

ARIADNE



European Funders for Social Change and Human Rights

What is Ariadne?



Ariadne members speed-networking at the 2013 Policy Briefing

ARIADNE provides excellent and time-saving opportunities to meet colleagues from small and large partner organisations, to exchange in-depth information about my specific field of work, and to share knowledge with others.

Ise Bosch *Dreilinden*

ARIADNE is a genuinely reflective space for all kinds of funders, it is one of the few places donors have to put their own dilemmas and difficulties in context and discuss them openly.

Rosien Herweijer *Grant Craft*

What is Ariadne?

Ariadne is a funders' affinity group connecting European donors and foundation staff working to support social change, human dignity, human rights and justice. It was set up in 2009 by a number of European foundations because they felt that peer support could strengthen philanthropy in this field and help funders create new approaches together to fund human rights and social change.

Ariadne:

- Provides opportunities to share knowledge and research.
- Offers concrete tools to support funders.
- Helps to improve the skills of European donors from diverse backgrounds.
- Makes it simpler and cheaper to act cooperatively.
- Creates a place for funders to reflect openly and honestly on their practice.

Overall, Ariadne enables participants to achieve more together than they can individually. It is a member-driven network, steered by funders for funders.



Ariadne members at the 2013 Policy Briefing and Networking Dinner

Who are Ariadne's members?

Ariadne is a space for those who invest in social change and human rights in their own cities, regions, countries or internationally. We welcome funders with big and small resources. Ariadne currently has more than 300 individual members and affiliates, including grant-makers of all sorts, from individual philanthropists to staff and board members of professional trusts and foundations. Our membership represents over 100 grant-making bodies in 14 different countries, including the Netherlands, the United Kingdom, Belgium, Germany, Switzerland, Hungary, Turkey, Spain and more.

What connects our diverse membership is their effort to create societies which are inclusive and offer equal opportunities to all. This includes work in areas such as Migration and Integration, Gender Equality and Women's Rights, Tolerance and Diversity, Empowering Young People, Supporting Civil Society, Disability and Inclusion.

How does Ariadne work?

As a flexible and private network, Ariadne offers a mix of different tools to improve access to information and provides ways to connect with peers working in similar fields:

Online: members have access to a password-protected online portal which is used to share information, discuss topical issues or questions around grant-making, and coordinate events.

In Person: funders meet up at our annual Policy Briefing and other events we organise throughout the year.

Newsletters: we save you time by sending a regular newsletter that summarises relevant research and events, and updates from the funders community.

Ariadne supports your work by:

- Creating a network of grant-makers who can share successes and failures, knowledge and understanding.
- Allowing for exchanges between funders in a private environment to which grant-seekers have no access.
- Facilitating and coordinating discussion on grant-making and specific topics, including diversity, migration, gender and many more.
- Providing free or low cost access to new tools and expertise which make your work quicker and easier.



Ariadne Meetings

Ariadne organises events that bring together donors and grant-makers from across Europe to share ideas and discuss issues they care about.

Annual Policy Briefing

The Ariadne Policy Briefing is our biggest annual event, gathering a diverse group of funders with experts and front-line activists from different parts of Europe and the world to explore how we can best tackle the social challenges our societies face. Past Policy Briefings featured contributions from Members of the European Parliament, extremism expert Prof. Dr. Matthew Goodwin, Nazra for Feminist Studies in Egypt, the US-based Foundation Center, Amnesty International General Secretary Salil Shetty, former UN Special Commissioner Louise Arbor, and Chief Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court Fatou Bensouda (pictured above, 2nd from left). The Policy Briefing offers a mix of topical sessions and grant-skills workshops, suggested by members, with structured opportunities for networking and time set aside for reflection.

Seminars & Workshops

Our seminars and workshops explore specific focus-topics together with one or more expert speakers in the area. These are interactive, with plenty of time to discuss and ask questions, and they take place

in English or the language of the host country. These are on topics suggested and often hosted by network members. Past seminars included Evaluating the Grant-making Process, Strategic Funding for Children, Supporting Societies in Post Conflict and Democratic Transition and more. An annual highlight is the Ariadne Grant Skills Day and Summer Networking Dinner in London, which focuses on an aspect of the grant-making process, selected by participants. In 2012, it was Working Collaboratively and in 2013 we looked at Accountability.

Tele-briefings

Tele-briefings are expert conversations which members can join from their desks via conference call. Ariadne often organises these Tele-briefings in cooperation with the US-based International Human Rights Funders Group so that European and US based funders can pool their expertise. Past Tele-briefings focused on Migration and Climate Change, The Case for a Human Rights Lens on Disability, The Impact of the Global Financial Crisis and Strategic Funding in Egypt, Turkey and Syria.

Learning Visits

Every two years, Ariadne and the International Human Rights Funders Group in New York organise a joint Funders Learning Visit to a different region of the world. In 2012 we travelled to North Africa to explore how funders can support civic participation and gender equality amidst an unprecedented wave of popular uprisings. On this three-day visit, participants had the chance to meet civil society groups and activists from different Arab countries, representatives of the European Union, the US Middle East Partnership Initiative, and Arab philanthropic organisations.

Networking Dinners

Ariadne organises a number of Networking Dinners in different European cities throughout the year. At our Networking Dinners, we introduce you to other European donors and foundation staff who work in your area. This is an opportunity to share stories, successes and failures in a relaxed environment and build trust with with peers across Europe.

