for the worse. ✂ The issues brought into sharp focus by the election and its aftermath underscore the prescience of many of OSI's 1996 program

decisions. Long before the political sands shifted, OSI supported a major campaign to protect the independence of the judiciary from the political attacks that have been leveled against judges and judicial nominees in recent years. The baseless charges against Judge Ronnie White during the confirmation hearings for Attorney General John Ashcroft demonstrate the relevance of the issue. And another important question continues to resonate long after the elections and confirmations: what does independence of the judiciary mean when the Supreme Court itself has sorely tested the public's faith that its rulings are based on principle and not on politics?

OSI has worked to increase public confidence in democratic institutions with a significant grantmaking program designed to advance democracy through campaign finance reform and other measures that increase political participation and assure that all people are represented. The McCain-Feingold campaign finance reform was the first major legislative initiative taken up by the new Congress, which suggests the issue has built significant momentum over the last several years.

Yet there are other critical barriers to electoral democracy that must be overcome. The facts about the Florida vote, and what they suggest about voting practices across the country, make it clear that too many citizens—particularly African-Americans—still face obstacles to voter participation. Antiquated and malfunctioning ballot practices were disproportionately found in Florida counties with large African-American populations. As many as a third of Florida's African-American males of voting age are permanently barred from voting as a result of their criminal records—a nationwide phenomenon first brought to public attention a few years ago by a Human Rights Watch/Sentencing Project report funded by OSI. The disenfranchisement of hundreds of thousands of citizens who have paid their debt to society is just one particularly dramatic manifestation of the human and social crisis of our nation's appalling level of incarceration—at 2 million and counting, the highest in the world. OSI's response to this crisis has been a

new three-year initiative to address the overuse of incarceration.

Another issue highlighted by the presidential campaign (and among the key priorities of President Bush) is the improvement of schools serving low-income minority youth. OSI's earliest initiatives in this area included a three-year, multimillion dollar grant to the Algebra Project and a five-year, \$125 million grant to The After-School Corporation, which is working with public and private funders and community-based organizations to increase access to after-school programs in New York City. In 2000, OSI, the Carnegie Corporation, and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation launched a five-year effort to reform and restructure New York City public high schools. OSI's Baltimore office is supporting similar efforts in that city.

As part of our goal to improve education, OSI is committed to the belief that young people's perspectives are desperately needed in the discussion of public policies affecting them. Building on the success of our Urban Debate Program, which operates in 13 cities, OSI launched a Youth Media Initiative in 2000. It supports magazines, radio programs, websites, documentaries, and other communications projects that allow young people to be heard on issues from school reform to criminal justice.

In addition, 2000 saw the creation of a new communications department to concentrate on promoting discussion and debate about open society challenges, and to assist grantees in building their communications and advocacy strategies.

American Civil Liberties Union founder Roger Baldwin was fond of saying that democracy is "like living on a raft—you never sink, but your feet are always wet." The extraordinary array of initiatives described in the pages ahead, from debate programs for the poorest schools in 13 cities to grassroots organizing campaigns in the states of the South—are the best hope we have that democracy stays afloat in the rough waters ahead.

Gara LaMarche
Director of U.S. Programs

Criminal Justice

“It is time to start seeing the world’s highest incarceration rate as a sign of failure, not success.”

George Soros, Chair, Open Society Institute

Criminalizing and incarcerating large segments of the population is inconsistent with the principles of a free and democratic society. Yet today, the poor and people of color often get second-class representation and are disproportionately sentenced to prison and capital punishment, making the U.S. criminal justice system an instrument of racial and class division and segregation.

An open society must guarantee equality under the law to all citizens while providing effective and appropriate solutions to economic, social, and racial inequities. In 2000, the following three OSI programs addressed the foundation’s interests in reducing incarceration, advocating for fair and equal administration of justice, and promoting public health solutions to chemical dependence.

Center on Crime, Communities & Culture

With the U.S. prison population exceeding 2 million in the year 2000, the public and policymakers have begun to question the nation’s incarceration policies, which have turned prisons into warehouses for people marginalized by poverty, racism, and chronic health problems. Over the past two decades, nonviolent, drug-related offenses have accounted for 76 percent of prison population growth. Many prisoners are mentally ill and/or chemically dependent and a disproportionate number are poor people of color.

A significant portion of the current prison population has served a previous sentence. Of the 600,000 people leaving prison annually, many will be reincarcerated due largely to a broken social support

system. Former prisoners often return to families and communities that have been destabilized by their removal. Most lack access to housing, education, employment, and treatment and are denied the right to vote. Simultaneously, parole mechanisms traditionally overseeing reentry have been abolished or severely curtailed.

In 2000, the Center on Crime, Communities & Culture’s strategy for reducing incarceration included promoting community reentry of former prisoners; strengthening flagship criminal justice policy and research organizations; supporting grassroots organizing; and broadening the field of organizations and funders concerned with criminal justice issues. The Center concentrated its grantmaking on policy analysis, research, litigation, and advocacy that remove barriers to successful reintegration and address the root causes of overincarceration.

Among its research and analysis grants in 2000, the Center funded: the Urban Institute to develop a research agenda for former prisoner reentry; the Legal Action Center to create a 50-state report card of reentry barriers and to develop model policies; and the Urban Justice Center, the Council on State Governments, and the Judge David L. Bazelon Center for Mental Health Law to develop legal and policy strategies to challenge the criminalization of the mentally ill.

With OSI support, a bipartisan coalition in Rhode Island is developing a pretrial services project to address racial profiling and is also piloting the Family Life Center to facilitate former prisoner reintegration. Other grantees include the community justice initiatives of the Fifth Avenue Committee and the Center for Alternative Sentencing and Employment Services, Inc. (CASES), and a public education campaign on felony disenfranchisement by DemocracyWorks.

In addition, grants to the Ella Baker Center for Human Rights, Californians for Justice and Critical Resistance, and the Public Safety & Justice Campaign of Grassroots Leadership support multigenerational, grassroots organizing for investment in education instead of prisons and against for-profit, private prisons.

To broaden and strengthen the field, the Center continued to forge partnerships with public and private funders, leveraging OSI's investment in criminal justice with over \$3 million from the Mott, Public Welfare, Rhode Island, Casey, Robert Wood Johnson, and MacArthur foundations, as well as from state and federal agencies.

The Gideon Project

More than a generation after the Supreme Court declared legal counsel to be a “fundamental right essential to a fair trial,” *Gideon v. Wainwright*'s promise of equal justice is far from realized. Eighty-five percent of all those arrested in the United States cannot afford an attorney and must rely on the government to provide one. Yet, most jurisdictions devote only a small fraction of their criminal justice budgets to indigent defense. Accused people sometimes wait three months or more in jail before speaking to a lawyer. Burdened by low fees, high caseloads, poor training, inadequate resources for experts and investigators, and, sometimes, a reliance on patronage for appointments to indigent cases, defense attorneys are seldom in a position to mount a vigorous defense. Crucial witnesses go un interviewed, and important forensic evidence goes unexamined.

The human consequences of *Gideon*'s under-enforcement are erroneous convictions, overly long and illegal pretrial detention, inconsistent prosecution of criminal laws, and inappropriate incarceration of substance-addicted and mentally ill people. All have serious implications for human and constitutional rights in an open society.

In 2000, public debate about fair administration of justice issues reached an extraordinary level. Exposés of racial profiling in New Jersey and elsewhere have forged consensus that racial profiling is wrong and should be prohibited. A spate of death row exonerations and a presidential campaign featuring the governor of Texas—the leading state in executions—sparked new national debate over capital punishment. Illinois declared a

moratorium on the use of the death penalty, while the New Hampshire legislature passed a bill for its repeal. Fourteen other state legislatures have introduced bills in favor of death penalty moratoriums, and polls show strong public support for moratoriums, universal access to DNA testing for inmates, and better counsel for the accused.

Although some of these developments resulted from the election-year spotlight on capital punishment in Texas, many came about through the work of a handful of Gideon Project grantees. The Center for Wrongful Conviction at Northwestern University won the exoneration of nine Illinois innocents and publicized the release of dozens of others through a major conference in 1998. Advocacy for DNA testing by the Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law's Innocence Project provided a window on systemic problems in the criminal justice system. The prevalence of “sleeping lawyers” and other deficiencies in legal counsel were publicized by the Southern Center for Human Rights. And individual grantee and 2000 Senior Soros Justice Fellow James Liebman of Columbia University School of Law conducted a study of death penalty cases revealing the systemic nature of error in the capital system.

Adding to the momentum have been successful collaborations with other grantmakers. In April 2000, the Gideon Project and three other funders established the Funders' Collaborative for Death Penalty Alternatives, which now includes the Columbia Foundation, J. Roderick MacArthur Foundation, the Fund for Non-Violence, Arca Foundation, the Tides Foundation, and the Public Welfare Foundation. Gideon also leveraged over \$1 million for death penalty projects from new funders recruited in 2000.

Drug Policy Initiatives

Reform of the current criminal justice and incarceration systems is largely a matter of changing U.S. drug policies and sentencing schemes that have sent inordinate numbers of people through these systems.

Drug addiction and proposed solutions are deeply entangled with the broader issues of social welfare, access to health care, economic impoverishment, and attitudes toward medicines and intoxicants.

Through its Drug Policy Initiatives, OSI continued to focus on the failure of the war on drugs, paying specific attention to alternatives to incarceration for low level drug offenders and efforts to reduce drug-related harm through reduction strategies.

In 2000, The Lindsmith Center, which began as an OSI project in 1995, became an independent institution and merged with the Drug Policy Foundation. OSI continues to support the Center and other grantees such as:

- ∞ The Harm Reduction Coalition, an organizing agency for providers and activists involved in harm reduction efforts.
- ∞ The ACLU Foundation, to challenge drug testing and other abuses of civil rights growing out of the drug war.
- ∞ The Kemba Smith Youth Foundation, to educate youth and their parents on the dangers of drugs and association with those involved in drugs, and on the extreme sentences for drug offenders.
- ∞ The National Advocates for Pregnant Women (NAPW), an organization that consistently reaches both women's rights and drug policy advocates through a campaign combining expertise in reproductive law and drug policy that debunks the myths about—and attacks on—African-American motherhood.

www.soros.org/usprograms/criminaljustice.htm

Fellowship Programs

“Challenging barriers to participation in open society in the U.S. calls for identifying and supporting emerging thinkers and leaders.”

Gara LaMarche, Director of U.S. Programs

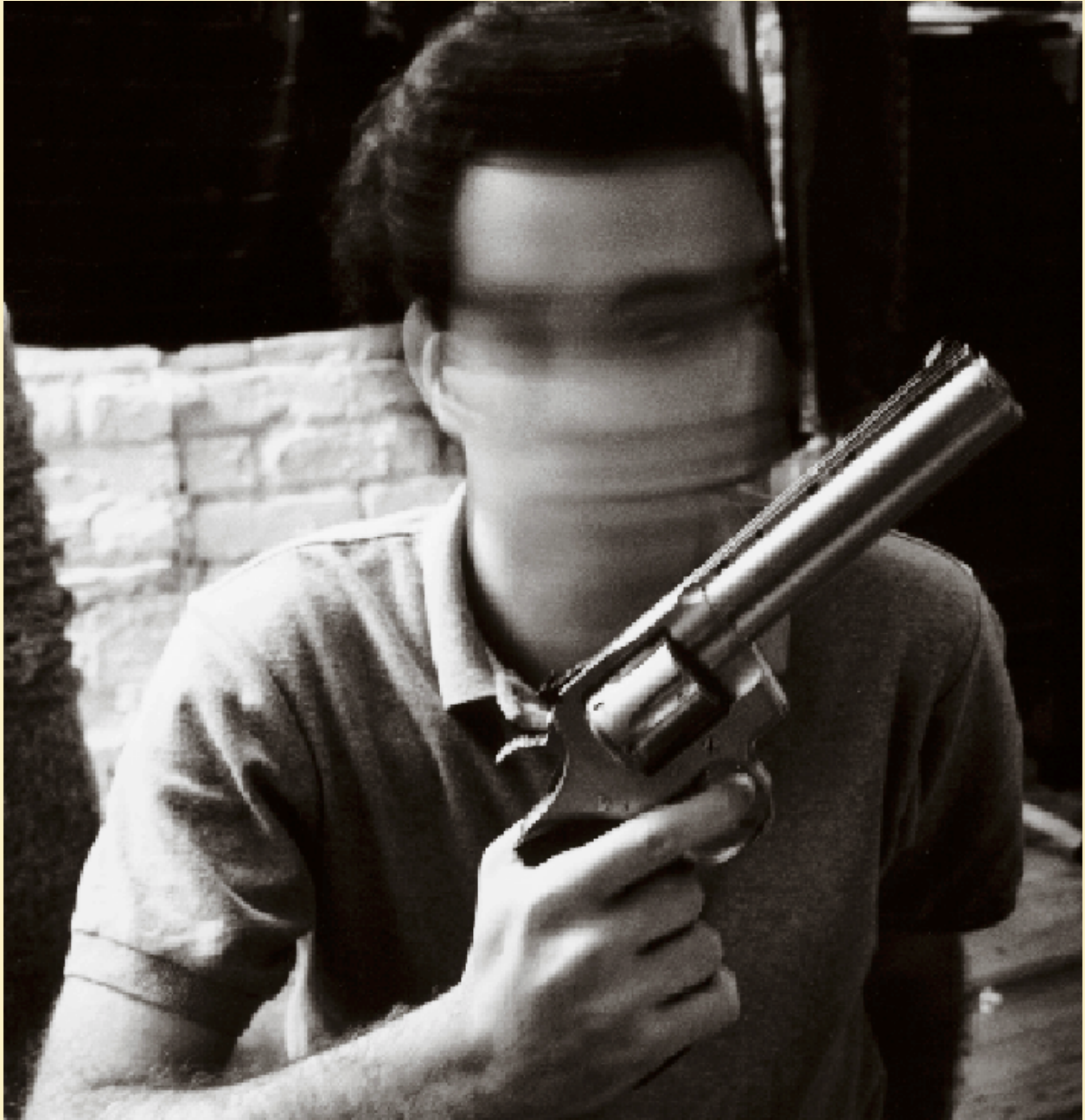
The power of a community emanates from the strength of the individuals within it. Social change rarely occurs without the singular vision and drive that one individual can bring to the process. Operating on this belief, OSI is committed to investing in people who act as agents for debate and change within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

The Community Fellowship Program supports social entrepreneurs—community activists, organizers, and educators—to create innovative public interest projects that will enrich and empower underserved communities in New York City and Baltimore.

