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AMERICANS FOR  
**PUBLIC  
TRUST**

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**Over \$2.65 Billion  
in Foreign Money  
Influencing U.S. Politics**

*Americans for Public Trust has identified over \$2.65 billion from six foreign sources directed to U.S. advocacy groups influencing our political landscape.*

**Introduction**

For years, foreign organizations and megadonors have quietly poured billions of dollars into the U.S. political sphere with little to no accountability. While foreign citizens cannot donate to political campaigns, they have found other ways to influence politics and policy. Foreign donors can currently fund U.S.-based advocacy groups – most often 501(c)(3)s and 501(c)(4)s – virtually unchecked.

Americans for Public Trust has previously published several reports examining some of the major sources of foreign money that are actively influencing the U.S. political system: Christopher Hohn’s Children’s Investment Fund Foundation, Hansjörg Wyss’ Berger Action Fund and Wyss Foundation, Quadrature Climate Foundation, Oak Foundation, KR Foundation, and the Laudes Foundation. The analysis outlined below provides cumulative figures showing the substantial sums of foreign money coming into the U.S. from these individuals and organizations. While these figures are highly concerning solely on their own, there are undoubtedly even more unknown overseas funding sources backing and influencing U.S. advocacy efforts.

**\$2.65 Billion**

Foreign funding to U.S. advocacy groups

**Over \$2.65 Billion In Foreign Funding**

The six foreign funding sources examined in this report – Children’s Investment Fund Foundation, Berger Action Fund/Wyss Foundation, Quadrature Climate Foundation, KR Foundation, Oak Foundation, and Laudes Foundation – have quietly funneled **over \$2.65 billion** into U.S. advocacy groups. Flush with foreign cash, those advocacy groups directly impact U.S. politics by supporting litigation, lobbying Congress, organizing voters, leading protests, running ad campaigns, and funding ballot issue campaigns.

Foreign funding has infiltrated nearly every sector of the U.S. political sphere. Radical and progressive climate activist organizations appear to be particularly saturated with foreign money, with hundreds of millions of dollars being sent to groups like ClimateWorks Foundation, the Sunrise Project, the Sierra Club, and the League of Conservation Voters.

  <b>\$673,594,655</b>	 <b>\$753,366,984</b>	 <b>\$532,517,654</b>
 <b>\$19,200,000</b>	 <b>\$36,400,000</b>	 <b>\$638,240,000</b>

## Arabella Advisors' Foreign Cash

One of the largest benefactors of foreign funding has been the web of dark money groups affiliated with Arabella Advisors, a network which is now attempting to [rebrand](#) amid heightened public and government scrutiny. In total, Arabella's dark money network has received at least **\$539 million** in foreign funding to support its radical agenda. Arabella has acted as a central hub managing a web of dark money nonprofits, including New Venture Fund, Sixteen Thirty Fund, Windward Fund, Hopewell Fund, Telescope Fund, Impetus Fund, and North Fund.

<b>ARABELLA NETWORK'S FOREIGN FUNDING</b>	<b>TOTAL: \$539,711,578</b>
Sixteen Thirty Fund	\$278,475,000
New Venture Fund	\$178,283,357
Windward Fund	\$80,079,270
Hopewell Fund	\$2,873,951

Through this network, Arabella-managed groups have backed a host of radical and progressive efforts, such as defunding the police, packing the Supreme Court, and implementing extreme climate mandates. Sixteen Thirty Fund, for example, has sent millions of dollars to Unrig Our Economy – a pop-up organization that has run attack ads in multiple states to promote liberal politicians – while New Venture Fund has poured huge sums into aggressive voter registration and get-out-the-vote (GOTV) efforts all across the country.

Swiss billionaire **Hansjörg Wyss** has been a significant backer of Arabella's operations, having funneled more than **\$372 million** into the network through his nonprofits – giving almost \$94 million through his Wyss Foundation and almost \$280 million through his Berger Action Fund. Berger Action Fund, a 501(c)(4), has poured nearly \$280 million into Arabella's Sixteen Thirty Fund, a group powering major left-wing political campaigns that frequently runs attack ads in support of left-leaning candidates and organizes targeted get-out-the-vote (GOTV) efforts.

The Arabella network has received hundreds of millions more from other foreign sources outside of Wyss.

