

ANNUAL REPORT 2024



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On Sunday 10 November Rafto laureate 2024 Luis Manuel Otero Alcántara spoke to a captivated audience during the Rafto Prize award ceremony at the National Stage in Bergen, on a recording made over a poor phone line from his prison cell outside Havana.

The prize, which received broad international media coverage, recognized the activist, political prisoner, and founder of the San Isidro movement, for his courageous struggle for freedom of speech in Cuba. It also recognized art as a form of resistance against authoritarianism. The Rafto Foundation (Rafto) will continue to support his struggle for freedom.

The difficult circumstances of Otero Alcántara reflected those of many others in 2024, when human rights suffered major setbacks while international law and democratic institutions faced new and fundamental challenges all over the world. Authoritarian leaders became more assertive in their crackdown on civil society, while anti-democratic movements gained ground, often using their positions to attack minorities, undermine free media, and curtail the independence of courts.

In this context Rafto continued its support for human rights defenders (HRDs) and hoping to sustain their work despite the increased pressure. This included work to document and address human rights violations, build and sustain networks and alliances, and national and international advocacy.

The work of Rafto laureate 2023 Defense for Children International Palestine (DCIP) unfortunately remained all too relevant throughout the year. During a brutal war on children in Gaza, and faced with increased violence in the West Bank, DCIP continued to document and advocate against the massive violations of the human rights of children in Palestine. We supported DCIPs work in Palestine, their international advocacy efforts for the rights of children in conflict, and their calls for holding perpetrators accountable in international courts and elsewhere.

In a year of many setbacks for the human rights community, it was inspiring to gather Rafto laureates from Egypt, Thailand, Mexico, Lebanon, Palestine, Russia, DRC, India, United States, Vietnam, Nigeria, Uganda, Bahrain and Western Sahara in Geneva to share experiences, build solidarity and strengthen resilience.

Many among the women human rights defenders (WHRDs) working with Rafto have been forced into survival mode amidst war and conflict. For Rafto this has required adaptation of our programs and support to a new and more unpredictable situation.

In our support for HRDs who address business related human rights violations, we continued our work with regional partners in Colombia, Nigeria and India to address challenges for human rights, decent work and sustainable livelihood related to the ocean industries. We organized our biggest ever roundtable in Singapore on workers' rights for seafarers and supported trainings and participation of HRDs at the regional UN Forums on Business and Human Rights in Bangkok and Nairobi.

In 2024 we continued to witness how vulnerable democratic institutions, rule of law, and human rights can be in what are considered established democracies. This only increases the relevance and importance of human rights education in building resilience against democratic backsliding.

Almost 8000 students and teachers in Norway participated in Rafto's educational activities throughout the year. We also developed our teaching material, supported schools in their work to address prejudice and exclusion, launched a youth-led guide to education against racism and piloted an innovative approach and collaboration between teachers and researchers gathering experiences in teaching controversial issues. We reached a milestone when we secured the necessary funding to renovate and expand the Rafto house as a regional hub for human rights education and peace work, an ambitious project we will embark on in 2025.

As always, I want to express our deep gratitude to all our supporters, volunteers and donors who make this work possible and to all our partners and the human rights defenders we are so privileged to be able to work with.

As the threats to democracy, human rights and international law has only increased since the beginning of 2025, the importance of individuals and organizations standing up for human rights is only more critical and it will unfortunately come at a greater cost.

Jostein Hole Kobbeltvedt
Executive Director of the Rafto Foundation



The Rafto Foundation in the world 2024

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

■ CUBA

The Rafto Prize 2024 was awarded to Cuban activist Luis Manuel Otero Alcántara, for his fearless opposition to authoritarianism through art. Following the prize events Rafto has established cooperation with the network of politically engaged artists and journalists to manage his art and advocate for his release.

▲ GENEVA

The Rafto Laureates Forum in Geneva brought together twenty-two contributors representing laureates from sixteen countries and five continents.

● 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.

● 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.

■ CHAD

AJPNV has received support from Rafto to highlight the widespread issue of political and cultural violence in Chadian society. A main effort was directed at diplomatic missions and the UN Universal Periodic Review of Chad.

● 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

In the last year, we have continued our support to WHRDs in SWANA (Southwest Asia and North Africa) and Southeast Asia. In Lebanon, the feminist CSO Female, one of our partners has been able to continue their work during the war on Lebanon, despite being heavily affected. We also support networks of WHRDs and their local initiatives. One of these initiatives took place in Beqa'a valley in Lebanon, where 59 mainly Syrian WHRDs took part in a training on sexual and reproductive health and rights.

■ PALESTINE

In our follow up of Rafto laureate 2023 we have been supporting both DCIP in their work to document violation of children's rights in Gaza and on the West Bank during a brutal war, and supported their international umbrella organization Defence for Children International's (DCI) advocacy efforts in support of Palestinian children.

■ EGYPT

As part of our support to ECRF, Rafto took part in supporting a coalition of human rights NGOs working on Egypt on the occasion of the Pre-Session to the Universal Periodic Review of Egypt in November 2024.

● SINGAPORE

The Rafto Foundation co-arranged the round table conference "Code of Conduct – Delivering on Seafarers' Rights."

■ POLAND

Rafto contributed to ongoing work under the auspices of Rafto laureate 2018 to identify obstacles and strategies for the restoration of independent courts in Poland.



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Fighting Authoritarianism: How the 2024 Rafto Prize champions art as resistance

On 10 November, the Nationale Stage in Bergen was filled except for one seat where the 2024 Rafto Prize laureate, Luis Manuel Otero Alcántara, should have been sitting. A dark stage showing only the diploma symbolized his absence and underlined that the prize could not be presented to him in person, due to his imprisonment.

Through an audio recording from prison, he was able to deliver a message to the audience present to honour him and his human rights work: "From the heart, with tears in my eyes, truly, on behalf of everyone, thank you very much," said Otero Alcántara.

Otero Alcántara is an Afro-Cuban artist and activist. He comes from a poor and marginalized neighbourhood in Havana and uses sculptural and performance art to protest violations against freedom of expression. He is the general coordinator of the San Isidro Movement – a constellation of artists, journalists and academics promoting freedom of expression. Otero Alcántara has been arrested multiple times for his activism and is currently in prison outside Havana.

Cuba has long been one of the countries with the least freedom of expression in the world. In an already limited political and civic space, the large protests of 2021 in Havana were met with an iron fist by the Cuban government. Hundreds of activists were arrested, including Otero Alcántara.

The 2024 Rafto Prize to Luis Manuel Otero Alcántara was announced 19 September at a press conference at the Rafto House in Bergen. More than 1700 people tuned in to the live broadcast of the press conference, at rafto.com and on our social media platforms. The announcement had a broad reach in international media, reaching over one hundred news outlets from Latin America and the US to Europe and Asia.

On 9 November we welcomed Otero Alcántara's friend and colleague Yanelys Nuñez Leyva, to the stage at the Rafto Conference in the University Aula in Bergen to talk about his work. An audience of three hundred persons also got to learn more about Cuba and art as a form of resistance against authoritarianism, with experts on Cuba giving interviews, holding speeches, and exchanging views in panel discussion.



The torchlight procession outside in solidarity with Otero Alcántara.

