
Higher education repressed in Indonesia

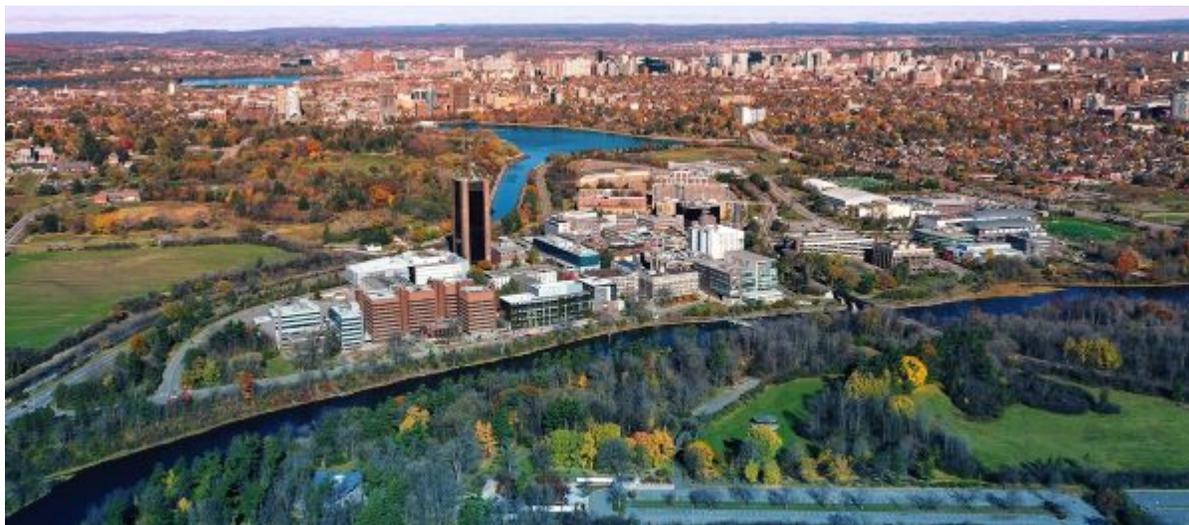


In a [joint submission](#) to the United Nations' Universal Periodic Review of Indonesia, SAR and the [Indonesian Caucus for Academic Freedom](#) (KIKA) highlight broad pressures and targeted actions by state and university actors that have punished and silenced dissent, inquiry, and academic expression since March 2017.

KIKA's chairperson Prof. Dhia Al Uyun condemns the "attacks on scholars and students and calls on the international community to join us hand-in-hand in defending academic freedom in Indonesia," while SAR Senior Advocacy Officer Daniel Munier stresses that the stakes for inaction are high: "Without fertile ground, Indonesian scholars and students are hindered in their ability to drive the country's scientific, social, economic, and cultural progress." International and local press outlets, including [Times Higher Education](#) and [Voice of America's](#) Indonesia service, among others, have reported on the submission.

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Support from afar: remote scholars program



Carleton University began hosting at-risk scholars remotely in the spring of 2020, coinciding with the sudden shift for most of the university to remote work and study due to COVID-19. The remote program had in fact been in the works for months as Carleton sought to establish an effective way to support scholars who were unable to leave their current places of residence.

Carleton University's remote affiliation offers three essential benefits: (1) access to the library's resources, (2) a university email address, and (3) connection to a host department where scholars can develop contacts with colleagues with shared research interests. These contacts also offer guidance in navigating the university's system. Together these program components have helped to ensure that affiliated scholars are able to continue with their research and can submit potential publications for peer review, which in many cases may not be possible without an academic email.

Read the full piece in Carleton's own words to learn how resources across the university made the remote scholars program possible.