Among the 19 active Community Fellows in New York City in 2000 were:

- ∞ Carlos Briceno of the Harlem Internet Radio Training Station, who developed and implemented training courses in radio for youth and senior citizens in Harlem.
- ∞ Thinley Kalsang of the New York City Tibetan Outreach Project, creator of an infrastructure of links and resources for social and legal services for the Tibetan refugee community.
- ∞ Omshanti Parnes of the Youth Empowerment Project, who provided homeless, runaway, and at-risk youth with access to legal information and tools for self-help advocacy.

AMERICA AND GUNS
Bastienne Schmidt



Gun collector, New York City



Shooting match with paint guns, Brooklyn, New York



Fourteen-year-old girls, rifle competition, Camp Perry, Ohio



Fifteen-year-old boy, rifle competition, Camp Perry, Ohio

Among the 20 Community Fellows receiving Baltimore awards in 2000 were:

- ∞ Terry Hickey of Community Law in Action, who developed the Law and Public Service Academy at Northwestern High School.
- ∞ Rebecca Yenwine of Kids on the Hill, who provided an after-school arts education program and one-on-one tutoring in the Reservoir Hill community.
- ∞ Clayton Guyton, community organizer, who collaborated with residents in the Madison-Eastend community to rebuild a neighborhood formerly dominated by open-air drug markets.

The Individual Project Fellowships (IPF) ended in 2000. In four years, the program supported 128 individuals in the U.S. and abroad who sought visionary solutions to problems that threatened the development of open societies. Many of the Fellows will continue to be associated with OSI through publications and forums.

Among IPF Fellows were:

- ∞ Bill Berkeley, whose book, *The Graves Are Not Yet Full: Race, Tribe and Power in the Heart of Africa*, was published in 2001 by Basic Books.
- ∞ Linda Williams, who is writing a book about the role of inner-city churches and faith-based efforts.
- ∞ Michael Katz, whose book, *Redefining the Welfare State in America, 1980–1997*, was published in 2001 by Holt.
- ∞ Samantha Power, who is writing a book about the continuous reluctance of the United States to act against genocide.

In 2000, the Soros Justice Fellowships and Crime & Communities Media Fellowships operated under the direction of OSI's Center on Crime, Communities & Culture. Fellows have contributed to the significant shift in public opinion about the death penalty, initiated groundbreaking litigation on behalf of mentally ill

inmates, and produced original reporting from within the walls of typically inaccessible prisons.

Justice Fellows in 2000 were:

- ∞ James Liebman, a Columbia University School of Law professor, whose research revealed that appellate courts found serious reversible errors in nearly 7 out of 10 death penalty verdicts issued in the past 23 years. This original research helped activists to shift public opinion and challenge death penalty policies.
- ∞ Heather Barr, who raised public awareness of the increasing number of mentally ill people housed in New York City jails and prisons and worked with city and state agencies to create alternatives to incarceration for mentally ill prisoners. Barr won an unprecedented ruling ordering the city to provide discharge planning for the 25,000 inmates with mental illness who are released annually from Riker's Island and other city jails.

The Crime & Communities Media Fellows are award-winning journalists whose work helped to improve the quality and depth of media coverage of issues related to overincarceration in the United States. Media Fellows are writers, photographers, and radio and television producers. In 2000, their work appeared in *Time*, *Newsweek*, *U.S. News & World Report*, the *Village Voice*, the *Chicago Tribune*, the Internet magazine *Salon*, and National Public Radio.

Among the Media Fellows in 2000 were:

- ∞ Joe Richman, a radio producer, who completed "Prison Diaries," a compelling series of radio documentaries recorded by teenagers in prison, which aired nationally on NPR's "All Things Considered."
- ∞ Nell Bernstein, a freelance writer, who wrote a series of stories in *Salon's* "Mothers Who Think" column on the impact of rising incarceration rates

on women, children, and the structure of the American family.

- ∞ Reporter Jennifer Gonnerman, who wrote two cover series in the *Village Voice*: one profiled in stark detail Riker’s Island, the nation’s largest penal colony, and the other documented one woman’s struggle to rejoin her family and society after 16 years in prison. Photographs by another Fellow, Andrew Lichtenstein, accompanied the series.

The Soros Advocacy Fellowship for Physicians is administered by the Medicine as a Profession (MAP) program. It reflects MAP’s dedication to a broader vision of professional activity that emphasizes the promotion of social welfare by physician advocates.

Physicians receiving Fellowships in 2000 were:

- ∞ Michael Fine, who established an occupational and environmental health service at Rhode Island Family & Community Medicine and promoted its mission in the business, labor, and health care communities.
- ∞ Marji Gold, who developed advocacy skills to integrate training in first trimester abortions and emergency contraception into family medical residency programs at Bronx Montefiore Medical Center.
- ∞ Allen Keller, of the Bellevue/New York University Program for Survivors of Torture, who promoted advocacy efforts on behalf of individuals applying for political asylum in the United States through the Asylum Advocacy Project, in partnership with the Lawyers Committee for Human Rights.

www.soros.org/usprograms/fellowships.htm

Governance and Public Policy

“There is a power to the movement for campaign finance reform that transcends specific legislative goals. As citizens, after living through the crisis of the election of 2000, begin to see the ways in which the political system reinforces economic inequality, they are slowly building a true citizens’ movement to revitalize democracy.”

Mark Schmitt, Program Director

The Governance and Public Policy Program combines two issue areas that have long been of interest to OSI: political reform and the devolution of federal responsibility for social welfare programs to state and local governments. The Program’s work in political reform aims to reduce money’s role in politics and to improve the democratic process. Its work in devolution aims both to ensure that this profound governmental transformation does not result in compromised services for people in need, and to take advantage of this unique moment to improve the way social services are delivered in this country. On a fundamental level, these areas share the goal of strengthening government’s ability to serve citizens.

In the wake of the 2000 presidential election, the need for political reform has never been more evident than it is now. The voting fiasco in Florida highlights the need for nuts-and-bolts reforms, such as improved ballot machines and poll worker education, as well as more sweeping changes to the voting system itself, such as same-day voter registration and proportional representation. At the same time, the unprecedented amount of money spent in both campaigns—over \$3 billion in hard money, and an estimated half a billion more in soft dollars—underscores the urgency for campaign finance reform.

OSI’s grantees are working on several fronts to increase the momentum of political reform.

Recognizing that public outrage over political corruption is essential for reform, the Institute for Money in State Politics, as well as state-based organizations supported by the Piper Fund, track campaign contributions to state legislators and link these contributions to voting records. To provide an alternative to the current financing system, the Washington, D.C.-based organization Public Campaign and others advocate, with considerable success thus far, for a public financing model, wherein candidates agree to refuse private funding and to abide by certain spending caps in return for public funding. Four states and many local governments have already adopted various forms of public financing. Maine completed its first publicly financed election cycle in November of 2000; and, in New York City's 2001 citywide elections, almost all candidates are participating in a public matching system that encourages small contributions.

Another crucial component of campaign finance reform is the reduction of money's influence in politics. Running a viable campaign today is almost prohibitively expensive, with the bulk of the money going to television advertising, which remains the primary way for politicians to communicate with voters. Though the airwaves are owned by the public, broadcasters have little incentive to provide meaningful public service programming. The Alliance for Better Campaigns has sought to persuade the major networks to provide free airtime for candidates, which would go far toward reducing the exorbitant cost of running for office.

One of the most promising developments in the campaign finance reform movement has been the formation of state-based coalitions of labor, pro-choice, civil rights, and other progressive groups. Increasingly, local governments determine the allocation of resources for welfare, food stamps, Medicaid, and a host of other social programs. To ensure that money is spent in the areas where it is needed, progressive allies must work together, using a combination of budget analysis, public education, and advocacy to help shape local policy as it affects low-income families and others who are often left out of the debate. Governance and Public Policy

grantees, including the Economic Policy Institute, the Center for Law and Social Policy, and the Center for Budget and Policy Priorities and its state-based affiliates in the State Fiscal Analysis Initiative, use these approaches to mold public policy on a local level. Their work will make it possible to realize devolution's best promise: the chance to use the states' heightened independence to implement innovative, progressive policies on a state level, where politicians are more connected to their constituents and governments are more often willing to take risks. OSI funding has helped progressive groups across the country share successful state programs and effect national change state by state.

www.soros.org/usprograms/campaign.htm

Medicine as a Profession

“Everything in American medicine has changed—from the way physicians are paid to the way medical technologies are used to the way patients are informed. MAP’s challenge is to help make certain that trust between doctor and patient, along with care, respect, equity, and integrity, thrives even as the system is transformed.”

David J. Rothman, Chair, Medicine as a Profession

The overarching goal of the Medicine as a Profession (MAP) program is to promote professional values within the medical community. Medical societies, medical school educators, and physicians agree that professionalism within medicine represents the following core values: that patient interests take precedence over physicians' financial self-interest; that medical professionals should maintain their own technical expertise and regulate the performance of

their colleagues; and that physicians participate in the civic life of their communities and advocate for the provision of care to vulnerable populations. The critical task for MAP is to ensure that these ideals are translated into the everyday practice of medicine and that they become effective policy guides.

Marketplace influences in medicine remain powerful, but they are not alone in challenging professional values. To an unprecedented degree, complex developments are reshaping medical practice. The increasing use of multidisciplinary teams presents challenges to the particular skills of physicians and calls into question the idea of individual responsibility for medical outcomes. At the same time, the proliferation of alternative sources of medical information, including the Internet, has transformed the traditional role of physicians as the primary source of medical information for patients. To ensure that professional values shape the response of the medical community to these new conditions, MAP has supported several distinctive programs and initiatives.

The Physician-Consumer Partnerships for Health Care program supports the creation and promotion of alliances between consumer and medical groups. It seeks to enhance professional values through collaborations to improve the quality of health care in the community and to respond to market-driven forces in medicine. In 2000, partnerships between consumer and medical groups fostered dialogues and produced materials addressing such problems as inequalities in health care, poor physician-patient relationships, and lack of recourse for managed care patients.

The Soros Advocacy Fellowship for Physicians promotes greater physician commitment to participation in civil society, service to the community, and active engagement on behalf of the public interest. For more on the Fellowships, see page 127.

The Strategic Grant Program funds projects with an extraordinary and unique commitment to MAP's overall goals. Beginning in 1998, a key grant enabled the Health Privacy Project to bring the issue of the privacy of health records to the attention of consumers and

policymakers. The Project successfully pushed for the inclusion of consumer protection principles in the federal health privacy regulations that were issued by the Clinton administration in 2000.

The MAP Forums convene leaders of the medical profession and distinguished economists, lawyers, and historians to analyze current and future challenges to professional values within medicine, reflect on the nature of professionalism in the field, and set directions for new MAP research and program initiatives. Organized in conjunction with the United Hospital Fund, each meeting focuses on a critical issue confronting professionalism in medicine. The first meeting, in November 2000, analyzed "Money and the Practice of Medicine."

