

ELI Project on Enterprise Foundations



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Enterprise Foundations

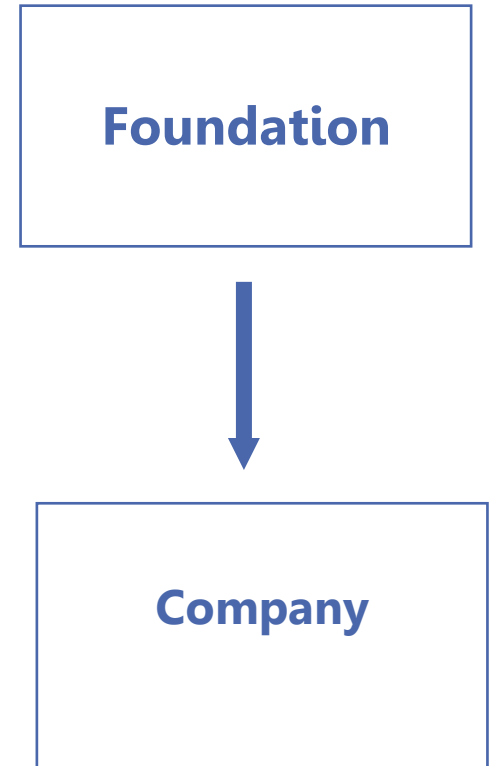
Foundations that own companies

* Foundations own prominent European companies like Bosch, Carlsberg, CaixaBank, IKEA, Píere Fabre, Rolex....

* In demand because of purpose, philanthropy, long-term ownership and regard for stakeholder interests

* The research indicates that foundation-owned companies do well financially and in terms of CSR/ESG/Sustainability

=> **Unclear legal framework**



European Foundation-Owned Companies



BOSCH



investor



Pierre Fabre



MAERSK



VICTORINOX



Lloyd's Register



MAHLE

GEVEKO

the guardian

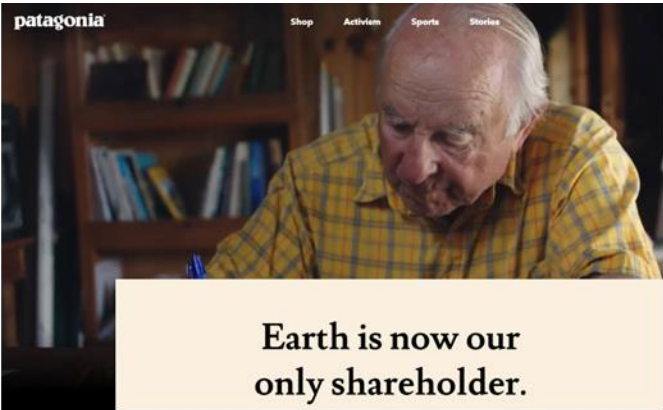


CORPORATE GOVERNANCE



COPENHAGEN BUSINESS SCHOOL
HANDELSHØJSKOLEN

The US is moving...



Yvon Chouinard has divested control over Patagonia to a trust and future profits to a nonprofit. Whereas trust-controlled firms are new to the US, a similar corporate governance form has been around for centuries in Scandinavian countries. Their foundation-owned firms have been highly successful, survived for generations, and contributed to a better world.

Corporate Sustainability Leadership? Nordics and California
UC Berkeley, 21-22 March 2019

8:45-9:15 pm: Session 4

Exercising the Freedom to be Responsible: First steps toward leaving the planet
Vincent Starkey, Patagonia

Foundation Ownership at IKEA
Steen Thomsen

Patagonia as an Industrial Foundation: A Thought Exercise
Robert Strand (presenting author) and Steen Thomsen

Berkeley Haas Case Series
The April 2021

LARA EYON
STEEN THOMSEN
ROBERT STRAND
EMILY PEELNER
EVA GERKEN

Perpetual Purpose Trust and Organically Grown Company:
Rethinking Corporate Ownership for the Future



Michael Bloomberg Will Donate His Eponymous Company to a Philanthropic Trust

After the transfer, revenue generated by the company will finance Bloomberg Philanthropies.

By Alexandra Tremayne-Pengelly · 04/24/23 5:35pm



Project Overview

1. Defining enterprise foundations

Functional and legal definitions

2. Comparative enterprise foundation law

Permissible purposes, governance requirements, founder influence, transparency, taxation...

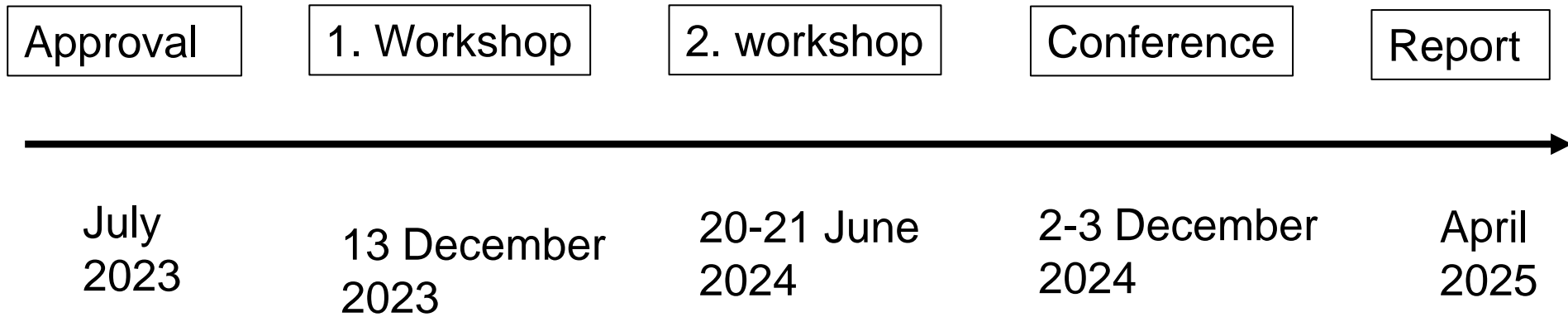
3. A model European enterprise foundation law

What could it look like, what are the obstacles?

4. Legal barriers to Enterprise Foundations

Barriers to establishment and operations

Workflow



Workshop I. 13 December Provisional Agenda Items (TBC)

- Defining Enterprise Foundations
- The policy case for Enterprise Foundations
- Survey of European Enterprise Foundations Law
- Corporate Purpose and Enterprise Foundations
Colin Mayer, University of Oxford
- Enterprise foundations in France. Law and practice
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Thanks!

