

# Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From	Period start date			To	Period end date		
	Day 31	Month March	Year 2021		Day 30	Month March	Year 2022

## Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name

Bridging Spiritual Cultures

Other names charity is known by

BSPC

Registered charity number (if any)

1170420

Charity's principal address

55 Hivings Hill

Chesham

Buckinghamshire

Postcode HP5 2PG

UK

### Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Dr Mounir Al Kadiri Boutchich	President	2016-22 (Apr) Term 1	BSPC trustees
2	Mr Marek Lubelski	Chair	2021-26 (Apr) Term 2	BSPC trustees
3	Dr Siobhan Bygate	Director & Treasurer, Data Controller	2016-22 Term 1	BSPC trustees
4	Mr Ramsay Salim McCulloch	Finance & Projects	2021-26 Term 1	BSPC trustees
5	Dr Aide Abril Saucedo-Medina	Education & Director Research Latin America	2016-22 Term 1	BSPC trustees
6	Mr Xavier Fiquemo	Advisor	2022-24 Term 2	BSPC trustees
7	Ms Mairi Lubelska	Policy Officer	2020-24 Term 2	BSPC trustees
8	Mr AR Eatwell	Communications & Data Officer	2021-26 Term 1	BSPC trustees
9	Ms Farida M'Madi	Secretary & Research Assistant	2021-26 Term 1	BSPC trustees
10				
11				
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19				
20				

**Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)**

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year

**Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)**

Type of adviser	Name	Address

**Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)**

See Trustees and voluntary positions above Charity Commission Contact: Dr Siobhan Bygate

## Section B Structure, governance and management

**Description of the charity's trusts**

Type of governing document  
(eg. trust deed, constitution)

Constitution

How the charity is constituted  
(eg. trust, association, company)

CIO Charitable Incorporated Organisation

Trustee selection methods  
(eg. appointed by, elected by)

By application and approval at the quarterly meeting with final approval at the AGM. Induction and review meeting.

**Additional governance issues (Optional information)**

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;
- the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- relationship with any related parties;
- trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

**Policies and Procedures for Induction of Trustees**

- Trustees are made aware of Charity guidance for trustees on: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-essential-trustee-what-you-need-to-know-cc3>
- Interviews are held to ensure all parties are informed and accept the terms and responsibilities and the charity organisations' processes.
- Trustees are made aware of the policies and responsibilities relating to their specific area of interest.

**Charity's Organisational Structure**

There are no changes to the organisational structure which is as follows:

- President-Director: Dr Moulay Mounir Al Kadiri Boutchich
- Chair: Mr Marek Lubelski
- Director: Dr Siobhan Bygate
- Finance Officer: Mr Ramsay McCulloch
- Communications: Mr AR Eatwell
- Research & Education: Dr Aide Abril Medina Saucedo
- Research Assistant: Ms Farida M'Madi
- Charity Advisor: Xavier Fiquemo
- Policy Officer: Ms Mairi Lubelska

<p>Wider Networks</p> <p>The charity belongs to the Fundraising Regulator,</p> <p>Relationship with any related parties</p> <p>There are no conflict of interests reported.</p> <p>Major Risks: Management Systems and Procedures. No major risks were identified. However, standard areas of risk could be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Electronic system threats to online activity.</li> <li>• The need to secure greater funds for charity expansion into face to face activities</li> <li>• The need to develop a means of securing funds online with regulatory accountability (see CAF Bank and HMRC Gift Aid through tax nominee)</li> <li>• Secure a professional accountant as a volunteer for annual accounts</li> </ul>
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## Section C Objectives and activities

### Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

<p>The objects of the CIO are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The promotion of religious harmony for the benefit of the public by educating the public in different religious beliefs including an awareness of their distinctive features and their common ground to promote good relations between persons of different faiths, and by promoting knowledge and mutual understanding and respect of the beliefs and practices of different religious faiths, and by increasing mutual understanding of the spiritual doctrines held in common between different religions.</li> <li>• The advancement of education in the matters of both spiritual expression and religious practice and adherence for the benefit of the public, through lectures, conferences, and public events which increase levels of information, understanding, knowledge and tolerance so as specifically to counteract negative, divisive and extremist approaches to religious interpretation and practice.</li> <li>• The advancement of the faith of Islam through its spiritual doctrine of Sufism for the benefit of the public, through the holding of meetings, lectures, seminars, and public events where this doctrine can be shared, understood, practised, and so as to enlighten others about the peaceful nature of the Islamic religion through sharing and communicating its spiritual doctrines.</li> </ul>
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**Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)**

The Trustees confirm that they have complied with the duty in Section 4 of the Charities Act 2006 (and the updated Charity Act 2011) to have due regard to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit (Charities and Public Benefit).

The Trustees have ensured that all activities of the Charity are aligned with the Objects of the constitution. By organising, subsidising, promoting and running events, workshops and online communications for the engagement, participation and benefit of the general public, these activities contribute to the delivery of the Charity's Strategy (2015 – 2025). The Strategy also aims to further develop and enhance the capacity of the Charity to meet the Objects and thereby extend the planned benefit to the public more widely.

During the period of the Annual Return March 2021 to March 2022, the Charity has:

The strategy for 2015 to 2025 was agreed on registration of the Charity and many of the aims have been achieved as recorded in the previous year's AGM Report.

In the year April 2020 to March 2021, the outreach activities of the charity continued on a low-level basis due to the Covid19 pandemic whilst bigger events that had been planned were rescheduled for the future. Those events that continued were all online requiring development of the Charity's capacity to deliver in this context. Further considerable investment in time was made to establishing rigorous management, administrative and regulatory structures within the Charity with a view to increasing its outreach activity in the coming years.