The Soros Service Program for Community Health provides a sense of service among medical students and young physicians through community-based fellowships, internships, and clerkships. Participants serve vulnerable populations through research, advocacy, and clinical work at community-based organizations using a culturally sensitive curriculum developed by staff at those organizations. Based in Baltimore and New York City, the Program funded 34 preclinical fellows and summer interns in the 1999–2000 academic year to work in 20 community-based organizations doing community health projects in the areas of health education, advocacy, and primary research. The Clinical Clerkship program was launched in 2000 to provide third or fourth year medical students with one-month placements in community-based clinics in Baltimore. Students are recruited nationally for the summer internship and clinical clerkship. In 2001, the program expects to expand the number of clinical clerkships to be offered and extend its reach to second- and third-year medical residents nationwide.

www.soros.org/medicine

OSI–Baltimore

“Our learning circles in Baltimore enable practitioners to critique their experiences with peers and national experts in order to strengthen their programs and create a change agenda.”

Diana Morris, Program Director, OSI–Baltimore

Through an integrated program of grantmaking and networking, OSI’s office in Baltimore examines issues of national consequence by focusing on local social, economic, and political conditions. Since 1998, OSI–Baltimore has pursued change that is premised on an understanding of the interconnection of the city’s social issues. The program has concentrated on policy reform in the interrelated areas of criminal justice, drug addiction treatment, workforce and economic development, education and youth development, and access to justice. It also sponsors a Community Fellowship program and the Baltimore Urban Debate League, and administers components of national OSI programs.

OSI’s impact in Baltimore can be measured not only in direct grantmaking, but also in the network of organizations, advocates, and funders that the foundation has helped to build. In the areas of workforce development and criminal justice, OSI–Baltimore established “learning circles” in which groups identify common problems and share resources. Through “Forging Open Society: Generating Ideas, Partnerships and Solutions,” an educational forum series, OSI–Baltimore convened diverse groups of community and government leaders to address challenges facing the city.

Drug Addiction Treatment

The Drug Addiction Treatment Program aided in efforts to unify Maryland’s civic leaders in support of drug treatment. The Program worked to increase access to

comprehensive and integrated drug treatment services for uninsured, drug-dependent Baltimore residents. Efforts in the past year benefited from a growing consensus among government and community leaders that treatment must also address the poverty-related problems associated with addiction, such as unemployment, lack of housing, and inadequate health care.

Baltimore has grown closer to its goal of drug addiction treatment on demand. In the past two years, the foundation’s funding helped lay the groundwork for the city to increase the level of state funding for treatment efforts by \$16 million. Key grants were awarded to Baltimore Substance Abuse Systems, which administers the public treatment system; the National Council on Alcohol and Drug Dependence–Maryland, to add the voices of providers, and recovering addicts and their families to advocacy efforts; and Drug Strategies, to review Baltimore’s treatment approach.

Crime, Communities, and Culture

The Crime, Communities, and Culture Program seeks to reduce incarceration in Maryland, which disproportionately affects large segments of Baltimore’s population. The removal of men and women from already marginal neighborhoods has further destabilized those communities. In 2000, OSI awarded grants for programs that assist former prisoners as they make the transition from prison to society. Among them were Goodwill Industries to create a workforce training program and People Encouraging People to assist former inmates with mental illness and drug addiction to live independently.

Another priority for OSI–Baltimore was the development of alternatives to juvenile incarceration. The Maryland Juvenile Justice Coalition, through an OSI grant to Advocates for Children and Youth, played a critical role in reshaping juvenile detention policy and practices in the state. The result has been a growing public commitment to reducing the number of incarcerated juveniles and an increasing sensitivity to

the overrepresentation of children of color in the juvenile system.

Workforce and Economic Development

The Workforce and Economic Development Program supports promising job training and placement programs that also address persistent barriers to employment, ranging from inadequate transportation, child-care, and addiction treatment to distrust of former prisoners by employers. In 2000, the Program's grantmaking emphasized assistance to the public sector to build a better system for workforce development, support for education and advocacy for policies that benefit low-income residents, and model training, placement, and job-retention programs.

In partnership with the new mayor's administration, OSI-Baltimore awarded a grant to Baltimore City to engage consultants and organize an advisory committee to create a more comprehensive system for developing the workforce. The new Baltimore City Workforce Investment Board has announced plans to implement some of the initiative's results.

OSI-Baltimore also funded the Center for Fathers, Families and Workforce Development to help its program STRIVE build job retention and wage advancement services for its graduates. Catholic Charities will launch a training center, in partnership with an employer task force, that integrates employment and support services for drug-dependent people and former inmates.

Education and Youth Development

The Education and Youth Development Program supports better learning opportunities during the school day and time spent outside the classroom. OSI-Baltimore was the lead private funder of Achievement First, a whole-school reform effort sponsored by the Fund for Educational Excellence and the Baltimore City Public School System. Schools that participated in this two-year-old initiative had average

gains that were double those of the system's elementary schools as a whole. With this success, the number of participating schools has significantly increased.

Opportunities for learning in the out-of-school hours also grew dramatically—in large part due to OSI-Baltimore support to the Safe and Sound Campaign's effort to build a system of quality out-of-school opportunities, extensive training and technical assistance, and sustainable public and private funding. Safe and Sound has leveraged OSI-Baltimore's three-year investment of \$6.2 million into a total of \$25.5 million in new funding for after-school programs. This funding translated into 14,000 additional center-based, after-school slots and 2,300 more after-school special activity slots for Baltimore's children.

Urban Debate Program

The Baltimore Urban Debate League introduces policy debate to Baltimore public high schools as an academic and after-school program. Debate teaches students to manage day-to-day conflict and to think critically about the world. The Baltimore Urban Debate Program is administered through a partnership that includes Towson University, the Fund for Educational Excellence in Baltimore, and the Barkley Forum at Emory University in Atlanta. In 2000, OSI funding enabled 13 of the 21 eligible Baltimore City High Schools to form active debate squads.

Access to Justice Program

Throughout Maryland, and in Baltimore in particular, the lack of a public law and interest advocacy community has resulted in a low level of civic engagement, hostility among policymakers toward advocacy initiatives, and little capacity to achieve systemic change. The Access to Justice Program strives to build a robust public interest law community through support to key groups in Baltimore. It also seeks to improve the quality of public interest law by developing an active advocacy community. OSI-Baltimore support enabled the

Maryland Association of Non-Profit Organizations to establish the Maryland Advocacy Leadership Program in partnership with the Advocacy Institute. The program will provide yearlong training to classes of emerging advocates from a range of nonprofits. A grant to the Maryland Legal Services Corporation established the Maryland Legal Assistance Network, which has created a centralized intake and referral system for public law groups, a People's Law Library website, and an Internet-based, legal resource center.

Community Health

The Soros Service Program for Community Health, a Medicine as a Profession initiative, seeks to enhance the exposure and commitment of medical students to vulnerable, special-needs populations in Baltimore. The Program has funded community agencies to develop community-level training sites in Baltimore for mentoring medical students from Johns Hopkins University, the University of Maryland, and schools throughout the United States.

OSI-Baltimore's Community Fellowship Program (see page 121) continued to provide stipends to individuals serving disadvantaged communities in 2000.

www.soros.org/baltimore

Program on Law & Society

“Open society depends on a legal system which delivers justice not just to the rich and powerful but to the poorest and most vulnerable members of society.”

Catherine Samuels, Program Director

Since 1997, the Program on Law & Society has promoted full access to fair and impartial justice. In

2000, the program concentrated its funding activity on three broad goals: protecting access to fair and impartial courts; increasing access to civil legal assistance for low-income people and marginalized communities; and improving lawyers' conduct and their accountability to the public.

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 the courts to render fair and impartial justice is increasingly threatened. During 2000, political battles between the U.S. Senate and the president over the selection and confirmation of federal judges continued to leave many judicial vacancies unfilled. Elected state judges scrambled to raise large sums of campaign money, usually from those with a special interest in court rulings, such as lawyers, parties in the cases, businesses, and advocacy groups. Politicians and partisans sought to intimidate judges who rendered unfavorable decisions by threatening—and engaging in—electoral retaliation, by distorting judges' decisions, and by questioning the very legitimacy of the courts. At the same time, legislatures imposed restrictions on the ability of the poor and unpopular or marginalized groups to receive legal assistance or judicial protection.

The Program on Law & Society supports broad-based, nonpartisan efforts to achieve an accountable and impartial judiciary through system-wide reform and increased public support for independent courts to protect all citizens from governmental abuse, majority disregard of minority views, and threats to individual rights. Such a role can be played by judges only if they are insulated from political and monetary pressure. Over the last few years, OSI has endeavored to build a field of organizations, reflecting a wide range of experiences and expertise, to work collaboratively to protect judicial independence. In 2000, the efforts of these organizations, the media, politicians, and the public helped focus unprecedented attention on both the threats to an independent judiciary and potential reforms.

A number of national and grassroots organizations supported by the Program contributed to the national

Justice at Stake Campaign by conducting research, issuing reports, developing public education materials, challenging restrictions on access to the courts, and organizing training and educational conferences. The Campaign has begun providing strategic assistance to participating groups, coordinating their activities, and implementing a national public education strategy.

Perhaps the most promising development in 2000 was the Summit on Improving Judicial Selection, initiated by state chief justices in response to unprecedented costly and contentious state judicial elections. The summit of chief justices, legislators, and reform advocates from 17 states that elect judges, issued a collective “Call to Action.” It provided invaluable leadership, credibility, and momentum to the movement for reform. Going forward, participants will work with the Campaign to translate the “Call to Action” into reforms that reduce the impact of money and politics in the selection of judges.

Another participant in the Justice at Stake Campaign was the Constitution Project, which conducted a successful pilot campaign in five states to promote “Higher Ground Standards of Conduct for Judicial Candidates.” The American Bar Association approved official standards for state judicial selection that lend the bar’s imprimatur to a host of best practices and innovative reforms. On the grassroots level, state-based campaigns by the Wisconsin Citizen Action Fund and the League of Women Voters of Ohio promoted public financing reform in two states recently plagued by costly, divisive judicial election campaigns.

The Access to Justice grantmaking program was developed in response to a crisis in civil legal services for the poor. In 1996, Congress slashed one-third of federal funding for legal services providers, eliminated funding for all groups providing technical and legal support to the field, and imposed crippling restrictions on how legal services lawyers may represent poor clients. Access to Justice seeks to expand legal and problem-solving services to low-income people and communities by increasing financial and public support for such services; expanding public interest law

fellowships; and facilitating partnerships and collaboration among groups seeking to support low-income and marginalized communities.

In 2000, the Legal Services Corporation won a total of \$7 million in “add-on” congressional support for technology grants and credited the Program on Law & Society’s prior support for the innovative technology models reviewed by the congressional committee. In other initiatives, the Project for the Future of Equal Justice and the Project to Expand Resources for Legal Services helped state and local legal services providers expand and diversify their funding sources. The Program also continued to foster collaboration between public and private grantmakers to increase support for law and social justice projects.

As part of the Program’s long-term strategy to bolster public support for legal services, the Project for the Future of Equal Justice launched a communications campaign to educate people about the crucial role civil legal services organizations play in addressing the needs of poor people.

The Program on Law & Society also made grants to improve and expand the availability of legal assistance for communities of color, immigrant communities, and communities with limited English-speaking proficiency. OSI grants to the Asian Pacific American Legal Center and the National Asian Pacific Legal Consortium support the development of potential models for centralized intake and legal referral and advising systems tailored to the linguistic needs of Asian Pacific Islander communities in the United States.

Finally, the Legal Profession Program has focused on promoting higher standards of conduct and improved accountability among lawyers for the last four years. Beginning in 2001, Law & Society is narrowing the focus of the Legal Profession Program to a few ongoing projects, including the National Association for Public Interest Law (NAPIL) fellowships.

www.soros.org/lawandsociety

Program on Reproductive Health and Rights

“Access to reproductive freedom is fundamental to the advancement of women’s rights and to the securing of maximum opportunity for their families. Understood this way—as a condition of women’s autonomy and as a critical factor in larger social and economic outcomes—support for reproductive health and rights is a core principle of open society.”

Ellen Chesler, Senior Fellow and Program Director

Recent polling data demonstrates overwhelming support by Americans for the continued provision of comprehensive sexuality education, accessible family planning programs, and safe, legal abortion. At the same time, study after study confirms that improving and expanding the country’s sexual and reproductive health services results in significant declines of sexually transmitted diseases, adolescent pregnancy rates, and unwanted pregnancies and abortions, especially among women in poverty. All of these developments are central to securing full equality for American women and maximum opportunity for their families.