[Read more »](#)

Scholars seeking hosts

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



A Scholar of Agricultural Sciences from Syria

This scholar has numerous years of research experience at institutes and universities in Syria and North America. His work focuses on legume breeding and he has published his work in international refereed journals. His several years of university teaching experience include courses on plant breeding and crop science. He reports risk of arrest and loss of position in Syria, and seeks research and/or teaching opportunities in Canada beginning July 2022. (Syria 835)



A Scholar of Business Administration from Turkey

This scholar has numerous years of research experience at universities in Turkey and Norway. His work focuses on information and communication technologies, ethics in information technology, digital divide, e-commerce, social media, and e-government. Over a decade of university teaching experience includes courses such as management information systems, operations research, mathematics, and statistics. He reports risk of arrest, imprisonment, and loss of position in Turkey and seeks research and/or teaching opportunities in Norway beginning July 2022. (Turkey 752)



A Scholar of Material Science and Engineering from Syria

This scholar's research and lecturing in Syria spans a decade on materials science, materials properties, ceramics, and programming. His course offerings include informatics, physics and chemistry of materials, ceramics and powders technology, and reliability and maintenance. He reports risk of arrest and detention in Syria and seeks research opportunities in a Francophone country beginning immediately. (Syria 986)

All Scholars Seeking Assistance »

Dr. Djalali remains at risk of execution



Iranian authorities have postponed the execution of Dr. Ahmadreza Djalali; however, he remains at imminent risk. In early May, Iranian authorities stated that they were planning to execute Dr. Djalali by May 21. Dr. Djalali's lawyer requested a retrial of his case after the initial execution date passed. The spokesperson of Iran's judiciary said Dr. Djalali will be hanged once the review procedure of his case has been completed.

SAR understands from Dr. Djalali's wife, Vida Mehrannia, that due to a pattern of limited communication by Iranian authorities, she fears Iran may carry out the sentence at any time without warning. It is widely believed that the immense international outcry played an important part in the postponement of the May 21 execution. SAR calls on the international higher education and human rights communities to continue to advocate for Dr. Djalali's release.

Here's how you can help Dr. Djalali:

- Sign and share this [letter of appeal](#).
- If you are based in Sweden, Belgium, Italy, or Germany, reach out to your Ministry for Foreign Affairs. Here's a [call script with instructions](#).
- Contact the Iranian diplomatic mission in your country. [See instructions here](#).
- Learn more about Dr. Djalali's case by listening to the [Free to Think podcast](#), "The Life of Dr. Djalali is Paramount." Hadi Ghaemi, Executive Director of the Center for Human Rights in Iran (CHRI), describes Dr. Djalali's imprisonment since 2016, academic hostage taking in Iran, and current efforts to support Dr. Djalali's case.

[Take action »](#)

Implementing academic freedom: A call for new guidelines

"According to the latest data in the global Academic Freedom Index, while 94% of the global population live in countries that have legally pledged to respect academic



freedom (de jure protection), only about 20% live in countries where academic freedom is well respected in practice (de facto protection). Why the gap, and what can we do about it?" writes Robert Quinn, SAR Executive Director, in his latest essay, "From words to actions: A call for international guidelines on implementing academic freedom." The piece was included in a UNESCO-commissioned publication, the [GUNi World Report Special Issue](#), released at UNESCO's World Higher Education Conference (WHEC, May 2022). SAR co-hosted a side event at the WHEC with Education International discussing the call for implementing guidelines.

[Read more »](#)

SAR Finland recognized for human rights efforts

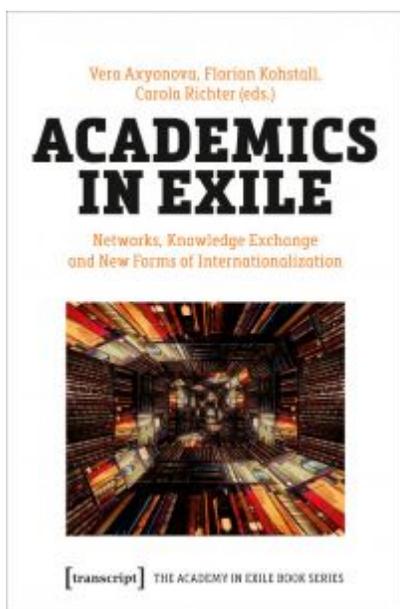


On May 3rd, the Finnish Science Academy presented the Scholars at Risk Finland Section with the Risto Pelkonen Human Rights Award. Professor Elina Vuola, the chair of SAR Finland, received the award, which recognizes the section's work in promoting academic freedom and protecting at-risk scholars. SAR Finland [launched](#) in 2017 and now consists of 12 higher education institutions. Over the years, SAR Finland has coordinated countless advocacy efforts and helped facilitate placements

for seven scholars. This recognition of SAR Finland's commitment to human rights in academia has inspired us and reminds us of the importance of defending academic freedom worldwide.

