

The Luigi Einaudi Foundation from 1964 to the Present |

complex society that was evolving. The Foundation's founders believed that this function could best be carried out by an institution that was private, yet closely connected to the heritage of knowledge conserved in universities, and could thereby also contribute to improving higher education. Equally important was the fact that the Foundation and its research were autonomous. It was a place in which the intellectual and professional growth of its fellowship holders could be engendered by cooperation in an environment of complete freedom from special interests. This second aspect of the Foundation was characteristic of the years when Mario Einaudi took part in directing it, the period up to 1984, when there were no doctoral programs in Italian universities.

The model of the Center for International Studies that the Foundation adapted to the context in which it functioned were given concrete form in the decision to give preference to areas of study that would foster the formation of sectors of the governing class capable of understanding and using modern social science. In this sense Mario Einaudi and other members of the Academic Committee, albeit within the bounds of strict scholarly confines, shared a common ethos rooted in Western democratic traditions and the sought through the Foundation to offer the young people studying there the cultural instruments that had been crucial to history's "great transformations".

This was translated into a complex organizational structure, with the presence of internal researchers alongside the Academic Committee. In addition, although grant holders could continue and complete their studies elsewhere in Italy or abroad, the Luigi Einaudi Foundation in Turin, where the seminars and meetings held defined the progress of research