Yet today’s public policies are being driven by the moral and ideological agenda of a determined conservative minority bent on reversing the social interventions that have helped produce these positive outcomes. The increasingly strong hold of this minority over U.S. politics threatens the core principles of an open society and informs OSI’s funding in this arena.

OSI’s Program on Reproductive Health and Rights aims to clarify public understanding of the issues at stake in America’s pitched battle over sexual and reproductive health and rights. In 2000, the Program provided funds to the Sexuality Information and Education Council of the United States (SIECUS) for an analysis of federally funded abstinence-only programs, and for promotion of more comprehensive approaches

to sex education. The Alan Guttmacher Institute received support for widespread dissemination of its analysis of the accomplishments of Washington’s 30-year tradition of public subsidy for family planning through the Title X family planning program. A grant to the National Women’s Law Center helped produce a state-by-state women’s health report card that attracted local and national media coverage of the uneven standards of services and availability of health insurance to women across the country. Catholics for Free Choice received support to fight the accelerating trend of placing secular hospitals under church jurisdiction, which threatens the provision of standard medical procedures, including tubal ligation, infertility treatment, abortion, and even contraception.

The Program also provided funds for direct advertising and grassroots mobilization by the National Abortion and Reproductive Rights Action League (NARAL) and by other pro-choice organizations. These efforts have had a dramatic impact, increasing support for reproductive rights in areas of the country where it had eroded in response to intense earlier pressure from opponents.

In 2000, the Program on Reproductive Health and Rights invested significantly in direct education of federal and state policymakers and opinion leaders, and in the mobilization of grassroots support around legislative and legal challenges to reproductive health and choice. Grantees in this category include the Center for Reproductive Law and Policy, the Reproductive Freedom Project of the American Civil Liberties Union Foundation, the National Partnership for Women and Families, and the National Black Women’s Health Project. In response to the increasing devolution of decision-making to the states, where the religious right has so successfully mobilized, OSI is also shifting its focus to state-level initiatives, with funding to pilot organizing projects in Texas and several other states.

Recent scientific advances present new options in pregnancy prevention, which may help move public discourse on abortion away from “the clash of absolutes” that has prevailed for decades. The Food and

Drug Administration has approved emergency contraception, the so-called “morning-after” pill, and mifepristone (widely known as RU-486), a pill regimen that terminates early pregnancy in the first two months after conception. The Program on Reproductive Health and Rights has taken a leadership role in funding public education and training for health care providers around these new developments. Grants have been made to Advocates for Youth, Population Services International, the Pro-Choice Resource Center, Planned Parenthood Federation of America, Physicians for Reproductive Health and Choice, the National Abortion Federation, and the Reproductive Health Technologies Project, among others.

Beyond its U.S. focus, the Program on Reproductive Health and Rights works with colleagues in the Soros foundations network to advance the historic, woman-centered health and development agenda agreed upon by the United Nations. The Program launched reproductive health intervention projects in Eastern Europe and Haiti in 2000, and funded a research grant for an assessment of options for women with HIV/AIDS in Southern Africa. Finally, OSI provided funding for advocacy and public education around the UN’s five-year review of the World Conference on Women held in Beijing in 1995, with grants awarded to the Communications Consortium Media Center, the Center for Women’s Global Leadership, and Women’s Human Rights Net, among others. This funding complemented core support from the office of OSI’s president to the International Women’s Health Coalition.

www.soros.org/repro

Project on Death in America

“PDIA’s goal is to build a sustainable and credible field of palliative care with sufficient infrastructure and leadership to not only confront the challenges but also dismantle the barriers to excellent end-of-life care for all Americans.”

Kathleen M. Foley, M.D., Program Director

For the dying and their caregivers, the end of life is often a time filled with physical pain, feelings of abandonment, and isolation. American culture, intent on curing disease and prolonging life, often fails to provide support during one of life’s most emphatic phases—death. The Project on Death in America (PDIA) was created in 1994 to transform the culture and experience of dying through initiatives in research, scholarship, the humanities, and the arts. It also seeks to foster innovations in the provision of care, public education, professional education, and public policy.

The PDIA Grants Program recognizes that creating social change requires the development of organizations that can sustain the growing field of palliative care. In 2000, the Grants Program continued to support grassroots organizations such as Americans for Better Care of the Dying in Washington, D.C. Responding to the growing numbers of grieving children in schools nationwide, PDIA funded the American Hospice Foundation’s Grief at School Program to train teachers, counselors, psychologists, nurses, and social workers to provide grieving children with support and age-appropriate lessons on loss and grief.

In January 2000, PDIA launched an international initiative to enhance hospice and palliative care in Eastern Europe. The three-year program, cosponsored with OSI’s Public Health Programs, funds health care professionals, associations, and organizations to expand hospice and palliative care programs in the countries of Eastern Europe. The OSI Palliative Care Initiative in

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WALL MEMORIALS
Youth Media Project

Teenagers participating in a project funded by Youth Initiatives and the Project on Death in America photographed these memorials spray-painted on New York City walls.







JOB BUT NO...

NE ORGOTTEN



R.I.P. JOHN F. KENNEDY

Eastern Europe received 200 applications for the first award cycle and awarded 53 grants in Albania, Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Macedonia, Moldova, Mongolia, Poland, Romania, Russia, Slovenia, Ukraine, and Yugoslavia.

Professional education continues to be a cornerstone of PDIA's work. During the last six years, PDIA has supported 68 faculty scholars in 38 medical schools and 3 nursing schools in the United States and 4 medical schools in Canada. The 2000 class of 10 scholars expands PDIA's commitment to improving end-of-life care in an inner-city trauma program, establishing a statewide minority program, and providing educational resources for patients and physicians dealing with end-of-life care. Anne C. Mosenthal, M.D., and Patricia A. Murphy, Ph.D., R.N., both of the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey and University Hospital, are designing and implementing an end-of-life care program for urban trauma services at the hospital. Jerome E. Kurent, M.D., M.P.H., of the Center for the Study of Aging at the Medical University of South Carolina, is creating the Institute for Community and Professional Education in End-of-Life Care.

Nursing leadership is critical in all settings of end-of-life care. By continuing to support educational programs, web-based information networks, and training programs, PDIA is developing leaders in the nursing profession who can effect change in academic, hospital-based, and community settings.

The Social Work Leadership Development Awards Program granted seven awards in its second cycle, bringing the number of Social Work Leaders to 15. These awards have promoted social workers committed to end-of-life care and have enhanced their effectiveness as academic leaders, role models, and mentors. W. June Simmons, of Partners in Care Foundation in Burbank, California, received an award for the Geriatric Social Work Education Project, which creates and distributes graduate-level field and academic training for social workers in end-of-life care. Katherine Walsh-Burke, Association of Oncology Social Work, Springfield,

Massachusetts, was recognized for the Internet-based Continuing Education Curriculum Project, which will develop a continuing education program for social workers affiliated with the Association of Oncology Social Work, Hospice Social Workers, and related social work organizations.

Teenage Experiences of Death, launched in 1999 with the U.S. Programs' Youth Initiatives, explores the issue of death from the teenage perspective. The initiative engaged eight New York City youth media organizations to document the texture and variety of teen experiences with death. The Arthur Ashe Institute for Urban Health produced a special issue of its youth publication, *Urban Health Chronicles*, that explored how young people experience and cope with the death of a loved one. Other young people worked with the Downtown Community Television Center to produce a documentary video, *R.I.P.—Teens Coping With Death*, about experiences with death among low-income and minority youth in New York City. Students involved with the Global Action Project produced a website devoted exclusively to teenagers' experiences of death and loss.

www.soros.org/death

Soros Documentary Fund

"These documentaries are illuminating windows into the most compelling international human rights issues and stories of our time."

Diane Weyermann, Program Director

With powerful images and compelling stories, documentaries are invaluable tools for social change. Starting in 1996, the Soros Documentary Fund (SDF) supported the production of documentaries on social

justice and human rights issues from around the world. In the shrinking universe of documentary funding, SDF has been an essential source of support for films and videos that deal with vital and extremely difficult subject matter.

SDF provided the pivotal support that many filmmakers needed to launch or complete their productions. It was the first major funder of *Long Night's Journey Into Day*, a documentary about South Africa's Truth and Reconciliation Commission as told through four stories of individuals and families struggling to make peace with the country's past. SDF funding enabled filmmakers Frances Reid and Deborah Hoffman to travel to South Africa during Truth and Reconciliation Commission hearings on the cases they documented. The film won the Sundance Documentary Grand Jury Prize and was nominated for an Academy Award for Best Documentary in 2001. It will be aired on U.S. television and has been broadcast in numerous countries around the world. It is also being widely screened and used as a teaching and advocacy tool.

Among other SDF-funded projects released in 2000 were: *Sound and Fury* by Roger Weisberg and Josh Aronson, an Academy Award–nominated film about the rift in the deaf community between “oralists” who speak and read lips and “manualists” who sign; and *Red Rubber Boots* by Jasmila Zbanic, about the missing from the war in Bosnia. Both films have been exhibited widely at festivals and will be broadcast on television. *Sound and Fury* will also reach deaf communities and their advocates through an extensive outreach plan and a website. *Southern Comfort* by Kate Davis is a sensitive and compelling story about Robert Eads, a female-to-male transsexual who died of ovarian cancer after repeatedly being denied medical treatment because of his gender. This documentary has been accepted in numerous film festivals, including Sundance where it won the Grand Jury Prize for documentaries, and will be theatrically released and broadcast internationally.

SDF continued limited, but crucial, support to professional training and outreach activities in 2000. The Fund concentrated its efforts on Steps for the

Future, a project involving international broadcasters, nongovernmental organizations, and AIDS activists, that will commission short documentaries by local filmmakers on the HIV/AIDS crisis in southern Africa. These documentaries will be used internationally to raise awareness and promote advocacy around the epidemic. A grant to the Sundance Institute supported a new initiative, House of Docs, to heighten focus on documentaries and create a meeting point at the festival for filmmakers, distributors, broadcasters, buyers, festival directors, and programmers of documentaries.

www.soros.org/sdf

Southern Initiative

“Southern politics continue to both dominate our nation's policy agenda and frustrate our society's most basic democratic aspirations. Thus, the attainment of social justice in the United States hinges on the ability of the people of this region, especially members of marginalized communities, to advocate effectively for political transformation.”

Jocelyn Sargent, Program Director

The U.S. Programs' Southern Initiative promotes democracy and social change through a strategic focus on the South. More than a century after the Civil War, the South can be understood in terms expressed by noted journalist W.J. Cash as “not quite a nation within a nation, but the next thing to it.” The region remains in many ways a society apart, bound by a repressive combination of political, economic, and social barriers. As evidenced in Florida during the recent presidential election, voting systems in the region inhibit public participation and the flow of political information. Educational inequities produce schools that fail to

prepare children for today's workforce, while severe criminal justice practices lead to high incarceration rates and an increasing reliance on capital punishment.

Compared to other regions, the South receives significantly fewer philanthropic dollars to overcome these injustices. Yet a variety of local and regional grassroots organizations are taking bold steps to transform the South by increasing political participation, information flow, and public accountability. The Southern Initiative seeks to capitalize on this opportunity by investing in grassroots organizing that empowers communities to advocate on their own behalf around pressing issues, particularly criminal justice and education.

Created in 1999, the program initiated its first funding cycle in 2000, after convening an advisory board to set the program priorities, investigate the needs in the region, and determine the viability of groups already engaged in work that interested OSI. The initial requests for funding far exceeded the allocated budget for the program. They represented the breadth and diversity of significant community organizing work in the South, and they stood for a cohesive mix of grassroots organizing, direct services, technical support, and state and regional policy advocacy to advance social justice.

Among the first grantees were:

- ☞ Project South, a policy research organization with a long history in the region whose recent publications include a community activists' guide to campaign finance reform.
- ☞ The People's Institute for Survival and Beyond, which provides training to community groups and organizations to confront racism and discrimination.
- ☞ Esperanza, a social justice and cultural arts institution, which develops local community capacity to participate in the democratic process and create progressive policy alternatives through their Puentes de Poder/Bridges of Power

community leadership and advocacy training program.

- ☞ Southern Echo, a model education and training organization which develops grassroots leadership in African-American communities in Mississippi and the surrounding region.

www.soros.org/usprograms/southern.htm

Youth Initiatives

"Putting a high value on young people, and expecting them to rise to meaningful challenges and in turn challenge us to see the world differently, is the dynamic that the arts, debate, and media production can ignite."

Erlin Ibreck, Program Director

The Youth Initiatives program works to develop the analytical and self-expression skills that young people need to think critically about their world and to engage actively in democracy. To accomplish this, the program focuses on three areas: formal debates, youth media projects, and the arts. In addition, OSI supports two significant school-based collaborative initiatives in New York City: The After-School Corporation and the New Century High Schools Consortium for New York City.