Meeting in Oslo after the Rafto week with Yanelys Nuñez Leyva, Rafto and Norwegian politicians.

Otero Alcántara on screen during the Rafto conference in Bergen.



***“This award makes
us feel less alone”***

– Luis Manuel Otero Alcántara

The prize ceremony on 10 November was followed by a torch light parade where Yanelis Nuñez Leyva walked in front of the procession together with the Mayor of Bergen and the County Mayor of Vestland. Around five hundred residents of Bergen participated in the torchlight procession to show solidarity with Otero Alcántara and the right to use art as a form of expression against authorities. In an interview with regional newspaper Bergens Tidende, Yanelys Nuñez Leyva stated, «It means a lot to the entire Cuban population to receive this award».

Yanelys Nuñez Leyva also represented Otero Alcántara in meetings in Oslo, including a meeting with the Standing Parliamentary Committee on Foreign Affairs and Defence. The visit to Norway concluded with a public conversation where Yanelys Nuñez Leyva and Ståle Wig discussed the situation in Cuba at the House of Literature in Oslo.

Following the prize events Rafto has established cooperation with the network of politically engaged artists and journalists who worked with Otero Alcántara until his incarceration to establish a formal organization able to manage his art and advocate for his release. This work will continue in 2025 and beyond.



Strengthening alliances: Partnering with and empowering HRDs

Rafto works long-term with our laureates, adapting our contributions to their circumstances. In 2024 many among them have experienced increasing pressure. Throughout the year Rafto has directed increasing resources and efforts to improve the security and resilience of our partners.

Strength through community

In early May 2024, we organized our second Rafto Laureates Forum in Geneva. This event brought together twenty-two contributors representing laureates from sixteen countries and five continents. The main purpose of this event was to provide a sheltered space for HRDs working in difficult conditions, allow them to reflect on and share experiences, discuss best practices, and build networks of solidarity.

The event was a resounding success, which inspired sustained contact and mutual support among these HRDs throughout the rest of the year. The main subjects of discussion through the three-day retreat were ongoing challenges experienced for exercise of the freedom of expression, assembly, and organization.

Also, more particularly, we discussed how to use UN mechanisms and deal with the often-significant risk of retaliation from authoritarian regimes for contributing to UN proceedings. Expertise from International Service for Human Rights, the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, and the team of the UN Special Rapporteur on Human Rights Defenders contributed to the exchanges. Our guests were also received at the Norwegian UN ambassador's residence, where they were given the opportunity to meet diplomats from a variety of missions supporting human rights work.

We also dedicated a separate hybrid session to the plight of children in the ongoing brutal siege of Gaza. The event was co-organized with Defence for Children International.



Speakers were H.E. Marc Pecsteen De Buytsverve (Ambassador at the Permanent Mission of Belgium to the UN), Jana Urh Lesjak (Minister Plenipotentiary and Deputy Permanent Representative of Slovenia to the UN), Khaled Quzmar (Defense for Children International - Palestine and 2023 Rafto laureate), Ahmad Abdallah (Egyptian Commission for Rights and Freedoms and Rafto laureate 2021), Dr. Rouba Mhaissen (Sawa for Development and Aidan and Rafto laureate 2019), and Dr. Raz Segal (Director and Associate professor of Holocaust and Genocide studies and at Stockton). Diplomats were invited to attend this session and also given the opportunity to consult individually with laureates.

Security and resilience

Among the most significant outcomes of the Rafto Laureates Forum were the initiation of a pilot effort to develop services which will allow HRDs to continue their work in circumstances where illegitimate pressure constrains their freedom of organization severely.

Circumstances have been mapped for select laureates, and a broader mapping is underway in 2025. Experts with extensive experience in relevant challenges of organization, psycho-social self-care, physical and digital security, organization and fundraising will develop services tailored for select partners in the Rafto network and beyond.

Standing up for children's rights in Palestine

In our follow up of Rafto laureate 2023 we have been supporting both DCIP in their work to document violation of children's rights in Gaza and on the West Bank during a brutal war, and supported their international umbrella organization Defence for Children International's (DCI) advocacy efforts in support of Palestinian children.

To build on the momentum of the Rafto prize, DCI launched a three-year advocacy campaign to support DCI-P's work at all relevant international fora in Geneva and New York, together with sensitization of the public opinion with the information and documentation provided by DCI-P from the West Bank and Gaza. Although DCI's campaign mainly focuses on deprivation of liberty, the fate of one million children in the Gaza strip had to be integrated in the campaign. As such, much of the advocacy focus in 2024 went to relevant international foras, such as the Security Council, the High-level Political Forum in New York, discussing SDG 16 on Peace and Security and the preparation of the July Report of the Secretary General on Children and Armed Conflict.

In 2024, DCI and DCIP were present at several international arenas with Rafto's support, but also arranged their own events, such as the Global Conference on justice for children deprived of liberty, in December 2024, which took place five years after the presentation of the Global Study to the UNGA, shedding light on the extreme situation of Palestinian children deprived of liberty. Norway's Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Espen Barth Eide, delivered a digital keynote to the conference.



Director of DCIP, Mr. Khaled Quzmar, finally was able to visit Norway in May, where he officially received the Rafto diploma in Bergen, followed by advocacy meetings with Minister of Foreign Affairs Mr. Espen Barth Eide, the Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee, politicians, and other relevant stakeholders. Mr. Quzmar also took part in a panel addressing the situation for Palestinian children in Gaza and the West Bank during a joint event arranged by Save the Children Norway and Rafto.

Rehabilitation of victims of sexual violence in Chad

The 2022 Rafto laureate, the Youth Association for Peace and Non-Violence (AJPNV), has received support from Rafto to highlight the widespread issue of political and cultural violence in Chadian society. A main effort was directed at diplomatic missions and the UN Universal Periodic Review of Chad, in collaboration with the World Organization Against Torture (OMCT), the International Council for the Rehabilitation of Torture Victims (IRCT), the Martin Ennals Foundation, and the Chadian League for Human Rights (LTDH). Several of the recommendations articulated by this group were eventually adopted.



AJPNV has also provided psycho-social support and livelihood training for 150 women victims of sexual violence with private funding generously made available to Rafto. The training also included a general introduction to human rights, and more particularly on their rights to rehabilitation and reparation. The project aims to restore the dignity and well-being of the women participating and equip them with the tools necessary to rebuild their lives and strengthen their autonomy.

Addressing a challenging human rights situation in Egypt

As part of our support to ECRF, Rafto took part in supporting a coalition of human rights NGOs working on Egypt on the occasion of the Pre-Session to the Universal Periodic Review of Egypt in November 2024. The coalition consisted of 9 Egyptian human rights organizations and groups who met with permanent country missions in Geneva to share insights and findings on the state of human rights in Egypt and provide critical commentaries on the alleged progresses in the areas of human rights, civil liberties, accountability and institutions' democratization. The delegation aimed at raising awareness among permanent country missions and other relevant stakeholders and mobilizing the largest possible number of countries to adopt a set of recommendations on specific human rights issues in the upcoming UPR of Egypt in January 2025.



