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Policy owner: Fundraising Manager

Fundraising Policy

The Right Livelihood Award Foundation (below: "Right Livelihood") is a registered foundation in Sweden with the organisation number 802015-5670. The Foundation enjoys the highest Swedish status of charitable tax exemption (Inkomstskattelagen - 1999:1229, chapter 7, §17). It is under the supervision of the Stockholm County Board (Länsstyrelsen) and controlled by the Swedish Fundraising Control (Svensk insamlingskontroll). The Foundation is audited by Grant Thornton.

Right Livelihood's vision is a just, peaceful and sustainable world for all, and Right Livelihood Laureates are among the most important champions of environmental and human rights causes around the world. In order to be able to work towards this vision, Right Livelihood solicitates donations, mostly from individuals, but sometimes also from companies, charitable foundations and public funds.

The purpose of this policy is to define guidelines for how we work in our fundraising. This policy will be reviewed annually and any changes need to be approved by Right Livelihood's Board.

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Right Livelihood

Written agreements

If any of the following apply, Right Livelihood will request donors to enter into written gift agreements with Right Livelihood, to evidence the gift and set out the terms of any restrictions on the gift:

- Gifts over CHF 200 000.
- Gifts that are subject to restrictions agreed with the donor.
- Gifts to be paid over a period of time.
- Gifts of real estate.

Restricted gifts

Right Livelihood encourages unrestricted gifts, where the donor has made no designation as to the purpose of expenditure. Unrestricted gifts provide the greatest flexibility and allow Right Livelihood to use funds where they are most impactful. Unrestricted donations will be used in the way that best contributes to Right Livelihood's charitable purposes and organisational strategy.

Any restricted donations will be used exclusively for the purposes for which they were given. Right Livelihood will discuss the conditions of the donation with the donor before documenting them in writing, to agree what they are funding, how long the support will last, reporting requirements and any other details. Agreements for restricted gifts will typically include overhead costs. Right Livelihood reserves the right to decline restricted gifts.

After the original purpose has been fulfilled, any unused funds from a restricted donation can either be paid back to the donor, or, in consultation between Right Livelihood and the donor, a donor can agree to change the purpose for the remaining funds.

In Right Livelihood's financial reporting, a restricted gift will normally be booked as an income during the year in which the gift was received. If the donation agreement stipulates that Right Livelihood has to pay back the gift should its purpose not be fulfilled, then a corresponding liability is entered into the accounts, which will be decreased as the gift is being used and its purpose fulfilled.

Right to decline donations

Right Livelihood holds itself to a high standard of ethical conduct, both within its own community of Board, Jury and employees, and in all of its external relationships and interactions. Right Livelihood will not accept gifts or other external support that will compromise its public image or commitment to its mission and organisational values.

We will reject a donation for any of the following reasons:

- its purpose is outside the statutory purposes or mission of Right Livelihood;
- it is too narrowly restricted to be effectively used;
- the gift exposes Right Livelihoods to an unacceptable risk or liability;
- it could compromise the reputation of Right Livelihood;
- it is from an individual or organisation whose philosophy and values are inconsistent with Right Livelihood's mission and vision;
- it is perceived to come from illegal or unethical activities;
- it violates the law, the guidelines of the Swedish Fundraising Control, or good practice in fundraising; or
- the gift will be difficult to administer.

More specifically, Right Livelihood strives not to be connected to funds coming from any of the following sectors: fossil fuels; tobacco and alcohol; pornography; gambling; nuclear weapons and energy, and other weapons of mass destruction; conventional arms; pesticides, chemical fertiliser, GMOs and landgrabbing; aviation; cement; or any other business clearly in conflict with Right Livelihood's values.

The final decision to accept or decline a particular gift from a new donor rests with the Executive Director (up to SEK 1 000 000) or the Board (above SEK 1 000 000).

Due diligence

Right Livelihood prioritises getting to know its supporters to ensure that their philosophies and source of income are in line with the values of Right Livelihood. Donations above SEK 1 000 000 are subject to a more thorough due diligence process against the above criteria.

Non-material gifts

Right Livelihood is able to receive non-material gifts, such as publicly-listed securities, real estate and other personal properties such as jewellery, artwork or other valuables. If a donor wishes to donate other valuables, Right Livelihood will typically ask the donor to sell the item first and donate the proceeds to Right Livelihood.

Right Livelihood may also accept planned gifts including life insurance, bequests and registered retirement plans. The gifts can be unrestricted or contain restrictions.

Right Livelihood aims to monetise the received non-material gifts within an appropriate timeframe and use the profit from sales for ongoing work.

Right Livelihood can choose to accept donations of shares or entire stock portfolios, which should either be checked against Right Livelihood's investment guidelines or sold within an appropriate timeframe after transfer to Right Livelihood's portfolio.

In-kind donations

Right Livelihood can accept in-kind donation, both in forms of goods and services, where it suits the needs of the foundation. We normally don't issue a donation receipts for in-kind donations. If needed, it should be valued with a conservative amount.

Bequests

A donor may choose to name Right Livelihood in their last will. For non-material assets gifted through a bequest, the same procedures related to materialisation apply as specified above.

Tax deductability

Gifts received in Germany and Switzerland are eligible for tax deductions if they are donated via the Right Livelihood Förderfonds managed by GLS Treuhand in Germany or through the Right Livelihood Award Foundation Switzerland in Zurich. Donors from Germany and Switzerland will receive an official donation receipt. Right Livelihood is not registered to receive tax deductible donations in Sweden, where this is only possible in a very restricted form. Right Livelihood will issue formal donation receipts for donations received in Sweden only upon request.

Disclosure of information about donors

Right Livelihood will only ever publicise names of donors if the donor has given their consent. Right Livelihood will respect and observe the wish of a donor to remain anonymous with respect to gifts made to Right Livelihood. However, Right Livelihood reserves the right to disclose the identity of the donor and the type and value of the gift if we are required to do so by law.

Relationship with donors

Right Livelihood aims to have close contact with its donors to give them the opportunity to get to know and experience first-hand what Right Livelihood stands for and how their support is being used. No representative of Right Livelihood will pressure a donor, nor offer legal or financial advice to the donor.

Refunding gifts

In the unlikely event that a donor wishes to withdraw their gift, this will be dealt with swiftly and in discussion with the donor. If a donor has inadvertently sent the wrong amount or otherwise made an obvious mistake regarding the gift, the amount will be refunded.

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