



# Statement on the Foundation's activities and allocations in 2021

**Stiftelsen Kristian Gerhard Jebsen**

**Org.no 993 962 724**

*Stiftelsen Kristian Gerhard Jebsen issues its financial statements in accordance with the rules for small enterprises and is not therefore obliged to present its annual report and accounts pursuant to Section 3-3a of the Norwegian Accounting Act. The Board has decided to issue a voluntary statement about the Foundation's activities and allocations in 2021.*

## **About Stiftelsen Kristian Gerhard Jebsen**

Stiftelsen Kristian Gerhard Jebsen (the Foundation) was established on 31 March 2009 in memory of ship-owner Kristian Gerhard Jebsen's life and work and as an extension of his contribution to positive social development.

The funds at the Foundation's disposal are based on a donation received from Kristian Gerhard Jebsen's spouse, Aud Jebsen, on the establishment of the Foundation on 31 March 2009. The Foundation also received donations from the Swiss Kristian Gerhard Jebsen Foundation in 2011, 2012 and 2018.

*The Foundation's object is to contribute to the furtherance of academic education, research, the arts, health and social projects and initiatives which further the development of society and the protection of the environment.*

Pursuant to the Articles of Association, the intended duration of the Foundation is 30 years. The maximum duration of the Foundation will be 40 years.

## **Realisation of the Foundation's object**

The Foundation has funded projects in the fields of marine/maritime research, culture, medical research and academic education. The Foundation focuses on supporting projects of a high international quality. In addition to the funding from the Foundation, the host institutions must normally contribute own funds and resources. This gives the projects financial clout, and ensures that the host institutions give priority to the initiatives.

## **Culture**

Since its start-up, the Foundation has allocated NOK 70 million to various cultural projects at cultural institutions in Bergen and Western Norway.

**Bergen Philharmonic Orchestra** receives the biggest single funding allocation. This comprised an initial allocation of NOK 14.8 million for the period 2012–2017 linked to the orchestra's 250th anniversary and the establishment of a digital concert hall, and then NOK 11 million in funding for the orchestra's artistic and communication activities for the period 2017–2021. The Foundation's most recent contribution has, among other things, enabled the orchestra to re-appoint chief conductor Edward Gardner for the period 2019–2021. The Foundation has also been the main partner of the orchestra's digital concert hall initiative [BergenPhilLive.no](https://bergenphil.no) since its start-up in 2012. BergenPhilLive has played a vital role in maintaining a high level of artistic

activity during the coronavirus pandemic, and made it possible to reach a large audience both in Norway and abroad.

Since 2012, the Foundation has allocated a total of NOK 15.8 million to [Edvard Grieg International Piano Competition](#) and is this competition's only source of private funding. The object of the collaboration is to consolidate the International Edvard Grieg Piano Competition as a competition of high international quality and to put Edvard Grieg, Norwegian music, Troidhaugen and Bergen on the map with regard to excellent young musicians across the world. The competition is normally held every other year. Due to the pandemic, the 17th Edvard Grieg International Piano Competition was postponed for the second year in a row and is now scheduled to be held 26 August–3 September 2022.

The Foundation has supported [Rosendal Chamber Music Festival](#) with a total of NOK 11 million in the period 2016–2022, helping the festival to become one of the most prominent chamber music festivals in Norway and Europe. Leif Ove Andsnes is the artistic director of the festival, which is organised by the Barony Rosendal. Leif Ove Andsnes has succeeded in bringing together some of the world's most famous musicians, as well as making room for young and less-well known musicians with great potential. Well-known speakers and exhibitions have helped to give the event greater breadth. The fifth Rosendal Chamber Music Festival took place on 5–8 August 2021. The topic was composer Antonin Dvořák and his relationship with the 19th century National Romanticism movement.

Stiftelsen Kristian Gerhard Jebsen cooperates with the foundation [Prof. Jiri Hlinka Piano Academy](#) and has provided funding to the academy totalling NOK 6.9 million in the period 2016–2022. The academy holds up to three master classes per year for young, highly talented international pianists and chamber musicians. The pianists Leif Ove Andsnes, Håvard Gimse, Christian Ihle Hadland and Geir Botnen function as artistic advisers, and teach the master classes along with select international guest professors. The academy normally attracts participants from all over the world. Master classes were also held in 2020 and 2021 despite the pandemic, but it has not been possible to achieve as broad participation from the international community as in previous years, and the audience size had to be restricted.

