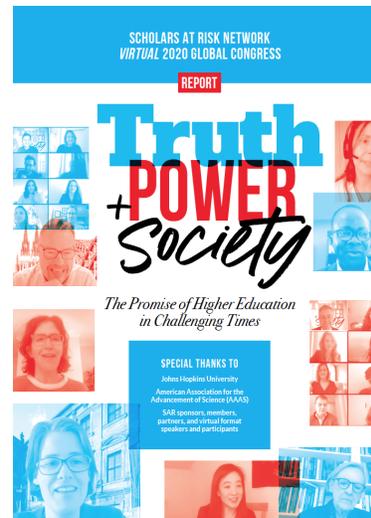


SAR Global Congress Report

Scholars at Risk is pleased to share a [summary report](#) on the 2020 SAR Global Congress under the theme *Truth Power & Society: The Promise of Higher Education in Challenging Times*, an [online program](#) on 26-27 March 2020, including appearances by Johns Hopkins University President Ronald Daniels and Wellesley College President Paula Johnson and the launch of the first global [Academic Freedom Index](#), an important new tool for advocacy. We take this opportunity to thank once again our generous co-hosts, sponsors, speakers, and network members for a high-quality program that brought 443 of us together from 44 countries. We invite you to share the report, watch and share the videos of the [plenary and panel discussions](#), and encourage others to join SAR in our mission to protect scholars and promote academic freedom.



[Read Now! »](#)

Under the stress of a global pandemic, SAR's resilient, committed network continues to support threatened scholars by extending visiting academic positions and remote access to university resources, advocate for imprisoned scholars, and engage higher education communities through the [MOOC](#) and other [virtual convenings](#) to discuss and respond to the pressing academic freedom issues of our time.

For another opportunity to come together in one virtual space, please "save the date" for the November release of SAR's annual [Free to Think](#) report and the close of SAR's 20th anniversary year. We look forward to sharing the dates and details in future announcements.

Report on 2020 Inspireurope Stakeholder Forum



Inspireurope

Supporting Researchers at Risk

“Now more than ever, states must reject violence, coercion or censorship aimed at restricting inquiry and expression, and reaffirm their commitment to protecting academic freedom.” These were the words of Ms. Anne-Sophie Barthez, Director General for Higher Education and Employability at the French Ministry of Higher Education, on the occasion of the 2020 Inspireurope Stakeholder Forum, held online on 8 June 2020.

The Forum brought together participants from 43 countries, including almost 300 participants for its morning plenary discussions and over 200 for afternoon workshops, including at-risk researchers, representatives from higher education and research institutions across Europe, NGOs, EU institutions, governments, and industry. Recordings of all Forum sessions, presentations and follow-up resources are available [here](#) on the Inspireurope website. We invite you to share these resources widely with your networks.

The Forum was originally to be hosted by the French national PAUSE programme at the Collège de France but moved online due to the COVID-19 pandemic. It is the first of three international Stakeholder Fora to take place under the [Inspireurope project](#), an EU-funded initiative to forge a coordinated, cross-sectoral, Europe-wide alliance for researchers at risk, coordinated by Scholars at Risk Europe, based at Maynooth University, Ireland.

Following an opening speech by the Director General for Higher Education and Employability at the French Ministry of Higher Education, the morning plenary sessions included panel discussions on the importance of academic freedom for quality research and innovation; career trajectories in Europe for researchers at risk; and a discussion on expanding opportunities, in particular at the European level, for researchers facing risks to their lives or their work.

In the afternoon workshops were held to share experiences and best practices with regard to mentoring and supporting researchers at risk as well as advice for those interested in pursuing non-academic research careers; the latter were led by the French [Association Bernard Gregory](#).

For further information on the Inspireurope project, please visit <https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/sar-europe/inspireurope>. If you wish to be kept updated on the project's activities please email inspireurope@mu.ie to join the mailing list.

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 Biotechnology from Yemen

This scholar specializes in aquatic ecology and entomology, and has a strong publishing record in international peer-reviewed publications. Currently, he is studying biological control strategies for citrus pest management. This scholar also has numerous years of teaching and research experience at universities in Asia, the Middle East, and the United States. He reports risk due to the ongoing, situational violence in Yemen and seeks research and/or teaching opportunities in the United States beginning in January 2021. (Yemen 540)



A Scholar of International Relations from Turkey

This scholar researches international relations in Turkey and the European Union, and has published numerous articles in Turkish and international journals. He has several years of teaching experience in Turkey and Georgia, where he instructed courses on international organizations, international relations theory, and research methods. He faces risk of arrest, harassment and loss of position in Turkey and seeks research opportunities in the United States beginning immediately. (Turkey 804)

All Scholars Seeking Assistance »

UAE: Free Dr. bin Ghaith now!

Since his wrongful imprisonment in 2015, Dr. Nasser bin Ghaith, an economist and former lecturer at the University of Paris IV Abu Dhabi, has experienced several health complications without access to medical care. Support Dr. bin Ghaith by calling for his immediate release!



Dr. bin Ghaith has faced worsening conditions during his imprisonment at Al Razeen Prison in the UAE. In addition to reported beatings and solitary confinement, Dr. bin Ghaith suffers from visual impairment and an inability to stand by himself. His participation in hunger strikes to protest his imprisonment has further deteriorated his health. Amidst the global COVID-19 pandemic, SAR is particularly concerned about Dr. bin Ghaith's risk of suffering adverse effects as a result of the virus.

[Take Action»](#)

Events



Inspireurope Outreach Workshop | September 30, 2020 | Thessaloniki, Greece

The first Inspireurope outreach workshop in Greece will be hosted by the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki (AUTH) on Wednesday, September 30th and Thursday, October 1st 2020.

[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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