Each member organization presented a contribution consisting of research findings and tailored recommendations concerning one or more human rights issues falling within the scope of their work, including civic freedoms, gender, migration, business and socio-economic rights, the rule of law and the penal system, and the repression of dissent. The coalition provided written input to all the missions they met with, including Norway.

Sharing experience on resistance to court capture in Poland and beyond

Rafto contributed to ongoing work under the auspices of Rafto laureate 2018, the current Minister of Justice in Poland Adam Bodnar, to identify obstacles and strategies for the restoration of independent courts in Poland. An added objective pursued through 2024 has been to identify the crucial contribution offered by judges' and other professionally based organizations in their civic capacity to protect rule of law, and the kind of organization and strategies required to articulate effective advocacy while maintaining the integrity of the professions and their corresponding institutions. This work has become increasingly pertinent as similar threats to the independence of courts and rule of law have developed through 2024 in the USA, France, Italy, Austria, Germany, and the Netherlands. The work is funded by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs through the Embassy in Warsaw and will continue into 2025 and beyond.

The forgotten and the persecuted

Rafto has continued its support of the work of the Political Conflict, Gender and People's Rights Initiative, University of California, Berkeley, to assemble and analyze materials on long-standing rights violations in Kashmir.

We have also received guests from, and continue our support for, the "Pusteromsby Oslo" project receiving HRDs experiencing severe pressure and stress in their work for shorter stays in Norway. The need for such assistance is greater than ever.

In addition to our long-term support, we also provide Rafto laureates with emergency support, such as technical and digital equipment, as well as support to temporarily relocation. In a context where HRDs are increasingly the target of oppression and persecution, flexible and efficient emergency support is proving more important than ever.



Women on the frontlines: Defending human rights amid rising global conflicts

In the last year, we have continued our support to WHRDs in SWANA (Southwest Asia and North Africa) and Southeast Asia. 2024 saw a rise in, and continuation of, conflicts and war in some of the countries we are focusing on. WHRDs in countries such as Lebanon, Sudan, and Palestine, have been heavily affected. Some have lost support, some have been forced to flee or have been forcibly displaced. In Lebanon offices have been hit, and they have been working under constant bombardment and attacks. Many have been forced to change their mode of work, in many cases turning to more aid-focused work to address needs on ground.

Rafto has continued its support to women's rights, CSOs and networks working in these contexts, well aware of their crucial role in upholding the women's rights movement in times of conflict and preserving the advances made in the last decades. Our support has been flexible, and our response has been efficient.

In Lebanon, the feminist CSO Female, one of our partners has been able to continue their work during the war on Lebanon, despite being heavily affected. Their office in South of Lebanon was ruined because of a bomb attack, and many of their staff were forcibly displaced. Still, they managed to open new offices, and make shelters in large parts of Lebanon, reaching out to vulnerable groups and women.

Women and children have been among the worst affected, together with vulnerable groups, such as LGBTQI+ people. One of the shelters that Female opened with Rafto support, was in Chouf, an area where Female had not been present earlier.

They have been able to provide aid related support and covered basic needs, such as mental and physical well-being through access to doctors and psychologists, female sanitary articles, clothes, medicines, mattresses, and food. But they have also been able to continue their women's rights work and mobilization of young women both in rural and urban areas.

In times of conflict and war, women's rights lose attention and there is a shift to a more aid-based focus both on local levels as well as from international mechanisms and donors. This poses a threat to the survival of civil society and the feminist movement that has been built during the last decades and have seen huge progress. They fear regression and that the advances and progress made for women's rights and the feminist movement will be lost and that civil society actors will disappear from the scene with little or no support from international actors.

Nonetheless, women led CSOs, and networks have showed themselves efficient in emergency response: They have been able to reach out to areas where international NGOs haven't had access and addressed the needs on ground, and at the same time managed to continue their work to promote women's rights. In this climate, we aim for our support to be flexible and adjusted to the ever-changing needs on ground in contexts of conflict and war.



Photo from a local initiative in Beqa'a valley in Lebanon, where 59 mainly Syrian WHRDs took part in a training on sexual and reproductive health and rights.

We support not only CSOs but also networks of WHRDs and their local initiatives. One of these initiatives took place in Beqa'a valley in Lebanon, where 59 mainly Syrian WHRDs took part in a training on sexual and reproductive health and rights.

In Nepal, we supported capacity building addressed at 25 young WHRDs, with a focus on leadership training, women's rights and GBV, while also providing a joint platform for discussions and sharing of experiences and strategies in how to promote women's rights. In another project in Afghanistan, we supported digital training of twenty young WHRDs on digital security and rights.

We were present at the 68th session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW68) in New York in March where we arranged a parallel session at the NGO platform. In the panel, WHRDs from Palestine, Iran, Lebanon, Western Sahara, and Sápmi were present, sharing their experiences and insights, with a special focus on land rights and the 1325 agenda, especially in countries ridden by conflict and war.

In October 2024, Rafto held our annual gathering of the Intersectional Feminist Collective (IFC), a network of WHRDs from across SWANA and Southeast Asia. The workshop took place in North Macedonia, where IFC met with local WHRDs and civil society actors, to learn from their experiences and share strategies on how to promote women's rights and continue the 1325 agenda.

Head of the HRD Program at Rafto Foundation Ingrid Breisteinslien Rosland in panel discussion on Inaugural dialogue on BHR about grievance mechanisms and civil society.





Human rights defenders advocating for decent work and sustainable livelihoods

HRDs challenging corporate abuse face increasing harassment. Meanwhile, international standards like the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (UNGPs) are being incorporated into legislation to hold companies accountable. Businesses must engage with rights holders, their representatives, and human rights experts in due diligence processes.

In 2024, Rafto, in collaboration with the Institute for Human Rights and Business (IHRB) and the University of Bergen, hosted the eight annual master's course in business and human rights, attracting 58 international participants, including experienced professionals from multinational companies.

Rafto facilitated HRD participation in global and regional Business and Human Rights forums, including a Rafto/IHRB/UNDP training for 28 HRDs in Bangkok. These platforms help HRDs connect with UN mechanisms, decision-makers, and advocacy networks. In 2024, Rafto engaged defenders from DR Congo, Nigeria, Nepal, India, Indonesia, Chad, Colombia, Bahrain, the Philippines, Singapore, Uganda, Egypt, and China (Xinjiang) in our work on business and human rights.

Ocean and Human Rights Platform

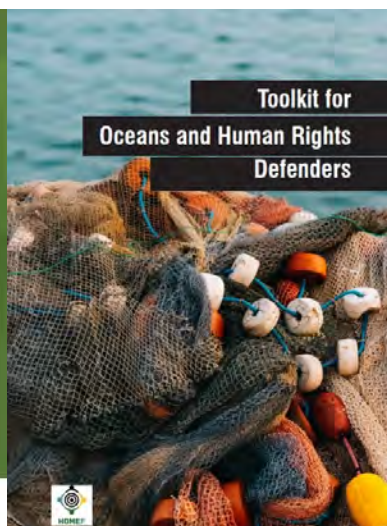
Launched in 2022 by Rafto and IHRB, the Ocean and Human Rights Platform advocates for the rights of ocean workers and coastal communities, focusing on marginalized groups. In 2024, the Platform strengthened partnerships with HOMEF (Nigeria), CREER (Colombia), NCDHR (India), and welcomed BlueGreen Coastal Resource Centre (India). The Platform provided training for community leaders and HRDs to engage in decision-making and convened multi-stakeholder dialogues on seafarers' rights and sustainable livelihoods for artisanal fishers. During One Ocean Week, it hosted a forum on blue forests and ocean equity, discussing mangrove destruction, human rights, and coastal community impacts.

