

**RSB**  
**STIFTUNG**

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RENÉ & SUSANNE  
**BRAGINSKY**  
**STIFTUNG**  
ZÜRICH

**REPORT 2025**

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## PROMOTING CUTTING-EDGE RESEARCH!

The world is in turmoil: wars, crises, and disasters dominate the headlines. I cannot recall a time since the end of World War II when the world has witnessed such widespread suffering and urgent need as we do today. In times like these – when many countries experience dramatic political shifts, and the future often feels uncertain – maintaining hope for a better tomorrow can be difficult. This is why it is more important than ever for each of us to contribute, in whatever way we can, to creating tangible progress and improvement for both the short and the long term. This belief has long guided the work of our family foundation.

A central focus of our foundation is the ongoing funding of leading research at renowned universities in Switzerland and in Israel. In 2024, we were once again able to make a significant impact in this area. We entered into a multi-year agreement with the ETH Zurich to continue providing targeted support for the research of Prof. Dr. Klaas Enno Stephan. In 2012, Prof. Stephan

founded the Translational Neuromodeling Unit (TNU) – an interdisciplinary center at the ETH Zurich and the University of Zurich – with the aim to translate new discoveries in neuroscience into clinical applications. The progress achieved since then has been remarkable and has earned worldwide recognition. Since last year, Prof. Stephan has access to a new, state-of-the-art laboratory in Zurich, further enhancing his ability to advance this important work.

The Weizmann Institute of Science in Israel – with which both our family and our foundation have enjoyed a long-standing connection – has also decided to further expand its focus on neuroscience. In line with this decision, we have made this a key priority of our funding activities for the coming years, starting in 2024. The Weizmann Institute is home to outstanding researchers across a wide range of disciplines. If leading research at premier institutions such as Weizman succeeds in achieving breakthroughs in the treatment of mental and

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physical illnesses, this would provide a powerful beacon of hope during these challenging times.

Over the past year, we have also approved numerous funding requests in the areas of “Social Affairs“, “Culture“ and “Education“. In total, our foundation allocated more than CHF 5 million in 2024. In addition, through our non-profit company, “Haus der jüdischen Jugend“, we made further donations amounting to approximately CHF 1.5 million. These figures alone demonstrate that despite of the many challenges of our time, we continue to find opportunities across various fields to provide meaningful and lasting support. We remain firmly committed to this mission in the years ahead.

In the previous year, we rejuvenated our Foundation’s Board. After many years of dedicated service, Prof. em. Dr. med. Felix Gutzwiller, a former member of the Swiss Council of States, stepped down from the Board. We are deeply grateful for his invaluable contri-

butions, insights, and guidance throughout his tenure. We are pleased to welcome two new members to the Board: our daughter-in-law, Mag. Sharon Braginsky, and entrepreneur and member of the Swiss National Council, Andri Silberschmidt-Buhofer. Together with our son David, they bring fresh perspectives and the priorities of a younger generation into our foundations’ work.

I extend my heartfelt thanks to everyone who works alongside us, and I look forward to continuing our important work in the years ahead.



**René Braginsky**  
*President of the Foundation Board*

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## PERFORMANCE REPORT 2024

Over the past year, our foundation received numerous funding requests from Switzerland and Israel, the majority of which were well-documented and suitably substantiated. Based on the detailed reviews and recommendations of our managing director, Eduard M. Rosenstein, the Foundation Board approved a total of CHF 5 million in 2024 (compared to CHF 3.5 million in the previous year) for specific projects and emergency aid. To make these decisions, the Foundation Board convened for three meetings, during which it also addressed statutory matters (annual financial statements, annual report, audit report, and elections).

The Foundation Board is also responsible for evaluating the success of its charitable contributions. As such, we regularly assess both the impact of our work (effectiveness) and the economical use of funds (efficiency). Additionally, we dedicated significant attention to various financial matters, including regular reviews of our investment policies, making adjustments where necessary.

We also closely monitored the activities of our administrative office.

The foundation's higher level of disbursement compared to previous years was made possible by an excellent financial result. As of December 31, 2024, our capital stood at CHF 66 million (up from CHF 51.7 million in the previous year). We apply Swiss GAAP FER 21 to our annual financial statements, an accounting standard specifically designed for non-profit organizations.

