

Isocrates Foundation

Statement from December 1, 2023

Following media reports initiated by the publication of an article in 24 heures and La Tribune de Genève on December 1, 2023, the Isocrates Foundation wishes to clarify the following.

Nicolas Puech's philanthropic foundation was created on his initiative and officially registered in Valais, Switzerland, on August 26, 2011. The Foundation is legally bound to its founder through a contract of inheritance signed before a notary in September 2011.

The Foundation's initial mission was to support projects in a wide range of fields. In 2017, in the context of rising concerns around the issue of disinformation, the Board of the Foundation decided to make it its strategic priority for 5 years. In 2022, with the express agreement of its founder and the approval of the competent authorities, the Foundation's statutes were revised to rename it the Isocrates Foundation and focus its activities on protecting and promoting public debate. The Foundation takes concrete action at national and international level by supporting various projects, of which more details can be found in the dedicated section of its website.

Only recently, the Foundation learned of its founder's wish to cancel the contract of inheritance binding him to the Foundation. From a legal point of view, a unilateral cancellation of the contract of inheritance seems void and unfounded. The Foundation has therefore opposed the cancellation of the contract, while leaving the door open for discussions with its founder.

Regarding Nicolas Puech's wish to adopt his employee, as reported in the article published on December 1 in 24 heures and La Tribune de Genève, it is not up to the Foundation to judge or comment this initiative. The Foundation leaves it to the relevant authorities to decide on this matter.

As the situation currently stands, the Foundation continues to favor dialogue with its founder, hoping that solutions can be found to enable the Foundation to continue its work of public interest.