Dear SAR friends,

We write to echo the grief, anger and frustration felt during these past days in the United States catalyzed by the murder of Mr. George Floyd, and by the persistent racial injustice and brutality that led to his death and far too many others, before and since. We denounce state violence against peaceful protestors and violent rhetoric by US officials. We join with protestors in their calls for justice and racial equity. We are committed to standing with them in that fight.

Scholars at Risk is rooted in the shared pursuit of truth. Racial injustice is anathema to truth, because white supremacy, racial discrimination and violence are rooted in lies and falsehoods, including that black lives matter less. Scholars at Risk’s mission is to protect truth-seekers-- including scholars, students and others--who confront such lies. We exist to defend their freedom to pursue and speak truth.

Our mission cannot be fully realized in a world without racial justice. And so we are grateful to the peaceful protesters for standing up, despite the risks, and demanding an end to systemic racial violence and injustice. We are grateful to all members of the SAR community--scholars, students, administrators and higher education leaders, as well as writers, journalists, artists, activists, supporters and friends, in the US and around the world--who are similarly speaking out and demanding that the voices and experiences of disenfranchised communities are heard and respected.

We recognize that if the pandemic had not dispersed us physically, protests might well be within many of our campuses today. The issues are no less within our spaces now. We are challenged by this moment, to look without and within, to confront the habits and structures that perpetuate racial injustice. We know that we can and must do more.

Toward this solemn goal, we ask your help. Over the coming weeks and months, SAR would like to engage more deeply in ongoing projects that will promote racial justice at SAR, on college campuses, and in society while also honoring the memory of George Floyd, Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor and so many more, in the US and around the world. Please help us by completing the survey linked below to share your suggestions. How can we as a community support and amplify marginalized voices, champion racial justice, and confront state violence? What activities and services would
you like from the network now? What topics would you like to discuss? Some suggestions already include:

- Confronting violence against organized student expression
- Campus safety vs. campus policing
- De-militarization of higher education communities
- How does systemic racial injustice shape/impede access and equity on campus?
- Racial injustice and violence in online/virtual spaces

Please share any suggestions, examples from your community, and questions you may have.

Access the Survey

We also append below a list of resources--by no means exhaustive or complete--for students, scholars, administrators, and higher education leaders to use now to capture this moment and do more to advance racial justice. (We invite you to share any others you have found valuable or any other thoughts via scholarsatrisk@nyu.edu.)

Thank you for your continued support of SAR’s work and for completing the survey. Thank you for being part of our community of over 500 institutions and thousands of individuals who are committed to fighting for truth, for justice, for free inquiry and expression, and a future in which all voices are heard and protected. We have a long path to walk, but we are grateful to be walking it with you.

Gratefully,

Rob Quinn
Executive Director

Catharine Stimpson
Board Chair

Links to resources on confronting racial injustice in higher education*

*Incomplete list; not SAR resources unless otherwise indicated.

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 History and Cultural Studies from Egypt

This junior scholar specializes in the study of religion, power and protest, and human rights in the Middle East. With a recent PhD, he has held research positions at universities in Egypt and the United States. He also has several years of lecturing experience in Egypt, complemented by a strong record of guest lectures in European universities. Adding to his academic work, this scholar has a strong background as a human rights defender. He reports risk related to the content of his academic work and advocacy and seeks teaching and/or research positions in Germany and the United States beginning immediately. (Egypt 566)

A Scholar of Political Science from Turkey

This scholar specializes in gender, sexuality and political power in Turkey. She has more than two decades of experience teaching and researching at universities in Turkey and Europe. She is a highly productive researcher, having authored a wide range of publications in international, refereed journals. Most recently she has conducted comparative studies on gender movements across Europe. She reports risk of arrest, harassment, and loss of profession in Turkey, and seeks teaching and/or research opportunities in North America beginning Fall 2020. (Turkey 1222)

Spotlight: SAR Directory of Resources to Support Mental Health and Wellbeing

To help offer guidance on resources to support mental health and wellbeing, SAR has developed a directory of external resources for scholars and university hosts. The directory includes resources offered in several languages, including mindfulness and meditation exercises that may help to reduce stress, improve sleep, and/or enhance one’s ability to focus, as well as online resources for trauma and select in-person
counseling centers. The directory can be found [here](#). For additional resources that Scholars at Risk has created and compiled for scholars, please visit our Scholar Resources page [here](#). We welcome feedback on any of the included resources or additional resources on mental health and wellbeing we should include at: scholarsatrisk@nyu.edu.

Access the SAR Directory»

---

Bring Academic Freedom Advocacy to your Campus Community!

SAR invites you to start an experiential learning course to engage students in academic freedom research and advocacy. Through SAR's [Student Advocacy Seminars](#) and [Academic Freedom Legal Clinics](#), universities and colleges educate the next generation of academic freedom advocates.

Student Advocacy Seminars provide students with the opportunity to develop human rights research and advocacy skills by investigating and acting in support of [threatened members of the global higher education community](#). Arranged and supervised by local faculty in partnership with Scholars at Risk, each seminar takes on the case of one or more scholars facing unjust restrictions, prosecution, or imprisonment.

Academic Freedom Legal Clinics give students and faculty the opportunity to engage with practical and theoretical issues relating to academic freedom, responses to attacks on higher education, and related human rights advocacy. Clinics may involve monitoring and reporting to SAR on attacks on higher education; legal analysis at the local, regional, or international level; or advocacy in response to particular attacks or addressing national patterns of abuse. Recent clinics have developed submissions for the United Nations Universal Periodic Review process, the European Court of Human Rights, and other bodies.

Learn More about Seminars»

Learn More about Clinics»
Events

**Freedom of Expression: On the Culture of Debate at Universities I July 24, 2020 I Online**

What is the current state of free debate and open discourse at universities? Are there limits to free speech? And how can the principles of free expression be effectively protected? Join us for a lively discussion about these and other questions at a conference hosted by the University of Chicago and the German Rectors' Conference (HRK).

Register Here »

**InSPIREurope Outreach Workshop I September 30, 2020 I Thessaloniki, Greece**

The first Inspireurope outreach workshop in Greece on Wednesday, September 30th and Thursday, October 1st 2020 will build on from the previous outreach workshop held in Krakow, Poland on January 9th 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.

Scholars at Risk values your privacy and data security. You have received this email consistent with our privacy policy based on your prior consent.

Scholars at Risk
411 Lafayette Street, 3rd Floor
New York, NY 10003 USA

Tel: 212-998-2179
scholarsatrisk@nyu.edu
www.scholarsatrisk.org

(Unsubscribing is not supported in previews)

Manage Preferences