## [Marine/maritime research](#)

Since its establishment, the Foundation has allocated a total of NOK 102 million to marine and maritime research projects. The two largest individual projects in this area are the establishment of the research centres:

- [The K.G. Jebsen Centre for the Law of the Sea](#) at UiT The Arctic University of Norway. The Centre, which was established in 2013 and closed in September 2019, was a collaborative project between the university and the Foundation. The Foundation contributed NOK 36 million to this project. The centre studied how the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea and other international

legislation address old and new challenges and facilitate sustainable development. One of the centre's focus areas has been questions relating to the Arctic and the High North. UiT continued the centre as the Norwegian Centre for the Law of the Sea, and in January 2021, the centre received prestigious support from the university when it was selected to be one of two new Aurora centres: The Norwegian Centre for the Law of the Sea – a UiT Aurora Centre.

- [The K.G. Jebsen Centre for Deep Sea Research](#) at the University of Bergen. This centre is also a collaborative project between the Foundation and the host institution. The centre had a total of NOK 117 million at its disposal for the period 2017–2020, NOK 32 million of which comes from Stiftelsen Kristian Gerhard Jebsen. Other resources came in addition to these funds in the form of scientific equipment and research vessel time slots.

In 2015, the Foundation allocated NOK 17 million to the Norwegian Society for Sea Rescue to build the new Petter C.G. Sundt class (RS 163) rescue vessel. The vessel was christened in Bergen on 28 April 2017, and given the name 'Kristian Gerhard Jebsen II'. It is stationed in Bergen. The Norwegian Society for Sea Rescue's statistics show that, so far, the vessel has saved four lives and assisted 3,855 persons and 1,449 vessels.

## Medical research

From 2011 to 2021, Stiftelsen Kristian Gerhard Jebsen has helped to establish 22 K.G. Jebsen centres for medical research at Norwegian faculties of medicine and affiliated university hospitals.

The objective of the centres is to ensure translational research, i.e., that new and important research results enable improved diagnostics and treatment of patients. All the centres engage in translational medical research of a high international standard in areas prioritised by the Norwegian medical research communities themselves.

With a financial contribution of a total of NOK 476 million, the medical centres are the Foundation's main focus. At the end of 2021, seven centres remained active and fifteen had been concluded.

Name of the Centre	Host institution	Period
The K.G. Jebsen Centre for MS Research	UiB	2011-2015
The K.G. Jebsen Centre for Breast Cancer Research	UiO	2011-2015
The K.G. Jebsen Centre for Neuropsychiatric disorders	UiB	2011-2018
The K.G. Jebsen Centre for Exercise in Medicine	NTNU	2011-2017
The K.G. Jebsen Centre for Cardiac Research	UiO	2011-2015
The K.G. Jebsen Centre for Diabetes Research	UiB	2012-2018
The K.G. Jebsen Centre for Myeloma Research	NTNU	2012-2016
The K.G. Jebsen Centre for Psychosis Research	UiO	2012-2018
The K.G. Jebsen Centre for Influenza Vaccine Research	UiO	2013-2019
The K.G. Jebsen Inflammation Research Centre	UiO	2013-2017
The K.G. Jebsen Centre for Cancer Immunotherapy	UiO	2013-2019
The K.G. Jebsen TREC – Thrombosis Research and Expertise Centre	UiT	2014-2020
The K.G. Jebsen Colorectal Cancer Research Centre	OUS	2014-2020
The K.G. Jebsen Brain Tumour Research Centre	UiB	2014-2018

The K.G. Jebsen Centre for Genetic Epidemiology	NTNU	2016-2022
The K.G. Jebsen Coeliac Disease Research Centre	UiO	2016-2022
The K.G. Jebsen Centre for Cardiac Research	UiO	2017-2023
The K.G. Jebsen Centre for Autoimmune Diseases	UiB	2017-2021
The K.G. Jebsen Centre for B Cell Malignancies	UiO	2018-2024
The K.G. Centre for Genome-Directed Cancer Therapy	UiB	2018-2024
The K.G. Jebsen Centre for Alzheimer's Disease	NTNU	2020-2025
The K.G. Jebsen Centre for Developmental Disorders	UiO	2020-2025

The Foundation has an advisory committee for medical research, comprising renowned experts from Norway, Sweden and Denmark. The committee assists the Foundation in its focus on translational medical research, and participates in the overall assessment of applications it receives and submits proposals to the Board on concrete projects. The advisory committee uses internationally renowned researchers from the relevant fields to help assess the applications the Foundation receives.