Colombia

CREER highlighted human rights concerns related to port expansion, tourism, and gentrification in Cartagena. In 2024, it engaged stakeholders—including the Mayor's Office, University of Cartagena, businesses, and civil society groups—to advocate for the protection of wetlands and mangroves. At COP16 in Cali, CREER organized four panels.

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. In collaboration with CJE-Togo, HOMEF hosted a workshop for HRDs in Togo, bringing together lawyers, community representatives, CSOs, and government officials to promote human rights protections in coastal regions. HOMEF campaigned at COP29. It also prepared for co-organizing a State of the Ocean Workshop with the Nigerian Institute for Oceanography and Marine Research (NIOMR) and the International Ocean Institute – Nigeria Centre (IOI-Nigeria) in February 2025.





Supported by Rafto, BlueGreen held a training in Kerala on human rights, responsible business, and access to remedy, leading to the creation of the Coastal Indigenous Youth Network.

India

NCDHR's 2024 studies on ocean industries examined caste-based discrimination in fisheries in Tamil Nadu and Kerala, linking land status, gender, and livelihoods to human rights concerns. A follow-up on shipbreaking led to the formation of an informal coalition for labour rights advocacy. The fisheries report was launched at the UN Forum on BHR in Geneva.

DR Congo

Since 2022, Rafto has supported Programme Paix (PPR), in addressing human rights violations within the commodity supply chain in the South Kivu Province. PPR has conducted training courses for HRDs, visited mining sites, listened to victims and provided affected communities with tools to identify and report on human rights violations.

In 2024, PPR established a dedicated entity to underpin long term systematic, targeted and scalable work: The Christian Initiative for Peace, Reconciliation and Development (ICPRD).

Supported by Rafto, ICPRD conducted two workshops in South Kivu in 2024 engaging 19 HRDs, 20+ local commodity traders, 5 community leaders and 2 Government officers. In April 2024, ICPRD was invited to share experiences and findings from on the ground activities at the OECD Forum in Paris.

Shipping

The Ocean Platform advanced the implementation of the “Code of Conduct – Delivering on Seafarers’ Rights.” The 2024 Singapore Roundtable improved industry awareness, and the SSI/IHRB/Rafto 2024 Progress Report detailed advancements since 2021. By October 2024, 633 compliance-certified companies, covering over 12,300 vessels, had completed self-assessments.



The Ocean and Human Rights Platform is a collaborative initiative to raise awareness of and mitigate human rights risks across ocean industries. Industrial activities in the world’s oceans can have significant societal and environmental benefits. But if not managed responsibly, they can also have adverse impacts - on local communities, on workers in direct operations and in value chains, and on at-risk groups, including Indigenous Peoples, women and girls, and human rights and environmental defenders.

Built environment

The Rafto Foundation, IHRB, the Raoul Wallenberg Institute, and the Melbourne School of Design support HRDs in influencing built environment human rights policies and practices. In 2024, Rafto contributed to the Coalition for Dignity in the Built Environment, enhancing the capacity of over 20 organizations working with HRDs in the built environment, as well as indirectly reaching hundreds.

A course syllabus on Social Risk and Opportunity in the Built Environment was developed. The Bergen Inclusion Centre highlighted human rights considerations in construction, featured as a case study by the World Green Building Council. In Cartagena CREER continued its work on capacity building for businesses with the support of Rafto.



6

A platform for strengthening human rights commitments in business

2024 was a year of transition and growth for FUTURE-PROOF, the collaboration platform for business and human rights by the Bergen Chamber of Commerce and Industry and the Rafto Foundation for Human Rights.

To ensure a viable financial model, the steering group decided to introduce a fee for participation in the network, starting from 2024. Alongside this implementation, the network grew to include forty businesses in the Western part of Norway, confirming the relevance of the platform.

Through dialogue with the companies, business and human rights experts, the platform aims to cover useful and challenging topics of relevance to the implementation of human rights due diligence. Some of the topics covered in 2024 were the link between corruption and human rights, internal and external incentives with NHH's Rafto Visiting Professor of Business and Human Rights, and the role of board members in the human right's due diligence process.

FUTURE-PROOF



In addition to interdisciplinary topics for the whole network, the subgroups for Finance and Shipping & offshore had separate sector-specific workshops.

BIR and several other partners joined FUTURE-PROOF this year.

2024 also saw the continuation of events outside Bergen with two events in Stavanger and the launch of an intranet for the network. The biggest event of the year was the second FUTURE-PROOF conference, focusing on Climate & conflict with contributions from representatives from civil society, companies and think tanks, including Rafto laureate 2008 Bulambo Lembelembe Josué.



The collaboration platform's work is possible due to important support from Agenda Vestlandet, the foundation of Sparebanken Vest, which focuses on the green transition and sustainability in Western Norway.



7 Teaching Human Rights and Democracy in a Troubled World

Human rights education that fosters critical thinking, solidarity, and engagement for democracy, equality, and freedom is more important than ever. We must identify the causes of silence and polarization, as well as find the courage to confront discomfort and dilemmas.

A vibrant democracy depends on an active civil society with a backbone that stands up for human rights. When we practice addressing human rights dilemmas, we are training ourselves for democratic readiness. Our time calls for citizens who can speak out when democratic institutions are at risk.

As one of eight Norwegian national centers for peace and human rights, Rafto aims to be an independent institution that fosters critical thinking, knowledge of, and commitment to human rights. This often involves identifying gaps in knowledge, tools, and resources available to teachers and schools.

In 2024, we have focused particularly on this area. This is also part of our follow up of the action plans on the prevention racism, antisemitism, discrimination against muslims and discrimination against Sápmi people.

At the same time, we have reached nearly 8,000 participants through our outreach and teaching efforts. This marks a decrease compared to previous years, attributed to fewer large events and the financial challenges faced by schools. With tight budgets, there is less funding available for bus tickets needed for visits to alternative learning arenas.

Launched a Youth-Led Guide: How to Teach About Racism?

Racism is a topic that many teachers find daunting to address. Research has shown that discussions about racism in schools often revolve around historical examples from other continents and typically focus on extreme forms of oppression, such as violence, slavery, and hatred. This conveys the impression that racism is something distant and not related to our current context. We sought to uncover what constitutes valuable racism education.



In partnership with Møhlenpris Sports Club, we initiated the project "Ka'brasu" in 2022. Fifteen young people explored various methods for teaching about racism through six different sessions. After each session, we interviewed the youth and documented their feedback. The interviews were then analysed, and trends in the materials were presented to two of the participants.

From this, they developed seven recommendations for teachers. By June 2024, we had prepared a report on the project, along with a video featuring the youth explaining their recommendations. Additionally, the participants produced several videos, podcasts, and a board game about privilege.



Personal Stories about the terror attack in Norway 2011 have been in high demand at the Rafto House this year.

