

About the IRDO institute for the development of social responsibility (SR) as an informal promotion of systemic behaviour

<http://www.irdo.si>

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Social responsibility provides an informal way of systemic behaviour with its seven principles, **accountability, transparency, ethical behaviour, respect for stakeholders, rule of law, international norms, and human rights**, that support attainment of SR's three basic concepts: responsibility for influences on society, inter-dependence, and holistic approach (ISO 26000). The IRDO institute is a leading Slovenian organisation that contributes to the development of social responsibility in Slovenia and abroad with research, training, consulting, connecting and promotion. It cooperates with domestic and foreign experts, foundations, organisations, governments and companies and helps with the exchange of knowledge and experience regarding social responsibility. By the year 2020, we intend to become an internationally renowned group of experts, scientists and researchers in the field of social responsibility, making an important contribution to the development of SR for companies, organisations, foundations, individuals, governments and to society as a whole. The IRDO -Institute for the Development of Social Responsibility- was founded in 2004 in order to research and accelerate the development of SR in Slovenia and elsewhere. IRDO's main purpose is to promote the networking of key activists concerning SR, whether in government, business, other institutions and organizations, or civil society, and to share common activities and campaigns for raising awareness in society at large about the need and importance of SR. For this purpose:

- we **create and conduct innovative concepts and projects** in the field of social responsibility, including sustainable development,
- we maintain a **platform for the exchange of knowledge and ideas**,
- we **consult and train companies, organisations and foundations** regarding the introduction of SR strategies,
- we **are strengthening a dialogue** with the government, civil society, companies and media for the preparation and realisation of SR strategies, even national ones,
- we **inform the public** about the concept of and various successful projects about SR,
- since 2009 we have been **granting a Slovenian award for social responsibility, Horus**,
- since 2006 we have been **organising an international conference "SR and current challenges,"** of which the 13th is taking place on 27 September 2018,
- we **research** the practice of SR in theory and practice,
- we **publish scientific and technical articles** in Slovenia and elsewhere,
- we **publish books**, manuals, booklets, monthly newsletters and other publications,
- we run **MODEL M** enabling youngsters of 26-30 with B.S. for (self-)employment,
- we work with the government of Slovenia on the **governmental Strategy of promotion of SR in Slovenia**,
- we **work with the 'Sustainable and Socially Responsible University of Maribor'** with its SR-related action program for 2014-2020, etc.

Matjaz MULEJ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Matjaz_Mulej

Matjaz MULEJ, after his Doctorates in Economics/Systems Theory and in Innovation Management, used to work at the University of Maribor, where he still works with doctoral students. He works also in other Slovene higher education institutions. He retired in 2001 as Professor Emeritus of Systems and Innovation Theory. For the recent 10 years he has applied systems theory also to social responsibility as personal and organizational attributes – ethics of responsibility, interdependence and requisite holism. He published more than 1.800 publications in over 40 countries. He was visiting professor at foreign universities for 15 semesters, mostly in US, including Cornell (as Fulbright scholar), also in Austria, China, Germany, Mexico, and gave talks in about 50 further universities around the world. He consulted to organizations in 6 countries about 500 times. He is author of **the Dialectical Systems Theory, Innovative Business Paradigm and Methods for transitional countries and enterprises**; many millions of innovation results value are reported. He is a member of the European Academy of Sciences and Arts, Salzburg (2004), European Academy of Sciences and Humanities, Paris (2004), International Academy for Systems and Cybernetic Sciences, Vienna, now in France (2010; establishing former head, now vice-president). He was president of IFSR, president of the Slovene Systems Research Society (since 1991), head of the research unit of IRDO Institute for Development of Social Responsibility. Under his impact University of Maribor became 'Sustainable and Socially Responsible University of Maribor' with an action program for 2014-2020. He was granted all available official awards for his work on non-technological innovations in Yugoslavia, Slovenia, Maribor and University of Maribor. In 2013-2016 he published and edited 9 books, 3 collections of articles (in Systems Research and Behavioral Science, Cybernetics, Systems Practice and Action Research) with more than 100 authors from 30 countries, and 4 conference proceedings, all about **systemic behavior via social responsibility**. His most recent award is HORUS platina award for 60 years of volunteering as a practice of social responsibility.