

ANNUAL REPORT 2025



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Holding the Line: Human Rights in Time of Democratic Backsliding

In 2025, attacks on human rights, democracy and international law intensified and assumed new and alarming forms. This reality underscored a fundamental truth: human rights are never guaranteed.

Their realisation has always depended - and continues to depend - on the courage, power and mobilisation of people. In this context, supporting human rights defenders (HRDs) and equipping young people with human rights education has never been more urgent or more necessary.

Against the backdrop of a brutal war in Sudan, the Rafto Prize 2025 was awarded to the Emergency Response Rooms (ERRs). Made up of thousands of volunteers, the ERRs grassroots network represent extraordinary acts of collective courage and solidarity.

Through community-driven and collaborative efforts, they respond to urgent humanitarian needs and document human rights violations, often at immense personal risk. By awarding the Rafto Prize, Rafto contributed to amplifying their voices and drawing critical international attention to the grave human rights violations and war crimes being committed in Sudan.

Throughout the year, Rafto stood alongside human rights defenders working under intensifying pressure - and, in many cases, amid war and violent conflict. We strengthened recognition and visibility of their work, supported their efforts to hold duty bearers to account, fostered solidarity through international support networks, and contributed to risk mitigation and protection.

In 2025, 10,557 pupils and teachers engaged in Rafto's human rights and democracy education programmes. We continued to develop innovative educational resources addressing extremism, radicalisation and group-based prejudice, while supporting teachers and teacher educators navigating increasing polarisation in the classroom. Our education team also contributed to several international initiatives, including an Erasmus+ project focused on inclusive education for democracy.

Rafto contributed to improving the private sector's capacity to conduct human rights due diligence and manage human rights risks. With business actors, academia and international experts, Rafto offered peer-to-peer learning, training, tools and multi stakeholder dialogues. The rights of workers and marginalized communities were addressed at local and international level in partnership with civil society organizations, embassies and other key stakeholders.

For the organisation, 2025 marked a year of transformation. The refurbishment and expansion of the Rafto House began, laying the foundation for a stronger, more accessible and future-oriented home for human rights work.

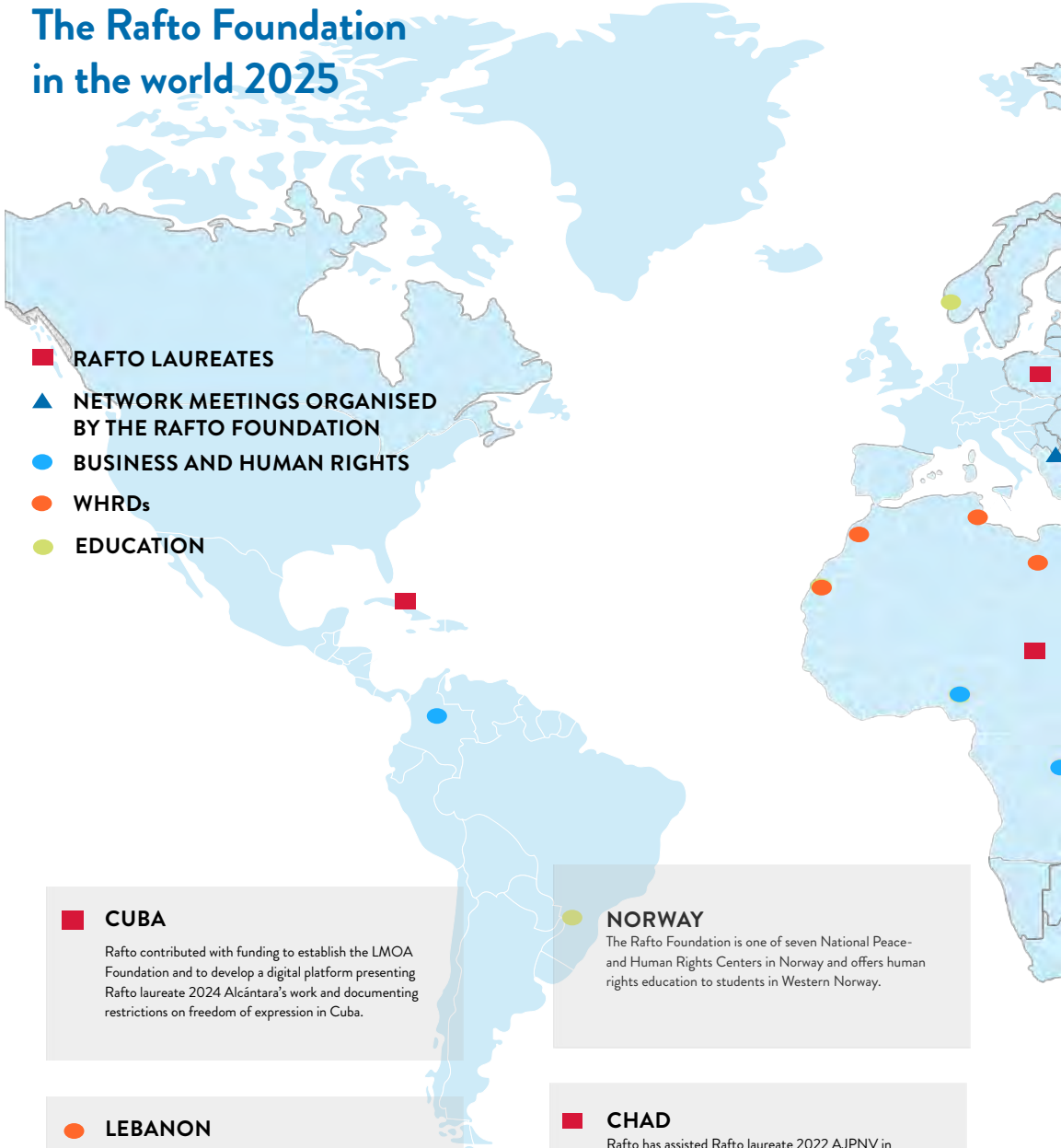
The impact of the Rafto Foundation is made possible by a powerful ecosystem of committed staff and volunteers, partners and supporters, networks and alliances - and, above all, by those who defend human rights - often in the most difficult and dangerous circumstances.

Together, we continue to push back against attacks on human rights and democratic backsliding, and to insist on a future grounded in dignity, solidarity and human rights for all.

Jostein Hole Kobbeltvedt Executive
Director of the Rafto Foundation



The Rafto Foundation in the world 2025



- RAFTO LAUREATES
- ▲ NETWORK MEETINGS ORGANISED BY THE RAFTO FOUNDATION
- BUSINESS AND HUMAN RIGHTS
- WHRDs
- EDUCATION

■ CUBA

Rafto contributed with funding to establish the LMOA Foundation and to develop a digital platform presenting Rafto laureate 2024 Alcántara's work and documenting restrictions on freedom of expression in Cuba.

● NORWAY

The Rafto Foundation is one of seven National Peace- and Human Rights Centers in Norway and offers human rights education to students in Western Norway.

● LEBANON

Rafto took part in the opening of Female's centre in Chouf and sponsored the safe space. The centre will provide a safe haven for women, girls, and marginalized groups across Lebanon.

