

Social Systems Lab

Ownership structure



A brief from
Social Systems Foundation

01.03.2024

History

The Social Systems Lab was registered in 2019 in Cape Town in order to create a legal and financial container around the software project Crowdpol, an early version of the Circles platform.

As the project grew in scope to involve individual contributors from many organisations and networks, the necessity to create a longer term structure that could strengthen and protect the open-source non-profit nature of the project became apparent. To meet this need, the Social Systems Foundation was created in Stockholm, Sweden, and took over ownership of the limited-profit company Syntropi AB (svb), one of the partners that along with Social Systems Lab in Cape Town had been developing the platform.

As it currently stands, the Social Systems Foundation is the entity ultimately responsible for the Circles platform and the Altruistic Wallet application. Social Systems Lab in Cape Town together with Syntropi AB (svb) work closely together and are operationally in charge of development.

The Social Systems Foundation

The board currently consists of Timothy Olsson, Robert Sevenius, Violeta Bulc, Alexander Laszlo and Mathapelo Mzizi.

Tim Olsson is the founder and director of Social Systems Lab in Cape Town and one of the main drivers behind the Circles project. His professional background is in journalism, healthcare, facilitation and project management. He is the owner of multiple businesses and has a passion for systems change through civic technology. He is also the current acting chairperson of the foundation.

Robert Sevenius has written several books on law and finance, among these the seminal work on Due Diligence used in universities across the country, and has extensive hands-on experience in his field. He is also a sought-after speaker and consultant in the

interaction between blockchain and finance as well as a lecturer. In his own words, he is on a voyage through legal & financial space with the mission to boldly go where no legal economist has gone before. This voyage has taken him through, among others, the outlandish microcosmoses of valuation, due diligence, M&A, corporate governance and business law. He is the treasurer of the foundation and thus the person who will make sure that any funds entrusted to us will be used wisely.

Dr Hc. Violeta Bulc is a multiply awarded innovator and entrepreneur who is probably best known for her five years as the commissioner of transport for the European Union where she placed priority on Digitalization, Decarbonisation, Gender inclusion, Women Empowerment, Innovation, people focus, and global collaboration in transport. Prior to this she was the Deputy Prime Minister of Slovenia and is a board member of the Joint European Disruptive Initiative (JEDI). She is also the founder and lead advocate of the Ecocivilisation network and a member of the G100 network with chairs in 34 countries and counting.

Dr Alexander Laszlo is a Researcher, consultant and instructor as well as a professor in graduate-level programs at a variety of accredited universities internationally. His experience includes that of Director of the Doctoral Program in Management at the Graduate School of Business Administration & Leadership (EGADE), Mexico, and Founding Director of the Doctoral Program in Leadership and Systemic Innovation at the Buenos Aires Institute of Technology (ITBA). His expertise lies in the field of systems thinking and social systems design, facilitation of learning dynamics, individual and group empowerment, graduate and post-doctoral research in emergence, sentience and conscious evolution, research methods, conflict dissolution, and the philosophy and practice of the Martial Arts. He is the author of over a hundred journal, book, and encyclopedia publications and sits on the Editorial Boards of seven internationally arbitered journals.

Mathapelo Mzizi is the Partnership Manager at Ericsson Headquarters in Stockholm. She is a strategic powerhouse responsible for cultivating partnerships with prestigious organizations like UNICEF and the Nobel Foundation. She has over a decade of experience leading global marketing initiatives such as AI and expertise in Technology, Inclusion Innovation, Business and leadership experience. As a One Young World Ambassador and HULT PRIZE Dubai Intra competition regional winner, she is dedicated to driving positive change through her passion for innovation, human equality, and leveraging technology to solve socio-economic issues.

The Social Systems Foundation

The Social Systems Foundation, or Stiftelsen Social Systems in Swedish, has the registration number 803482-2630.

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