The Philipp Schwartz Initiative for Researchers at Risk

L’Italia di fronte alla sfida della crisi afghana: proteggere la libertà accademica attraverso l’accoglienza

Sapienza Università di Roma
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Philipp Schwartz

- Professor of Pathology at the University of Frankfurt
- dismissed in 1933 under the “Law for the Restoration of the Professional Civil Service” (*Berufsbeamengesetz*) and fled Germany to escape arrest
- founded the “Notgemeinschaft deutscher Wissenschaftler im Ausland”
- placed nearly 2,000 dismissed academics in posts abroad until 1946
Philipp Schwartz Initiative: Three Components

1. Structures

2. People

3. Networks
Higher education institutions as applicants and beneficiaries

AvH:
- Selection
- Funding
- Advice
- Networks
Higher education institutions as applicants and beneficiaries

**Higher education institution:**

Application:
- Hosting concept
- Nomination
- Risk assessment

**AvH:**
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**Higher education institution:**
- Builds support structures
- Awards fellowships
- Advises and supports fellows
Higher education institutions as applicants and beneficiaries

Partnerships: SAR, CARA, PAUSE…
Networks: SAR Germany, Inspireurope

Events: Philipp Schwartz Forum, Inspireurope Stakeholder Forum

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Funding

German Federal Foreign Office
Private foundations and supporters
Background

- Founded in 2015 by the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation in cooperation with the Federal Foreign Office
- Financial and institutional support from Federal Foreign Office
- Pilot phase: additional funding from private sources
- At-risk scholars in all academic disciplines, from all countries of origin outside EU
- Third party confirmation of severe personal risk
Facts & Figures I

- 24-month fellowship/employment at postdoc level (fully-funded)
- Optional 12-month extension (co-financed with host institution)
- Auxiliary funds for the host institution: €20,000 per fellow hosted
Facts & Figures II

Since programme launch in 2016:

• approx. 330 Philipp Schwartz Fellows
• approx. host 100 institutions
• main countries of origin: Turkey, Syria, Iran
• 21 others, including Afghanistan, Belarus, Brazil, Cameroon, Iraq, Myanmar, Venezuela, Yemen
Scholars at Risk Network – German Section

- Ca. 50 members
- AvH coordinates German Section
- Platform for exchange and mutual support
- events
- networking
- Website: information, best practices, additional funding opportunities
Partners

Inspireurope
Supporting Researchers at Risk

Scholars at Risk Network

cara
a lifeline to academics at risk

PAUSE
Programme National Découvert en Urgence des Scientifiques en ÉX

iie Scholar Rescue Fund

For students at risk:

DAAD
Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst
German Academic Exchange Service
Bridging Fellowships for Afghanistan

- 20 bridging fellowships for Afghan scholars recently evacuated to Germany, in transit countries, or in Afghanistan
- 12-month research fellowship (fully funded)
- 5,000 EUR auxiliary funds: language training, career coachings…
- HEI as nominating and hosting institutions
- Call for nominations: late January
A New Beginning

https://www.humboldt-foundation.de/fileadmin/Bewerben/Programme/Philipp-Schwartz-Initiative/PSI_AvH_Jubilaeumsbroschuere_Doppelseiten.pdf
Contact Philipp Schwartz Initiative

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