■ CHAD

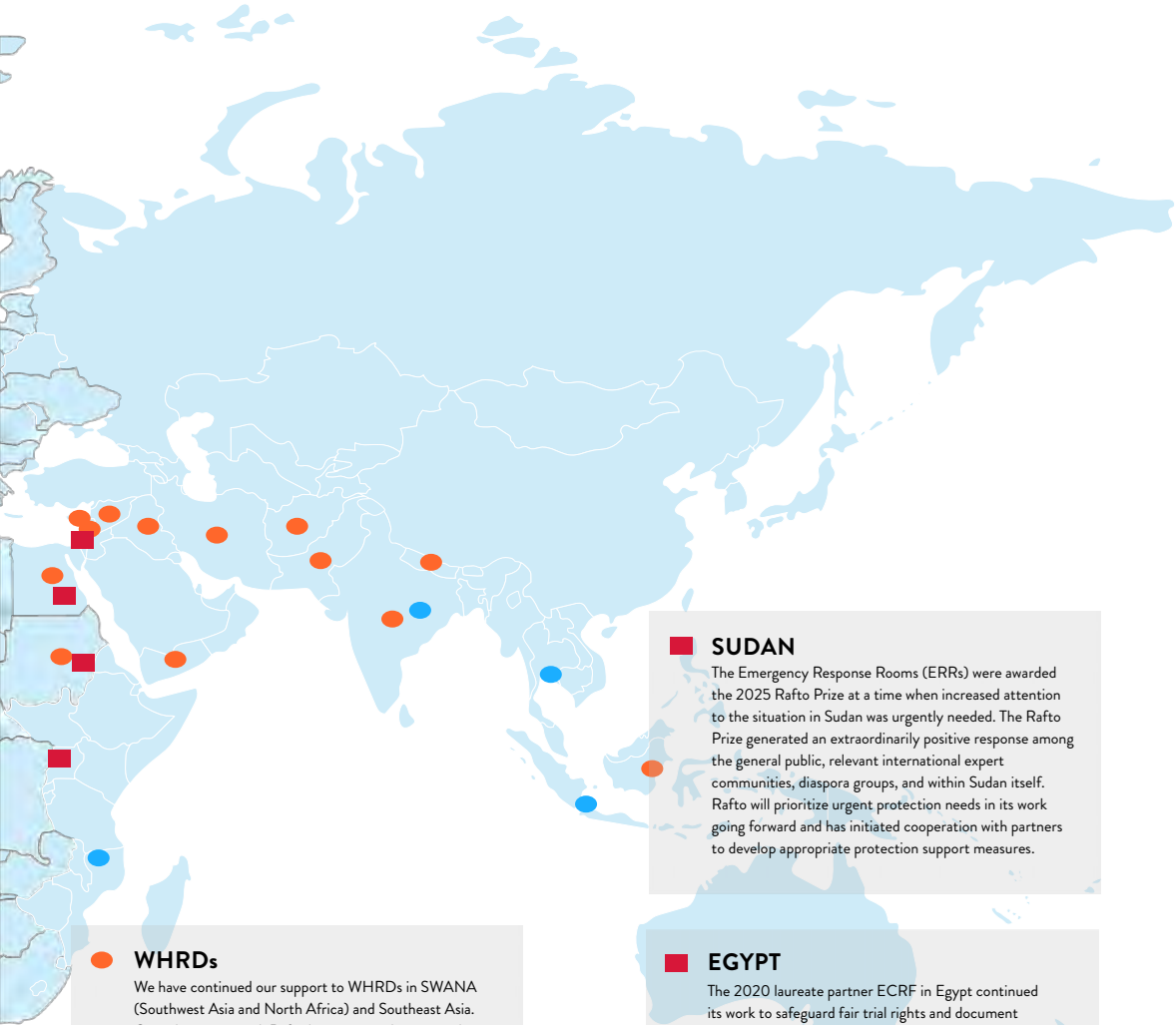
Rafto has assisted Rafto laureate 2022 AJPNV in securing funding from other sources at a time when access to support from Europe and especially from the US has been drastically cut.

● NIGERIA

HOMEF empowered fishing communities and maritime workers strengthened alliances across countries in the region and targeted civil society groups, the media and policy makers. Impacts on women, children and artisanal fishers were highlighted.

● COLOMBIA

CREER highlighted human rights concerns related to port expansion, tourism, and gentrification in Cartagena. It engaged stakeholders to advocate for the protection of wetlands and mangroves.



● WHRDs

We have continued our support to WHRDs in SWANA (Southwest Asia and North Africa) and Southeast Asia. Over the past period, Rafto has continued to strengthen its support to women human rights defenders through long-term network building, visibility efforts, and targeted support to locally led initiatives. Despite conflict, shrinking civic space, and limited resources in several partner contexts, the WHRD network has remained active, connected, and mutually supportive.

■ PALESTINE

The 2023 laureate DCIP continued its child rights initiative to strengthen children's participation and accountability in human rights work. Through training programs, new volunteer trainers were certified and child-led protection teams received ongoing mentoring and follow-up. Hundreds of children, including children with disabilities, strengthened their knowledge of rights and protection.

■ SUDAN

The Emergency Response Rooms (ERRs) were awarded the 2025 Rafto Prize at a time when increased attention to the situation in Sudan was urgently needed. The Rafto Prize generated an extraordinarily positive response among the general public, relevant international expert communities, diaspora groups, and within Sudan itself. Rafto will prioritize urgent protection needs in its work going forward and has initiated cooperation with partners to develop appropriate protection support measures.

■ EGYPT

The 2020 laureate partner ECRF in Egypt continued its work to safeguard fair trial rights and document judicial abuses in an increasingly restrictive legal environment.

● SINGAPORE

The SEAFAIRER Roundtable in Singapore brought together industry, governments, seafarers and welfare organisations.

■ POLAND

Rafto has continued follow-up work related to the 2018 Rafto Prize laureate Adam Bodnar. This project documents and shares lessons from the efforts of Polish and European judges' associations.



Strengthening Those Who Protect Human Rights to continue their work

The Rafto Prize 2025

The Emergency Response Rooms of Sudan (ERRs) were awarded the 2025 Rafto Prize for Human Rights at a time when increased attention to the situation in Sudan was urgently needed. The conflict in Sudan has not been forgotten but ignored for too long. Representatives from the ERRs reports that they are experiencing the Rafto Prize as a significant contribution to drawing attention to the suffering of civilians amid the ongoing conflict in the country.

The Emergency Response Rooms of Sudan are grassroots networks that emerged in the wake of the war in Sudan in 2023. They consist of thousands of volunteers who engage in collaborative, community driven efforts to meet urgent humanitarian needs of others, at great personal risk. The ERRs were awarded the prize for their courageous work to preserve the most fundamental human right - the right to life.

When the prize was announced in September, it was well covered by Norwegian and international media through AFP and Reuters. Furthermore, the announcement sparked a high level of positive attention from the public.

The news also quickly reached Sudanese both inside the country and in the diaspora through social media. The message from civilians and ERR volunteers inside the country was that the prize felt as a sign of recognition and a beacon of hope amid dire circumstances.

Three ERR volunteers were chosen to represent the ERRs at the prize events in Bergen and Oslo in November. During the week in Norway, they participated in several meetings, public events and media interviews. The Rafto Conference gathered expertise from academic institutions, as well as Norwegian and international NGOs already working with Sudan. The ERRs volunteers gave the audience a deeper understanding of the situation in Sudan, and the significant role played by the ERRs in protecting the human rights of civilians, including how to effectively support their work. Pictures from the prize ceremony and the following torchlight procession in Bergen was shared through social media also reaching a large number of Sudanese.

In Oslo and Bergen, the ERR representatives met with the Norwegian Minister of International Development, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and Defence, NORAD, Norwegian Refugee Council, Norwegian People's Aid and Save the Children. The events in Bergen also served as a meeting point for representatives from international organisations working with the ERRs and Sudan. These networks have the potential to strengthen the Rafto Foundation's follow-up work in providing continued support to the Emergency Response Rooms of Sudan.



“To the brave men and women trapped inside Sudan, enduring unimaginable hardship; to the displaced families scattered across borders your struggle is not in vain. We see you. We hear you. And we will never stop fighting to make your voices heard, to protect your right to live in peace and dignity,” was the message to the audience from the ERR representatives accepting the prize on behalf of the grassroots network.



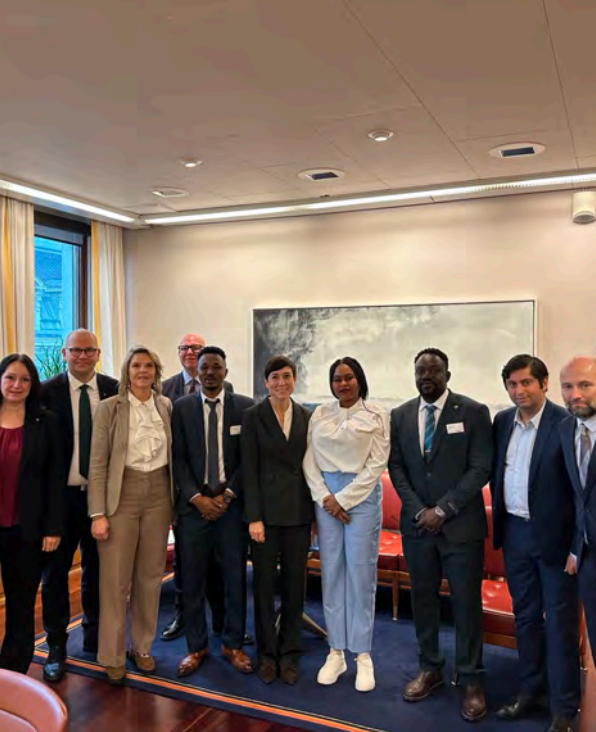
Strengthening the Impact of Rafto Laureates

In 2025, Rafto continued to provide targeted financial, professional, and protective support to Rafto Prize laureates and their networks of human rights defenders operating under severe pressure. Support focused on strengthening local capacity, enabling credible documentation and advocacy, expanding international access, and ensuring practical protection for defenders at risk.