Christopher Hohn's Children's Investment Fund Foundation (CIFF) has also cumulatively given two Arabella-managed nonprofits, New Venture Fund and Windward Fund, over \$11 million. Windward Fund – a 501(c)(3) managed by Arabella Advisors – received a \$10 million grant from CIFF for "climate change." Founded to focus primarily on environmental issues, in recent years, Windward Fund has also supported voter-engagement groups and initiatives. Windward Fund previously founded Rewiring America, a dark money environmental group affiliated with Stacey Abrams that pushes extreme environmental regulations. The British Quadrature Climate Foundation similarly funneled \$49 million in foreign money to Windward Fund, in part for "environmental justice advocates in the US."

Additionally, the Swiss-based Oak Foundation has poured tens of millions in foreign funds into the Arabella network, including \$67 million to New Venture Fund, \$12 million to Windward Fund, and \$2.8 million to Hopewell Fund.

Foreign funding has also been funneled into the Arabella network through other groups such as KR Foundation, Laudes Foundation, Arcadia Fund (almost \$7 million), Clean Air Fund (almost \$350,000), IKEA Foundation (almost \$700,000), Tudor Trust (almost \$200,000), and Welcome Trust (\$7.5 million).

**\$539 Million**  
Foreign Funding to the Arabella Advisors Network

## Key Foreign Funders



Organization:  
**Oak Foundation**

Country:  
**Switzerland**

\$ to U.S. Advocacy Groups:  
**\$753 million**

Established in 1983 by British billionaire Alan M. Parker after making a fortune in the international retail industry, the Swiss-based **Oak Foundation** has quietly become a “key player within climate philanthropy” and activism, sending at least **\$753 million** to U.S.-based advocacy groups.

Oak Foundation states that “climate justice” is at the center of its work, and that it engages at the “intersection of race, equity, gender rights, and social justice.” The organization’s leadership admits that their advocacy work means “engaging with various political entities,” and the foreign group has

spent \$753 million in the U.S. backing radical positions. For example, Oak Foundation has given over \$108 million to Rockefeller Philanthropy Advisors, a dark money group passing foreign funds to a host of left-wing advocacy organizations.

Groups receiving funding from Oak Foundation are heavily involved in climate activism, helping to lead opposition to energy projects like the Keystone XL pipeline, attempting to bolster support for the Paris Agreement, and supporting lawsuits filed by left-leaning public officials against energy companies.



Organization:  
**Wyss Foundation & Berger Action Fund**

Country:  
**Switzerland**

\$ to U.S. Advocacy Groups:  
**\$673.6 million**

Swiss billionaire **Hansjörg Wyss** has flooded the American political system with hundreds of millions of dollars in foreign dark money to pursue his goal of “reinterpreting” the U.S. Constitution in line with liberal priorities. Wyss’ nonprofits – the **Wyss Foundation** and the **Berger Action Fund** – have given more than \$673 million to U.S.-based advocacy groups.

Born in Bern, Switzerland, Wyss’ fortune comes largely from his founding of Synthes, a medical device and implant manufacturer that he later sold to Johnson & Johnson for nearly \$20 billion. Behind the scenes, Wyss has used his personal fortune to finance radical left-wing causes and candidates, all while attempting to avoid any public scrutiny or oversight.

The groups funded by Wyss utilize their immense resources to advance a progressive agenda, mold policy debates and decisions, and influence American elections. His foreign funding network focuses on policy priorities such as radical environmentalism, championing sweeping changes to election laws, and directly engaging in campaign activities, including voter mobilization efforts and political attack ads.

Wyss’ foreign money has found its way to prominent left-wing organizations including Fund for a Better Future, the League of Conservation Voters, the National Redistricting Action Fund, Planned Parenthood, and Indivisible. Despite being prohibited by law, Wyss even personally contributed nearly \$120,000 to political candidates and committees between 1990 and 2006.



Organization:  
**Children's Investment Fund Foundation**

Country:  
**United Kingdom**

\$ to U.S. Advocacy Groups:  
**\$638.2 million**

**Christopher Hohn** is a British billionaire, activist investor, and foreign national that has poured more than \$638 million into U.S. advocacy groups through his nonprofit **Children's Investment Fund Foundation (CIFF)**, a charitable offshoot of his similarly named hedge fund. Through aggressive left-wing advocacy, these groups backed by Hohn push for a radical transformation of the American political landscape, including extreme positions on climate and social justice policy. Following a report by Americans for Public Trust detailing Hohn's influence, CIFF recently announced it allegedly will be halting all its funding for U.S. groups.