Urban Debate Program

The Urban Debate Program seeks to institutionalize competitive debate as an extracurricular and academic activity in urban school districts across the United States. Based on the Urban Debate League model founded by the Barkley Forum at Emory University, the Urban Debate Program has funded debate leagues in 13

U.S. cities. Debate gives young people the tools to express themselves, command attention with words, and respond effectively to the arguments of those who may disagree with them. It also develops critical thinking, academic research and communication skills, and increases self-confidence. Students who debate often receive higher grades than those who do not participate in debates, and are more likely to continue to postsecondary education.

In 2000, students from more than 100 inner-city schools participated in OSI-supported urban debate leagues. The New York Urban Debate League (NYUDL), started in 1997 with OSI funding, operates in more than 35 New York City high schools. In 2000, NYUDL became a program of the IMPACT Coalition, a nonprofit organization dedicated to the empowerment of urban students through training in debate skills. OSI continues to provide funding and technical assistance to NYUDL through IMPACT.

Funding to urban debate programs in Atlanta, Detroit, and Chicago enabled them to continue on their own with substantial support from their local school systems. Debate programs in California and Rhode Island will continue through 2001, as will plans for new sites and exploration of national programming support. Ultimately, increased support from local school districts and other community stakeholders will enable OSI to replicate urban debate leagues in additional sites.

Youth Media Program

The Youth Media Program represents a unique effort to implement a media-focused strategy to empower young people and engage them in discussion of social and civic issues. Their perspective, idealism, sense of moral indignation, and ability to test the boundaries of social change allow young people to confront social injustice and inject fresh and compelling perspectives into discussions of current issues. In the process of working with media, young people gain critical skills, as well as a sense of civic responsibility and relevance to society.

Since 1999, the Youth Media Program has made

nearly 70 grants. In 2000, Youth Media funded Pacific News Service to organize the first EXPO of Youth Communicators at a juvenile detention center in San Francisco. As a result, civic organizations will establish ongoing arts and media workshops at the center. WNYC's "Radio Rookies" program trained six Brooklyn teenagers who produced personal stories about the challenges they face in their Bushwick neighborhood. The OSI-funded pilot project for "Radio Rookies" won the 1999 New York Press Club "Heart Of New York" Award for community media initiatives. In Kentucky, the Appalachian Media Institute produced a video documenting the community's struggle with the water supply damage caused by deep mining. In response to a community screening and a call-in radio show hosted by the youth producers, state officials met with community members to discuss strategies for addressing the problem.

Arts Initiative

The Arts Initiative focuses on efforts to inspire and nurture the imaginations of young people in underserved or isolated communities. It seeks to stimulate dialogue and support programming that explores the role of the arts in building communities and furthering open society.

In 2000, the Arts Initiative developed a three-tiered strategy that recognizes the value of the arts in fostering creative expression and healthy communities by focusing on public policy, civic dialogue, and community artists and arts organizations.

Grantees in 2000 included several community-based arts organizations that have developed unique models for reaching young people through the arts. Artists for Humanity in Boston developed a program in which artists and peer mentors provide professional visual arts and business training for teens from low-income neighborhoods. The Marwen Foundation in Chicago provided high-quality visual arts education, college planning, and career development programs free of charge to Chicago's underserved youth. In New York,

the Point Community Development Corporation, a community arts center and economic development corporation in the Bronx's Hunt's Point section, provided dance, theater, and photography classes to neighborhood youth, and offered space for emerging artists to develop new work.

The After-School Corporation

The After-School Corporation (TASC) was founded by George Soros in 1998 with a \$25 million challenge grant per year for five years. The nonprofit organization promotes quality in-school after-school programs in New York and, ultimately, throughout the nation.

TASC-supported programs are operated by community-based organizations in partnership with public schools and state and local officials. They combine educational enrichment, technological skills development, and homework help, with sports, art, and community service activities. In the academic year 2000–2001, TASC funded 145 after-school programs in New York City and 20 in other locations in New York State, reaching more than 40,000 students in underserved communities.

OSI funding also enables TASC grantees to leverage funds from a variety of sources. The City of New York and the Board of Education have provided more than \$40 million in direct and in-kind support. New York Governor George Pataki announced an increase to \$30 million in proposed after-school funding for 2002. By early 2001, private matching funds will total nearly \$16 million.

New Century High Schools

The New Century High Schools Consortium for New York City, created in December 2000, represents an innovative collaboration among OSI, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, and the Carnegie Corporation to invest \$30 million over five years to transform some of the city's large, low-performing, comprehensive high schools into more effective, smaller schools. The New

York City school system is the nation's largest, serving 1.1 million students. The goal of the initiative is to provide effective high schools for all New York City students. The initiative, which is also supported by the New York City Board of Education, the United Federation of Teachers, and the Council of School Administrators, is being administered by New Visions for Public Schools, an educational reform organization in New York City.

www.soros.org/usprograms/youthinitiatives.htm

Other U.S. Initiatives

“Legal prerequisites for driving a car include safety training, passing a test, and obtaining a license, insurance, and registration. In most American states, none of these requirements apply to possessing guns. Why?”

Rebecca Peters, Program Director,
Fundors' Collaborative for Gun Violence Prevention

The Fundors' Collaborative for Gun Violence Prevention provides funding to reduce and prevent the harm caused by the widespread availability and misuse of guns. Funding partners include OSI, the Irene Diamond Fund, and other private donors working to educate the public about gun violence, promote strategies to reduce gun injuries, and bring greater cohesion to the gun violence prevention movement.

The Collaborative's most high-profile grantee in 2000 was the Million Mom March, the Mother's Day march on Washington, D.C., that symbolized overwhelming public support for gun control policies. In early 2000, the Collaborative published *Gun Control in the United States*, a report and comparative survey of

state gun laws. By charting existing laws and exposing loopholes, the report debunked the gun lobby's claim that reducing gun violence is simply a matter of enforcing existing laws. It has proved an indispensable tool for advocates and policymakers.

In addition to the report, the Collaborative funded a number of organizations engaged in public education initiatives. They include: the Alliance for Justice for First Monday, a two-year advocacy and public education campaign on over 300 college campuses to involve young people and academic leaders in gun violence reduction efforts; the Educational Fund to Stop Gun Violence for a national public education campaign on handgun licensing and registration; and the NAACP for a lawsuit against the gun industry to seek changes in the industry's marketing and distribution practices. The suit contends that the industry's distribution practices fuel an illegal market, resulting in gun violence that disproportionately affects people of color. It builds on the success of *Hamilton v. Accu-Tek*, the landmark victory establishing that gun manufacturers may bear some responsibility when their products are used in a crime. The *Hamilton* case was also funded by OSI.

OSI's work on media policy reform completed its initial phase in 2000. In the last two years, the initiative sought to stimulate public engagement on crucial media policy issues and to strengthen the work of leading advocates working for change. OSI funding enabled the Media Access Project to commission a study that was instrumental in helping the FCC successfully argue for the creation of Low Power FM service. It supported groups such as People for Better TV (PBTv) and Children Now to articulate public interest obligations for digital television broadcasters. In the area of public broadcasting, OSI funding helped launch Citizens for Independent Public Broadcasting (CIPB), which now boasts 25 chapters nationwide and continues to recruit diverse groups to democratize programming and governance at local public television stations.

The Emma Lazarus Fund, established in 1996 to combat the unfair treatment of immigrants in the United States, completed its national grantmaking in

1999. The remaining activities of the Fund in 2000 focused on Los Angeles, where philanthropic dollars targeting newcomer communities have been limited, despite the fact that one in three Los Angeles residents is an immigrant or refugee.

In 2000, Emma Lazarus Fund–Los Angeles was the lead funder of the Los Angeles Immigrant Funders' Collaborative, which provides grants to nonprofit organizations that support the needs of immigrant and refugee communities in the areas of health care, education, civic participation, and economic development. The new organization engages funders that have historically supported immigrant needs, as well as funders active in health, children and youth, and community development, but whose work to date has not focused on immigrants' needs. Contributors included the ARCO Foundation (now BP Foundation), the California Endowment, QueensCare, the Riordan Foundation, the Streisand Foundation, and the United Way. The Immigrant Funders' Collaborative raised over \$750,000 and, in the fall of 2000, requested proposals focusing on health care access and education issues impacting immigrant and refugee communities in Los Angeles.

www.soros.org/otherinitiatives.htm

U.S. PROGRAMS 2000 EXPENDITURES	\$92,294,000
CENTER ON CRIME, COMMUNITIES & CULTURE	8,980,000
GIDEON PROJECT	3,019,000
DRUG POLICY REFORM	5,664,000
FELLOWSHIPS (COMMUNITY FELLOWS & INDIVIDUAL PROJECT FELLOWS)	2,592,000
GOVERNANCE & PUBLIC POLICY	4,134,000
MEDICINE AS A PROFESSION	3,417,000
OSI-BALTIMORE	7,310,000
PROGRAM ON LAW & SOCIETY	8,425,000
PROGRAM ON REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND RIGHTS	5,091,000
PROJECT ON DEATH IN AMERICA	5,166,000
SOROS DOCUMENTARY FUND	1,911,000
SOUTHERN INITIATIVE	1,108,000
YOUTH INITIATIVES	28,861,000
OTHER U.S. INITIATIVES	6,616,000

Other Initiatives

Broadening the Network's Influence

Other initiatives of the Soros foundations network deal with issues or regions of global significance and extend the network's reach into countries and areas where Soros foundations do not exist. The programs in this category include Belarusian Initiatives, the Burma Project/Southeast Asia Initiative, Central Eurasia Project, Landmines Project, Project Syndicate, and Roma Programs. In 2000, the Burma Project launched the Southeast Asia Initiative to promote open society values and practices throughout the region—which will also increase prospects for democracy in Burma. The Central Eurasia Project expanded to include activities on Iran and Turkey, which influence developments in Central Eurasia.





Belarusian Initiatives

In 2000, the Soros foundations network continued to support civil society in Belarus through activities based at Soros foundations in neighboring countries and through a dedicated Belarus Project established by OSI–Paris.

In 1997, the Belarusian Soros Foundation was forced to close down during a government crackdown on independent media, civil society, and political activity. A new law in 1999 requiring NGOs to reregister continued the Belarusian government’s repression of civil society and gave authorities legal cover to close other organizations not approved by the government. During 2000, the government’s crackdown became more systematic and violent, particularly in the period leading up to the parliamentary elections in the fall. These elections went virtually unrecognized outside of the former Soviet Union due to the Belarusian government’s failure to adhere to basic democratic conditions. Independent newspapers continue to be subject to government instigated legal challenges in an effort to drive them out of existence. Political opponents have been harassed, detained, and convicted for exercising internationally protected rights of free expression and association.

Against this challenging backdrop, the network’s Belarusian initiatives have, as in previous years, sought to support grassroots efforts in many areas, particularly in the preparation of a new generation of leaders for the time when a government more conducive to civil society emerges. The initiatives have also supported grassroots organizing, education, and human rights and civil liberties in Belarus.

Projects that support the preparation of leaders include all forms of professional and academic training. Professional training in economics, political science, and the social sciences received support through various independent initiatives in the country.

Support for grassroots activities has focused on the regional and local level, without creating large

bureaucracies. The purpose of this support is, first and foremost, empowerment. Network programs have supported nongovernmental initiatives and Internet connectivity training programs for local NGOs. Various other third sector and training programs have also received support. In 2000, the Network Women’s Program supported the Belarusian women’s movement’s efforts to implement the Beijing platform for action and thus raise awareness on vital gender and equal opportunity issues.

Education initiatives have included support for the European Humanities University in Minsk and participation in scholarship programs that allow Belarusian students to pursue a variety of academic studies outside of their country. With OSI support, a Belarusian foundation for educational initiatives continues to work to bring democratic practices to early childhood education systems.

In 2000, OSI continued to provide support for an ongoing Internet project overseen by the United Nations’ Development Program in Belarus. OSI’s support was directed toward providing connectivity and training opportunities for the NGO community and independent media.

In the field of human rights and civil liberties, the OSI–Paris Belarus Project supported human rights investigation, advocacy, and legal defense at the local, national, and regional levels. OSI has also facilitated the dissemination of accurate information about Belarus both inside and outside the country.

www.soros.org/intlinit/belarus.html

Burma Project/Southeast Asia Initiative

The year 2000 may become known as the year that the political impasse finally ended in Burma. Early last fall, the Burmese military junta and Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, leader of Burma's democratic forces, began a secret dialogue. Razali Ismail, the UN Secretary General's Special Envoy on Myanmar, later confirmed that talks between the two opponents had definitely occurred. The Malaysian diplomat is one of the latest in a string of special envoys and rapporteurs who have tried to break the political impasse in Burma.