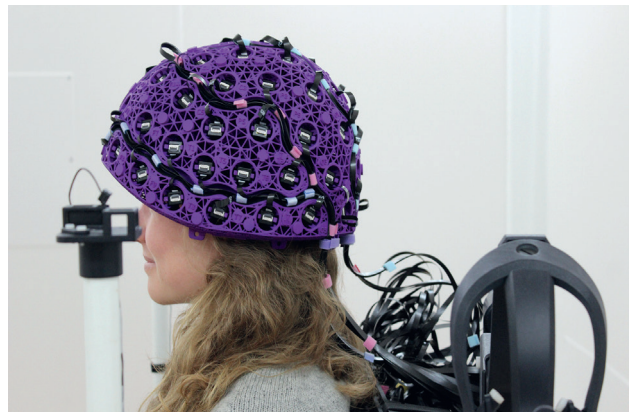


Image: Mathias Auer. Copyright, TNU, ETH Zurich

Our Foundation will maintain its current level of donations, i.e., between CHF 3 and 5 million per year – even if this leads to a gradual reduction of the Foundation’s assets over the long term. In addition to numerous small and medium-sized grants, the following larger contributions were particularly noteworthy in the past year:

- As mentioned in the editorial, the ETH Zurich Foundation received CHF 300’000, and the Weizmann Institute of Science was allocated CHF 500’000 for their neurological research. We were also pleased to continue supporting the Sheba Medical Center in Tel Aviv.
- In the cultural sector, significant contributions were made to the Israel Museum in Jerusalem, the Zurich Opera House, and the Israeli Opera in Tel Aviv.
- We continued our long-standing collaboration with Keren Hajessod, an organization that carries out suc-

cessful, practical education and integration work in Israel – an especially important task in the wake of the Hamas terrorist attacks and ongoing military assaults on Israel.

- Additionally, we supported “Gesellschaft Schweiz-Israel,” an organization providing valuable educational efforts amid the heightened tensions following the Hamas attack, as well as the Wizo Group.
- Finally, we allocated funding to various Jewish schools in Switzerland.

The members of our Foundation Board, and especially our Managing Director Eduard M. Rosenstein, made invaluable contributions to our Foundation in 2024. We extend our heartfelt thanks to them.

*David Braginsky, Member of the Foundation Board*

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# FACTS AND GOALS

## GUIDING PRINCIPLES

The René & Susanne Braginsky Foundation was founded in Zurich in 1986. Operating on an exclusively non-profit basis, our Foundation supports and promotes projects and institutions active in areas where public sector services are insufficient or non-existent.

Our contributions seek to empower people to help themselves. We prefer to work alongside established organizations; individual donations are only granted in rare, exceptional cases.

Our Foundation's geographic focus is on Switzerland (with an emphasis on the Zurich region) and on Israel. We assist both Jewish and non-Jewish causes and institutions.



*Weizmann Institute of Science, Israel*

GOALS

Our Foundation deliberately pursues a broad range of charitable goals:

- To promote social, scientific and cultural projects
- To care for the elderly, handicapped, infirm or needy
- To supervise and promote the training of children and young adults
- To foster leisure activities for children and young adults
- To support healthcare institutions
- To assist religious institutions

These objectives enable us to focus on social affairs and healthcare as well as to promote culture and science. In the area of education, we work closely with the limited non-profit company “Haus der jüdischen Jugend AG”, which is wholly owned by the Braginsky family and primarily supports the Jewish primary and secondary school NOAM in Zurich.

FINANCIALS

In keeping with the growth of our organization’s capital over the past few decades, we are in a position to make donations in the range of CHF 3 - 5 million every year.

	2024	2023
	CHF	CHF
Contributions	5 000 000	3 500 000
Capital	66 000 000	51 700 000

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# FOUNDATION BOARD

## FOUNDATION BOARD

**Dr. h. c. René Braginsky**

Businessman, Honorary Councilor of the  
ETH Zurich, President

**Susanne Braginsky**

Vice-president

**David Braginsky**

Lawyer and investor

**Mag. Sharon Braginsky**

Economist and entrepreneur

**Andri Silberschmidt-Buhofer**

Entrepreneur, Member of the Swiss National Council

**Dr. h. c. Eric Stupp**

Attorney, partner at Bär & Karrer

## ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

**René und Susanne Braginsky-Stiftung**

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## MANAGING DIRECTOR

**Eduard M. Rosenstein**

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## AUDITOR

**MOORE STEPHENS EXPERT (ZURICH) AG**

Glattbrugg / Zurich

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