The Foundation's contributions to medical centres have been evaluated on two occasions by external international experts, first in 2014 and then in 2018. Both evaluations have concluded that the focus on medical centres generates the intended results. The experts have also given concrete recommendations on the further development of this scheme, which have been followed by the Foundation, including the duration of the centre period and the establishment of the K.G. Jebsen Academy for Young Medical Researchers.

In order to encourage cooperation between the K.G. Jebsen centres, the Foundation organises an annual seminar for all the centres. This year's seminar was held at Hurdalsjøen hotel outside Oslo. The K.G. Jebsen Centre for Developmental Disorders hosted the seminar and was also responsible for the programme. The topic was population surveys and how they can provide new knowledge to the benefit of patients and public health.

In 2021, the Foundation launched the K.G. Jebsen Academy for Young Medical Researchers. The academy is funded by the Foundation and is managed by the K.G. Jebsen Centre for Genetic Epidemiology at NTNU. Through this investment, the Foundation wishes to stimulate career development and cooperation between young researchers at the K.G. Jebsen centres. Two seminars were held in 2021; a digital seminar in May and a seminar at Hurdalsjøen hotel in October, where parts of the programme were held jointly with the seminar for the K.G. Jebsen centres. The academy's first two prizes were awarded: The prize for best research dissemination was awarded to Asgeir Kobro-Flatmoen of the K.G. Jebsen Centre for Alzheimer's Disease, while Ben Brumpton of the K.G. Jebsen Centre for Genetic Epidemiology was awarded the prize for best publication.

## Allocations in 2021

In 2021, the Foundation has undertaken to provide a total of NOK 9.25 million in funding to:

- *Extension of the K.G. Jebsen Centre for Cardiac Research, University of Oslo, Ivar Sjaastad, NOK 9 million over two years.*

Heart failure is a major cause of death in Western countries, and the main cause of hospitalisation among patients over 65 years in Europe. Half of all incidents of heart failure are caused by deteriorated filling of the heart (diastolic dysfunction), and the main goal of the K.G. Jebsen Centre for Cardiac Research is to identify the factors responsible for this serious condition.

- *Prof. Jiri Hlinka Piano Academy, educational activities in 2022, NOK 0.25 million.*

The Piano Academy provides tuition for talented pianists at a high international level. In addition to offering master classes, the academy has established a special mentor programme for young piano talents who are still taking their education or at the start of their professional career.

A decision made in 2021 regarding allocations that will not become contractual and recognised in the accounts until 2022 come in addition to this:

- *Extension of the K.G. Jebsen Centre for B Cell Malignancies, University of Oslo, Ludvig A. Munthe, NOK 9 million over two years.*
- *Extension of the K.G. Jebsen Centre for Genome-Directed Cancer Therapy, University of Bergen, Per Eystein Lønning, NOK 9 million over two years.*

Since the Foundation was established, contractual allocations have amounted to a total of NOK 672 million, of which NOK 611 million had been paid out as of 31 December 2021.

In January 2022, the Board decided to allocate funding to a further two new medical centres: the K.G. Jebsen Centre for Cardiac Biomarkers and the K.G. Jebsen Centre for Parkinson's Disease, which will each receive NOK 22.5 million from the Foundation.

## Administration

The Foundation does not have any employees, and its administration is ensured through a business management agreement with the Trond Mohn Foundation.

Since March 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic and the measures implemented to limit the spread of the virus have affected the world we live in. Although now at the beginning of 2022, many countries, including Norway, have eased or lifted the

restrictions imposed, the global impact of the pandemic is likely to be felt for some years to come.

The pandemic has affected activities in the cultural projects the Foundation supports, since events were cancelled or postponed.

The medical centres have been affected to varying degrees. For some of the projects, infection control measures created challenges and led to delays. At the start of the pandemic, university laboratories were shut down, personnel were assigned to different posts and clinical trials were put on hold, leading to delayed progress in some of the projects. Other projects have been less affected. Despite this, the ongoing pandemic has not had a significant effect on the Foundation's activities.

The Foundation believes that the annual accounts provide a true and fair picture of the Foundation's assets and liabilities, financial position and performance. In accordance with the Accounting Act, it is confirmed that the requirements for the going concern assumption are met.

Bergen, 23 March 2022

Hans Peter Jebsen  
Chair of the Board

Aud Jebsen  
Board member

Harald S Kobbe  
Board member

Birger Magnus  
Board member

Sveinung Hole  
CEO