SAR is hiring two new positions!

Two exciting positions based in New York are now open at Scholars at Risk! Please consider applying and help us spread the news.

Program Manager, Global South Outreach: SAR seeks a Program Manager to develop and lead a new outreach program that aims to identify, co-create, and support independent academic freedom coordinators/centers across the global south. [Read more and apply »]

Program Officer, North America: SAR seeks a proactive and detail-oriented individual skilled in relationship building to develop and lead strategies for identifying, recruiting, and engaging universities, faculty, and students in North America. [Read more and apply »]
SAR encourages applications by network member institutions in North America seeking funding to host threatened and displaced scholars from Ukraine. The purpose of the funds is to support the Ukrainian research and academic sector, enable continuing collaborations between scholars and institutions in or displaced from Ukraine and the international research community, and to anticipate and support the rebuilding of the Ukrainian higher education and research sectors as conditions permit. This support is made possible by the generous partnership of Wiley, a global leader in publishing, education, and research. For more information and to apply, visit the SAR Ukraine fellowships webpage. Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis. For consideration in the next review period, we encourage institutions to apply by March 10. Learn more »

Time is of the essence – UiO on swift and flexible support for at-risk scholars
The University of Oslo (UiO) has been a member of Scholars at Risk (SAR) since 2001 and has received more than twenty scholars on one or two-year stays. Recognizing that in many cases “time is of essence” the university has developed “transparent but speedy” procedures to respond to scholars as quickly and effectively as possible.

Efficient decision-making by a SAR committee on campus and simplified protocols to support the immigration process are among the tactics that have made it possible for the university to offer critical support in particularly urgent circumstances. 

Read more about UiO's SAR program »

Pictured: Marit Egner (right), institutional coordinator for Scholars at Risk, University of Oslo, with scholar Abd Al-Bahesh from Yemen. Photo: Ola Sæther/Uniforum.

Are you a SAR Network member interested in writing a Network Reflection? We would love to hear from you. Please email us at scholarsatrisk@nyu.edu.

Last call! SAR Strategic Planning 2023-2028 survey
As SAR’s Executive Director Rob Quinn says, “there has never been a better time to protect academic freedom.” But we need your help! Please take 10 minutes to complete SAR’s strategic planning survey today.

Every five years, SAR’s governing board prepares a strategic plan to guide the network’s growth and activities. The current plan ends August 31st. The new plan (2023-28) will be drafted during the first half of 2023 and begin on September 1st. We invite all SAR stakeholders to share their input by completing this online survey. (Responses will be recorded anonymously. SAR will not collect any personal data, unless you choose to provide it.) The survey will be closed for new responses by March 1. We will share results and other opportunities to contribute to strategic planning in future newsletters. Take the survey »

Thank you for your participation, and all your support!

---

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 Public Law and Human Rights

This early-career scholar of public law has two years of teaching and research experience, most recently as a lecturer and legal trainee at a university in Afghanistan. