Rob Quinn on 'self-destructive results' of imprisoning scholars like Dr. Ahmadreza Djalali during this time

SAR’s Executive Director, Rob Quinn, spoke with Valerie Peay, the Director of the International Observatory of Human Rights (IOHR), in an interview about Dr. Ahmadreza Djalali, a scholar of disaster medicine imprisoned in Iran’s Evin Prison. It has been just over four years since Iranian authorities imprisoned Dr. Djalali in apparent retaliation for his peaceful academic work.

https://email.everyaction.com/EmailMessage/PreviewMessage/14933f8c-9893-ea11-86e9-00155d03b5dd
Since March, Iranian authorities have reportedly released roughly 100,000 individuals from prisons in an effort to contain the outbreak of the novel coronavirus disease COVID-19. Authorities have not, however, released Dr. Djalali who, long in need of urgent medical care, is now during the pandemic at even greater health risk. In the interview with IOHR, Mr. Quinn referenced the public letter SAR issued to Iranian officials urging Dr. Djalali’s immediate and unconditional release from prison. Partners around the world have joined SAR to express growing concerns for his well-being, stressing the need for Dr. Djalali’s medical expertise in efforts to combat the pandemic.

Watch the Interview

Take Action

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.

A Scholar of Political Science from Azerbaijan

A Scholar of Social Philosophy from Indonesia

A Scholar of Oral Medicine from Yemen
This scholar has experience teaching at universities in Azerbaijan, Germany, and Norway. His work focuses on authoritarianism and comparative politics in Europe and Central Asia. He has ample experience conducting research in academic institutions and non-governmental organizations throughout Europe. This scholar reports risk of arrest and harassment due to the content of his work in Azerbaijan and seeks research opportunities in Europe beginning September 2020. (Azerbaijan 511)

This scholar has more than a decade of experience instructing university courses in sociology and philosophy. A strong researcher as well, he has authored numerous publications on human rights, political power, and electoral politics, among other topics. This scholar faces risk of arrest and harassment in Indonesia and seeks teaching and/or research opportunities in a safe location beginning immediately. (Indonesia 530)

This scholar specializes in oral epidemiology and dental care for underserved populations. He is a highly active researcher with several articles published in reputable, refereed journals. He has spent several years teaching university-level courses in his field in Yemen and Saudi Arabia. He has also held several short-term academic visits in North America and Europe. This scholar reports risk due to the ongoing, situational violence in Yemen and seeks research and/or teaching opportunities in a safe location beginning Fall 2020. (Yemen 539)

New SAR Materials: Promoting Higher Education Values

SAR has recently released revised materials to frame and facilitate discussion about higher education values and their implementation in a wide range of settings. When core institutional values are implicated in major decisions--perhaps now more than ever--the Promoting Higher Education Values tools provide assistance to states, higher education institutions, leaders, scholars, staff and students as
they wrestle with the challenges of our time. Explore the new Promoting Higher Education Values Discussion Guide and Workshop Supplement. If you or your institution might be interested in exploring ways to facilitate a virtual values discussion for your campus community, contact us below.

Start a Discussion»

Free Online Course on Academic Freedom Reaches over 3,300 Participants from 128 Countries

The fifth run of Dangerous Questions: Why Academic Freedom Matters has reached over 3,300 participants from over 128 countries. The free online course, developed by Scholars at Risk, the University of Oslo, and partners on the Academic Refuge Project, offers opportunities for learning at all levels during a time in our shared history where modes of traditional learning have been disrupted. Geared toward faculty, administrators, students, and the public, the course explores the current and historical meaning of academic freedom, why it matters to those inside and outside the academy, and proactive practices that can aid in its defense. The self-paced course is divided into three one-week modules and will be available through mid-June. SAR staff are here to discuss how you can integrate the MOOC into your existing online course.

Join the Course»

Inspireurope Webinar: Funding Researchers at Risk to Join the Host Organization

May 26, 2020 | 12:00 PM- 13:00 PM (CET)

Join Inspireurope for a webinar exploring the various approaches used by organizations, both academic and non academic, to host and/ or employ researchers at risk.
This webinar is the fourth in a new series organized by the Inspireurope project, an EU-funded initiative to support, promote and integrate researchers at risk in Europe. These include researchers who are at risk in their countries of origin (due to discrimination, persecution, suffering and/or violence) or are seeking refuge out of these reasons or have recently found refuge in Europe.

Give through Fidelity Charitable

SAR now accepts gifts through Fidelity Charitable. A donor-advised (DAF) gift through Fidelity Charitable provides a simple, accessible, and effective way to support Scholars at Risk.

Begin making your charitable impact while maximizing tax savings. Find more information and guidance on giving through donor-advised funds here. To access your Fidelity Charitable account and initiate a grant recommendation from your donor-advised fund now, click here. For more information, please contact SAR Development Officer Starr Miller at starr.miller@nyu.edu or +1-212-998-3318.

Events

Dangerous Questions: Why Academic Freedom Matters | April 20, 2020 | Online

The EU-funded ‘Academic Refuge’ project, on which Scholars at Risk is a partner, will hold a three-week online course that explores the meaning of academic freedom and how it relates to core higher education and societal values.

SAR-United States & COVID-19: Responses & Remote Opportunities | May 21, 2020 | Remote

SAR will host a one-hour webinar over Zoom for primary representatives at member institutions and associations within the SAR-United States Section.
Inspireurope Webinar: Funding Researchers at Risk to Join the Host Organization | May 26, 2020 | Remote

This webinar will explore the various approaches used by organizations, both academic and non academic, to host and/or employ researchers at risk.

Read More »

Inspireurope Stakeholder Forum | June 8, 2020 | Remote

The 2020 Inspireurope Stakeholder Forum will bring together stakeholders from across Europe involved in activities to support researchers at risk.

Read More »

Connect with Us

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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