



# **Ford Foundation records, Office of Reports, Office Files of Richard Magat**

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Rockefeller Archive Center

15 Dayton Avenue

Sleepy Hollow 10591

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URL: <http://www.rockarch.org>

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## Summary Information

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<b>Repository:</b>	Rockefeller Archive Center
<b>Creator:</b>	Ford Foundation
<b>Title:</b>	Ford Foundation records, Office of Reports, Office Files of Richard Magat
<b>ID:</b>	FA690
<b>Date [inclusive]:</b>	1952-1992
<b>Date [bulk]:</b>	1952-1979
<b>Physical Description:</b>	7.3 Cubic Feet 3 record storage boxes, 4 LTR size Hollinger boxes, and 3 LGL size Hollinger boxes
<b>Language of the Material:</b>	English

### Preferred Citation note

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

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## Biographical / Historical

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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

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Richard Magat was a member of the Ford Foundation staff from 1957 until 1982. Throughout his career at the Foundation Mr. Magat worked in the Office of Reports. He held the following positions:

April 1957, Writer

October 1957, Program Assistant

May 1958, Director

March 1968, Director and Editor

January 1982, Director (part time)

As Director and Editor, Mr. Magat was responsible for: preparing press releases, writing notes to editors and drafting letters to congressmen; writing and editing Foundation publications and articles including the Annual Report, Current Interests, and Ford Foundation Letter; recommending public reports on Foundation activity; responding to media inquiries and arranging press conferences; and administering the Office of Reports.

Mr. Magat also held the following positions:

1947-51, Dayton Daily News, Ohio, The Binghamton Sun, New York, Reporter

1951-52, McGraw-Hill Book Company, Editor in Technical Writing Service

1952-53, Paramount News, Script Writer

1953-57, New York University, Senior News Writer, Office of Information Services

1967, Mayor's Advisory Panel on Decentralization of NYC Schools, Special Assistant

1969, SUNY (Mount Vernon) Cooperative College, Instructor

1975, Joint Committee for the Reappraisal of the Role of the Red Cross, Editor

1979, SUNY (New York) Fashion Institute of Technology, Instructor

Mr. Magat was born January 1, 1927. He received his A.B. degree in 1947 from New York University. Mr. Magat took additional courses at Columbia University, New York University and the New School.

Mr. Magat is the author of *Ford Foundation at Work*, New York: Plenum (1979), and *As Others See Us*, Geneva: Henry Dumant Institute (1975). He also wrote articles for *Saturday Review*, *Consumer Reports*, *Trans-action* and other magazines and journals. Mr. Magat left the Ford Foundation in September 1982 to become President of the Edward W. Hazen Foundation.

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## Scope and Contents

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Contains correspondence, memoranda, publications and subject files.

Collection consists of more than one accession of Richard Magat office files ingested by the RAC over the years. An accession processed in 2018 consisted of a group of subject files regarding different press, publications, and publication relations topics and was added to the end of the Subject Files series in order to reconstitute the relationship between the materials. A Ford Foundation Archives document found in the 2018 material indicated that the Archives initially grouped the two sets of records together. The original boxes containing the records must have been separated at some point prior to their transfer to the RAC.

The RAC holds another Ford Foundation, Office of Reports, Office Files of Richard Magat collection. A more deliberate collection arrangement appears to have been imposed on this set of material during processing. Therefore, it was decided not to integrate the 2018 accession with that collection or to merge the two collections together. The finding aid for FA728 of Ford Foundation, Office of Reports, Office Files of Richard Magat can be accessed [here](#).

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## Arrangement

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Arranged in 4 series by file type.

Original order has been retained.

Collection arrangement is as follows:

Series 1. Chronological Correspondence, 1974-1979

Series 2. Memoranda and Publications, 1967-1973

Series 3. Publications, 1964-1992

Series 4. Subject Files, 1952-1980

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## Administrative Information

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### Publication Statement

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### Processing Information

Level 1 Minimal Processing has been conducted to establish basic intellectual and physical control of the material and assess immediate preservation and conservation needs. Material remains as received, in original folders and storage boxes.

### Conditions Governing Use note

Completion of a use agreement is required prior to providing scholarly access. See RAC Head of Reference (or applicable designee) for details. Ford Foundation holds title, copyright and literary rights in the collection, in so far as it holds them. The Rockefeller Archive Center has authority to grant permission to cite and publish material from the collection for scholarly purposes. Permission to publish extensive excerpts, or material in its entirety, will be referred to the Ford Foundation.

### Immediate Source of Acquisition note

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.

