The Foundation is the first higher education and research not-for-profit network whose mission is to reshape higher education models for a more sustainable society.

It has a global anchorage and welcomes all educational and research institutions and actors wishing to participate in its mission, all public or private organizations wishing to join it, and researchers from all continents whose work make it possible to create structuring programs adapted to each territory.

Based in Geneva, Switzerland, the Foundation benefits from the proximity of major international organizations and the world’s largest foundations.
Higher Education models have reached their limits. Nobody can imagine that Education can foster both individual flourishing and sustainable ways of living together. And one thing is certain, teachers are not ready to learn from students. Nobody can imagine that finally, we give a voice to the first people concerned: the youth.
MISSION
CHALLENGING TIMES

Youth has always been confronted with difficulties. But today’s challenges are of a distinct magnitude: growing inequalities, climate change, biodiversity losses, sanitary crisis, energy crisis, A.I. revolution, to name but a few. Considerable efforts are necessary to foster youth capabilities and ensure that present and future generations can anticipate coming challenges and work to create sustainable solutions.

Education does more than merely serve a changing world. It has the capacity to transform it. About 300 years ago, the Enlightenment contributed to reinventing education through principles such as the sharing of knowledge, the elevation of reason, and the promotion of science. But since then, experts agree that our education models focusing almost solely on utilitarian and siloed knowledge transmission have only slightly evolved.

The complexity of the environmental, economic, and societal challenges we are facing is testing the limits of our current top-down educational models. They appear obsolete because they are no longer adapted to the challenges youth are facing but also because they are based on and convey values that do not seem to make sense anymore for the new generations. These models must be replaced by bottom-up approaches that will embrace and enable young people’s own and new priorities.

HIGHER EDUCATION FOR GOOD FOUNDATION MISSION

THE FOUNDATION’S MISSION IS TO DEVELOP AND PROMOTE NEW MODELS OF HUMANISTIC HIGHER EDUCATION FOR A SUSTAINABLE SOCIETY.

What do we mean by Humanistic Higher Education?

Humanistic Higher Education goes beyond acquiring work skills. It empowers young people with the means of self-realization, and encourages a systemic world view in which humankind co-habits in harmony with other living beings within planetary boundaries. By focusing on human dignity and collective well-being, it fosters both individual flourishing and sustainable ways of living together.

A ‘sustainable society’ is considered to be a society that is economically viable, environmentally sound and socially responsible. **

** Adapted from the Sustainable Society Index (European Commission)
THE HIGHER EDUCATION FOR GOOD FOUNDATION IS A PUBLIC-BENEFIT ORGANIZATION COMBINING THE EXPERTISE OF A RESEARCH INSTITUTE AND A HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTION WITHIN A CHARITABLE FOUNDATION FRAMEWORK.

The Foundation supports educational actors (universities, schools, institutions, NGOs) in the development of their own humanistic higher education programs — to empower young people to lead a transition towards a more sustainable society:

- Placing the well-being of society, individual dignity, and the quality of social connections and relationships at its heart, these new humanistic programs are co-designed with local partners and adapted to local needs.
- Labeled Higher Education for Good Programs, they are offered free of charge and delivered by the educational actors and partners themselves.

The Foundation conducts Research for Good to address societal needs and feed the development of higher education programs:

- In collaboration with a wide network of specialized and interdisciplinary knowledge seekers, this high-impact, high-level scientific research addresses identified needs for a more sustainable society, such as inclusiveness in the economy or the responsible use of artificial intelligence, and enrich the new humanistic education models.

The Foundation transfers knowledge to maximize its impact:

- The Higher Education for Good Foundation adopts a participatory approach and coordinates its activities with that of governments, institutions, and local populations.

NB: To begin with, the Foundation’s first focus is on Human and Social Sciences (HSS) and, more particularly, management disciplines.
PHILOSOPHICAL ANCHORING

THE FOUNDATION EMPOWERS YOUNG PEOPLE WORLDWIDE TO DEVELOP THE POTENTIAL TO MEET WHAT THEY CONSIDER TO BE THE CHALLENGES OF OUR TIME.

A GLOCAL APPROACH: While having a global scope, the Foundation’s approach deeply integrates people’s aspirations and cultures at a given time and in a given place (inclusiveness), while respecting social and environmental ecosystems.

A CAPABILITY APPROACH: According to Amartya Sen and Martha Nussbaum, this is the freedom an individual has to make the choices he deems worthy at a given time in a given place and to take the actions connected with those choices.

VALUES OF THE FOUNDATION

Value#1: HUMAN DIGNITY
Human dignity relates to the recognition of the intrinsic and equal worth of each human being, regardless of any characteristics or any grounds. This dignity is achieved through individual freedom. And freedom is only achieved through the fulfillment of the drive to acquire (enough food), the drive to defend (basic shelter), the drive to bond (a social connection to other people) and the drive to understand (a basic purpose in life).

Value#2: COLLECTIVE WELL BEING
We need to find sustainable ways of living together through a systemic worldview in which humankind co-habits in harmony with other living beings within planetary boundaries. The Higher Education for Good Foundation adopts a systemic approach by recognizing the diversity of knowledge, world views, and conceptions of well-being while reaffirming the existence of a common set of values and universal aspirations that underpin humanity.