Standing up for the Right to Life

The 2025 Rafto Prize generated an extraordinarily positive response among the general public, relevant international expert communities, diaspora groups, and within Sudan itself. While RSF forces were attacking and allegedly committing acts of genocide in the isolated city of El Fasher, Sudanese citizens shared images online of posters expressing thanks to ERR and the Rafto Foundation.

Events connected to the award were fully attended, with strong digital participation. Sudan specialists from the Chr. Michelsen Institute and the University of Bergen provided in-depth briefings on the political and humanitarian situation, with particular attention to violence affecting women. Experts with backgrounds from the U.S. State Department, the U.S. Institute of Peace, USAID, Proximity2Humanity, and specialists in protecting humanitarian workers in high-risk environments contributed knowledge highly relevant to supporting a decentralized grassroots network such as ERR.



The 2025 prize was immediately followed up by Norwegian authorities, who have long been significant humanitarian and political actors in Sudan. The Minister of International Development, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Norad, the Norwegian Refugee Council, Norwegian People's Aid, and Save the Children participated in meetings and indicated strong motivation to increase their engagement.

The Norwegian government allocated millions of NOK for strengthened humanitarian assistance to Sudan and specifically mentioned ERR as a desired recipient of part of these funds. ERR representatives were invited into discussions on emergency aid mobilization and possible future initiatives for peace and democracy, both domestically and internationally. Diplomatic sources conveyed that the Rafto Prize helped make this engagement possible.

The meetings also recognized that both the situation in Sudan and ERR's decentralized structure present important challenges for donors and partners — particularly the need to mobilize and channel funds more effectively to local actors such as ERR. This is essential both to ensure assistance best reaches end beneficiaries and to avoid aid structures that overload local actors' limited capacity or undermine their legitimacy as democratically rooted representatives of community needs and interests.

Rafto will prioritize ERR's urgent protection needs in its work going forward and has initiated cooperation with specialized partners to develop appropriate protection support measures. This initiative forms part of a broader protection effort carried out throughout 2025 to map needs and offer assistance to Rafto partners and other human rights defenders working under increasing pressure. So far, assessments have been conducted in Nigeria, Uganda, and India. The project places particular emphasis on cost-effective support for digital security, psychosocial assistance, and organizational development to diversify funding bases and reduce vulnerability to administrative abuse of power.

Backing Voices Against Authoritarianism

The 2024 Rafto Prize was awarded to the Cuban artist and activist Luis Manuel Otero Alcántara, who remains imprisoned in Havana. Rafto has contributed funding to establish the LMOA Foundation and to develop a digital platform presenting Alcántara's work and documenting restrictions on freedom of expression in Cuba.

The collaboration addresses challenges likely to become more common going forward, namely how to organize human rights work in exile under difficult financial and political conditions across different host countries. Meetings have been organized with the Cuban diaspora, particularly in Spain, involving local and national authorities, foreign policy actors, and civil society organizations engaged in Cuban human rights issues.

The work continues in preparation for Alcántara's expected release in 2026, for the release of all political prisoners in Cuba, and for the inclusion of Cuban civil society in anticipated democratic reform discussions.



Iver Ørstavik, Norges Rodríguez, Claudia Genlui Hidalgo, Yanelys Núñez Leyva,
Director General of International Relations at the City Council of Madrid José Herrera.

Standing Up for Children's Rights

The 2023 laureate Defence for Children International-Palestine (DCIP) continued its child rights initiative to strengthen children's participation and accountability in human rights work. Through structured training programs, new volunteer trainers were certified and child-led protection teams received ongoing mentoring and follow-up.

Hundreds of children, including children with disabilities, strengthened their knowledge of rights and protection mechanisms and actively contributed to identifying and documenting violations in their communities. The program also engaged parents and community members, increasing local acceptance for safe and meaningful child participation.

With Rafto's support, child representatives also engaged directly with international human rights mechanisms, including dialogue with the UN Special Rapporteur on the occupied Palestinian territory. Testimonies from participating children contributed to international reporting and advocacy efforts addressing serious rights violations and accountability gaps.

In 2025 the Palestinian and Norwegian Bar Association collaborated in the promotion of human rights training and professional development, as well as the exchange of knowledge, experience, and good practices between the two Bar Associations.

The project is an exchange between students from Åsane Upper Secondary School and young people in Palestine in cooperation with DCIP. It aims to promote mutual understanding, teach participants about human rights and children's rights, and give them insight into the work of the UN Human Rights Council. Participants also learn how to advocate for children's rights.



The Palestinian Bar Association emphasizes the importance of cooperation with other national and international Bar Associations as a means to strengthen the legal profession, uphold the rule of law, and protect human rights.

Despite the ongoing genocide in Gaza, and extremely challenging circumstances in the West Bank, including severe constraints on the legal system, the Palestinian Bar Association has managed to maintain core institutional functions, including conducting elections. The collaboration was cemented in November during the official delegation visit from representatives of the Palestinian Bar Association.



During their visit, they met with Norwegian colleagues during the annual Defence Lawyers' seminar, as well as meetings with parliamentarians and MFA with state secretary Andreas Kravik.

They also visited Oslo district court and a public event in collaboration with Norwegian Centre for Human Rights to shed light on the situation for lawyers in Palestine.

The Norwegian Judges' Association and Palestinian High Judicial Council also initiated a collaboration, and have conducted digital meetings and roundtables, focusing on mutual sharing of knowledge and experience. This collaboration continues into 2026.



ECRF has grown to a team of more than 50 lawyers and researchers as well as about 1000 volunteers. Despite working under extremely harsh conditions, ECRF uses the parts of Egypt's judiciary, which are still functioning, to defend human rights for political prisoners, prosecuted human rights activists and protestors and victims of disappearances and torture.

Advocacy for Fair Trials

The 2020 laureate partner ECRF in Egypt continued its work to safeguard fair trial rights and document judicial abuses in an increasingly restrictive legal environment. The organization strengthened systematic documentation through a gender-sensitive legal database, produced analytical reports on patterns of abuse, and developed a public case-tracking tool for families and advocates. Legal monitoring and guidance, with particular attention to women defendants and their families, contributed to both national and international advocacy for judicial safeguards and legal reform.

European Solidarity in Defense of Rule of Law

With funding from the Norwegian Embassy in Warsaw, Rafto has also continued follow-up work related to the 2018 Rafto Prize laureate, then Polish Commissioner for Human Rights Adam Bodnar. This project documents and shares lessons from the efforts of Polish and European judges' associations and their civil society allies to slow and, where possible, reverse executive capture of the courts in Poland - in violation of the Polish constitution, the European Convention on Human Rights, the EU Treaty, and the EEA Agreement.

A report has been prepared covering developments from the 2015 parliamentary election to the 2024 presidential election. It concludes that the most significant impact came through democratic electoral mobilization and through European institutional mechanisms capable of imposing financial sanctions backed by European court rulings.

Rafto has conducted visits with the Italian judges' association ANM, several Italian civil society organizations, and former Prime Minister and President of the Constitutional Court Giuliano Amato, to help prevent similar developments there. Additional country visits are planned going forward.

Beyond individual projects, Rafto maintains an active communication and solidarity platform connecting laureates and their networks. This space supports exchange of experience, campaign coordination, rapid alerts, and peer solidarity across regions. Participants consistently report that this networked solidarity is essential for sustaining their work under pressure.

Rafto conducts country visits to engage with partners, follow-up on projects, and do advocacy work on local level towards country missions and decision makers.

In 2025, Rafto visited partners and projects in Lebanon, and set up meetings with Rafto Laureates and WHRDs to meet with the Norwegian ambassador at the Royal Norwegian embassy in Beirut.



Rafto also enabled advocacy meeting for laureates, including meetings with Norwegian authorities for Frank Mugisha on the situation for LGBTQ+ community in Uganda ahead of the 2026 elections.

The Friends of the Rafto Foundation have followed up previous years' support for the 2022 award recipient Charbonnel Nodjigoto and Association Jeunesse pour la Paix et la Non-violence AJPNV by collecting funds for the purchase of sewing machines for women who have been subjected to violence and torture, and for providing information about politically and culturally motivated violence in Chad.