An additional group of Richard Magat office files was transferred to the RAC by the Ford Foundation in 2018 and was ingested by the RAC as Accession 2018:061. This accession incorporated into the collection during processing in 2018.

### Conditions Governing Access

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

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## Other Finding Aids

Finding aids concerning other Ford Foundation office files produced by Richard Magat during his time in the Office of Reports include:

[FA728 Ford Foundation records, Office of Reports, Office Files of Richard Magat](#)

Finding aids concerning Richard Magat's personal papers include:

[FA1396 Richard Magat papers](#)

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## Collection Inventory

Chronological Correspondence, 1974-1979	
Title/Description	Instances
1974 Chronological Correspondence, Jan-Jun 1974	box 1
1974 Chronological Correspondence, Jul-Dec 1974	box 1
1975 Chronological Correspondence, Jan-Jun 1975	box 1
1975 Chronological Correspondence, Jul-Dec 1975	box 1
1976 Chronological Correspondence, Jan-Jun 1976	box 1
1976 Chronological Correspondence, Jul-Dec 1976	box 1
1977 Chronological Correspondence, Jan-Jun 1977	box 1
1977 Chronological Correspondence, Jul-Dec 1977	box 1
1978 Chronological Correspondence, Jan-Jun 1978	box 1
1978 Chronological Correspondence, Jul-Dec 1978	box 1
1979 Chronological Correspondence, Jan-Jun 1979	box 1
1979 Chronological Correspondence, Jul-Dec 1979	box 1

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## Memoranda and Publications, 1967-1973

Title/Description	Instances
Richard Magat Memoranda (1/2), 1967-1970	box 2
Richard Magat Memoranda (2/2), 1967-1970	box 2
<i>Current Comment on the Ford Foundation</i> (1/2), Apr 1970-Sep 1973	box 2
<i>Current Comment on the Ford Foundation</i> (2/2), Apr 1970-Sep 1973	box 2

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## Publications, 1964-1992

Title/Description	Instances
<i>Current Comment on the Ford Foundation</i> , Mar 1974-Feb 1975	box 3
<i>Current Comment on the Ford Foundation</i> (last copy do not remove), Nov 1974	box 3
<i>Current Comment on the Ford Foundation</i> , Mar 1976-May 1981	box 3
Newspaper Feature Articles and Other Comments Re: Ford Foundation, Jan 15, 1964-Aug 15, 1966	box 3
Editorial Comment on Fourth Installment of "Tax-Exempt Foundations and Charitable Trusts: Their Impact on our Economy" (Wright Patman, December 21, 1966), 1966-1967	box 3
Office of Reports -- Editorials, Selected Newspaper Feature Articles, and Other Comments about the Ford Foundation Received Since 1970, 1970	box 3
Ford Foundation Annual Report Supplements and Excerpts -- Education and Public Policy (1981) and Education and Culture (1982-1983), 1981-1983	box 3
Ford Foundation Annual Report Excerpts -- The Arts Program, 1978-1981	box 3
Ford Foundation Annual Report Excerpts -- International Affairs, 1984-1987	box 3
Ford Foundation Annual Report Excerpts -- Education and Culture, 1984-1992	box 3

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## Subject Files, 1952-1980

Title/Description	Instances
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"The Ford Foundation and Noncommercial Television" -- Rewrite of PBL-NET Factsheet, 1967-1968	box 4
Ford Foundation Building -- Press Arrangements, Coverage, Releases, and Fact Sheets Re: Ford Foundation Building and Dedication (1/2), 1967	box 4
Ford Foundation Building -- Press Arrangements, Coverage, Releases, and Fact Sheets Re: Ford Foundation Building and Dedication (2/2), 1967	box 4
Foundations Case Research Material Re: Foundation Supported Projects, Assorted Foundations, etc., 1963-1964	box 4
Newton -- School Improvement Program -- R. Seaver, 1964	box 4
New Building --Building Specs, Factsheets (incl. information on garden), Press Releases, Dedication Materials, etc. -- R. Seaver, 1967	box 5
Patman Report on Tax-Exempt Foundations, Reports Re: Ford Foundation Finances and Private Foundations, 1963-1966	box 5
School Improvement Program -- Individual City Reports for Ford Foundation Report, 1965-1977	box 5
Tutorial Community Project -- Book -- Newmark, Jerry [PHOTOS], 1975-1976	box 5
Whitman Bassow Carbon File -- Correspondence, Interview Transcripts, Memoranda Re: Foundation Activities, 1969-1970	box 5
Whitman Bassow Tape Transcriptions from the Convocation and Groups Re: State of the Ford Foundation and Communication within the Foundation, 1970	box 5

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