Why did the junta finally decide to talk? A devastated economy, international sanctions, apparent fissures in the ostensibly united Burmese army, and an array of internal woes from unemployment to a spiraling HIV/AIDS infection rate have combined to pressure authorities to reduce Burma's isolation. Of particular concern to the Burmese junta was the unprecedented move in the fall of 2000 by the International Labor Organization (ILO), a powerful affiliate of the United Nations, to censure Burma for its continued use of forced labor. For years, the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) has passed nonbinding Burma resolutions that have been virtually ignored by the junta. It is very likely, however, that the Burmese generals finally recognized that Daw Aung San Suu Kyi is a formidable foe who refuses to be intimidated or give up the decade-long struggle for her country.

The 2000 negotiations may initiate a process of national reconciliation and transition to civilian rule, but real change will not be sustainable without an important third element—the participation of ethnic minorities. Since independence from nearly 100 years of British colonial rule in 1948, a Burman-dominated leadership has ruled the ethnically diverse populace. Military dictatorship only exacerbated the civil wars between ethnic armies and the Burman-led armed forces. Most of the ethnic groups have negotiated cease-fires with the current junta, but these fragile

agreements have not led to peace or progress for minorities. Indeed, the number of rural Burmese forced out of their villages by the Burmese army has created an internally displaced population that is estimated to be around 600,000, while close to 1 million Burmese immigrants—political and economic refugees—have fled to neighboring Thailand.

The Burmese military government currently spends 222 percent more of the GDP on defense than it does on health and education combined. The cost of this neglect to the next generation of Burmese leaders, not to mention the country's own economic potential, is incalculable.

In response to these skewed priorities, OSI's scholarship program for Burmese, initiated in 1994, has helped over 1,000 students worldwide continue or finish their university education. Many of these young people are future leaders of nongovernmental organizations that will help reestablish civil society in Burma. In 2000, OSI received a grant from the U.S. Government's Burma Democracy Earmark for the supplementary scholarship program for Burmese students as well as funding for internship and Internet programs. This support has enabled young Burmese to obtain hands-on experience working at international and regional nongovernmental organizations. Federal monies also helped expand a program to train ethnic groups in information technology and the creation of electronic newspapers and websites in different local languages. Probably the world's first electronic newspaper on Burma, *Burmanet News*, which was launched by the Burma Project in 1994, is now available in Burmese, Kachin, and Karen languages.

Last year the Burma Project initiated a new effort to help document and preserve Burma's traditional cultures. The Project commissioned an oral history manual and accompanying guides to key documents in the British Library (and eventually other special collections) on Burma's ethnic minorities. The manual, which will be translated into Burmese, is written in an engaging style that will appeal to a wide audience.

The manual is a model for defining and documenting the identity of Burma's many marginalized groups. The publications are part of a larger effort to preserve Burmese records, especially those in danger of disappearing or becoming damaged, for eventual return to libraries and scholars in a democratic Burma. The effort is particularly timely in light of the current junta's deliberate attempts to rewrite modern Burmese history.

Southeast Asia Initiative

A genuine, sustainable transition will depend not only on key actors inside the country, but also on the country's regional neighbors. The more Southeast Asian countries adopt open society values (especially among the Association for Southeast Asian Nations, the regional club Burma joined in 1997), the better the prognosis for Burma's democratic future. Over the last two years, OSI has promoted programs to link Southeast Asian civil society groups with each other as well as with organizations in Central and Eastern Europe. OSI cosponsored an international conference in Bangkok on comparative transitions in December 1999, which was followed by a September 2000 global conference on combating corruption.

The formal expansion of OSI's programming into Southeast Asia, called the Southeast Asia Initiative, has a major focus on Indonesia, the world's fourth most populous country and the largest Islamic nation, which has begun a precarious and challenging transition since the fall of General Suharto in 1998.

OSI's engagement in Indonesia and other parts of Southeast Asia will not be based on the previous Soros foundations network model of establishing foundations in host countries and regions. Instead, OSI will seek partners that share its mission and commitment, working with established indigenous, regional, and international organizations with deep experience and expertise in the region. OSI will in turn offer these groups a global network of individuals and organizations with a diverse range of "transition

experience" that can be shared with emerging democracies in Asia.

www.soros.org/burma/index.html

Central Eurasia Project

Residents of the Southern Caucasus and Central Asia saw their countries increasingly mired in economic stagnation and increased restrictions on basic civil rights in 2000. The Central Eurasia Project worked to raise awareness about conditions in the region and stimulate proactive and creative approaches to its problems through its dual role as grantmaker and advocate for civil society in the region.

Disappointment in achieving sustained social reform was exacerbated in 2000 by unfulfilled expectations of democratic reform. Elections in Azerbaijan and Kyrgyzstan that could have allowed the expression of electoral rights were plagued by ballot tampering, restriction of media coverage, and harassment and even arbitrary arrest of opposition candidates. Peace negotiations to bring an end to the almost decade-long battle over control of Nagorno-Karabakh were revisited with renewed vigor, but by year's end had brought no conclusive results. Violent incursions by armed insurgents cost army and civilian lives in Kyrgyzstan, fueling the ongoing crackdown on nonstate-sponsored Muslims in Uzbekistan and raising the specter of continued violence in that region.

Social and economic indicators also continued to spiral downward in 2000, posing overwhelming challenges for governments and the international community alike. The hydrocarbon wealth of the Caspian region that had the potential to bring significant revenues to government coffers has been disappointing or nonexistent. In other sectors some investors began to retreat from their commitment after

INDONESIA
Jan Dago



Muslim Friday prayer, Istiqlal mosque, Jakarta

► Election campaign rally, Jakarta, 1999





years of fruitlessly battling government corruption, inertia, and the lack of the rule of law that jeopardized their investments. The governments of oil-rich Azerbaijan and Kazakhstan took the first steps toward establishing social funds, ostensibly to invest oil profits for social benefits in the future. But revenues were relatively small in 2000, and the necessary mechanisms for insuring the transparent investment and expenditure of current and future social funds have yet to be established.

In 2000, the burgeoning narcotics trade route that runs northwest from Afghanistan through Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, and Kazakhstan continued to cut a swath of crime and ill health across Central Asia. The expanding drug trade has led to the rapid transmission of HIV/AIDS in the region through intravenous drug use. At the same time, poverty has brought hardship on women, as victims of domestic violence, leading to their increased role as drug traffickers, and sending ever greater numbers of women to prison for extended sentences. Finally, some of the very counternarcotics programs aimed at stemming the ills of the drug trade were themselves associated with corruption, repression and abuse.

The Central Eurasia Project of the Open Society Institute seeks to raise awareness of the various dynamics that can both stimulate and hamper social and economic development in the region. Its aim is to support the forces for reform and stability within these countries that make such development possible. In particular, the Project seeks to promote respect for the rule of law, the free flow of ideas and information, and tolerance for a diverse cultural environment.

In carrying out its activities, the Central Eurasia Project works closely with Soros foundations in the Caucasus, Central Asia, and Mongolia. It also collaborates with OSI network programs on public health, information, media, women's issues, and the law to coordinate efforts within the region.

The Central Eurasia Project made grants to non-governmental organizations working in or on the region. Also, because Iran and Turkey influence events

in Central Eurasia, the Central Eurasia Project has broadened its scope to include activities with these two countries. With Iran, the Project has continued its support to establish greater contacts between Iran and the United States by fostering exchange among writers, publishers, journalists, and scholars. It has supported public education and outreach in the United States to compensate for a lack of understanding of contemporary Iran. In Turkey, it is seeking to share OSI's methodology and expertise for strengthening Turkey's burgeoning civil society.

The Central Eurasia Project also fostered open debate and helped make rare information about conditions in Central Eurasia more broadly available in the West. Through its Open Forum series, the Project hosted nearly 20 public meetings in New York and Washington, D.C. Noted scholars, journalists, and experts from the region presented information on a broad variety of timely issues, from the elections in Azerbaijan and Kyrgyzstan to agricultural policies to domestic violence.

A redesigned Central Eurasia Project website, EurasiaNet, made its debut in 2000. The website covers political, social and economic developments in the countries of the Caucasus and Central Asia, as well as in Iran, Mongolia, and Turkey. EurasiaNet uses a wide network of contributors and posts daily news and analysis, helping to inform debates on issues of importance to countries in the region. The website (located at <http://www.eurasianet.org>) has quickly established a loyal audience among the policy, research, assistance, and NGO communities. In late 2000, EurasiaNet began laying the groundwork for a limited Russian-language version of the website, aiming to make a greater impact on regional opinion. The website also began exploring arrangements that would make its content available to major media outlets, including CBS News, RFE/RL, and the British Broadcasting Corporation.

www.eurasianet.org

Landmines Project

Efforts to eradicate landmines from the world pushed ahead in 2000. Yet the deadly legacy of wars and civil unrest lingered. Despite the destruction of over 20 million landmines in recent years, an estimated 250 million remain stockpiled in more than 100 countries. Government and nonstate military forces in numerous conflicts still laid mines, with allegations of mine use by several signatories to the historic 1997 Ottawa Convention, or Mine Ban Treaty.

The Soros foundations network continued its support of nongovernmental organizations working to halt the use of landmines, restore the land to communities, and assist survivors. From its launch in 1997 through 2000, the Landmines Project and affiliated organizations awarded more than \$4 million in grants to organizations worldwide. Funding will continue through 2001.

Nongovernmental organizations remain in the forefront of efforts to compel governments to take stock of their policies and examine their actions. At the same time, NGOs sought to persuade nonstate military forces to halt their use of landmines since reliance on these deadly, indiscriminate weapons is by no means limited to government forces. As Nobel Peace laureate and antimines campaigner Jody Williams said, the world must move rapidly to embrace the Mine Ban Treaty and its critical components because it is the “new standard of behavior against this weapon of terror.”

The Landmine Monitor is one of the most innovative projects working toward the elimination of landmines. Supported by the Soros foundations network and part of the International Campaign to Ban Landmines, this groundbreaking civil society initiative came about when NGOs realized they would need to make sure that governments followed through on implementation of the Mine Ban Treaty. The second annual Landmine Monitor report, released in September 2000, underscored how far the international community had come in moving to eradicate antipersonnel landmines and how far it still needed to go.

The Landmine Monitor report documented a worldwide decline in the use of landmines, with dramatic decreases in production, an almost complete halt to trade, rapid destruction of stockpiles, and an increase in funding for mine action programs. More than two-thirds of the world’s nations are signatories to the Mine Ban Treaty, and of those more than 110 have ratified the treaty—an exceptional outcome for the first international treaty to ban a weapon in current widespread use. The report noted that these numbers were a clear indication of the “widespread international rejection” of any use or possession of antipersonnel landmines.

Yet many countries remain outside the Mine Ban Treaty, including the United States, Russia, China, Pakistan, India, and North and South Korea. Every day landmines claim victims in dozens of countries long after the guns have fallen silent or, as recent reports indicate, in countries where combatants have sown new mines despite the worldwide condemnation of these weapons.

In addition to assisting researchers around the world through its support of the Landmine Monitor, the Landmines Project and its affiliated organizations continued to focus on regional efforts to further the ban movement. Support of NGO activities in the Horn of Africa, Southeast Asia, and Russia and the Caucasus broadened the regional work of the Soros foundations network’s initiative. The United States as well remained a focal point for public awareness campaigns supported by the Landmines Project.

www.soros.org/landmine.html

Project Syndicate

Project Syndicate was established eight years ago by the Privatization Project with the goal of enhancing the independence of media and strengthening the journalistic, ethical, and business practices of privately owned newspapers in the transition countries of Eastern Europe. Since then, it has expanded far from its original regional focus to become a truly international forum for global debate and the exchange of ideas.

Newspapers play a vital role in defining and promoting discussion about the meaning of democracy, the role of government, and free markets in transition and developing nations as well as in developed countries. Project Syndicate commentaries feature distinguished voices from around the world and across the political spectrum, including thinkers such as Vaclav Havel, Per Ahlmark, and Esther Dyson, cultural figures from Umberto Eco to Tatiana Tolstoya, distinguished scholars such as Jeffrey Sachs in economics and Joshua Lederberg in biology, and political players like Michel Camdessus, Yevgeny Primakov, General John Shalikashvili, and Eduard Shevardnadze.

Structured as a voluntary global association of newspapers, Project Syndicate, by the end of 2000, united 81 publications in 54 countries across Europe, Asia, the Middle East, and Latin America. In addition to support from OSI, Project Syndicate is maintained through the financial contributions of member papers in developed countries that allow members in less developed economies to participate in Project Syndicate's activities.

