

Human Rights Grantmaking—Russia

Overview

The John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation's grantmaking in human rights and international justice has three primary objectives:

- Strengthening the infrastructure and capacity for implementation in the field
- Facilitating the formation of an international justice system
- Supporting the institutionalization of human rights practices and expertise in the countries of Mexico, Nigeria, and Russia.

The Foundation currently provides over \$17 million each year to human rights organizations and activities worldwide. It provides support for organizations that hold countries accountable to their constitutions and international agreements, that monitor the practice of international institutions and non-state actors, and that seek to insert human rights concerns in national and international policymaking.

In Russia

The goal of the MacArthur Foundation's human rights grantmaking in Russia is to facilitate a nationwide network of human rights organizations that can strengthen the Russian legal system, encourage citizen participation in the country's affairs, and help the Russian government in its efforts to address human rights issues.

Russia's human rights movement in particular and the NGO (nongovernmental organization) sector in general have emerged as forces for pluralism in Russian society, creating a Russia-wide network of civil society organizations that are stronger and more resilient than at any time in the post-Soviet period. MacArthur seeks to strengthen and increase the effectiveness of this network in the years ahead.

The human rights grantmaking strategy of the Initiative in the Russian Federation includes:

- Support for Moscow-based organizations serving as hubs or resource centers for Russia-wide networks of regional human rights groups.
- In selected regions, support for human rights NGOs. (The regions are: Krasnodar, Moscow city and Moscow oblast, Nizhni Novgorod, Perm, Rostov, Samara, Saratov, Sverdlovsk, Tatarstan, and Voronezh.)
- Support for data gathering and dissemination of information related to human rights activities and violations to governments, media, and interested publics.

Within these core elements, the Foundation focuses on three key issues: encouraging police reform (and combating police abuse); strengthening the institution of the regional human rights ombudsmen; and enabling Russian groups to make better use of the European Court of Human Rights.

Human Rights—Russia, Representative Grants—2002-2004

NETWORK HUBS AND RESOURCE CENTERS

ALL RUSSIAN PUBLIC MOVEMENT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS, *Moscow, Russia*

In support of activities facilitating better coordination strategies for Russian human rights organizations (over three years).

CENTER FOR COMPULSORY MIGRATION IN THE CIS COUNTRIES, *Moscow, Russia*

In support of the Center's research on migration policy and the rights of migrants in Russia (over three years).

CENTER FOR INTERETHNIC COOPERATION, *Moscow, Russia*

In support of the protection of the rights of ethnic minorities and migrants in the Russian regions (over two years).

CENTER FOR THE PROMOTION OF INTERNATIONAL DEFENSE, *Moscow, Russia*

In support of activities to promote access to the European Court of Human Rights by Russian citizens (over three years).

CONSORTIUM OF WOMEN'S NON-GOVERNMENTAL ASSOCIATIONS, *Moscow, Russia*

For an educational project on issues of gender equality (over three years).

EUROPEAN HUMAN RIGHTS ADVOCACY CENTRE, LONDON METROPOLITAN UNIVERSITY, *London, United Kingdom*

In support of activities to promote access to the European Court of Human Rights in the Russian Federation (over three years).

GLASNOST DEFENSE FOUNDATION, *Moscow, Russia*

To monitor violations of mass media rights in the Russian Federation (over three years).

INDEPENDENT COUNCIL OF LEGAL EXPERTISE, *Moscow, Russia*

In support of activities to facilitate court reform and improve mechanisms for the protection of human rights in Russia (over three years).

INTERREGIONAL FOUNDATION "ASSOCIATION OF OMBUDSMEN," *Dmitrov, Russia*

In support of activities to promote the institution of regional human rights ombudsmen (over two years).

MOSCOW CENTER FOR GENDER STUDIES, *Moscow, Russia*

In support of activities to promote the human rights of women (over three years).

MOSCOW HELSINKI GROUP, *Moscow, Russia*

In support of a long-term strategy to reinforce the human rights movement in Russia through further development of the regional monitoring network, support for civic group-based legal assistance clinics, and promotion of coalition building activities (over three years).

ST. PETERSBURG CENTER OF HUMANITIES AND POLITICAL STUDIES "STRATEGY," *St. Petersburg, Russia*

In support of a training and technical assistance program for human rights ombudsmen and their office staffs in the Russian regions (over three years).

REGIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS ORGANIZATIONS

CENTER FOR THE SUPPORT OF DEMOCRATIC YOUTH INITIATIVES, *Perm, Russia*

In support of activities to promoting the constitutional the rights of young men of conscript age (over three years).

CENTRAL-BLACKSOIL CENTER FOR PROTECTION OF MEDIA RIGHTS, *Voronezh, Russia*

In support of a project to monitor press freedoms in Russia and provide legal defense for journalists (over two years).

CHARITABLE FOUNDATION IN SUPPORT OF CIVIL SOCIETY INITIATIVES "FULCRUM," *Moscow, Russia*

In support of a regrating program to promote human rights activities in selected priority regions in the Russian Federation (over three years).

CIVIC HUMAN RIGHTS LEAGUE, *Rostov-na-Donu, Russia*

In support of activities to promote the rights of black foreign students in the South of Russia (over two years).

INTERREGIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS GROUP, *Voronezh, Russia*
In support of human rights networking activities
in the Voronezh region of the Russian Federation
(over two years).