Rafto has also assisted AJPNV in securing funding from other sources at a time when access to support from Europe and especially from the US has been drastically cut.

Nodjigoto Charbonnel and his organization Association Jeunesse pour la Paix et la Non-Violence (AJPNV), received the Rafto Prize 2022 for their courageous struggle to abolish torture in Chad.



Risk Mitigation and Protection

Protection support remained a critical component of Rafto's engagement. Flexible emergency assistance enabled defenders at acute risk to relocate temporarily and continue their work from safer locations.

In one case, emergency relocation support allowed a persecuted partner staff member to continue operations from abroad. Rafto also continued close follow-up with defenders facing escalating harassment and repression in highly restricted civic environments, combining quiet diplomacy, visibility efforts, and international awareness-raising where feasible.

In parallel, Rafto continued cooperation with experienced protection experts to support at-risk organizations in countries such as Nigeria and Uganda. Tailored measures focused on digital and physical security, organizational resilience, and risk-aware operations.

Taken together, these efforts contributed to strengthening defenders' operational capacity, international reach, safety, and resilience - enabling laureates and their networks to continue their human rights work under increasingly difficult conditions.



Supporting Women Human Rights Defenders (WHRDs)

Over the past period, Rafto has continued to strengthen its support to women human rights defenders (WHRDs) through long-term network building, visibility efforts, and targeted support to locally led initiatives. Despite conflict, shrinking civic space, and limited resources in several partner contexts, the WHRD network has remained active, connected, and mutually supportive.

A Decade of Courage: Intersectional Feminist Collective Marks 10 Years

A key milestone was the network's 10-year anniversary gathering, which created space for reflection, peer learning, and documentation of results and impact. Members assessed which capacity-building measures and solidarity mechanisms have been most effective and developed plans for mentoring and knowledge transfer to a new generation of defenders. Secure digital platforms have enabled continuous peer support, experience sharing, and coordinated responses to emerging security risks. Outreach tools and shared resources have also been expanded through the network's developing digital platform.

Network members continued to develop and lead local initiatives addressing concrete rights challenges. One example is She & the Law in Egypt, which provides legal awareness, documentation, and accessible tools for women facing violence and discrimination. Rafto has supported such initiatives through advisory follow-up, visibility, and linkage to broader advocacy processes and networks.

Recognition and Visibility for Women Human Rights Defenders

Rafto has also contributed to increased recognition and international visibility for WHRDs. Increasing recognition and visibility is a critical protection and influence strategy for women human rights defenders.



Through partnerships such as Forum 1325 and engagement around the UN Security Council Resolution 1325 anniversary, network members and partners participated in high-level conferences and dialogues with decision-makers. Rafto further supported participation and side events at the UN Human Rights Council, helping amplify the voices of Sahrawi women human rights defenders through testimony, documentation, and cultural advocacy formats.

Rafto supported women-led media and knowledge platforms in the SWANA region. The feminist digital platform Sharika Wa Laken has strengthened its role as a regional source of rights-based reporting and analysis on gender-based violence, discrimination, and digital security. Its associated femicide observatory continues to provide trusted data used by journalists and researchers in contexts where official information is limited.

In 2025, Rafto took part in the opening of Female's new centre and shelter in Chouf, Mount Lebanon. Rafto has been a proud sponsor of this safe space, which was opened as a response to the loss of Female's centres in Nabatieh and Beqaa that were ruined during the Israeli war on Lebanon. The centre in Chouf will provide a safe haven for women, girls, and marginalized groups across Lebanon, a platform for youth and feminist activism, emergency readiness and support, and a home for feminist thinking and organizing.



Addressing Business Related Human Rights Violations

Human rights defenders are essential to exposing abuse, preventing harm, and securing accountability for business-related human rights violations. Their work ensures that the impacts of corporate activity on people and communities are made visible and addressed. In 2025, Rafto strengthened the capacity, influence, and protection of human rights defenders working across high-risk sectors and regions, including the built environment, mineral extraction, global shipping, and coastal and ocean-dependent communities in India, Colombia and Nigeria, as well as defenders in the MENA region.

Advancing Human Rights in the Built Environment

Through its engagement in the Institute for Human Rights and Business (IHRB)-led Coalition for Dignity in the Built Environment, Rafto contributed to concrete shifts in how human rights are integrated into decision-making across the built environment life cycle. In 2025, Rafto supported the relaunch and dissemination of IHRB's Dignity by Design Framework, an interactive tool that equips practitioners and defenders to identify, prevent and address human rights risks in construction and infrastructure projects. Rafto also supported training on social risk and opportunity, and advocacy towards UN agencies and key global industry actors. These efforts strengthened the ability of human rights defenders to influence standards, policies and practices shaping the built environment.



Victims attend community work under project support in Tunga abandoned mining site.



Community Education in local media, Tunga, DR Congo.

Improving Protection in Conflict Mineral Extraction

In South Kivu, DR Congo, communities continue to face serious human rights abuses linked to the extraction of tin, tantalum, tungsten and gold. In 2025, Rafto supported the Christian Initiative for Peace, Reconciliation and Development (ICPRD) to translate international standards into practical tools for local action. Through workshops, radio programmes and multilingual training materials, community leaders, human rights defenders, miners, traders and public officials strengthened their understanding of the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights. Hundreds of people were reached. A key impact was the establishment of concrete dialogue processes between mining companies and affected communities, creating new spaces for engagement, accountability and prevention of future harm.

Delivering on Seafarers' Rights

Seafarers are central to global trade yet face persistent and systemic rights violations. In 2025, Rafto's work contributed to measurable progress in industry accountability. Uptake of the Delivering on Seafarers' Rights Code of Conduct, developed together with IHRB and Sustainable Shipping Initiative (SSI), continued to grow, with 710 companies submitting assessments covering 13,273 vessels across all major vessel types. Beyond compliance, Rafto helped foster shared ownership of seafarers' welfare through multi-stakeholder dialogue.

The SEAFAIRER Roundtable in Singapore and a panel during One Ocean Week in Bergen brought together industry, governments, seafarers and welfare organisations, reinforcing the understanding that lasting improvements require collective responsibility, transparency and continuous improvement.

Strengthening the Rights of Coastal and Ocean-Dependent Communities

Coastal communities are among those most affected by climate change, environmental degradation and irresponsible business practices, yet they are often excluded from decision-making. Through the Ocean and Human Rights Platform, Rafto supported human rights defenders in India, Colombia and Nigeria to document impacts, generate evidence, and advocate for rights-respecting governance of ocean-based activities.

This work strengthened local agency, elevated ocean equity in national and international policy spaces, and expanded meaningful participation of affected communities.

A highlight was the event Ocean Equity and the Right to a Healthy, Sustainable Ocean for All, held during the UN Ocean Conference in Nice in June 2025.

In Nigeria, Rafto's partner Health of Mother Earth Foundation (HOMEF) strengthened the capacity of fisher communities affected by pollution, erosion and climate impacts through training, monitoring and gender-sensitive evidence gathering. As a result, communities improved their ability to document violations, engage authorities and assert their rights.



Our partner in India BlueGreen promoted sustainable fisheries and protecting customary rights through Ocean Arts Project in Mukkuvar community in Kerala. The project combined ocean arts, rights-based education, and community engagement to address issues of sustainable fishing, customary marine rights, and the often under-recognised contributions of women in the fisheries sector.

In Colombia, Rafto supported CREER to link the protection and restoration of Cartagena's water bodies to the realization of human rights, strengthening accountability, participation and non-discrimination, including for ethnic communities. In India, partners worked with marginalized Dalit fisher communities in Tamil Nadu and with youth from small-scale fishing communities in Kerala, combining human rights education, collective organizing and ocean arts to build awareness, inclusion and long-term resilience.

Rafto took part in the UN dialogue on BHR in Marrakech, Morocco, in June, where we supported the presence of HRDs such as representatives from Rafto Laureates ECRF.

The dialogue is an important door opener to BHR in the region, and a place where different stakeholders can meet and engage with each other. Rafto sees it as an important opportunity to bring in the perspectives of rights holders, civil society, and HRDs.

Rafto also continued its efforts on BHR in the Gulf, conducting a BHR introductory lecture, localizing human rights, for future business leaders and local business students. There is a great willingness to engage on BHR among local actors in the region, and working with young students offers a way to address future business leaders and rights holders.



Rafto laureate 2012 Nnimmo Bassey spoke at the event Ocean Equity and the Right to a Healthy, Sustainable Ocean for All, co-hosted by Rafto during the UN Ocean Conference in Nice in June 2025.



