

**G | M | F** The German Marshall Fund  
of the United States  
**STRENGTHENING TRANSATLANTIC COOPERATION**

**The German Marshall Fund of the United States  
Funding Acceptance Principles  
April 2021**

GMF raises funds to carry out its mission of strengthening transatlantic relations and the principles of democracy, human rights, and international cooperation, on which those relations are based. Those principles have served as the bedrock of peace and prosperity since the end of World War II, but are under increasing strain. Sources of contributions to GMF include governments, multilateral organizations, foundations and other nonprofit institutions, corporations, and individuals. GMF does not accept financial contributions from non-democratic foreign governments.

**Funding shall support GMF in achieving its mission and values**

The pursuit of essential support should not divert GMF from its mission. Therefore, GMF will solicit and accept support only for activities that are consistent with its mission and with [GMF's values](#) of integrity, excellence, respect, and inclusivity.

**Independence from funders**

When accepting contributions, GMF is firmly committed to its institutional and intellectual independence. GMF and its staff members have full independence when writing analyses, authoring publications, conducting research, drafting policy recommendations, deciding event agendas, and selecting speakers for events. GMF's commitment to objectivity and independence extends to all of its activities, including analysis, convening, training, and grantmaking.

Sponsorship or financial support for GMF activities does not indicate endorsement by GMF of the funder's mission or agenda.

**Expectation of experts**

As an organization, GMF does not take positions on issues, but it does empower and support its experts in sharing their own evidence-based views and policy recommendations that have been shaped by rigorous analysis and objective consideration. Different GMF experts examining the same or related issues may reach different conclusions. What is shared among GMF experts is a commitment to transparency about their methods and standards of quality for any work produced.

**Diversity of thought**

We welcome and celebrate the diversity of our staff members, partners, and donors across many dimensions, including the range of issue areas represented, the variety of modes of inquiry applied, and the unique experiences and perspectives that each participant brings. We believe diversity spurs innovation while improving the quality of our work.

**Disclosure of funding sources**

GMF is committed to transparency, including with regard to its funding sources, which, with very few and rigorously reviewed exceptions for gifts whose donors wish to remain anonymous, are displayed on

the website by level of contribution (<http://www.gmfus.org/our-partners>) and included in GMF's financial reporting.

Donors associated with publications or events are disclosed on the publication and on all event-related communications, including disclosure at event venues. GMF maintains records of and relevant documentation on all contributions. Moreover, all GMF employees and Trustees commit to adhere to clear conflict-of-interest guidelines.

**Funding review processes**

All donors are reviewed initially by the Executive Team (which consists of the President, Executive Vice President, CFO, two Vice Presidents, and the Chief Development Officer). Every contribution agreement is reviewed by the CFO or CDO. The entire list of donors is provided to the Board of Trustees for review on an annual basis. All GMF staff members are encouraged to share any concern regarding a contribution directly with the President or Chief Development Officer.