[Read more »](#)

New release in the Academy in Exile series



SAR is delighted to see the latest in the Academy in Exile Book Series, edited by Vanessa Agnew, Kader Konuk and Egemen Özbek.

“Restrictions on academic freedom, persecution, and armed conflict have forced many scholars into exile. So far, the professional trajectories of these scholars and their contributions to knowledge exchange have not been studied comprehensively. The contributors to this volume address the situations and networks of scholars in exile, the challenges they face in their host countries, and the opportunities they use. These issues are highly relevant to discussions about the moral economies of higher education institutions and

support programs. Although the contributions largely focus on Germany as a host country, they also offer telling examples of forced mobility in the Global South, including both contemporary and historical perspectives.”

[Read more »](#)

News & Events



Attacks on scholars a threat to democracy in Africa (policy note) | The Nordic Africa Institute, May 25, 2022

The percentage of attacks on higher education is higher in Africa than in any other region. And with Covid lockdowns, the academic freedom at African universities has been challenged even further. Given the strong links between academic freedom and democracy,

organisations working with democratic development in Africa should take action to support and protect scholars at risk.

[Read more »](#)



"Russian Academics Aim to Punish Colleagues Who Backed Ukraine Invasion" | The New York Times, May 27, 2022

A campaign is circulating a list of dozens of researchers in the hopes they will be denied the prestige of election into the Russian Academy of Sciences.

[Read more »](#)



"Taliban rule takes toll on Afghanistan's academics — especially women" | Nature, June 1, 2022

Women in Afghan universities are restricted in what they can wear, and restricted from teaching men or attending classes with them.

[Read more »](#)



"In search of a research haven" | Nature, June 1, 2022

From Syria to Ukraine, Italian universities have set up projects to host displaced scholars. Now they need to look beyond the emergency and offer systematic solutions, experts say.

[Read more »](#)



"Indonesian scholars call for global help to protect autonomy" | Times Higher Education, June 1, 2022

Appeal by academic groups condemns 'targeted efforts to restrict or retaliate against students' and scholars' exercise of academic freedom.'

[Read more »](#)

Global Forum on "Higher Education Leadership for Democracy, Sustainability and Social Justice" | June 17, 2022



This conference will underline the commitment by the main organizers to democracy, human rights and the rule of law, and more specifically to the need for higher education leadership for democracy, sustainability and social justice.

Denise Roche, Advocacy Manager at SAR Europe, will be speaking on the plenary scheduled for 9:00AM-10:15AM (Irish Standard Time). This session will focus on: What new institutional practices help sustain and engage the most at-risk students, while ensuring that all students are educated to be ethical, empathetic, justice-seeking democratic citizens?

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Universities as Beacons of Welcome for Refugees and Forcibly Displaced Persons | June 20, 2022

The National Association of System Heads (NASH) and the UN Institute for Training and Research New York Office (UNITAR) invite you to this timely exchange with refugee students, refugee-hosting institutions, and dedicated university networks to share their work, lived experiences, and lessons learned.

[Register here »](#)



SAR Hosting Consultative Drop-In | June 30, 2022

A reminder that SAR hosts a monthly consultative hour for SAR members to drop-in and ask questions related to their hosting activities. These sessions are intended to be information-sharing sessions to encourage members to share updates about their ongoing activities and connect with other SAR members interested in hosting at-risk scholars. While members are encouraged to “drop-in” at any time during the hour, registration is required.

[Register here »](#)

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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