Rapid growth occurred in 2000 as 20 new newspapers joined the association. One focus of growing membership was in Latin America. Project Syndicate forged close ties to *Dinero* in Colombia and began an association with *El Universal* in Venezuela. New members from Uruguay, Paraguay, and Chile, as well as additional members in Brazil, added to Project Syndicate's presence in the region. The association also

expanded in Europe through new members and the consolidation of relationships with papers such as *Die Welt* in Germany, *La Repubblica* in Italy, and *Rzeczpospolita* in Poland. The fall of Milosevic in Serbia and a new, democratic government in Croatia allowed Project Syndicate to extend its connections in South Eastern Europe by including the Serbian newspaper *Danas* and the Croatian publication *Novy List* in the association. In the Caucasus, new members such as *Aikakan Zhamanak* in Armenia and *Arili* in Georgia, and commentaries by President Shevardnadze of Georgia and diplomat Feliks Stanevskii contributed to regional dialogue. Project Syndicate also heightened its profile through participation in the World Association of Newspapers (WAN) conferences in Rio de Janeiro and Berlin.

In 2000, Project Syndicate published hundreds of commentaries and launched a number of new series to disseminate critical ideas and prompt policy discussions on an international level. In cooperation with Harvard University, it produced two series addressing science and health issues, with articles by Nobel laureates Pierre-Gilles de Gennes, Joshua Lederberg, and Paul Berg. A third series examined the difficult decisions facing developing countries as they seek to grow their way out of poverty.

Another new series, edited by Lawrence Weschler, explored human rights issues and featured a commentary by UN Secretary General Kofi Annan. The series has gone on to address such issues as democratic Serbia's resistance to the International Criminal Court in the Hague and the danger posed to human rights by states too weak to govern effectively. A fifth new series, edited by renowned China scholar, Orville Schell, has attempted to bring clarity to the issues and policies surrounding that country. A commentary by Zhang Liang, the pseudonymous Beijing insider who smuggled secret documents out of China concerning the 1989 Tienanmen Square massacre, was perhaps the biggest "scoop" in this series.

The series on Russian affairs, started in 1999, was marked in 2000 by contributions from former finance

minister Boris Federov, the physicist Sergei Kapitsa, and the dissident historian Roy Medvedev. The long-standing series of commentaries by Jeffrey Sachs and Rudi Dornbusch continued to make comprehensible the fast changing world economy. And Project Syndicate's flagship weekly series tackled some of the most divisive issues of the year, with Austrian Chancellor Wolfgang Schussel defending his country against EU sanctions and Shlomo Avineri attacking the EU for prematurely lifting those very sanctions. Politicians from former Argentine president Raul Alfonsin, to Prime Ministers Giuliano Amato and Viktor Yuschenko also contributed and helped make public policies accessible to a global audience.

www.project-syndicate.org

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, the development of Romani-led organizations, and political participation. In total, the Soros foundations network spent approximately \$7.4 million in 2000 on Roma programs.

Education initiatives in 2000 included the Step by Step preschool program, which focused on preparing Romani children for public school through the recruitment and training of Romani teaching assistants, the development of curricula that meet Romani needs, and the involvement of parents and the community in the education process. Other network programs supported English language training for Romani professionals and university students at foreign language schools, and provided tuition grants for undergraduate study at the American University in Bulgaria. In Hungary, the Higher Education Support Program provided support to Romaversitas, an Invisible College elite tutorial program for Romani university students. Ten of the network's foundations coordinated tutoring and mentoring programs for Romani high school and university students, and foundations throughout the region supported educational services to Romani communities ranging from providing school supplies to scholarships to local antibias seminars.

The Network Media Program and Soros foundations assisted the development of Romani media through support for Romani language media outlets, start-up media ventures, and established publications as well as the training of Romani journalists. The Roma Publishing 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.

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

ROMA
Jeremy Sutton-Hibbert





Roma in Sintesti, Romania, 1990–1997





variety of Romani youth organizations. The Network Women's Program sought to empower activists for women's rights through an agenda that balanced traditional culture and modern values.

OSI's Human Rights Advocacy Fund supported a number of important initiatives aimed at asserting Roma rights and opening up access to the political system. Major funding (\$1 million in 2000) 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 2000, the ERRC was in the forefront of advocating Roma rights as a critical part of the European Union accession agenda and campaigning for antidiscrimination legislation in the EU candidate countries.

OSI's EU Accession Monitoring Program was launched toward the end of 2000 to conduct systematic reviews by in-country experts of the political criteria of the accession process in each of the 10 EU candidate countries. The country reports, which will pay special attention to minority rights and Roma rights, will be used to stimulate constructive discussion in each country on the accession process.

The Roma Participation Program (RPP) at the Open Society Institute–Budapest provided grants to Romani NGOs for high impact civic action and for community organizing through neighborhood centers. A grant to DROM, a Bulgarian Romani NGO, led to the successful integration of some 300 Romani pupils from segregated schools into mainstream schools in the northwestern city of Vidin. At the end of the first semester, the average grade for the Romani pupils in integrated schools was 4 out of a scale of 2-6 (6 being the top). The RPP cosponsored a conference in Bulgaria to discuss the Vidin model. It was the first public debate on equal education opportunities for Roma. Participants included Bulgarian and international officials, Romani and non-Romani NGOs, and educators. Bulgarian President Peter Stoyanov opened the conference with a full endorsement for desegregation of the school system, noting that indirect discrimination does exist

and that the Roma pay the highest price for it. Bulgaria, he said, "cannot resolve its EU accession problems without solving its Romani problems." In 2000, the RPP provided support for Romani organizations in Serbia and Bosnia for the first time.

The Roma Political Leadership Program finished its first year with very strong results in Bulgaria and the Czech Republic. The Bulgarian group of 10 participants is preparing to form 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.

OSI commissioned a study on Romani and public services in Romania, Bulgaria, Macedonia, and the Czech Republic. The report by Ina Zoon, *On the Margins*, is a call to action to improve Romani access to social protection, health care, and housing. It underscores the effects of bad policies and direct and indirect discrimination on the further marginalization of the Roma. Such policies are creating a permanent underclass of Roma—a human and societal problem that, if left unaddressed, will overburden these transitional economies. As a result of the study, OSI plans to launch an advocacy program to build the capacity of Romani NGOs to advocate on their own behalf.

OSI's Roma High Culture Program awarded grants for scholarly research on Romani culture and for cultural heritage training of the next generation of Roma by Roma. In the second half of 2001, OSI will launch a Romani regionwide university scholarship program to support the creation of a new Romani elite.

Roma Participation Program: www.osi.hu/rpp

OTHER INITIATIVES 2000 EXPENDITURES	\$13,552,000
BELARUSIAN INITIATIVES	2,341,000
BURMA PROJECT	1,833,000
SOUTHEAST ASIA INITIATIVE	2,131,000
CENTRAL EURASIA PROJECT	520,000
MIDDLE EAST PROJECTS	670,000
LANDMINES PROJECT	1,027,000
PROJECT SYNDICATE	902,000
ROMA PARTICIPATION PROGRAM	677,000
OTHER INTERNATIONAL GRANTMAKING	3,451,000

NOTE: Project Syndicate includes contributions of \$316,932 from non-Soros sources. The Burma Project includes contributions of \$301,968 from the U.S. government for scholarship programs.





OSI Offices

Supporting the Soros Network

Open Society Institute offices provide administrative, financial, and technical support to the Soros foundations and also operate independent programs. In OSI offices in Brussels and Paris, much of the work involves establishing partnerships with other international donor organizations and government aid programs. The offices in New York and Budapest administer network programs, which address specific issues on a regional or network-wide basis. OSI in New York is also the home of a series of programs that focus principally on the United States. In 2000, OSI also operated an office in Washington, D.C.

Open Society Institute

The Open Society Institute was established in 1993 to promote the development and maintenance of open societies around the world. OSI does this by supporting an array of activities dealing with educational, social, legal, and health care reform, and by encouraging alternative approaches to complex and controversial issues.

Based in New York City, OSI is a private operating and grantmaking foundation. OSI's activities include network programs, U.S. programs, and other initiatives. Each of these is described in detail in a separate section of this report. OSI assists the other organizations in the Soros foundations network by providing administrative, financial, and technical support.

Network programs administered by OSI include the Children and Youth Programs, which provide young people with a variety of opportunities and resources; the Economic and Business Development Program, which assists small-business entrepreneurs; the English Language Programs, which support English language instruction and the introduction of modern pedagogy; the Public Health Programs, which help improve health care in Central and Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union; the Scholarship Programs, which provide academic exchange opportunities for students, scholars, and professionals from Central and Eastern Europe, the former Soviet Union, Mongolia, Burma, and, increasingly, Central Asia and the Caucasus; and the Women's Program, initiated to support the national foundations in dealing with women's issues. A number of other network programs are based in Hungary, at the Open Society Institute–Budapest. Certain programs are administered from both New York and Budapest.

OSI's U.S. Programs support initiatives in a range of areas, including access to justice for low and moderate income people; independence of the judiciary; ending the death penalty; reducing gun violence and over-reliance on incarceration; drug policy reform; inner-city education and youth programs; fair treatment of

immigrants; reproductive health and choice; campaign finance reform; and improved care of the dying. In 2000, U.S. Programs included Criminal Justice, Fellowships, Governance and Public Policy, Medicine as a Profession, OSI–Baltimore, the Program on Law & Society, the Program on Reproductive Health and Rights, the Project on Death in America, the Soros Documentary Fund, the Southern Initiative, Youth Initiatives, and Other U.S. Initiatives.

Other programs based in New York are the Central Eurasia Project and the Burma Project.

OSI also makes funds available to a variety of cultural, educational, and civic institutions and human rights groups. In 2000, a total of \$9,172,000 was provided to such groups through Chairman and Presidential Grants. Major grant payments and commitments included: \$2,500,000 to the International Crisis Group for general support of on-the-spot analyses of international crises; \$425,000 to the International Women's Health Coalition to support projects that protect women's sexual and reproductive health and rights; \$200,000 to the Economic Cooperation Foundation to promote peace in the Middle East; \$225,000 to Global Witness for core funding; \$100,000 to Physicians for Human Rights for general support; \$231,000 to Doctors of the World for general support; \$200,000 to Refugees International for monitoring and advocacy concerning global refugee crises; \$166,667 to the Committee to Protect Journalists' emergency response fund; \$250,000 for a range of activities to the Foundation on InterEthnic Relations; and \$1,000,000 to Human Rights Watch to support fact-finding missions into human rights abuses throughout the world.

In addition, OSI made a \$20,000,000 grant payable over six years for the benefit of a new organization, the Trust for Civil Society in Central and Eastern Europe, to support the long-term sustainable development of civil society and nongovernmental organizations in the region. The grant is part of a \$75,000,000 ten-year program initiated by five foundations and USAID.

The Institute also provided \$16,347,000 to the Iris Foundation for the benefit of Bard College.

2000 EXPENDITURES

\$64,066,000

Open Society Institute—Brussels

The Open Society Institute—Brussels, established in 1997, acts as a liaison to facilitate collaboration between the organizations of the Soros foundations network and West European partners, including the various institutions of the European Union (EU), bilateral donors, and nongovernmental organizations.

OSI—Brussels assists the various programs and organizations in the Soros foundations network with their efforts to make contact with donors, and informs partner organizations about the mission, activities, and methods of the network. OSI—Brussels also works to raise awareness in European intergovernmental organizations, governments, and opinion-making circles about issues of concern to the foundations in the network.

In 2000, the numerous activities of OSI—Brussels included support to the Soros foundations in the 10 accession countries for the development of their strategies and activities concerning EU enlargement; organization of various donor coordination meetings, including meetings on support for human rights and democracy worldwide and independent media in South Eastern Europe; coordination of Soros foundations network activities related to the Stability Pact for South Eastern Europe; and the organization of various campaigns with other Brussels-based international NGOs concerning EU funding for human rights and democracy.

2000 EXPENDITURES

\$669,000

Open Society Institute—Budapest

The Open Society Institute—Budapest was established in 1993 to develop and implement programs in the areas of educational, social, and legal reform. OSI—Budapest assists the other organizations in the Soros foundations network by providing administrative, financial, and technical support. OSI—Budapest administers network programs, which address specific issue areas on a network-wide basis. OSI—Budapest also supports a variety of other initiatives throughout Central and Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union, with an emphasis on human rights, ethnic and minority issues, civil society, and women's issues. OSI—Budapest is located in the Central European University (CEU) complex in downtown Budapest, and its programs draw upon the university's resources.

Network programs based at OSI—Budapest include the Arts and Culture Network Program, which works with the Soros foundations to support an autonomous and innovative art sector, and to promote change in cultural policy; the Constitutional and Legal Policy Institute, which supports the legal reform efforts of the foundations; the East East Program, which provides a network for the sharing of experience and information among formerly communist countries; the Higher Education Support Program, which promotes the advancement of higher education throughout Central and Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union; the Institute for Educational Policy, which helps the network's foundations maximize the impact of their education programs; the Local Government and Public Service Reform Initiative, which promotes democratic and effective government at sub-national levels; and the Network Media Program, which acts as a consultant for Soros foundations and other organizations working on media-related projects.

