



Ford Foundation records, Human Rights and Governance Program, Office Files of Stephen P. Marks

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Rockefeller Archive Center

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Table of Contents

| | |
|----------------------------------|---|
| Summary Information | 3 |
| Biographical / Historical | 3 |
| Scope and Contents | 4 |
| Arrangement | 4 |
| Administrative Information | 5 |
| Controlled Access Headings | 6 |
| Other Finding Aids | 6 |
| Collection Inventory | 6 |
| Chronological files | 6 |

Summary Information

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| Repository: | Rockefeller Archive Center |
| Creator: | Ford Foundation |
| Title: | Ford Foundation records, Human Rights and Governance Program, Office Files of Stephen P. Marks |
| ID: | FA1452 |
| Date: | 1987 |
| Physical Description: | .38 Cubic Feet 1 LTR size Hollinger box |
| Language of the Material: | English |

Preferred Citation

Information regarding the Rockefeller Archive Center's preferred elements and forms of citation can be found at <http://www.rockarch.org/research/citations.php>

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Biographical / Historical

The Ford Foundation was chartered by Henry and Edsel Ford in 1936 "to receive and administer funds for scientific, educational and charitable purposes, all for the public welfare", and initially served the Ford family's charitable interests in the Detroit area. Following the deaths of Edsel Ford (1943) and Henry Ford (1947), the Foundation was propelled to the forefront of philanthropy as the largest American foundation in terms of both endowment and yearly expenditures, and with an international scope to its major program areas.

During the Foundation's first twenty years its major programs were in international economic development, primary and higher education, educational and public broadcasting, behavioral sciences, civil liberties, urban development, fine arts and the humanities. The Ford Foundation also partnered with the Rockefeller Foundation in supporting agricultural development in South America, Africa, and Southeast Asia. Since the 1970s, the Foundation has also pioneered programs in women's rights, energy policy, micro-financing in under-developed countries, establishing human rights groups, and improving international HIV/AIDS education.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Biographical / Historical

Stephen P. Marks worked as a Program Officer in the Ford Foundation's Human Rights and Governance Program between 1984 and 1989. He was responsible for grant-making in the area of international human rights.

After he left Ford in 1989, he continued to pursue a career in international human rights philanthropy and research, and in 2000, he became the Director of the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health Program on Human Rights in Development.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Scope and Contents

Collection holds the office files of Ford Foundation Program Officer Stephen P. Marks. The files were created during Marks' time in the Human Rights and Governance Program at Ford where he was responsible for grant-making decision related to international human rights.

The collection consists of only one series. This series contains the chronological files Marks maintained to organize his correspondence and other documents.

Collection may expand if the RAC receives more accessions of Marks' Ford records.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Arrangement

Collection consists of one series.

Original order was maintained during processing.

Collection arrangement is as follows:

Series 1. Chronological files, 1987

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Administrative Information

Publication Statement

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archive@rockarch.org

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Immediate Source of Acquisition

Ford Foundation archive was deposited at RAC in 2011. Ford Foundation records, correspondence, reports, program files and officers papers were transferred to, and accessioned by, RAC beginning in 2011. Accessions continue as necessary.

This material was transferred to the RAC in 2018 by the Ford Foundation and was ingested by the RAC as Accession 2018:034.

Processing Information

Processing Level 3: Standard Processing

Processed by Darren Young, September 2018

Conditions Governing Access

Open for research. Brittle or damaged items are available at the discretion of RAC.

Conditions Governing Use

RAC users must abide by all applicable provisions of United States copyright law. Reproduction/duplication of archival items is routinely provided in accordance with "fair use". If the RAC does not hold copyright for an archival collection, or items within a collection, it is the users responsibility to contact the copyright holder, or make a fair effort to do so, prior to publication.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Controlled Access Headings

- Ford Foundation
- Human rights

Other Finding Aids

Finding aids concerning the office files of other Ford Foundation officers in the Human Rights and Governance Program include:

[FA717 Ford Foundation records, Human Rights and Governance Program, Program Director, Office Files of Shepard Forman](#)

[FA1443 Ford Foundation records, Peace and Social Justice, Human Rights and Governance, Office Files of Sara Rios](#)

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Collection Inventory

Chronological files, 1987

Physical Description: .38 Cubic Feet 1 LTR size Hollinger box

Scope and Contents

Series contains the chronological files Stephen P. Marks maintained when he worked as a Program Officer in the Ford Foundation's Human Rights and Governance Program. It currently consists of only one file that was created in 1987, but it may expand if the RAC receives more accessions of Marks' Ford records.

It is chiefly comprised of correspondence and internal Ford memos that Marks sent to human rights organizations and Ford staff members. However, it also contains some correspondence that was addressed to Marks by the aforementioned entities as well as other kinds of documents such as meeting agendas and project proposals. Marks frequently corresponded with Human Rights and Governance Program Director Shepard Forman as well as with organizations like the International League for Human Rights, the International Human Rights Law Group, and the Lawyers Committee for Human Rights. Correspondence discusses subjects like measures against torture, the rights of minorities, women and indigenous peoples, democracy, and international human rights law.

Original order was maintained and files represent how Marks compiled the materials. Researchers will therefore see the majority of correspondence in reverse chronological order of creation date.

| Title/Description | Instances |
|-------------------|-----------|
|-------------------|-----------|

Chronological file, 1987

box 1

folder 1-8

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)