Personal Stories about the terror attack in Norway in 2011

In 2023, Rafto began a project focusing on personal stories related to the terror attack in Norway on 22 July, 2011. By 2024, this project has established a regular program for schools, allowing participants to hear firsthand accounts from witnesses. Rafto is also working to ensure that students across a broader region of the country can access these offerings.

In 2024, through the Support Group for 22 July, we have successfully recruited witnesses from Rogaland. Together with the national Support Group at the helm, we have formed a working group in collaboration with the 22 July Center to facilitate greater participation from various Peace and Human Rights Centres in this important work.

Mapping Teachers' Experiences and Needs: Palestine and Israel in Schools (PIS)

In the wake of the terrorist attack that affected civilians on 7 October 2023, and the subsequent decision by the Israeli government to initiate a ground war and invade Gaza, we recognize that discussions surrounding these events have become challenging for many.

Teachers reported silent classrooms, students turning to TikTok as their primary news source, and growing expectations to take a stance. We interpreted this as a need to assess experiences and requirements within schools.

Nine teachers, seven master's students, four educational researchers, and a historian specializing in Palestine and Israel are now collaborating with Rafto to gain deeper insights into how schools can support students affected by war and conflict, as well as teach about contentious and polarizing issues in our world.



Informing, Engaging, Advocating: Our Communications Work

In 2024, we continued and strengthened our communications efforts to show our wide-ranging activities and highlight our Rafto laureates and HRDs work. Educating young people in democracy and human rights is a central part of Rafto's mission, and we worked to emphasize this in several ways throughout the past year.

In February, we launched our first-ever walking and listening theatre on the Holocaust for school students. Students from a local primary school Fridalen School, among others, gained insight into the darker sides of Bergen's and the inner-city area Møhlenpris' history. We also continued our educational work on the 2011 terror attacks in Norway, a topic we actively highlighted in our communication channels.

The ongoing war in Gaza and the extensive suffering of civilians dominated the news throughout the year. We actively worked to highlight the efforts of DCIP, during this challenging time. We placed a strong focus on children's rights and received broad media coverage when several Norwegian outlets in February reported on our press release urging Norwegian authorities to take concrete measures to end the suffering.

In March, Rafto P laureate 2012 Nimmo Bassey from Nigeria visited Bergen. We took the opportunity to publish an in-depth interview with him on human rights and environmental issues.

In April, we marked the International Day of Solidarity with Palestinian Children, six months after the war in Gaza erupted. Rafto's Executive Director, Jostein Hole Kobbeltvedt, participated in a live broadcast on Norwegian TV2 and NRK on the occasion. In May, eight months after the 2023 Rafto Prize was awarded—Khaled Quzmar, Secretary General of DCIP, was finally able to receive the prize in Bergen. On this occasion, Quzmar was also interviewed by several Norwegian media outlets.

The Rafto Laureate forum provided a platform for the laureates to share the challenges they face in their work. We used the opportunity to share content from the conference and convey international peace messages from the laureates. Several of them were also interviewed for use in educational materials and social media.

During the fall, our communications efforts were largely focused on the announcement of the Rafto Prize. City-wide visibility, social media promotion, and media outreach were key strategies. In September, we announced that the 2024 Rafto Prize would be awarded to Cuban artist and activist Luis Manuel Otero Alcántara.

When the people of Bergen honored Otero Alcántara during the award ceremony in November, he was absent—still imprisoned in Havana. Since the announcement, we have worked strategically to shed light on his situation and that of other HRDs in similar circumstances.



Last week, we announced the Rafto Prize laureate.

Here's how the world reacted →

Photo from social media post after the announcement of the Rafto Prize 2024.

The announcement received extensive media attention, both nationally and internationally, particularly in Latin American media.



In June, we launched the Ka`Brasu report. The report received broad coverage in our channels, and several of the young participants were invited to NRK Vestland's morning radio show.

In August, we were present at Arendalsuka alongside Norway's other peace and human rights centres. Our events at the Human Rights-tent were well attended, especially when Foreign Minister Espen Barth Eide was challenged on the West's differing responses to the crises in Ukraine and Palestine.



There were some headlines



Le Monde

Le prix Rafto des droits humains attribué à l'« artiste » cubain Otero Alcántara, actuellement emprisonné



Cuban dissident leader wins Norwegian human rights award



Color News

Il leader dissidente cubano vince il premio norvegese per i diritti umani



Otero Alcántara, distinguido con un premio noruego de derechos humanos



NRK

Cubanske Luis sit fengsla for kunst - får norsk menneskerettspris

The announcement of the Rafto Prize 2024 made the headlines reaching over one hundred news outlets from Latin America and the US to Europe and Asia.

and many others...



9

Our volunteers

Rafto has many volunteers who contribute substantially to our work and approximately seventy people are actively engaged in various roles. The Prize Committee consists of nine members, who are responsible for evaluating nominations and recommending a candidate for the annual Rafto Prize.

The Student Group contributes to the organization of the Rafto Prize events and the associated outreach efforts. In 2024, the student group consisted of sixteen students, with an additional group of volunteers engaged in practical tasks during the Rafto Week in November. The Oslo Group of volunteers contributed to organizing the public event in Oslo about this year's Rafto Laureate.

Rafto x NHHs had around twenty-five members in 2024 and focused on increasing awareness among students at the Norwegian School of Economics (NHH) about topics related to business and human rights, through events and articles. The group organized a panel discussion for NHH-students about the 2024 Rafto laureate, Luis Manuel Otero Alcántara.

The Friends of the Rafto Foundation organized several exciting events last year, including a panel discussion about artificial intelligence and human rights which took place at Bergen Public Library.

10 Nature of the 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 challenge authorities and businesses on their human rights responsibilities.
2. The Rafto Foundation shall raise the profile of the Rafto Prize as a tool for recognising and highlighting human rights defenders.
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.

Board of Directors 2024

Frode Elgesem, Chair.

Anders Skjævestad, Deputy Chair.

Anders Waage Nilsen

Laila Bokhari

Lovise Aalen

Ingrid Hoem Sjørusen

Anne Lise Fimreite

Guri Hjeltnes

Iver Ørstavik, Employee representative

Henriette Munthe-Kaas, Observer. Chair of the Friends of the Rafto Foundation

The Board held six meetings in 2024.

Administration 2024

Employees in 100% positions:

Jostein Hole Kobbeltvedt, Executive Director

Frøydis Olaussen, Head of Administration

Solveig Moldrheim, Head of Education

Ingrid B. Rosland, Head of Program

Therese Jebesen, Senior Advisor

Iver Ørstavik, Senior Advisor

Liv Unni Stuhau, Project Coordinator (on leave)

June Naustdal, Served as a project coordinator in 2024

Leonardo Faba, Advisor for education (until October 26)

Anita Hole, Advisor for education (on leave)

Shayan Hussein, Project assistant

Ronja Bell Breisnes, Communications advisor (on leave)

Maren Fluge Nordgreen, Project assistant

Birger Berge, Advisor for education (until February 8)

Marianne Støle-Nilsen, Advisor for education (permanent from August 1)

Temporary staff 2024

Employees in 100% positions:

Vilde Mørch Hobæk

Vegard Waagbø

Kaspar Knudsen

Emma Klæth Kalbakk

Willem Leendertse (April–June)

In 2024, Rafto had four people on project contracts and hourly assistance: Christine Hope (Dembra), Katrine Vetaas Vedeler (BHR), Tone Sørfonn Moe (Future Proof), Tulika Bansal (BHR), Mars Mesgrahl (hourly assistance in education), and Michal Abraha Solomon (hourly assistance in education).