KAZAN HUMAN RIGHTS CENTER, *Kazan, Russia*
In support of activities to promote the protection
of human rights in Tatarstan, Chuvashia, Samara, and
Ulyanovsk (over three years).

MOTHERS IN DEFENSE OF THE RIGHTS OF THOSE ARRESTED,
UNDER INVESTIGATION AND CONVICTED, *Krasnodar, Russia*
In support of activities to reduce police abuse in
Krasnodar region (over two years).

NIZHNY NOVGOROD REGIONAL NON-GOVERNMENTAL
ORGANIZATION "COMMITTEE AGAINST TORTURE,"
Novgorod, Russia
In support of research to establish the scale of the
incidence of police torture in Russia, the monitoring
and pursuit of cases of alleged torture, and in further-
ance of a campaign against the use of police torture
and inhumane treatment by Russian law enforcement
agencies (over three years).

NOVOROSSIISK CITY CHARITABLE NGO "FRODO,"
Novorossiisk, Russia
In support of activities to reduce ethnic discrimination
and xenophobia in Krasnodar region (over two years).

PERM REGIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS CENTER, *Perm, Russia*
In support of activities to combat torture by law
enforcement agencies (over three years).

PUBLIC COMMITTEE FOR THE PROTECTION OF HUMAN
RIGHTS, *Krasnoyarsk, Russia*
In support of the project "Defense of human rights
from illegal actions on the part of law enforcement
agencies" (over two years).

ROSTOV CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL DEFENSE,
Rostov-on-Don, Russia
In support of activities to promote the use of the
norms of the European Convention on Human Rights
in the domestic Russian justice system (over two years).

SARATOV LEGAL REFORM PROJECT, *Saratov, Russia*
In support of a project on legal science, practice, and
education in Russia (over three years).

SOUTHERN WAVE CREATIVE UNION, *Krasnodar, Russia*
In support of activities to promote human rights in
Krasnodar region (over three years).

SUTIAZHNIK PUBLIC ASSOCIATION, *Ekaterinburg, Russia*
In support of an Internet Training Center and other
training, legal research, and legal defense activities
(over two years).

WOMEN OF THE DON REGION, *Novocherkassk, Russia*
In support of activities to combat police abuse in the
city of Novocherkassk (over three years).

YOUTH HUMAN RIGHTS MOVEMENT, *Voronezh, Russia*
In support of an antifascist campaign in the Voronezh
region of the Russian Federation (over two years).

INFORMATION DISSEMINATION

CENTER FOR INFORMATION RESEARCH, INSTITUTE OF THE
USA AND CANADA, *Moscow, Russia*
In support of the development and maintenance of
a publicly accessible electronic Web site with a full
collection of the European Court for Human Rights
documents, with Russian-language search tools
(over two years).

DOS'E NA TSENZURU, *Moscow, Russia*
In support of a human rights journal and for a special
quarterly publication devoted to human rights viola-
tions by law enforcement personnel (over three years).

FUND KONSTITUZIA, *Moscow, Russia*
In support of the *Bulletin of Public Law*, a journal on
Russian and European human rights jurisprudence
(over three years).

MITACOM FOUNDATION FOR DEVELOPMENT OF SOCIAL
RESPONSIBILITY, *Moscow, Russia*
In support of a television series on grassroots democ-
racy in America and associated outreach activities.

PRIMA HUMAN RIGHTS NEWS AGENCY, *Moscow, Russia*
In support of a human rights news service for Russian
and foreign journalists (over three years).

About the Foundation

The John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation is a private, independent grant-making institution dedicated to helping groups and individuals foster lasting improvement in the human condition. Through the support it provides, the Foundation fosters the development of knowledge, nurtures individual creativity, strengthens institutions, helps improve public policy, and provides information to the public, primarily through support for public interest media.

The Foundation makes grants through four programs and by making program-related investments.

- *The Program on Global Security and Sustainability* focuses on international issues, including peace and security, conservation and sustainable development, population and reproductive health, and human rights and international justice. International offices are located in India, Mexico, Nigeria, and Russia.
- *The Program on Human and Community Development* operates primarily within the United States. Issues of interest to the program include community development; regional policy; affordable housing, with a particular emphasis on the preservation of rental housing; and system reform in education, juvenile justice, and mental health. In addition to grants, the program makes program-related investments, primarily for affordable housing and to U.S.-based community development financial institutions.
- *The General Program* supports public interest media, including public radio and the production of independent documentary film. Grants are made to arts and cultural institutions in the Chicago area and for special initiatives, currently including intellectual property rights in a digital environment.
- *The MacArthur Fellows Program* awards five-year, unrestricted fellowships to individuals across all ages and fields who show exceptional merit and promise of continued creative work. It is limited to U.S. citizens and other residents of the United States.

One of the nation's ten largest private philanthropic foundations, MacArthur has awarded more than \$3 billion in grants since it began operations in 1978, with assets, as of December 31, 2004, of about \$5 billion. The annual grantmaking budget is approximately \$180 million. The Foundation believes its grantmaking is most effective when focused upon a relatively few areas of work, combined with sufficient resources over a long enough period of time to make a measurable difference.

John D. MacArthur (1897–1978) developed and owned Bankers Life and Casualty Company and other businesses, as well as considerable property in Florida and New York. His wife Catherine (1909–1981) held positions in many of these companies and served as a director of the Foundation.

The Foundation benefits in its work from diversity at all levels of its operations. In working with other organizations and individuals, the Foundation values those who understand and share its commitment to diversity.

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