Democratic Education at a Critical Moment

In a democracy that upholds human rights, both trust in and critical scrutiny of public authorities are essential. This requires knowledge, skills, and a belief that speaking out can make a difference. This is the foundation on which the Rafto Foundation builds its educational programmes. Our time continually provides examples of how crucial civil society is in the struggle for fundamental human rights.

The Rafto Foundation is the Centre for Peace and Human Rights (FMS) in Western Norway, based in the human rights city of Bergen. We are committed to serving as a resource, a watchdog, and a collaborative partner for schools, municipalities, and human rights communities throughout our region.

Each year, we partner with the Bergen International Film Festival on its human rights programme, Checkpoints, as well as its school programme, which engaged 12,000 students in 2025. Together with the art museums KODE, we developed Freedom at Siljustøl: an alternative commemoration of the Liberation Days, integrating art and music, with Rafto laureate 2024 Luis Manuel Otero Alcántara playing a central role in the educational component.

Den Nationale Scene and the Rafto Foundation also collaborated to create an audio theatre production *A Better Place*, recounting the deportation of 14-year-old Jewish boy Oskar Müller in 1942. This programme was offered to schools during Holocaust Remembrance Days 2025 and received media coverage from NRK Vestland.



Students participating in the audio theatre *A Better Place*, taking place in the city centre.

In addition, we are a clear and principled human rights voice during public commemorations opposing the war in Ukraine and the genocide in Gaza. In this way, the Rafto Foundation maintains an active presence in the city, collaborates with key cultural institutions, and makes purposeful use of Bergen and its history in our educational work.

Record Participation in Human Rights Education

In 2025, the Rafto Foundation experienced record participation in its educational activities. A total of 10,557 participants took part in our programmes. In particular, we have seen significant growth among teachers and student teachers. Teachers' unions and county-level annual teacher conferences have invited us to address the role of the teaching profession in our time. This highlights the important role played by peace and human rights centres: we are not neutral researchers, but operate from a clearly articulated normative standpoint, while remaining closely connected to the relevant academic fields and supporting schools in their mandate to foster democratic citizenship.



Approximately 130 teachers participated in the course Israel and Palestine – War and Dehumanisation.

The vast majority of whom were upper secondary school social studies teachers.

Supporting Teachers Navigating Increased Polarisation

We also observe that teacher education programmes are seeking greater knowledge in certain areas. Topics such as Palestine and Israel, gender and sexuality, and racism often generate uncertainty among teachers and are taught in classrooms where students bring highly diverse experiences. This makes classroom navigation challenging. On 7 November 2025, we invited teachers to the course Israel and Palestine – War and Dehumanisation.

The course was made possible through earmarked funding from the revised national budget allocated to Dembra, and was organised in cooperation with Vestland County. The aim of the course was to provide teachers with knowledge and tools to increase their confidence in addressing these issues, as well as to strengthen schools' capacity to support students affected by war and conflict.

Our expertise in these areas is in high demand and provides teachers and student teachers with increased knowledge and conceptual understanding, opportunities for self-reflection, and concrete suggestions for sound pedagogical practice. Throughout 2025, we have also further developed our own educational offerings for school classes on these sensitive topics.

We continue to reap the benefits of projects such as Ka'brasu (What Is Good Racism Education?), as the report and accompanying film have helped disseminate our knowledge and increased demand for our expertise. In 2025, two of the young people involved in Ka'brasu, through our partner Møhlenpris Sports Club, developed teaching materials on racism for lower secondary school and piloted these at several schools in Bergen.

Countering Extremism and Radicalisation

We also see that projects such as Personal Narratives of 22 July are now well established and continuously evolving. Among other developments, collaborations have been initiated with the 10 August Foundation, the support groups for 25 June and 22 July, and the 22 July Centre.

The aim is to develop educational programmes addressing all three terrorist attacks. In parallel, we have initiated a collaboration with the 22 July Centre and the National Support Group for 22 July. The aim is to expand the number of regions in which school classes can hear first-hand testimonies from the 2011 terrorist attacks.

The other Peace and Human Rights Centres (FMS) are natural venues for anchoring such initiatives, and a guidance resource will soon be ready. This work strengthens expertise on terrorism, group-based hostility, and violence, and is fully in line with the expectations set for the FMS in White Paper No. 13, Preventing Extremism.





Partners from Greece,
Cyprus and Norway in
training in Athens, Greece.

Inclusive Education: About, For, and Through Democracy

The Rafto Foundation works continuously to further develop its educational programmes and has acknowledged that they have not always been accessible to all student groups. This has made it necessary to explore new ways of reaching every learner. When Dråpen i havet approached us about an international project, it therefore proved a strong match. EmpowerED builds on and contextualizes well-established resources from Terres des Hommes and Council of Europe focusing on community, democracy, and human rights, and is particularly tailored to students with refugee backgrounds or other vulnerable life situations. The project forms part of our R&D initiative on adapted education (TOPP) and, together with the adaptation of our own Democracy Cake, contributes to a holistic educational offering - about, for, and through democracy. Partners are from Greece, Cyprus and Norway.

Academic Partnerships for Democracy Education

In recent years, the Rafto Foundation has developed a range of research and development (R&D) projects for schools. In Ka'brasu, 15 young people participated over an extended period, while later projects—such as Konspi (conspiracy theories), PIS (Palestine and Israel in schools), KOS (gender and sexuality), and TOPP (adapted education)—are built on a triangular model in which teachers, researchers, and the Foundation collaborate.

The aim is to create teaching resources and knowledge that address schools' needs about, for, and through democracy and human rights. Teachers contribute classroom experience, researchers provide documentation and evaluation, and the Rafto Foundation leads the development of materials. Together, they produce relevant, carefully considered, and field-tested resources for schools.

Planning for a New Learning Arena

We are particularly pleased to report record participation levels while operating from temporary premises. We can now conclude that the relocation to ordinary office facilities, while the Rafto House undergoes expansion and upgrading, has not diminished our popularity among schools. At the same time, we look forward to once again offering a genuine alternative learning environment where students can engage multiple senses and move in varied ways. While we have successfully adapted our teaching to standard classrooms, we find that learning becomes less varied and that we are unable to utilise our full range of methods and tools.

Creative work on the new alternative learning environment began in autumn 2025. In collaboration with the Bergen-based firm Haltenbanken, we will develop the new premises, scheduled to open in January 2027.



The Rafto Foundation is highly pleased that, in the Revised National Budget, the Government has proposed granting the Rafto Foundation a commitment of NOK 85 million to upgrade and expand Rafto House at Menneskerettighetenes plass 1 in Bergen.



Human Rights Due Diligence in Practice

In 2025, the FUTURE-PROOF network, a joint initiative with the Bergen Chamber of Commerce and Industry, continued to facilitate an arena for capacity-building and peer-to-peer learning related to the practical implementation of human rights due diligence. Based on feedback from network members, a key priority was to make it easier to navigate the wide range of available resources.

To address this need, a resource hub was developed and launched on the network's intranet. Resources were identified through extensive research as well as input from experts and organizations and then reviewed and curated in collaboration with human rights lawyer Tone Sørfohn Moe.

The result is a hub that consolidates selected tools, guidance documents and other material covering core aspects of human rights due diligence, including risk assessment and sector-specific challenges. As business and human rights is an ever-evolving field, the resource hub will be supplemented and updated based on user feedback and developments over time.

FUTURE-PROOF



In parallel, the network facilitated a range of activities, including the annual conference, which in 2025 focused on the question: “Can Europe afford (not) to care about sustainability?”

The conference brought together representatives from civil society, business, think tanks and academia, and included contributions from, among others, Beena Pallical of the 2007 Rafto Laureate National Campaign on Dalit Human Rights.



The purpose of FUTURE-PROOF is to help businesses in the region comply with their responsibility for human rights, both within their own operations and throughout their supply chains.



The Business and Human Rights Program focuses on the corporate responsibility to respect human rights, and our activities are directed towards both authorities, business actors and human rights defenders.

Educating the Next Generation of Responsible Business Leaders

The Masters' course in Business and Human Rights, offered by Rafto in partnership with the University of Bergen and the Institute for Human Rights and Business (IHRB), was held for the 9th consecutive year. Faculty included world leading experts from international institutions and companies, as well as Rafto laureates and academics. Participants included advanced corporate practitioners and sustainability leaders across a range of industries. The course has gained international reputation as one of the best business and human rights courses globally.