The Rafto Prize Committee 2024

The Rafto Prize Committee 2024

Ingrid Hoem Sjørusen, Chair

Helge Haugland, Deputy Chair

Håkon Tveit

Bheki Dlamini

Kjersti G. Berg

Kariane Therese Gärtner Westrheim

Ana de Mello Côrtes

Elina Troschenko

Johanne Ulriksen Skogseth, Student Leader

Internship program

Rafto established an internship program in 2010, where volunteers work two days a week, typically for ten months, as part of the administration. The program now includes defined learning objectives and more structured follow-up from the foundation than before. In 2021, the program was adjusted so that positions were compensated with a stipend, which amounted to 69,000 NOK per year as of 2024.

In 2024, we entered a collaboration with the Department of Government at the University of Bergen (UiB) to host two interns in full-time positions for three months. This is part of the department's master's program and grants students 30 ECTS credits.

Interns in 2024

Mars Mesgrahl, Education
Michal Abraha Solomon, Education
Myriam Lazrek, Prize Intern
Mari Julie Bårdsen, Education
Tale Eilertsen, Education
Trym Lind, Education
Lina Stalheim Seldal, Future-Proof
Andrea Rygh-Johansen, Program
Mstislav Grivachev, Program



12 Partners

22 July Centre
Aalto University Business School
Advisense
Agenda Vestlandet
AHKR Universitet i Bergen
Amnesty International
ARKIVET Peace and Human Rights Centre
Askøy Municipality (Dembra)
Association Jeunesse de la Paix et la Non-Violence (AJPNV)
Batteriet
Bærekraftige Liv
Bergen Global
Bergen municipality
Bergen International Film Festival (BIFF)
Bergen Chamber of Commerce
City Architect of Bergen
Business and Human Rights Resource Center
CEMS Global Alliance in Management Education
Center for Race and Gender at University of California, Berkeley Centre of Law and Social Transformation
Christian Michelsens Institute
Centro Regional de Empresas y Emprendimientos Responsables Congress of Human Rights Foundation
The Danish Institute for Human Rights
The Norwegian Helsinki Committee
The Norwegian Uighur Committee
Royal Norwegian Embassy in the Philippines
Royal Norwegian Embassy in Singapore
The Norwegian Human Rights Fund
Mission to Seafarers
DNB
DOF ASA
ELSA Bergen
Royal Norwegian Embassy in Warsaw
European Stability Initiative
Equinor
The Falstad Centre
Fe-Male
Free Courts Initiative
United Nations Association of Norway
The research group on Research and Teaching on Controversial Topics
FRI - Foreningen for kjønns- og seksualitetsmangfold
Future in our Hands
Grieg Group
The Norwegian Center for Holocaust and Minority Studies
Western Norway University of Applied Sciences
Health of Mother Earth Foundation
Human Rights House Foundation
Human Rights House Network
Human Rights Watch
Norwegian Humanist Association
Impact HUB Bergen
Indigenous Rights Foundation
International Institute for Human Rights and Business
International Commission of Jurists Geneva
International Federation for Human Rights (FIDH)
International Rehabilitation Council for Torture Victims (IRCT)
Jammu and Kashmir Coalition of Civil Society (JKCCS)
Norwegian Human Rights Fund
Norway Inventura
Judges' Association Iustitia
The Church City Mission
KODE Museums
Ligue Tchadienne des Droits de l'Homme

LOUDER (Lebanese women's rights organization)
 LSE London School of Economics
 Møhlenpris idrettslag
 Martin Ennals Award
 The Nansen Centre
 The Narvik War and Peace Centre
 NLA University College
 The Norwegian School of Economics and Business Administration (NHH)
 Nordahl Grieg Upper Secondary School
 Norwegian Human Rights Institution
 Norway's OECD National Contact Point for Responsible Business Conduct
 Norsk klimastiftelse
 Møhlenpris Idrettslag
 MEDEL Association des Magistrats européens pour la démocratie et les libertés
 Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights
 One Ocean Expedition
 One Ocean Havbyen Bergen
 PEN Norge
 PRIO Peace Research Institute Oslo
 Program Paix et Reconciliation (DR Kongo)
 Raoul Wallenberg Institute
 RVTS Vest
 SOAS University of London
 UN Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders
 The Lenken Foundation
 The Norwegian Support Committee for Western Sahara
 Support not protect
 Sustainable Shipping Initiative
 The European Wergeland Center
 Themis Judges Association
 UN Global Compact
 UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights
 The University Museum of Bergen
 University of Bergen
 University of Oslo
 Urgent Action Fund
 Utøya AS
 VilVite Bergen Science Centre
 UN Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture
 Women's Wings (Sudanese women human rights organisation)
 World Organization Against Torture
 International Rehabilitation Council for Torture Victims, University of Oslo
 Vestland Innvanderåd
 The Norwegian Embassy in Warsaw
 Tusenårstaden Gulating
 Ron Popper/Global Business Initiative
 The Norwegian Consumer Authority
 National Campaign on Dalit Human Rights
 KPMG
 Norwegian Business Association Singapore
 Community Empowerment and Social Justice Network
 Galleri 3,14
 Odfjell SE
 Stiftelsen 10. August
 Studentenes og Akademikernes Internasjonale Hjelpesfond (SAIH)
 Support up for July 22
 RUWON Nepal
 Stavanger Region Business Association
 SpareBank 1 Sør-Norge
 Deloitte
 Forum for Development and Environment (ForUM)
 Restart – The Professional Division of Queer Youth

Public supporters

Bergen municipality
Vestland County
The Norwegian Ministry of Education
and Research/Norwegian Directorate
for Education and Training
The Norwegian Ministry of Foreign
Affairs / Norad (Norwegian Agency for
Development Cooperation)

Other supporters

Formuesforvaltning
Fritt Ord Foundation
Kygo
Sparebanken Vest
Bergesen Foundation
Printer Norge
Agenda Vestlandet
The Rafto House – Egil Rafto House
Foundation (SERH)
The Rafto Foundation's Prize Fund (The
Rafto Fund)
Friends of the Rafto Foundation
Human Rights Network

Rafto Prize contributors

Fana Sparebank
Den Nationale Scene (DNS)
Hans Jørgen Brun (photographer)
Ingvild Festervoll Melien (photographer)
Bergen Live
Studentersamfunnet i Bergen
University Aula (University of Bergen)
Jæger Automobil
Grans Bryggeri
Norwegian School of Economics
Ulriksbanen
Norwegian People's Aid
Save the Children
KODE
Reindyrka
BRGN
Meny Støletorget
Amundsen Spesial Lagunen
The Museum Tram



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Health, safety and the environment

The Executive Director has the primary responsibility for HSE work at Rafto. Leonardo Faba served as the safety representative until November 1. The administration manager is responsible for following up on HSE matters, which are regularly addressed in staff meetings.