Hohn's foreign money has funded climate-related litigation, protests against the fossil fuel industry, diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) efforts, the Arabella Advisors network, and even a group working to ban gas stoves. In addition, CIFF has fostered alarming ties to groups in China linked to the Chinese Communist Party (CCP). The group's CEO is a member of an organization that is overseen by the highest ranks of the Chinese government, has received a "Friendship Award" from a CCP official, and even holds a position with the Belt and Road International Green Development Coalition, a program China uses to influence governments and project power all around the globe. The threat of CIFF being used by the CCP to spread anti-American activity around the country only further amplifies the danger of the foreign influence Hohn's organizations are exerting on American politics and policy.



Organization:  
**Quadrature Climate Foundation**

Country:  
**United Kingdom**

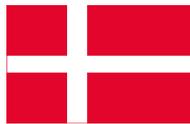
\$ to U.S. Advocacy Groups:  
**\$532.5 million**

In 2019, two "enigmatic" British billionaires, Greg Skinner and Suneil Setiya, established a charitable organization dedicated to addressing the "climate emergency" called the **Quadrature Climate Foundation (QCF)**, which acts as the philanthropic arm of the London-based hedge fund Quadrature Capital (QC). In total, QCF has funneled over **\$530 million** to dozens of U.S.-based progressive organizations influencing environmental and American domestic policy.

Skinner and Setiya have publicly bragged about being "passionate about supporting causes that address poverty, inequality and human suffering." QCF's grants are sent "to

some of the world's most influential campaign groups and scientific institutions, steering the direction of both research and lobbying on the green transition."

As the largest recipient of QCF's foreign money, ClimateWorks Foundation has received \$147 million, including \$25 million "to support the acceleration of electric vehicles," and another \$6 million earmarked "for financial regulation advocacy to address climate risk." QCF also sent almost \$36 million to the Sunrise Project, which pushes aggressive tactics to force transition away from fossil fuels to renewable energy "as fast as possible." Arabella Advisors' Windward Fund also received \$49 million to support "environmental justice" advocates in the U.S.



Organization:  
**KR Foundation**

Country:  
**Denmark**

\$ to U.S. Advocacy Groups:  
**\$36.4 million**

Based in Copenhagen, Denmark, the **KR Foundation** was launched with the express mission of “intensifying” “international climate and environment activities,” and has sent around **\$36.4 million** (approximate conversion from DKK) to groups shaping politics and policy in the U.S. KR has had a significant hand in efforts to influence American energy policy. Groups receiving funding from KR Foundation are involved in climate litigation, climate protests, and public advocacy regarding legislation.

In line with their goal of ending the use of fossil fuels, KR Foundation has funneled money to Sustainable Markets

Foundation for “ending fossil fuel advertising,” to 350.org for “fossil fuel divestment campaigns,” and to Center for International Environmental Law for “accelerating the managed decline of oil and gas.” KR Foundation has even pushed to “popularize a shared vision of how cities could be much better places to live without private cars.” Fossil Free Media, a nonprofit that “strengthens the movement to end fossil fuels through creative communication,” has received almost \$1 million USD from KR Foundation. Fossil Free Media runs the “Make Polluters Pay” campaign to increase public support for climate litigation, as well as “other efforts to hold fossil fuel companies accountable.”

Laudes —  
— Foundation



Organization:  
**Laudes Foundation**

Country:  
**Switzerland**

\$ to U.S. Advocacy Groups:  
**\$19.2 million**

Headquartered in Switzerland with offices across the globe, **Laudes Foundation** was founded in 2020 by the Brenninkmeijer family, which owns the global clothing chain C&A. Records show the Brenninkmeijers’ “philanthropic” arm has sent almost **\$20 million** to U.S.-based advocacy groups since its launch.

The Laudes Foundation was established as a philanthropic venture to tackle, among other things, climate change, nature and biodiversity loss, and social inequality. Each grant made is aligned with the family’s goal of “[a]ccelerating the transition to a green, fair and inclusive economy.”

The Brenninkmeijer family remains fiercely private, with C&A described as “[o]ne of the most secretive companies in the world” with a “philosophy of nondisclosure.” They reportedly intentionally moved their holding company from the Netherlands to Switzerland to avoid releasing financial figures to the Dutch government.

**Methodology:** All data was collected from annual reports and tax documents of the domestic and foreign charities featured in this report. For more information, please see Americans for Public Trust’s additional investigative reports, including: “The Foreigner Radicalizing U.S. Policy,” “Foreign Charities Fueling Extreme Policies in the U.S.,” and “Foreign Influence in U.S. Elections.”