Value#3: YOUNG PEOPLE EMPOWERMENT
Considerable efforts need to be made urgently if we want to give a chance of survival, in dignity, to our future generations. Young people, who will tomorrow bear the consequences of our actions, need to be empowered with the means of self-realization and develop the capabilities to meet these challenges. The Higher Education for Good Foundation is not driven by the aspirations of a founder. It has multiple stakeholders and works to fulfill the aspirations of these young people by offering them, through the co-construction of new educational models, the capabilities they need to meet the particular challenges they face.

Value#4: SUSTAINABILITY
Sustainability is not only about ecology. It is about building a society that is economically viable, environmentally sound, and socially responsible.
Higher Education Models Must Be Reshaped to Empower Young People to Meet the Challenges of Their Time.

A Humanistic model is influenced by — and influences — three interacting structural dimensions:

— **Young people**: To engage with youth in the co-creation of the new humanistic education models to transform society;

— **Organizations**: To educate young people to lead organizations whose mission is to integrate sustainable economic, societal, and environmental goals, responsible companies, multilateral institutions, foundations, cooperatives, non-profits, etc.

— **Technological changes**: To integrate new technologies (for example, A.I.) such as complex tools with the potential to both generate and solve environmental, societal, and economic challenges.

"To have the greatest impact on society, modern science, particularly within the context of the complex challenges associated with sustainable development, must favour a collaborative approach. We wish to establish active dialogue between science and societies, underpinned by highly impactful interdisciplinary research."

— Marine Hadengue, Executive Director
Higher education no longer equips young people to meet the challenges of their time. The Higher Education for Good Foundation proposes to rethink these higher education models. However, beforehand, it is imperative to give voice to young people around the world to better understand their aspirations, the challenges they face, and how we can help them, through education, to meet these challenges.

THE FOUNDATION CREATES THE WORLD YOUTH OBSERVATORY AND ITS FIRST CONSULTATION CALLED YOUTH TALKS.

Youth Talks is a massive collective intelligence initiative supporting the development of new Humanistic Education models. It is an inclusive and continuous consultation with open-ended questions about youth aspirations worldwide. We expect to reach over 200 million young people to have tens of thousands respondents. The collected data are analyzed jointly with Bluenove, a technology and consulting company specializing in natural language processing. We transform young people’s stories into concrete and usable knowledge accessible on a dynamic online platform. We are proud to have already entered into more than 20 significant partnerships with a wide variety of stakeholders, such as top universities, world youth organizations, and political institutions.

Opening Statement of the consultation Youth Talks:
Youth Talks is not a questionnaire, nor a survey of opinions, or a one-time initiative. It is a collective reflection on the expectations and ambitions of you, the youth. It is the beginning of listening, exchange, and awareness of YOUR place in the common welfare. It is an opportunity to co-construct a future by and for the youths around the world to better understand your aspirations for the society you wish to build today and tomorrow.

YOU, THE YOUTH!
That’s why the Higher Education for Good Foundation is implementing a series of initiatives that allow us to rethink tomorrow’s education models, starting with Youth Talks.

This consultation gives you a voice. So if you want to start making a difference in education, take this opportunity to ask about our future and speak freely about your expectations, ambitions, and the role you want to play.

We are ready to learn from you.
TOGETHER,
LET’S CHANGE
OUR WORLD
BOARD MEMBERS

New Board Members will join soon…
Stay tuned!

CHAIRPERSON

Alice Guilhon
Dean & Executive President of SKEMA Business School

By alphabetical order:

Jean-Philippe Courtois
Executive Vice President and President, National Transformation Partnerships, Microsoft and Chairman of the Board of directors, SKEMA Business School

Jean-Blaise Eckert
Co-head of the tax group of Lenz & Staehelin and a leading lawyer in Switzerland

Alain-Dominique Perrin
Chairman of the European foundation for management development (EFMD), co-Chairman of Richemont Strategic Committee, Compagnie Financière Richemont SA., Founder and President of the Swiss Cartier Foundation for Contemporary Art

Edouard Roquette
Chairman at Roquette Frères Group and member of the Board of Directors, SKEMA Business School

ADVISORY

New Advisory Members will join soon…
Stay tuned!

Pr. Frédérique Vidal, Volunteer Scientific Advisor

OFFICERS

Dr. Marine Hadengue, Executive Director
Martina Shearer, Partnership Manager
PARTNERS OF THE FOUNDATION

THEY SHARE OUR VALUES AND WANT TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE FOUNDATION’S MISSION:

Agreements signatures in progress (by alphabetical order):

Under discussion (by alphabetical order):
- Agence Universitaire de la Francophonie (AUF)* / Brut* / Goodwill / HEC Montreal / Mohammed VI University / Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)* / Université Laval / U-Report (Unicef)*

*participation confirmed
THE FOUNDATION WAS ORIGINALLY FOUNDED BY SKEMA BUSINESS SCHOOL AND SKEMA ENDOWMENT FUND.

SKEMA Business School (School of Knowledge Economy and Management) is a private establishment of higher education and research with the legal status of a non-profit association under the French “1901 law”. SKEMA is a member of the Conférence des Grandes Ecoles. The school was approved by the French Ministry of Higher Education and Research as an EESPIG (Private Establishment for Higher Education declared to be of public usefulness). It is a community devoted to learning and the creation and transmission of management knowledge and practice. Since its inception, SKEMA has become a global school with a multi-campus structure and a large portfolio of programs taught in English and in French. These range from undergraduate level to continuing education and are aligned with the Bologna higher education norms (Licence, Master, Doctorate).

HISTORY OF THE FOUNDATION

CONTACT

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