Ford Foundation records, International Division, European and International Affairs Program (EIA), Office Files of Peter Ruof

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Rockefeller Archive Center

15 Dayton Avenue
Sleepy Hollow 10591
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Summary Information

Repository:	Rockefeller Archive Center
Creator - aut:	Ruof, Peter
Creator:	Ford Foundation
Title:	Ford Foundation records, International Division, European and International Affairs Program (EIA), Office Files of Peter Ruof
ID:	FA1514
Date [inclusive]:	1973-1982
Physical Description:	2.47 Cubic Feet 6 LTR and 1 Half-LTR size Hollinger boxes
Language of the Material:	English .

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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.

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Biographical / Historical

Peter Ruof worked as a Program Officer in the Ford Foundation's European and International Affairs Program (EIA) between 1973 and 1981. Before joining the Foundation's International Division, he had positions at the Commission of the European Union, the International Monetary Fund, and the World Bank.

After he left his post as Program Officer, he worked as an international consultant for the Ford Foundation's International Affairs Program (IAP) in the early 1980s. In 1995, he founded Blackwood Capital Group.

Scope and Contents

Collection contains the staff subject files of Peter Ruof who worked as a Program Officer in the Ford Foundation's European and International Affairs Program (EIA) between 1973 and 1981 and then as an international consultant for the Foundation's International Affairs Program (IAP) for a brief period after that. The EIA was situated within the Foundation's International Division. Materials in the collection relate how it was replaced by the IAP in the early 1980s. Ruof's records are comprised of chronological files that were created between 1973 and 1978 and between 1981 and 1982. Files originating from the period between November 1978 and September 1981 are missing from the collection.

Chronological files in the collection are mainly comprised of correspondence, memos, papers, and meeting notes. They document the EIA's grant giving activities for studies, initiatives, and fellowships related to Western and Southern Europe. Prominent subjects upon which these different projects were focused include international economics, migrant labor, Eurocommunism, women's issues, international relations, foundations in Europe, and European policy studies

Arrangement

Collection consists of one series. That series is comprised of chronological files. Documents within those files are arranged in reverse chronological order, so the most recent material is at the front of the files.

Original order was maintained as much as possible.

The collection arrangement is as follows:

Series 1. Chronological files, 1973-1982

Administrative Information

Publication Statement

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Immediate Source of Acquisition

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

This material was transferred to the RAC in 2019 by the Ford Foundation and was ingested by the RAC as Accession 2019:022.

Controlled Access Headings

- Ford Foundation
- Europe
- Europe, Western
- Europe, Southern
- Germany
- Migrant labor
- Communism -- Europe
- International economic relations
- International relations

Other Finding Aids

Finding aids concerning the office files of other Ford Foundation staff members in the European and International Affairs Program include:

FA1509 Ford Foundation records, International Division, European and International Affairs Program (EIA), Office Files of Ruth D. Carter

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Collection Inventory

Chronological files, 1973-1982

Physical Description: 2.47 Cubic Feet 6 LTR and 1 Half-LTR size Hollinger boxes

Scope and Contents

Series consists of the chronological files of Peter Ruof. Files originating from between 1973 and 1978 document Ruof's time as a Program Officer in the Ford Foundation's European and International Affairs Program (EIA). They are comprised of memos and correspondence that Ruof addressed to grantees, potential grantees, consultants, Foundation staff members, and other associated professionals. In these documents, Ruof discusses such items as: Grant proposal acceptances, rejections, and reviews; grant extensions, closeouts, and evaluations; business travel to different European countries and other destinations; and meetings regarding Foundation supported projects. Chronological files created between November 1978 and September 1981 are missing from the series.

The last few files in the series originate from between October 1981 and October 1982. They concern Ruof's departure from the Ford Foundation, the restructuring of the EIA into the International Affairs Program (IAP), and Ruof's time working as an international consultant for the IAP.

Grants and other projects that Ruof oversaw and supported during his time as Program Officer and international consultant include the Future of the International Economic Order research competition (IEO), initiatives aimed at improving relations between the United States and different European nations such as Germany, France, and Italy, the development of a Ford Foundation Southern European Fellowship Program, the Foundation's continued support of the Trilateral Commission, a conference to discuss the international commodities market, a conference between U.S. and European foundations, support of Cynthia Epstein and other academics studying issues related to women in Europe, research about communism in Southern Europe, and the establishment of an independent European policy studies institute.

Title/Description	Instances	
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Chronological file, 1973 November	box 1	folder 4
Chronological file, 1973 December	box 1	folder 5
Chronological file, 1974 January	box 1	folder 6
Chronological file, 1974 February	box 1	folder 7
Chronological file, 1974 March	box 1	folder 8
Chronological file, 1974 April	box 1	folder 9
Chronological file, 1974 May	box 1	folder 10
Chronological file, 1974 June	box 1	folder 11
Chronological file, 1974 July	box 1	folder 12
Chronological file, 1974 August	box 1	folder 13
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