

Introduction

Freedom of communication is essential in our global, connected world. While the internet provides a lot of opportunities for freedom of communication, it at the same time is not a given. Increasingly, communication freedom is under threat. The Internet Confrerie Stichting (Foundation) intends to contribute to protect communication freedom, by protecting and promoting fundamental rights in this field. This policy document sets out what the mission of the Foundation is, and how the Foundation intends to achieve its mission.

Mission

The statutory mission of the Internet Confrerie Stichting is to protect and promote fundamental rights in the field of communication freedom, in particular by raising money and providing grants to foundations whose (statutory) mission to protect and promote fundamental rights in the field of communication freedom, and all other activities that directly and indirectly support this objective, in the broadest sense of the term.

Activities

The Internet Confrerie Stichting is primarily a grantmaking institution. Its core activity is raising funds from donors -- including international foundations and NGOs, bilateral and multilateral donors, governments and others -- who trust the Foundation's expertise in distributing this money to appropriate recipients. It distributes funds to institutions and individuals directly engaged in protecting and promoting fundamental rights in the field of communication freedom, monitors how these funds are used, and reports appropriately to its donors and relevant authorities.

The Internet Confrerie Stichting's partners are primarily other nonprofit entities registered in the Netherlands who share our objectives. These entities in turn carry out or commission a range of activities - such as researching and responding to threats to communication freedom, training of journalists and human rights activists, and education of policy makers and the general public. The Internet Confrerie Stichting protects its grantees confidentiality, reporting on their behalf as required by law and its agreements with its donors.

The primary activities of the Internet Confrerie Stichting are:

1. To identify needs in the field of communications freedom;
2. To raise monies from donors to address these needs;
3. To identify the institutions capable of addressing these needs efficiently
4. To make grants to these institutions;
5. To monitor activities and deliverables;
6. To report as required by law and obligations.

Governance and board composition

The Foundation consists of a volunteer board of a minimum of three and a maximum of five persons. The board members do not receive financial remuneration for their work as members of the board, but they can claim necessary and reasonable expenses. The statutes provide for the possibility to create an office staff, in addition to the board, which could do the administration of the funds. Salaries of staff members, including the directors, are calculated at a competitive rate for international NGOs and are scaled according to experience, qualifications, skills and responsibilities. The Foundation will not have an advisory council.

The assets will be managed by the board. Each board member has the same voting rights. No board member can dispose solely of the assets of the Foundation. If financially possible, the Foundation will maintain a buffer which is never bigger than 15% of the average yearly expenses in the three coming years.

Finances

The following sets out an estimate of the income and expenses in the coming three years (2020-2022). All figures are in EUR.

INCOME	2020	2021	2022
Grants (incoming)	150,000	200,000	200,000
Training and consultation	5,000	10,000	10,000
Research and development	5,000	5,000	5,000
Technical assistance	5,000	5,000	10,000
Reserve	0	5,000	15,000
TOTAL INCOME	165,000	225,000	240,000
EXPENSES	2020	2021	2022
Grants (outgoing)	128,000	189,000	249,000
Financial services	6,000	6,000	6,000
Legal services	6,000	2,000	2,000
Travel and accommodation	5,000	3,000	3,000
Fundraising	15,000	15,000	15,000
TOTAL EXPENSES	160,000	215,000	275,000