The Rafto House is an old building that requires regular maintenance to ensure a good physical working environment. A major upgrade project has now been initiated.

In 2024, we began the process of selecting a main contractor for the renovation and expansion of the new Rafto House. We have chosen a collaborative phase leading to a turnkey contract and have contracted the construction company Lars Jønsson. Updates on the development of the new Rafto House are regularly discussed in weekly staff meetings. Due diligence with regards to UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights has been an important aspect of our dialogue with the contractor.

The board prioritizes gender balance among its members. In 2024, the board consisted of five women and four men, the prize committee had six women and three men, and among full-time employees, there were eleven women and three men.

There were no injuries or accidents related to operations in 2024.

The total sick leave rate in relation to total working days was 4,61%.

The majority of employees are unionized under NTL, and Rafto is a member of Virke. The parties are bound by the National Collective Agreement for Enterprises, §27.

Rafto does not cause any environmental pollution beyond what is normal for similar organizations, has a strong focus on human rights, gender equality and anti-corruption throughout our work.

Our Code of Conduct also expresses the rights of and our expectations towards all our staff, volunteers and partners, including zero tolerance for sexual exploitation, abuse and harassment. Information about our grievance mechanism is available on our website.

14 Operations

Results of operations

In the opinion of the Board, the income statement and balance sheet for the 2024 accounting year present a true and fair view of the Foundation's position and results of operations.

Operating revenues for 2024 totaled NOK 26 292 343, compared with NOK 23 050 886 in 2023.

Total operating costs amounted to NOK 25 703 738, compared with NOK 22 962 342 in 2023.

The Foundation's financial statements show an operating profit of NOK 588 605.

In 2023, the Foundation reported an operating profit of NOK 88 545.

Net financial items amounted to NOK 263 017, compared with NOK 183 905 in 2023.

In 2024, the Foundation therefore reported a profit for the year of NOK 851 622, compared with NOK 272 450 in 2023.

Total liabilities as at 31 December 2024 amounted to NOK 31 958 058, compared with NOK 9 156 554 in 2023.

Total assets stood at NOK 43 861 115, compared with NOK 16 331 147 in 2023.

The Foundation's basic capital is NOK 500 000. As at 31 December 2024, the Foundation had total equity of NOK 11 903 057, compared with NOK 7 174 593 in 2023.

Annual accounts 2024

Revenue statement

Balance sheet

Notes to the Accounts

Income statement

DRIFTSINNTEKTER OG DRIFTSKOSTNADER	Note	2024	2023
Tilskudd og gaver	3	22 450 957	21 778 226
Annen driftsinntekt		3 841 386	1 272 660
Sum driftsinntekter		26 292 343	23 050 886
Varekostnad		9 352 588	7 678 961
Lønnskostnad	4	12 935 399	11 972 884
Avskrivning av driftsmidler og immaterielle eiendeler	5	498 775	197 758
Annen driftskostnad	3, 4	2 916 976	3 112 739
Sum driftskostnader		25 703 738	22 962 342
Driftsresultat		588 605	88 545
FINANSINNTEKTER OG FINANSKOSTNADER			
Annen finansinntekt		823 301	226 225
Annen rentekostnad		529 704	0
Annen finanskostnad		30 579	42 320
Resultat av finansposter		263 017	183 905
Årsresultat		851 622	272 450
OVERFØRINGER			
Avsatt til annen egenkapital	6	851 622	272 450
Sum overføringer		851 622	272 450

Balance sheet


EIENDELER	Note	2024	2023
ANLEGGSMIDLER			
VARIGE DRIFTSMIDLER			
Tomter, bygninger o.a. fast eiendom	3, 5, 7	14 078 593	2 970 519
Driftsløsøre, inventar o.a. utstyr	5	207 890	168 805
Sum varige driftsmidler		14 286 483	3 139 324
Sum anleggsmidler		14 286 483	3 139 324
OMLØPSMIDLER			
FORDRINGER			
Kundefordringer		1 663 597	918 391
Andre kortsiktige fordringer		833 752	472 318
Sum fordringer		2 497 349	1 390 709
Bankinnskudd, kontanter o.l.		27 077 283	11 801 114
Sum omløpsmidler		29 574 632	13 191 823
Sum eiendeler		43 861 115	16 331 147

Balance sheet

EGENKAPITAL OG GJELD	Note	2024	2023
EGENKAPITAL			
INNSKUTT EGENKAPITAL			
Grunnkapital	6	500 000	300 000
Sum innskutt egenkapital		500 000	300 000
OPPTJENT EGENKAPITAL			
Annen egenkapital	6	11 403 057	6 874 593
Sum opptjent egenkapital		11 403 057	6 874 593
Sum egenkapital		11 903 057	7 174 593
GJELD			
Gjeld til kredittinstitusjoner	7	6 491 608	0
Sum annen langsiktig gjeld		6 491 608	0
KORTSIKTIG GJELD			
Leverandørgjeld		2 002 418	1 415 949
Skyldig offentlige avgifter		874 322	812 564
Annen kortsiktig gjeld	3, 8	22 589 710	6 928 041
Sum kortsiktig gjeld		25 466 450	9 156 554
Sum gjeld		31 958 058	9 156 554
Sum egenkapital og gjeld		43 861 115	16 331 147


Balance sheet

RAFTOSTIFTELSEN Bergen, 05.03.2025 Styret i Raftostiftelsen



Frode Elgesem (27. mar., 2025 16:24 GMT+1)
Frode Elgesem
Styrets leder



Anders Skjævestad (26. mar., 2025 16:59 GMT+1)
Anders Skjævestad
Nestleder


Anders Waage Nilsen (26. mar., 2025 16:13 GMT+1)
Anders Waage Nilsen
Styremedlem



Laila Bokhari (28. mar., 2025 18:29 GMT+1)
Laila Bokhari
Styremedlem


Lovise Aalen (26. mar., 2025 16:26 GMT+1)
Lovise Aalen
Styremedlem


Iver Ørstavik (27. mar., 2025 16:16 GMT+1)
Iver Ørstavik
Styremedlem


Anne Lise Fimreite
Styremedlem


Ingrid Hoem Sjørson (26. mar., 2025 18:00 GMT+1)
Ingrid Hoem Sjørson
Styremedlem


Guri Hjeltnes (28. mar., 2025 08:30 GMT+1)
Guri Hjeltnes
Styremedlem


Jostein Hole Kobbeltvedt (26. mar., 2025 12:53 GMT+0)
Jostein Hole Kobbeltvedt
Daglig leder

Notes

Note 1 Regnskapsprinsipper

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

INNETEKTER

Inntekter består av tilskudd, gaver, støtte-medlemskap 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. kst

Note 2 Omdanning og sammenslåing av stiftelser

Lotteri- og stiftelsestilsynet har i vedtak av 18.10.2024 godkjent søknad om sammenslåing av Raftostiftelsen (org nr 877 155 102) og Stiftelsen Egil Raftos Hus (org nr 979 317 336). Sammenslåing av stiftelser anses som omdanning av stiftelsene, og derfor gjelder reglene i kapittel 6 i stiftelsesloven.