Rafto has close links with NHH Norwegian School of Economics and works through a dedicated student group at NHH to enhance the knowledge about human rights among business students. In addition to organising seminars, a course followed by 22 students was held in 2025, focusing on practical steps companies must take to implement the responsibility to respect human rights according to the UN Guiding Principles and the OECD Guidelines on Responsible Business Practice.

In partnership with IHRB, Rafto has delivered seminars on business and human rights at NHH since 2017 for international students following the highly ranked CEMS double degree Master in International Management. In 2025, 35 students from 10 countries took part in the course, which was also delivered at Aalto University and LSE. The international CEMS alliance offers students a prestigious one-year extension that earns them a highly valued additional qualification and increases their chances of becoming future leaders. Through our course, Rafto and IHRB provide the next generation of leaders with an understanding of the corporate responsibility to respect human rights in line with the UNGPs.



Organization

Rafto Foundation's Volunteers

Rafto volunteers have always been an essential part of the foundation's work, particularly in connection with the annual Rafto Prize. The Rafto Foundation's Prize Committee consists of nine members, who are responsible for evaluating nominations and recommending a candidate for the annual Rafto Prize.

The Rafto Student Group contributes to the organization of the Rafto Prize events and the associated outreach efforts. In 2025, the group consisted of 16 students, with an additional 13 volunteers engaged in practical tasks during the events in Bergen. The Rafto Oslo Group consisted of 6 members in 2025, who contribute to organizing public events in Oslo related to the annual Rafto Prize.

Rafto x NHHs had approximately 20 members through 2025 and focuses on increasing awareness among students at NHH Norwegian School of Economics about topics related to business and human rights.

The Friends of The Rafto Foundation is a separate foundation closely tied to the Rafto Foundation, who actively supports our work by contributing to spreading awareness about human rights work through public events, as well as through their member-oriented activities and newsletters.

Status of the Upgrade and Expansion of the Rafto House

In 2025, the Rafto Foundation initiated extensive work to upgrade and expand the Rafto House. The project is funded primarily by the Ministry of Education and Research, with additional contributions from Vestland County Municipality.

The work aims to create a more universally accessible building for students participating in our educational programs, including step-free entrance, a lifting platform, and improved accessibility throughout the building. The Rafto House consists of two older buildings that will be upgraded to better meet current standards for office facilities.

Executive Director in Rafto, Jostein Hole Kobbeltvedt, signing the contract with the Contracteur Lars Jønsson AS.



The project with the new Rafto House in Bergen is scheduled for completion by the end of 2026.

Nature of business

The Rafto Foundation's object clause

The Foundation's object is, in the spirit of Thorolf Rafto, to promote human rights, primarily intellectual, political and economic freedom. This work shall be performed on a humanistic basis, without geographic demarcation, in order to promote human dignity.

The Rafto Foundation shall award the Thorolf Rafto Memorial Prize (the Rafto Prize). The Rafto Foundation's work shall be performed through follow-ups of the Rafto Prizes, educational initiatives and other communications.

The Rafto Foundation's main strategic goals:

1. The Rafto Foundation shall raise the profile of the Rafto Prize as a tool for recognising and highlighting human rights defenders.
2. The Rafto Foundation shall challenge authorities and businesses on their human rights responsibilities.
3. As a national peace and human rights centre, the Rafto Foundation shall provide education in democracy and human rights.

Our core activity is organised under three areas:

1. Awarding of the Rafto Prize.
2. Support for human rights defenders and working to make authorities and businesses accountable.
3. Education in democracy and human rights.

Our support functions are organised under three areas:

1. Organisation and voluntary work.
2. Communication.
3. Funding and framework conditions.

Staff, Board and Volunteers

Board members 2025

Frode Elgesem, Chair

Anders Skjævestad, Deputy chair

Anders Waage Nilsen

Laila Bokhari*

Lovise Aalen

Ingrid Hoem Sjørnsen, Chair of Rafto Prize Committee

Anne Lise Fimreite

Guri Hjeltnes

Marianne Støle-Nilsen, employe representative

Observer: Roar Bye, Leader of Friends of the Rafto Foundation

The board of directors had six ordinary meetings and two extra ordinary meetings in 2025.

* It was with great sadness that we received news that our board member Laila Bokhari passed away in December 2025.

The Rafto Prize Committee 2025

Ingrid Hoem Sjørnsen, Chair

Elina Troscenko, Deputy chair

Helge Haugland

Bheki Dlamini

Kariane Therese Gärtner Westrheim

Anand Bhopal

Kjersti G. Berg

Ana de Mello Côrtes

Cathinka Guldberg-Nessler, Leder of the Rafto Student Group 2025

Administration 2025

EMPLOYEES IN FULL-TIME POSITIONS

Jostein Hole Kobbeltvedt, Executive director
Frøydis Olaussen, Head of administration
Solveig Moldrheim, Head of education
Ingrid B. Rosland, Head of HRD program
Therese Jebsen, Senior advisor HRD
Iver Ørstavik, Senior advisor HRD
Liv Unni Stuhaug, Senior advisor Rafto prize
June Naustdal, Project Advisor
Anita Hole, Education Advisor
Shayan Hussein, Project Team Member for Education
Ronja Bell Breisnes, Communication Advisor
Maren Fluge Nordgreen, Project Coordinator, FUTURE-PROOF
Marianne Støle-Nilsen, Senior Advisor Education
Jan Morten Rønne, Education Advisor
Zaid Abu Kalal, Education Advisor

TEMPORARY EMPLOYEES 2025

Andrea Rygh-Johansen, HRD and FUTURE-PROOF
Kaspar Knudsen, Communication
Vegard Waagbø, Education
Vilde Mørch Hobæk, Education

During 2025, the Rafto Foundation had nine people on project contracts:

Cathrine Hope (Dembra), Katrine Vetaas Vedeler (BHR), Caroline Huse Dalsegg (BHR), Agnes Olaussen Strømme (administration), Mars Mesgrahl (Education), Michal Abraha Solomon (Education), Mari Julie Bårdsen (Education), Willem Leendertse (Education) and Andrea Helena Magnussen (Education)

Internship program

The Rafto Foundation offers internship related to our educational department and the Rafto Prize project. The Rafto Foundation established the internship program in 2010 in which interns work two days a week, for ten months. The program currently has defined learning objectives and a more formalized follow-up from the foundation than in the past. Since 2021, interns have received a stipend as part of the program. As of 2025, this amounts to NOK 69,000 per year.

Interns in 2025

Tale Eilertsen, Education, 2024/2025

Trym Lind, Education, 2024/2025

Emma Aase, Education, 2025

Malwina Dobrowolska, Rafto prize, 2025

Eira Erlandsen-Sele, Education, 2025/2026

Mikal Shahim Inayat Torstensen, Education, 2025/2026

Volunteers

The Rafto Foundation has almost 70 volunteers doing essential work for the foundation. Our volunteers are board members, members of the prize committee, friends of Rafto, Student group, Oslo-group and Rafto X NHHS



Health, safety and environment

The Executive Director has overall responsibility for health, safety, and working environment (HSE) at the Rafto Foundation. Liv Unni Stuhaug was elected as safety representative in March.

HSE issues are addressed regularly in staff meetings.

In 2025 we started the renovation and expansion of the new Rafto House. Updates on the development of the new Rafto House are regularly discussed in weekly staff meetings.

The Rafto Foundation moved out of Raftohuset and into temporary offices in Bredalsmarken 15-17. The temporary office is located close to the Raftohuset and has facilities to maintain education for visiting school classes.

The Board emphasis on achieving a good gender balance. In 2025, the Board consisted of six women and three men; the Prize Committee consisted of six women and three men; among full-time employees, there were eleven women and four men.

There were no injuries or accidents related to operations in 2025.

Total sick leave as a proportion of total working days was 6,14%, an increase compared to the previous year.

A majority of employees are members of the LO (Trade union) and NTL (trade union under LO), and the Rafto Foundation is a member of Virke (Employers organization). The parties are bound by the Collective Agreement LO and Virke.

The Rafto Foundation does not pollute the external environment beyond what is considered normal for comparable organizations.