In late 2000, a new Information Program was created by merging the formerly separate Internet Program in New York, the Network Library Program,

and the Center for Publishing Development, including the Electronic Publishing Development Program. The mission of the new program is to promote the equitable deployment of knowledge and communications resources for civic empowerment and effective democratic governance. OSI–Budapest also operates the Roma Participation Program, which promotes Romani efforts to strengthen the Romani community, and the EU Accession Monitoring Program, which monitors selected aspects of the European Union accession process in the 10 candidate states of Central and Eastern Europe. A number of other network programs are based at the Open Society Institute in New York, and some programs are administered from both New York and Budapest.

In addition to the above, OSI–Budapest, together with the CEU Center for Policy Studies, continues to support the International Policy Fellowships program. For more information about the Fellowships, see page 102.

2000 EXPENDITURES

\$17,606,000

Open Society Institute–Paris

The Open Society Institute–Paris acts as a liaison and resource office to help foster cultural and educational exchange programs between Soros foundations and other Western European countries, particularly France.

Since 1997, OSI–Paris has focused primarily on the Belarus Project. With the exception of this project, all other operational and grant-giving programs are being phased out. The Belarus Project, which was initiated in 1997 when the Belarus Soros Foundation was forced to close, continued in 2000 to support the development of open society in Belarus through a number of projects. For more information on this effort, see page 150.

OSI–Paris and the East East Program cosponsored

the 2000 summer program in Strasbourg, which addressed the question “Can One Get Rid of One’s Own Past?” Travel expenses were provided for participants from Greece and from Turkey.

In February, meetings were held in Paris to discuss plans for the new Open Society Initiative for West Africa and to consider the development of OSI initiatives in Indonesia. In December, a grant was approved for a French NGO, Est-Liberté, to undertake an exploratory mission to Moldova.

OSI–Paris continued to translate and evaluate proposals and grant requests and to direct them to appropriate Soros foundations and network programs. It also assisted OSI employees with obtaining visas and recruited instructors in France as part of the Civic Education Project.

The final remaining funds were disbursed in 2000 for a multiyear grant awarded in 1994 to support the monthly Visegrad supplement to four major daily newspapers in the Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, and Slovakia. By facilitating the exchange of information on cultural, social, political, and economic issues, the supplement encourages intellectual ties between the Visegrad countries.

2000 EXPENDITURES

\$254,000

Open Society Institute–Washington, D.C.

The Open Society Institute’s office in Washington, D.C., represented the Soros foundations network and its affiliated organizations with the U.S. government, Congress, Washington-based international institutions, nongovernmental organizations, media, and the diplomatic community. The office served as a conduit of information and contacts between the global Soros foundations network and the Washington-based

international assistance and policymaking communities. The Washington office also acted as a liaison in developing program cooperation and civil society support between OSI's network of international foundations and programs and U.S. government agencies as well as other partners.

Working often in coalition with other non-governmental organizations and independent policy centers, the Washington office advocated for broader international support for civil society, human rights, democratic reform, and conflict prevention in countries and regions where Soros foundations or programs operate. When network foundations and associated institutions of civil society, including independent media, came under specific pressure in their own countries, OSI's Washington office assisted in their defense.

The Washington office also assisted the organizations of the Soros foundations network in developing partnerships to advance reform in countries undertaking democratic transitions. The office facilitated contacts for network officers, grantees, and civil society leaders when they visited the U.S. capital to keep Washington decision-makers informed about developments in transition countries. The office was actively involved in helping develop international partnerships for major civil society and independent media projects, including in the countries of the former Yugoslavia.

Having accomplished many of its objectives, the Washington Office closed in June 2001.

2000 EXPENDITURES

\$684,000

OSI Ombudsman

In order to provide maximum transparency about the Soros foundations network's operations and grantmaking, the governing board of the network established the position of OSI Ombudsman in 1997. The role of the Ombudsman is to receive complaints, both internal and external, about acts or practices that appear to constitute an abuse of authority. In cases where Soros foundations have not themselves created a similar position, the ombudsman is empowered to review complaints against Soros foundations.

In 2000, the office of the Ombudsman inquired into three cases involving procedures related to grant applications, competitions, and scholarships. In addition, the office of the Ombudsman reviewed 32 cases of conflict of interest during 2000. None of the cases brought to the Ombudsman's attention suggested a pattern of abuse and therefore no policy changes were recommended to OSI.

The types of complaints that should be addressed to the ombudsman include rudeness, negligence, invidious political or personal favoritism or bias, dishonesty, or other misfeasance in dealing with grant applicants, partner organizations, or the general public. Since May 2001, Irena Veisaite has served as the OSI Ombudsman. The Ombudsman can be reached at OSI Ombudsman, Open Society Fund–Lithuania, Didzioji str. 5, 2001 Vilnius, Lithuania.

Central European University

Expanding to Meet Global Challenges

The Central European University (CEU) was established to advance open societies in Central and Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union through education that examines ideas creatively, critically, and comparatively. In the 10 years since its creation, the environment in which the university operates has undergone substantial change. While continuing to observe its original mission, CEU is now ready to take up new challenges. Based on the success of its activities and considering the challenges of globalization, CEU is establishing new programs and opening existing ones to other areas of the world undergoing transitions to democracy.

The CEU community is engaged in the production of new, socially relevant knowledge, which is rooted in serious scholarship and has a systematic focus on the shifting boundary between the local and the universal. The Center for Humanities, established in 2000, will pursue this new form of inquiry by bringing CEU faculty, doctoral students, and renowned non-CEU scholars together with NGO leaders, mainly from the Soros foundations network, who will offer their knowledge about local developments and problems. The mission of the CEU's Center for Policy Studies is to translate the research conducted at CEU into policy recommendations. In addition, the Center assumes policy projects consistent with the overall mission of the university. The Center's main partner and beneficiary is the Soros foundations network.

During the 2000–2001 academic year, CEU enrolled 818 students. The majority of students were enrolled in master's degree programs, but an increasing number are entering doctoral programs and doctoral support programs. Students were drawn from nearly 40 countries, including those of Central and Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union, Western Europe, North America, and Asia.

More than 200 professors from 30 countries teach at CEU. Prestigious visiting professors give frequent lectures and seminars at the university, thus giving students access to highly respected academics from top level institutions in Europe and the United States.

CEU's nine academic departments and two interdisciplinary programs offer Master of Arts (MA) degree programs in Central European history, economics, economy and society, gender studies, human rights, international relations and European studies, medieval studies, nationalism studies, philosophy, political science, society and politics. Master of Law (LLM) degree programs in comparative constitutional law and international business law and a Master of Science (MS) degree program in environmental sciences and policy are also offered.



Main entrance to the Monument Building, Central European University

CEU has continued to move ahead with the development of doctoral studies. In addition to the already accredited doctoral programs in history, legal studies, medieval studies, political science, and sociology, two new Ph.D. programs in philosophy and economics started in academic year 2000–2001. A Ph.D. program in mathematics and its applications will be launched in the academic year 2001–2002 in cooperation with the world-renowned Institute of Mathematics of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences and the prestigious Pierre and Marie Curie University in Paris.

CEU is committed to serving its constituency not only through teaching and research at its two teaching sites in Budapest and Warsaw, but also by promoting and supporting intensive regional cooperation. Special and Extension Programs facilitate cooperation between CEU and universities throughout the region, with approximately 1,400 professors a year participating in activities for faculty and curriculum development. These programs, financially supported mainly by the Higher Education Support Program, utilize the pro bono work of CEU professors and staff. Through the Special and Extension Programs, CEU professors meet visiting scholars, host fellows, conduct research workshops, ensure quality control, and engage in a wider debate on these initiatives on a regular basis.

With the new developments in the Balkans after the NATO military intervention in Yugoslavia, CEU has assumed an active role in supporting the development of higher education in the spirit of the Stability Pact. Currently, CEU is cochair of the Working Group on Higher Education of the Stability Pact.

www.ceu.hu

Open Society Archives

As the Open Society Archives (OSA), a part of the Central European University since 1998, celebrated its fifth anniversary in 2000, it continued to add to the most significant collection of materials relating to the period of communism and the Cold War and its aftermath in Central and Eastern Europe. OSA received the documents of the International Science Foundation (ISF) Archives just as the book on the history of ISF was published. The core of OSA holdings is formed by the historical file collection of the Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty (RFE/RL) Research Institute and supplemented with other records such as those of the Open Media Research Institute, the personal papers of opposition leaders, and Samizdat publications.

OSA also focuses on materials relating to human rights, thus maintaining a unique collection in this area. In 2000, the OSA library, in conjunction with CEU's History Department, acquired *Testaments to the Holocaust*, the microfilm edition of the Wiener Library, London. This unique historical material covers a time span from the early 1930s to the mid-1960s and provides the basis for studying Nazi Germany, its crimes against the Jews, and the postwar life of Jewish communities. The library is now the first and only public institution in Central and Eastern Europe where the collection is available for researchers.

Besides obtaining, preserving, and making these resources available to researchers and the general public, OSA provides archival services to all parts of the Soros foundations network, including the Central European University (CEU), where OSA is located. The Archives hold 3,341 linear meters of textual records and maintains its own library and a growing audiovisual collection. A sophisticated catalogue is accessible on the OSA website, which is regularly updated and has gained international recognition from such organizations as CNN and Memorial, the Russian human rights documentation center, which have linked their websites to OSA's site.

As an open facility, practically anyone can apply to use the archives and its associated noncirculating

library. Reference services are provided on-site and through the Internet or by telephone, fax, e-mail, and regular mail. OSA also encourages journalists and researchers to use its resources and services through grants to individuals and organizations. In 2000, the Archives awarded 20 fellowship research grants to individuals, covering the costs of travel and accommodations in Budapest for researchers from several different countries in the region. In November 2000, OSA launched its Internship Project for Hungarian archivists to strengthen its relationship with other archives and related institutions.

The Archives, through its Regional Cooperation Program, continued to support the cataloguing project of the Russian State Film and Photo Archive at Krasnogorsk, Russia’s premier archive of nonfiction films and photos. OSA provided funds for two lecturers and five participants at seminars conducted by St. Petersburg University’s Archival Training Program. After a fact-finding mission to Kosovo, OSA’s senior archivist prepared and published recommendations on the most urgent needs of the archives of the war-stricken region. As a first step, OSA purchased 500 acid-free archival boxes and shipped them to Kosovo.

At the 14th International Congress of the International Council on Archives (ICA) in Seville, OSA called for the forming of an International Federation of Human Rights Archives to serve as a forum for similar organizations. OSA also announced an initiative to declassify and catalogue Warsaw Pact documents. As a follow-up to the Kosovo Project, OSA asked national archives to donate archival boxes to the Kosovo archives and received a favorable response from European states as well as individuals throughout the world.

OSA continued to provide advice about information policy, legislation, and records management to Soros foundations and regional programs through its annual two-day workshop, which focused on the Archival Policy of the Soros foundation network as approved by the International Board of OSI.

OSA held exhibitions on “The Siege of Budapest;” “Angkor,” the lost Cambodian city; the media war during

the Kosovo conflict; and the production and distribution of Samizdat publications in the region. The 2000 CEU Summer University training course hosted by OSA was “Access to Information: Access to Archives,” which presented an overview of the principles and examples of openness and secrecy in the newly democratic countries of Central and Eastern Europe.

www.osa.ceu.hu

2000 EXPENDITURES	\$18,466,000
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Application Information

The most current and complete application guidelines and information can be found on the Soros foundations network website www.soros.org.

Soros Foundations

The Soros foundations are independent entities with their own boards of directors, staff, program priorities, application guidelines, and grantmaking procedures. In addition to operating their own programs, the foundations award grants, but principally to local organizations and individuals. Some foundations also award grants to foreign organizations working in partnership with local groups. Potential grant applicants should contact individual foundations for information about their application procedures. Contact information for the Soros foundations can be found in the directory starting on page 177.

Network Programs

In general, network programs do not award grants directly to individuals or organizations, but rather work through the Soros foundation in a given country or region to implement programs. From time to time, network programs establish partnerships with other international organizations, nongovernmental organizations, or governments. Contact information for network program staff in New York or Budapest can be found in the directory.

U.S. Programs

Organizations and individuals interested in applying for funding from the Open Society Institute's U.S. Programs should contact the relevant program officer or director for specific application guidelines. Please do not submit a complete application before contacting the relevant program for specific guidelines. Contact information can be found in the directory.

Other Initiatives

The Open Society Institute's other initiatives include four that accept proposals for grants: the Burma Project, the Landmines Project, the Central Eurasia Project, and the Roma Participation Program. Contact information can be found in the directory.