Det følger av vedtaket at Raftostiftelsen er overtakende stiftelse, mens Stiftelsen Egil Raftos Hus er overdragende stiftelse. Sammenslåingen skjer med regnskapsmessig virkning fra 01.01.2024, og innebærer at Stiftelsen Egil Raftos Hus overdrar sine samlede eiendeler, rettigheter og forpliktelser fra samme dato.

Sammenligningstall for år 2023 endres ikke som følge av sammenslåingen.

Det har ikke blitt utstedt noen form for vederlag, og regnskapsmessig kontinuitet er lagt til grunn ved sammenslåingen. Raftostiftelsen har i nye vedtekter av 02.10.24 slått sammen grunnkapitalen i begge stiftelsene i forbindelse med sammenslåingen til NOK 500 000, og Annen egenkapital fra Stiftelsen Egil Raftos Hus er lagt til Annen egenkapital i det sammenslåtte regnskapet for 2024.

Note 3 Offentlige tilskudd

	2024	2023
Kunnskapsdepartementet	8 462 000	7 667 000
Utenriksdepartementet	9 000 000	9 000 000
Utdanningsdirektoratet	969 000	1 035 000
Bergen Kommune	1 108 000	1 108 000
Vestland Fylkeskommune	1 354 000	970 000
Sum	20 893 000	19 780 000

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

Raftostiftelsen fikk i 2022 tildelt 3 millioner kroner fra Kunnskapsdepartementet til prosjektering av nytt bygg for Raftostiftelsen. Prosjekteringsfasen ble ferdig i 2024, og partene gikk over i samspillfasen, før det blir byggestart i 2025. I 2024 fikk Raftostiftelsen tildelt 15 millioner kroner fra Kunnskapsdepartementet til byggeprosjektet. Begge disse tildelingene er balanseført som prosjekt i arbeid og pådratte kostnader i prosjektet så langt (kr 4 258 643) er aktivert derav. Prosjektet fortsetter i 2025-2026.

Stiftelsen er registrert i Frivillighetsregisteret og søker årlig om mva-kompensasjon. Kr 1 215 039 er mottatt i 2024 for 2023. I 2024 har stiftelsen også søkt om strømstøtte for frivillige lag og organisasjoner, og har fått innvilget kr 8 442 i strømstøtte. Strømstøtten er ført som negativ driftskostnad.

Note 4 Lønnskostnader og antall årsverk

Lønnskostnader	2024	2023
Lønninger	10 134 592	9 185 100
Arbeidsgiveravgift	1 522 620	1 466 006
Pensjonskostnader	755 339	726 498
Andre ytelser	522 847	595 280
Sum	12 935 399	11 972 884

Stiftelsen har i regnskapsåret sysselsatt totalt 19,3 årsverk.

Revisor

Kostnadsført revisjonshonorar for 2024 utgjør kr 134 375 inkl. mva.

I tillegg kommer honorar for andre tjenester og attesteringer med kr 31 750 inkl. mva.

Note 5 Varige driftsmidler

	Bygningsmessig inventar	Anlegg under utførelse	Driftsløsøre, inventar, verktøy mm.	Sum
Anskaffelseskost pr. 01.01.	1 676 370	2 675 489	641 222	4 993 081
Tilgang ved sammenslåing pr. 01.01.	15 326 939	0	103 340	15 430 279
Tilgang kjøpte anleggsmidler	0	1 583 154	0	1 583 154
Anskaffelseskost 31.12.	17 003 309	4 258 643	744 562	22 006 514
Av- og nedskrivninger pr. 01.01.	1 381 339	0	472 417	1 853 756
Tilgang avskrivning ved sammenslåing pr. 01.01.	5 367 499	0	0	5 367 499
Årets ordinære avskrivninger	434 520	0	64 256	498 775
Av- og nedskrivninger pr. 31.12.	7 183 358	0	536 673	7 720 030
Bokført verdi 31.12.	9 819 951	4 258 643	207 889	14 286 484
Avskrivningsplan	Lineær 3 til 10 år	Ingen	Lineær 3 til 5 år	

Sammenslåing: Tilgang gjelder regnskapsmessig verdi pr 1.1.2024 i Stiftelsen Egil Raftos Hus. Se nærmere omtale i note 2.

Note 6 Egenkapital

	Grunnkapital	Annen egenkapital	Sum egenkapital
Pr. 31.12.2023	300 000	6 874 593	7 174 593
Sammenslåing	200 000	3 676 841	3 876 841
Årets resultat		851 622	851 622
Pr 31.12.2024	500 000	11 403 057	11 903 057

Sammenslåing

Raftostiftelsen har i 2024 vært overtagende part i sammenslåing med Stiftelsen Egil Raftos Hus. Transaksjonen er regnskapsført til kontinuitet med regnskapsmessig gjennomføringstidspunkt 1.1.2024. Grunnkapital i Stiftelsen Egil Raftos Hus er lagt til grunnkapitalen i Raftostiftelsen iht nye vedtekter, og bokført Annen egenkapital i Stiftelsen Egil Raftos Hus er lagt til Annen egenkapital ved fusjonen. Se også omtale i note 2.

Fortsatt drift

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

Note 7 Pantstillelser og garantier

	31.12.2024	31.12.2023
Pantsikret gjeld, pantstillelser og garantier		
Langsiktig gjeld til kredittinstitusjoner	6 491 608	0
Sum	6 491 608	0
Gjeld som forfaller mer enn 5 år etter regnskapsårets slutt	4 473 272	0
Regnskapsført verdi av pantsikrede eiendeler		
Menneskerettighetenes plass 1 (Raftohuset)	5 159 576	0
Olaf Ryes vei 21	4 493 464	0
Sum	9 653 040	0

Langsiktig gjeld er tilført Raftostiftelsen i forbindelse med sammenslåing med Stiftelsen Egil Raftos Hus. Se omtale i note 2.

Note 8 Annen kortsiktig gjeld

	2024	2023
Periodisert tilskudd	20 695 900	5 193 205
Skyldig lønn og feriepenger	1 565 634	1 024 103
Påløpte kostnader	320 308	438 805
Innsamlede gavemidler til andre org.	5 308	271 927
Annen kortsiktig gjeld	2 559	0
Sum	22 589 710	6 928 041

EGENKAPITAL OG GJELD

Note

2024

2023

EGENKAPITAL**INNSKUTT EGENKAPITAL**

Grunnkapital

6

500 000

300 000

Sum innskutt egenkapital**500 000****300 000****OPPTJENT EGENKAPITAL**

Annen egenkapital

6

11 403 057

6 874 593

Sum opptjent egenkapital**11 403 057****6 874 593****Sum egenkapital****11 903 057****7 174 593****GJELD**

Gjeld til kredittinstitusjoner

7

6 491 608

0

Sum annen langsiktig gjeld**6 491 608****0****KORTSIKTIG GJELD**

Leverandørgjeld

2 002 418

1 415 949

Skyldig offentlige avgifter

874 322

812 564

Annen kortsiktig gjeld

3, 8

22 589 710

6 928 041

Sum kortsiktig gjeld**25 466 450****9 156 554****Sum gjeld****31 958 058****9 156 554****Sum egenkapital og gjeld****43 861 115****16 331 147**