Cooperating Partners

22. juli-senteret
Agenda Rådgivning
Agenda Vestlandet
AGORA international human rights
AHKR Universitetet i Bergen
Amnesty International
ARKIVET freds- og menneskerettighetssenter
Artists at Risk
Askøy Kommune (Dembra)
Association Jeunesse de la Paix et la Non-Violence (AJPNV)
Bærekraftige Liv
Bergen Global
Bergen Internasjonale filmfestival (BIFF)
Bergen Næringsråd
BlueGreen Coastal Resources
CEMS Global Alliance in Management Education
Centre for Race and Gender and University of California, Berkeley Centre of Law and Social Transformation
Centro Regional para Empresas y Emprendimientos Responsables (CREER)
Chr. Michelsen Institutt
Civil Rights Defenders
Den norske ambassaden i Singapore
Den norske ambassaden i Warszawa
Den norske Helsingforskomité
Den norske Uighurkomiteen
Det Europeiske Wergelandssenteret
DNB
DOF ASA
Dråpen i Havet
ELSA Bergen
Emergency Response Rooms of Sudan
Equinor
European Stability Initiative
Falstadsenteret
Fe-Male
FNs høykommissær for menneskerettigheter
FNs spesialrapportør for menneskerettighetstiltaksforsvarere
FNs spesialrapportør for retten til et rent, sunt og bærekraftig miljø
FN-sambandet
Freemuse
Forbrukertilsynet
Forskergruppen Forskning og undervisning om kontroversielle tema
Free Courts Initiative
FRI - Foreningen for kjønns- og seksualitetsmangfold
Grieg Gruppen
Havforskningsinstituttet
Haltenbanken
Health of Mother Earth Foundation
Senter for studier av Holocaust og livssynsminoriteter
Hope for Children
Høgskulen på Vestlandet
Human Rights House Foundation
Human Rights House Network
Human-Etisk Forbund
Impact HUB Bergen
Institute for Human Rights and Business
Jammu and Kashmir Coalition of Civil Society (JKCCS)
KODE-museene
KPMG
LMOA Foundation
LOUDER (libanesisk organisasjon for kvinners rettigheter)
MEDEL Association des Magistrats européens pour la démocratie et les libertés
Menneskerettighetsfondet
Mission to Seafarers
Møhlenpris idrettslag
Nansensenteret
Narviksenteret
National Campaign on Dalit Human Rights
NLA Høgskolen
Nordahl Grieg vgs.
Norges Handelshøyskole (NHH)

Norges institusjon for menneskerettigheter
Norges kontaktpunkt for ansvarlig næringsliv
Norges Rederiforbund
One Ocean Expedition
One Ocean Havbyen Bergen
PEN Norge
Polish Judges' Association Iustitia
Postkodelotteriet
Christian Initiative for Peace, Reconciliation & Development
Protect Humanitarians
Proximity2Humanity
Raoul Wallenberg Institutt
Restart – Skeiv Ungdoms fagavdeling
RUWON Nepal
RVTS Vest
Stiftelsen 10. august
Stiftelsen Lenken
Støttegruppen 22. juli
Støttekomiteen for Vest-Sahara
Studentenes og Akademikernes Internasjonale Hjelpfond (SAIH)
Sustainable Shipping Initiative
Terres des Hommes
UNDP
Universitetet i Bergen
University of California at Berkeley
University of Westminster
Utøya AS
Wilhelmsen Ship Management
Women's Wings (Sudansk organisasjon for kvinners rettigheter)

Public supporters

Bergen kommune
Vestland fylkeskommune
Kunnskapsdepartementet / Utdanningsdirektoratet (UDIR)
Utenriksdepartementet / Norad (direktoratet for utviklingssamarbeid)
Lotteri og stiftelsestilsynet

Rafto Prize contributors

Fana Sparebank
Hans Jørgen Brun (fotograf)
Bergen Live
Studentersamfunnet i Bergen
Universitetsmuseet (Universitetet i Bergen)
Jæger Automobil Åsane
Norsk Folkehjelp
KODE
Reindyrka
BRGN
Ole Bull Scene
Vossabia
Kiwi Strømgaten
Shiraz
Rema 1000 Nygårdsgaten
Oscar Hermanrud Barrum
Peppes Pizza
Kandakiz
Bergen Brandkorps Musikkorps
Smau
TRE
De Bergenske

Other supporters

Formuesforvaltning
Stiftelsen Fritt Ord
Sparebanken Norge
Bergensstiftelsen
Agenda Vestlandet
Stiftelsen Raftoprisens Fond (Raftofondet)
Raftostiftelsens Venner

Annual accounts 2025

Revenue statement
Balance sheet Notes to
the Accounts

Resultatregnskap

Raftostiftelsen

Driftsinntekter og driftskostnader	Note	2025	2024
Tilskudd og gaver	2	23 370 238	22 450 957
Annen driftsinntekt		3 902 925	3 841 386
Sum driftsinntekter		27 273 162	26 292 343
Varekostnad		8 632 822	9 352 588
Lønnskostnad	3	14 310 995	12 935 399
Avskrivning av driftsmidler og immaterielle eiendeler	4	542 768	498 775
Annen driftskostnad	2, 3	2 594 124	2 916 976
Sum driftskostnader		26 080 709	25 703 738
Driftsresultat		1 192 453	588 605
Finansinntekter og finanskostnader			
Annen finansinntekt		379 163	823 301
Annen rentekostnad		410 921	529 704
Annen finanskostnad		13 533	30 579
Resultat av finansposter		-45 291	263 017
Årsresultat		1 147 162	851 622
Overføringer			
Avsatt til annen egenkapital	5	1 147 162	851 622
Sum overføringer		1 147 162	851 622

Balanse**Raftostiftelsen**

Eiendeler	Note	2025	2024
Anleggsmidler			
Varige driftsmidler			
Tomter, bygninger o.a. fast eiendom	2, 4, 6	9 346 640	9 819 950
Anlegg under utførelse - Nye Raftohuset	2, 4, 7	33 749 990	4 258 643
Driftsløsøre, inventar o.a. utstyr	4	238 841	207 890
Sum varige driftsmidler		43 335 471	14 286 483
Sum anleggsmidler		43 335 471	14 286 483
Omløpsmidler			
Fordringer			
Kundefordringer		1 130 733	1 663 597
Andre kortsiktige fordringer		910 286	833 752
Sum fordringer		2 041 018	2 497 349
Bankinnskudd, kontanter o.l	8	41 813 573	27 077 283
Sum omløpsmidler		43 854 591	29 574 632
Sum eiendeler		87 190 062	43 861 115

Balanse

Raftostiftelsen

Egenkapital og gjeld	Note	2025	2024
Egenkapital			
Innskutt egenkapital			
Grunnkapital	5	500 000	500 000
Sum innskutt egenkapital		500 000	500 000
Opptjent egenkapital			
Annen egenkapital	5	12 550 219	11 403 057
Sum opptjent egenkapital		12 550 219	11 403 057
Sum egenkapital		13 050 219	11 903 057
Gjeld			
Gjeld til kredittinstitusjoner	6	6 449 846	6 491 608
Øvrig langsiktig gjeld	7	56 800 000	18 000 000
Sum annen langsiktig gjeld		63 249 846	24 491 608
Kortsiktig gjeld			
Leverandørgjeld		5 751 739	2 002 418
Skyldig offentlige avgifter	8	936 814	874 322
Annen kortsiktig gjeld	2, 9	4 201 444	4 589 710
Sum kortsiktig gjeld		10 889 996	7 466 450
Sum gjeld		74 139 842	31 958 058
Sum egenkapital og gjeld		87 190 062	43 861 115

Bergen, 20.03.2026
Styret i Raftostiftelsen



Frode Elgesem
Styrets leder



Anders Waage Nilsen
Styremedlem



Lovise Aalen
Styremedlem



Anne Lise Fimreite
Styremedlem



Elna Tröscenko
Styremedlem



Guri Hjeltnes
Styremedlem



Anders Skjævestad
Styremedlem



Marianne Støle-Nilsen
Styremedlem



Jostein Hole Kobbeltvedt
Daglig leder

NOTER 2025

Raftostiftelsen

NOTE 1 REGNSKAPSPRINSIPPER

Årsregnskapet er satt opp i samsvar med regnskapsloven og NRS 8 - God regnskapsskikk for små foretak.

Inntekter

Inntekter består av tilskudd, gaver, støttemedlemskap og honorar for undervisningssamarbeid. Driftstilskudd og gaver inntektsføres i takt med forbruk av midlene. Investeringsstilskudd resultatføres i takt med avskrivningene av investeringen. Tjenester inntektsføres etter levering.

Skatter

Stiftelsen driver ikke skattepliktig virksomhet.

