SAR’s 2018-2019 Annual Report and End of Year Campaign

Scholars at Risk’s Summary Report on Activities 2018-2019 is now available.

The report provides an overview of the work that together, our SAR Network has accomplished in each of SAR’s three program areas: protection, advocacy and research and learning. It also highlights the continued growth of our international network which shares in our collective mission to protect scholars and promote academic freedom.

Over the last year, SAR network members, partners and friends, have assisted over 400 scholars, leveraged over US$4.6 million for them and their families, documented over 350 attacks on higher education communities, trained over 500 course participants from 98 countries, launched SAR Europe, and more. Your support makes this important work possible.

Together we have accomplished so much: our network has grown to over 500 institutions in 41 countries and we are helping more scholars than ever. But demand for our services continues to grow: we have over 700 scholars on our lists seeking help, with more received each month. We must do more.

As we reflect on our collective successes, we also embark on our End of Year Campaign and ask you to please join us by making your gift today! Whether you’re an academic, student, professional, or interested friend, now is the time to renew your support or make a first-time donation to SAR.

We are so grateful to our SAR community and we extend our deepest thanks for your support. We look forward to continuing success in this work and thank you for your
Join the Conversation about Global Phenomenon of Attacks on Higher Education

Just weeks ago, SAR released *Free to Think 2019*, a report analyzing 324 attacks on higher education communities in 56 countries between September 1, 2018 and August 31, 2019. By examining worrying trends, such as violent attacks on campus communities in Afghanistan and Yemen and national-level pressures on academic freedom in Brazil, China, India, Sudan, and Turkey, the report underscores a prolonged, global phenomenon of attacks on higher education.

To mark the fifth installment of SAR’s annual Free to Think series, this year’s report issues a “call to action,” urging governments, higher education leaders, and civil society to consider concrete actions capable of protecting higher education communities and defending academic freedom. Take action now by:

- Placing the report’s findings on an upcoming conference agenda, and sharing the report over Twitter, Facebook and with your university’s public relations office;
- Hosting a threatened scholar on your campus so they can continue their research and teaching in safety;
- Inviting a speaker to raise awareness of this phenomenon through SAR’s Speaker Series;
- Voicing your concerns for wrongfully imprisoned scholars and students; and
- Contacting SAR at scholarsatrisk@nyu.edu to explore more opportunities!
Interested in learning more about how SAR and our partners respond to attacks on higher education? Join us at SAR’s 2020 Global Congress in Washington DC and Baltimore on March 25-28, 2020.

Register Today»

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**Scholars of the Month**

*SAR scholars are at-risk higher education professionals that exemplify the pursuit of academic freedom, freedom of expression, and university values. If your institution is interested in hosting a SAR scholar, please email apply.scholarsatrisk@nyu.edu.*

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**A Scholar of Philosophy from Turkey**

This experienced scholar focuses on environmental ethics and has more than three decades of teaching experience in Turkey, North America, and Africa. His research explores environmental thought, sustainable development, and religion and the environment. He has published several academic books and journal articles. He faces risk of arrest, harassment, and loss of position in Turkey and seeks research and/or teaching opportunities.

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**A Scholar of Civil Engineering from Syria**

Specializing in geotechnical civil engineering, this scholar has nearly a decade of teaching experience and several years as a geotechnical engineer. He has published numerous articles and instructed courses including foundations engineering, geology for engineers, and computer-aided design, among others. He is also skilled in 3D geotechnical modeling and geo-design software development, among other engineering software programs. This scholar reports risk due to...

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**A Scholar of Human Genetics and Biology from Palestine**

This scholar has 15 years of teaching experience in topics of advanced molecular diagnosis, pharmacology and toxicology, and medical genetics, among others. As an engaged researcher, this scholar has authored one book and coauthored 15 articles. Building on his research and contributions to his university, he created a biotechnology master’s program and oversaw the improvement of the university’s biotechnology laboratories. This scholar reports...
beginning January 2020. (Turkey 1099)

his status as an academic and the ongoing, situational violence in Syria and seeks research opportunities in a safe location beginning immediately. (Syria 744)

harassment and detention related to his political activism in Palestine and seeks teaching and/or research opportunities in Germany beginning immediately. (Palestine 609)

Spotlight: SAR Executive Director Robert Quinn featured in The Chronicle of Higher Education

SAR Executive Director Robert Quinn sat down with The Chronicle of Higher Education’s Megan Zahneis to talk about SAR’s latest Free to Think report, responses to attacks on higher education worldwide, and how university communities can teach academic freedom.

Read the interview “Is the Threat to Academic Freedom Growing?” online or in the December 6 print edition of The Chronicle.

Call for 2020 Courage to Think Award Nominations

We are accepting nominations for the Scholars at Risk 2020 Courage to Think Award. The Courage to Think Award recognizes individuals, groups or institutions that have demonstrated an exemplary commitment to protecting scholars and promoting academic freedom, whether through their professional work, private or community service, or by facing personal risk.
The Courage to Think Award will be presented at the Scholars at Risk Network 2020 Global Congress in Baltimore on March 27, 2020.

SAR Welcomes the Release of Graduate Student Xiyue Wang!

Good news! After over three years in Evin Prison in Iran, Princeton University graduate student Xiyue Wang was released and returned to US soil on December 7th.

Many, many thanks to everyone—members, Student Advocacy Seminars, Academic Freedom Legal Clinics, and the global higher education community—who helped SAR advocate for his release.

Join the Network!

Scholars at Risk invites higher education institutions to join our network. Please reach out to madeline.everett@nyu.edu if your university is interested in a Scholars at Risk membership. Not sure if your university is already a member? Check out our Membership Directory to look at the 500 higher education institutions that have already pledged to protect academic freedom.

Events

Refugees and Higher Education: Hosting and integrating scholars and students | Dec. 10 | Trento, Italy

This international workshop aims at bringing together institutions, organisations, displaced scholars and students involved in the SAR
network, in a view to foster a dialogue aimed at sharing good practices, reflecting on common challenges and responses, and developing future collaborations.

Academia Interrupted: Speaker Series Event at TU Darmstadt | Dec. 11 | Darmstadt, Germany

A SAR scholar will visit TU Darmstadt for a speaking engagement.

Sakharov Prize 2019 for Ilham Tohti | Dec. 19 | Strasbourg, France

Ilham Tohti is the winner of the Sakharov Prize for Freedom of Thought in 2019. The prize will be awarded during a ceremony in the Parliament in Strasbourg on 18 December 2019.

InSPIREurope Outreach Workshop | Jan. 9 | Krakow, Poland

Outreach workshop in Poland to grow the European support base for researchers at risk. The event will help raise awareness with key stakeholders from the academic and non-academic sectors in Poland of opportunities to get involved in activities to support researchers at risk.


Save the date! Scholars at Risk invites you to the SAR Network 2020 Global Congress on March 25-28, 2020, convened in partnership with Johns Hopkins University and the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS).

https://email.everyaction.com/EmailMessage/PreviewMessage/0392da90-e415-ea11-828b-2818784d6d68
Scholars at Risk is an independent not-for-profit corporation, hosted at New York University. Our international network of institutions and individuals shares a mission to protect threatened scholars, promote academic freedom, and prevent attacks on higher education communities around the world.

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