During March 2021 to March 2022, the following achievements were secured:

1. Initiation of a regular weekly programme of online sessions offering an introduction to the practices of Sufism and Mental Well Being support open to all free of charge during the pandemic. Up to 100 people regularly participated online meditation sessions and feedback was received as part of research being undertaken with the University of Hertfordshire about the impact of these activities in supporting public well being under times of crisis and pandemic.
2. An online YouTube event April 2021 working with international organisations and charities on the area of Sufism and Interfaith activity including:
  - 2.2.1 Catholic partners, Father Damian, Society of Jesus, North London, Catholic church
  - 2.2.2 Jewish Women's Group- Kohenet Yael Tischler, Student Rabbi Leo Baeck Institute/College, London.
  - 2.2.3 Sufi organisations in Morocco, France (Dr Mohammed Bahtat, University Physics Professor, University Lyon),

Belgium (Gregory Vandamme qui est chercheur doctorant à l'université de Louvain en Belgique), and Spain (Arnau Oliveres, he practices acupuncture in the region of Catalonia in northern Spain. He also works in a non-governmental organization called AUDIR)

2.2.4 UN contribution through Dr Ibrahim Salama, Chief, Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, Human Rights Treatise Branch UN Treatises

2.2.5 Dr Moulay Mounir El Kadiri Boutchich, Director Al Moultaqa Foundation

2.2.6 Maha Bahamdoun, Houston, Texas. Freelance Consultant, previously with the United Nations in Development

#### Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

Policy on Grant making:  
Not applicable

Policy programme related investment:  
Not applicable

Contribution made by volunteers:

Volunteers, Dr Siobhan Bygate, Mr Marek Lubelski, Mr AR Eatwell, Ms Farida MMadi, Dr Aide Abril Medina Saucedo, Dr Moulay Mounir El Kadiri Boutchich, developed an online event, making contact with organisations and individuals from various faiths and charitable organisations dealing with youth welfare.

Volunteers, Dr Siobhan Bygate; Dr Aide Abril Safia Medina Saucedo and Ms Farida M'Madi explored potential connections with universities in the UK and Mexico into recording and assessing impacts of online activity under the pandemic into impact of meditational activities for the public good.

Volunteers, Mr AR Eatwell and Mr Marek Lubelski, started to explore the website and its capacity for further development.

**Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year**

Online meditation sessions for men and women in the UK under pandemic conditions.

Online international event in April 2021 with international partners and organisations and inter-faith actors

## Section E Financial review

### Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

Reserves are held at present in the accounts which are adequate for purpose.  
It is the aim of the charity to explore a format for further fundraising in order to increase the reserves for the next stage of activity.

### Details of any funds materially in deficit

None

### Further financial review details (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

Charity's Principal Source of Funds:  
Trustees and voluntary donations

No formal fundraising yet in place

Expenditure and Key Objectives:  
Expenditure has been spent on website and YouTube channel maintenance and the zoom account for online activities.

Investment and Ethical Investment Policy  
There is no investment at present.

## Section F Other optional information

Approved Accounts Payment and Receipts 2021 to 2022 attached.

## Section G Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s) Marek Lubelski

AbdurRahman Eatwell

Full name(s) Mr Marek Lubelski

Mr AR Eatwell

Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc) Chair and Trustee

Communications Officer and Trustee

Date 5<sup>th</sup> January 2023



## Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	Period start date 1st April 2021	To	Period end date 31st March 2022
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### Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £
<b>A1 Receipts</b>				
Donations	850	-	-	850
	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total (Gross income for AR)</b>	850	-	-	850
<b>A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).</b>				
	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	-	-	-	-
<b>Total receipts</b>	850	-	-	850
<b>A3 Payments</b>				
Insurances	161	-	-	161
IT Subscriptions	645	-	-	645
Banking	96	96	-	192
Regulator Charges	85	-	-	85
	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	987	96	-	1,083
<b>A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)</b>				
	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	-	-	-	-
<b>Total payments</b>	987	96	-	1,083
<b>Net of receipts/(payments)</b>	- 137	- 96	-	- 233
<b>A5 Transfers between funds</b>	-	-	-	-
<b>A6 Cash funds last year end</b>	-	-	-	-
<b>Cash funds this year end</b>	- 137	- 96	-	- 233



## Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £
<b>B1 Cash funds</b>	Current Account	1,259	-
	Projects Account		828
	Reserve (Gold Account)		425
	<b>Total cash funds</b>	<b>1,259</b>	<b>1,253</b>
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	Agreement Error	Agreement Error
		Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £
<b>B2 Other monetary assets</b>	Deposit at Tabernacle		1,140
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
<b>B3 Investment assets</b>			-
			-
			-
			-
			-
			-
<b>B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use</b>			-
			-
			-
			-
			-
			-
			-
			-
			-
			-
<b>B5 Liabilities</b>			-
			-
			-
			-
			-
			-

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature

Print Name

Ramsay McCulloch

Dr Siobhan Bygate

Ramsay McCulloch

Siobhan Bygate

**CC16a**

**Last year**

**to the nearest £**

<b>1,430</b>
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
<b>1,430</b>

-
-

<b>1,430</b>
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-
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-
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-
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-
-
-
<b>1,015</b>

-

<b>1,015</b>
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<b>415</b>
-
-
<b>415</b>



**Endowment  
funds**  
to nearest £

-
-
-
-

OK

**Endowment  
funds**  
to nearest £

-
-
-
-
-
-

**Current value  
(optional)**

-
-
-
-
-

**Current value  
(optional)**

-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-

**When due  
(optional)**


Date of approval

5th Jan 2023
<b>5th Jan 2023</b>