Klassifisering og vurdering av anleggsmidler

Anleggsmidler omfatter eiendeler bestemt til varig eie og bruk. Anleggsmidler er vurdert til anskaffelseskost, men nedskrives til virkelig verdi ved verdifall som ikke forventes å være forbigående. Nedskrivningen reverseres når grunnlaget for nedskrivningen ikke lenger er til stede. Varige driftsmidler balanseføres og avskrives over driftsmidlets økonomiske levetid.

Klassifisering og vurdering av omløpsmidler

Omløpsmidler og kortsiktig gjeld omfatter normalt poster som forfaller til betaling innen ett år etter balansedagen, samt poster som knytter seg til varekretsløpet. Omløpsmidler vurderes til laveste verdi av anskaffelseskost og virkelig verdi. Kortsiktig gjeld balanseføres til nominelt beløp på etableringstidspunktet.

Fordringer

Kundefordringer og andre fordringer oppføres i balansen til pålydende etter fradrag for avsetning til forventet tap. Avsetning til tap gjøres på grunnlag av en individuell vurdering av de enkelte fordringene.

Art og lokalisering

Stiftelsens formål er i Thorolf Raftos ånd å arbeide for menneskets rettigheter, i første rekke åndsfrihet, politisk og økonomisk frihet. Arbeidet skal drives på humanistisk grunnlag uten geografiske avgrensninger for å fremme menneskeverd. Arbeidet til Raftostiftelsen skal utføres gjennom årlig utdeling av Raftoprisen, oppføring av Raftoprisene, undervisning og annen formidling. Raftostiftelsen drives fra egne lokaler, som de overtok i 2024 i forbindelse med sammenslåing med tidligere huseier Stiftelsen Egil Raftos Hus, på Menneskerettighetenes Plass 1 i Bergen.

NOTER 2025

Raftostiftelsen

NOTE 2 OFFENTLIGE TILSKUDD

	2025	2024
Kunnskapsdepartementet	9 621 000	8 462 000
Norad (2025) / Utenriksdepartementet (2024)	9 000 000	9 000 000
Utdanningsdirektoratet	1 107 750	969 000
Bergen Kommune	1 142 000	1 108 000
Vestland fylkeskommune	1 054 200	1 354 000
Norske Ambassaden i Polen	440 000	0
Sum	22 364 950	20 893 000

Stiftelsens tilskudd består av driftstilskudd og prosjekttilskudd fra ulike aktører, både offentlige og private. Offentlige tilskudd er listet opp i tabellen over.

Andre offentlige tilskudd

I 2024 fikk Raftostiftelsen tildelt 15 millioner kroner fra Kunnskapsdepartementet til byggeprosjektet og nye 35 millioner kroner i 2025. Stiftelsen har også fått 2 millioner kroner fra Vestland fylkeskommune i 2025 til byggeprosjektet. Disse tildelingene er balanseført som langsiktig gjeld, se note 7.

Stiftelsen er registrert i Frivillighetsregisteret og søker årlig om mva-kompensasjon. Kr 1 270 280 er mottatt i 2025 for 2024. I 2025 har stiftelsen også søkt om strømstøtte for frivillige lag og organisasjoner, og har fått innvilget kr 6 209 i strømstøtte. Strømstøtten er ført som negativ driftskostnad.

NOTE 3 LØNNSKOSTNADER OG ANTALL ÅRSVERK

Lønnskostnader	2025	2024
Lønninger	11 247 571	10 134 592
Arbeidsgiveravgift	1 770 940	1 522 620
Pensjonskostnader	836 507	755 339
Andre ytelser	455 978	522 847
Sum	14 310 995	12 935 399

Stiftelsen har i regnskapsåret sysselsatt totalt 17,8 årsverk.

Revisor

Kostnadsført revisjonshonorar for 2025 utgjør kr 117 500 inkl. mva.

I tillegg kommer honorar for andre tjenester og attesteringer med kr 57 194 inkl. mva.

NOTER 2025

Raftostiftelsen

NOTE 4 VARIGE DRIFTSMIDLER

	Bygningsmessig inventar	Anlegg under utførelse	Driftsløspøre, inventar, verktoy mm.	Sum
Anskaffelseskost pr. 01.01	17 003 309	4 258 643	744 562	22 006 514
Tilgang kjøpte anleggsmidler	0	29 491 347	100 408	29 591 755
Anskaffelseskost 31.12.	17 003 309	33 749 990	844 970	51 598 269
Av- og nedskrivninger pr. 01.01	7 183 358	0	536 673	7 720 031
Årets ordinære avskrivninger	473 311	0	69 457	542 768
Av- og nedskrivninger pr. 31.12.	7 656 669	0	606 130	8 262 799
Bokført verdi 31.12.	9 346 640	33 749 990	238 840	43 335 470
Avskrivningsplan	Lineær 3 til 50 år	Ingen	Lineær 3 til 5 år	

NOTE 5 EGENKAPITAL

	Grunnkapital	Annen egenkapital	Sum egenkapital
Pr. 31.12.2024	500 000	11 403 057	11 903 057
Årets resultat		1 147 162	1 147 162
Pr 31.12.2025	500 000	12 550 219	13 050 219

Fortsatt drift

Styret vurderer at forutsetningen for fortsatt drift er til stede, og regnskapet er avlagt under denne forutsetning.

NOTER 2025

Raftostiftelsen

NOTE 6 PANTSTILLELSER OG GARANTIER

	31.12.2025	31.12.2024
Pantsikret gjeld, pantstillelser og garantier		
Langsiktig gjeld til kredittinstitusjoner	6 449 846	6 491 608
Sum	6 449 846	6 491 608
Gjeld som forfaller mer enn 5 år etter regnskapsårets slutt	4 465 226	4 473 272
Regnskapsført verdi av pantsikrede eiendeler		
Menneskerettighetenes plass 1 (Raftohuset)	4 977 676	5 159 576
Olaf Ryes vei 21	4 368 964	4 493 464
Sum	9 346 640	9 653 040

NOTE 7 ØVRIG LANGSIKTIG GJELD

Nye Raftohuset

Raftostiftelsen er i en prosess med å utvide og oppgradere Raftohuset i Bergen med utgangspunkt i undervisningstilbudet, som er ett av Raftostiftelsens kjerneområder. Dette vil blant annet øke undervisningskapasiteten fra ett til to fullverdige undervisningsrom og gi universell tilgang til lokalene. Prosjekteringsfasen gikk over to år fra høsten 2022 til høsten 2024 og det ble besluttet å gå i gang med byggeprosjektet når en fikk innvilget søknad om midler. Prosjektet gikk i november 2024 over i samspillfasen, før byggeprosjektet startet høsten 2025. Raftostiftelsen flyttet da ut av lokalene i byggeperioden til midlertidig leide lokaler.

Tilskudd til Nye Raftohuset

Kunnskapsdepartementet har tildelt 3 millioner kroner til forprosjektet og 15 millioner kroner til byggeprosjektet i 2024 og 35 millioner kroner i 2025. Stiftelsen har også fått 2 millioner kroner fra Vestland fylkeskommune i 2025 til byggeprosjektet og det er mottatt 100 000 kroner fra en privat stiftelse. I tillegg er det henført kr 1 700 000 i egenfinansiering fra Raftostiftelsen.

Total tildeling er kr 56 800 000 pr 31.12. Disse tildelingene er balanseført som investeringstilskudd under langsiktig gjeld, og pådratte kostnader i prosjektet så langt (kr 33 749 990) er aktivert som anlegg under utførelse.

NOTE 8 BANKINNSKUDD

Bundne skattetreksmidler i 2025 er på kr 445 096. Inntæende på skattetrekskonto er tilstrekkelig til å dekke skyldig skattetrekk pr 31.12.

Dei av Raftostiftelsens midler på bank kommer fra forskutterte tilskudd til byggeprosjektet Nye Raftohuset, se nærmere omtale i note 7.

NOTER 2025

Raftostiftelsen

NOTE 9 ANNEN KORTSIKTIG GJELD

	2025	2024
Periodisert tilskudd prosjekter	2 762 517	2 695 900
Skyldig lønn og feriepenger	1 290 538	1 565 634
Påløpte kostnader	145 829	320 308
Innsamlede gavemidler til andre org.	0	5 308
Annert kortiktig gjeld	2 559	2 559
Sum	4 201 444	4 589 710

Endring av sammenligningstall fra 2024

I 2024 var sum kortiktig gjeld kr 22 589 710. Av disse er kr 18 000 000 reklassifisert til langsiktig gjeld

Dette gjelder investeringstilskudd til byggeprosjektet Nye Raftohuset, se note 7.