

ART. 2 OF THE FOUNDATION'S CHARTER FROM DECEMBER 12, 1997

## THE PURPOSE ARTICLE

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<b>PRINCIPLES</b>	Intention and purpose of the founder, Heinrich Gebert
<b>SIGNIFICANCE</b>	The Purpose Article presents the highest normative determination of the foundation and its activities. In daily foundation practice, it must always be open to new interpretation and application to concrete circumstances and projects. It forms the basis for mission statements, strategies and support criteria. These only serve to ensure the implementation of the founder's purpose and intention.

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## FOUNDATION'S PURPOSE

The purpose of the Foundation is to enhance Switzerland as a commercial center and as a place to live by supporting projects for education, teaching and research, in all specialties and areas of knowledge, in particular, at public and private universities, technical colleges and other centers of higher education throughout the country, as well as by supporting the collaboration of these institutions with companies and enterprises from the business and the social sectors, with the goal of transforming scientific knowledge into economic and social benefits.

The Foundation can support similar activities in Eastern and Central Europe, as long as their status of development is not comparable to that of Western Europe.

In its activities, the Foundation follows the following principles:

1. It plays both a supporting and initiating role in projects.
2. It promotes collaboration that transcends specialized areas of learning, institutional or national boundaries. Projects in foreign countries can be supported as long as they show a close relationship to Switzerland, either in their content or with the institutions and people participating in the project. This restriction does not apply for support of projects as cited within the meaning of Paragraph 2 (Eastern and Central Europe).
3. It aims to supplement traditional education, teaching and research activities and especially supports new and unorthodox projects that would provide an impulse to the Swiss economy and society. The Foundation does not relieve the public authorities of the responsibility to provide a qualified fundamental core offering in the area of education, teaching and research activities.
4. Its support activity is directed towards projects of high quality, whereby in addition to small projects and projects involving single individuals, especially inter-related, synergistic, medium- and long-term projects will be considered. A smaller part of the Foundation's funds, however, are available to provide spontaneous support benefits.
5. Particular emphasis (though not exclusively) is placed on support for younger researchers and lecturers and, in general, to the next generation of academics.
6. It supports the international exchange of instructors and researchers, including doctoral students.
7. It emphasizes the development of application-oriented technologies and processes and, in general, the exchange between education and research institutions on the one hand, and the economy and society on the other.
8. It considers the requirements of enduring economic development and together with this, also ecological concerns.
9. Where reasonable and expedient, it collaborates with other accredited institutions on a project-related basis, or as part of an indirect support of projects.
10. The Foundation's funds should not be squandered, but rather, mostly be used according to a long-term and established strategy showing clear and synergistic foci, as laid down by the Foundation Board.
11. The Foundation pursues public and non-profit purposes of general Swiss interest. It pursues no acquisition or self-help purposes, and in particular, produces no services for the founder or his relatives.