

The Johns Hopkins University



RESOLUTION
OF THE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
THE JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY
MARCH 9, 2018

BE IT RESOLVED that the Johns Hopkins University Board of Trustees hereby support the establishment of The Stavros Niarchos Foundation Agora Institute at Johns Hopkins University, a new, multidisciplinary institute that will explore the vulnerabilities in civil discourse in the United States and around the world, and seek to restore the engaged, open, and inclusive discussion that is the cornerstone of a healthy democracy.

WHEREAS the Stavros Niarchos Foundation Agora Institute at Johns Hopkins University will take full advantage of the unique strengths of Johns Hopkins University, including its world class faculty, its interdisciplinary focus, its dedication to bold experimentation in order to achieve its mission and goals, and its platform for sharing its discoveries with individuals, governments and other institutions around the world.

WHEREAS the Stavros Niarchos Foundation Agora Institute at Johns Hopkins University will draw its inspiration from the ancient Athenian agora, a central space in the life of the city that was originally a marketplace and grew to become a place of conversation and debate for citizens, and thus the heart of democratic governance. Through a dedicated facility and a commitment to public conversation, so too, will The Stavros Niarchos Foundation Agora Institute at Johns Hopkins University play a role in encouraging the robust exchange of ideas and supporting the promise of engaged and productive civil discourse.

WHEREAS the Stavros Niarchos Foundation Agora Institute at Johns Hopkins University will bring together experts from a range of disciplines such as political science, sociology, history, neuroscience, psychology, philosophy, and ethics, as well as a range of fields – such as government, media, advocacy and the broader concerned electorate to examine and discuss the dynamics of civic strife and the means for improving open dialogue, civic engagement, and democratic governance.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Johns Hopkins Board of Trustees is grateful to the Stavros Niarchos Foundation for this momentous gift.

Ronald J. Daniels
President
The Johns Hopkins University

Jeffrey H. Aronson
Chair, Board of Trustees
The Johns Hopkins University