What People Say about Ariadne Meetings and Events

ARIADNE POLICY BRIEFING:

"inspiring international senior speakers"

"the right workshop formula"

"great way to meet multiple peers in an organised way"

IHRFG-ARIADNE LEARNING VISIT TO THE ARAB REGION:

"I learned a great deal about Tunisia and opportunities for cooperation there. This may turn into the first work our foundation has ever done in Tunisia."

"New connections around the topic of young civic engagement/ participation. Through the Ariadne portal we shall continue the exchange of ideas and discuss entry points into the Mena region."

GRANT SKILLS WORKSHOP:

"a nice feeling of peer learning"

"lots of new faces"

"well-presented and thoughtful material"

"I like the friendliness of the crowd and warm welcome"



- Co-Chair of the Board of Directors
- Executive Director of Transparency International (TI)
1. Jo Annand
 2. Karim Chahed
 3. Teresa Elan
 4. Patricia Goh
 5. Sarah Jones
 6. ...
- AMM Association for Families & Children
1. Esther Hegerl
 2. Emmanuel Olor
 3. Anthony Stoll
 4. Regina Taylor
- ESSE (Europe, Middle East & Africa)

The Ariadne Portal

The Ariadne Portal is a private online meeting space for grant-makers. Every member has a profile on the portal. The platform features a large variety of special interest communities where funders share resources and discuss approaches to grant-making. These include communities on issues such as women's rights, racism and xenophobia, funding in the MENA region, migration, and separate linguistic communities for Ariadne Netherlands, Ariadne Deutsch and Ariadne Francophone.

The Portal also gives funders access to a variety of useful tools, including the first online interactive map of global social change and human rights grants and recipients, and a careers board where you can post or browse job opportunities.

The Portal is password-protected and can only be accessed by Ariadne members. We do not share your contact details with anyone else.

The image shows two overlapping screenshots of the Ariadne Portal website. The top screenshot displays the homepage layout, and the bottom screenshot shows a detailed user profile for Vera Franz.

ARIADNE Portal Homepage:

- Navigation: HOME | MY PROFILE | LOGOUT
- Search: All Content
- Menu: TAGS | CALENDAR | PEOPLE | COMMUNITIES | FEEDS
- Ariadne Central:** The main place for blogs, news, docs and more for all members. Click to enter: [Ariadne Central](#)
- Ariadne's Thread:** Read the latest newsletter: 27th September 2013
- New: Funding Map:** Access: Global Map of Social Change Funders & Grantees. Click here for an instant link.
- Of Note:** Where is Ariadne headed in the next four years? [Ariadne Strategy 2013-16](#)
- About Ariadne:** Mission and Structure, Membership Requirements
- Network News:** **REGISTER NOW** Knowledge Tools Seminars, Nov & Dec, European Cities; Masterclass with Prof. George Lakoff, 8th October, London; Grant Skills Workshop and Networking Dinner, 24th September, London; Ariadne Portal Class/Training - 2 August 2013 - New York City; SAVE THE DATE: Knowledge Tools for Social Change and Human Rights Funders, Different Cities. [MORE](#)
- Career Opportunities:**
- Image: A woman in traditional Indian attire playing a veena.

Vera Franz Profile:

- Tag: [Add](#)
- Last login: 4 months ago
- Position: Senior Program Manager, Information Program
- Email: Vera.Franz@geneosityfoundations.org
- Location: London
- Country: United Kingdom
- Organization: Open Society Foundation
- Languages: German, Italian, English, French
- Websites: <http://ec377/www.00005.org/0/>
- Vera's Tags:** 2 technology, 2 internet, 1 genetics, All Vera's tags
- Vera's Communities:** 2011 Policy Briefing, 2012 Policy Briefing, 2013 Policy Briefing, Ariadne Central, Ariadne UK, Ariadne UK Summer Networking Dinner 2013, Moderator Community

Ariadne's Thread

Ariadne's Thread is our newsletter, specifically designed for social change grant-makers. It features recent research - focused on grant-making as well as specific topics - and a regularly updated list of relevant seminars and conferences across Europe. Ariadne's Thread also tells you what's happening in the Ariadne community of funders, who recently joined the network, which collaborative funds exist and which topics are being explored on the Ariadne Portal.

How to join us

Participation in Ariadne is open to grant-makers and donors who are based in Europe and invest a minimum of €20,000 annually to support social change and human rights globally. Additionally, funders who are based outside Europe but invest a minimum of €20,000 per year to support social change and human rights in Europe are also eligible.

Ariadne accepts donors of all kinds, including individual donors, staff of private foundations, trusts, corporate foundations, and hybrid foundations.

An additional condition for participating in Ariadne is that the participant's organisation must engage primarily in philanthropy. Two ways of measuring this are: that 60% or more of its total expenditure is spent on grant-making, or that it draws more than 60% of its expenditure from its own income sources such as an endowment or annual allocation from a principal benefactor.

The final decision on participation in Ariadne lies with the Ariadne Advisory Board, which is composed of Ariadne members.

There is no charge for joining Ariadne, however most members make an annual voluntary contribution.


To request membership or information email info@ariadne-network.eu

ARIADNE

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Mensen mit een Missie
Oak Foundation
Open Society Foundations
Northern Rock Foundation
Rosa: the UK fund for women
and girls
Sigrid Rausing Trust
Staples Trust
Tinsley Foundation
Unbound Philanthropy
Womanity Foundation
Zennström Philanthropies

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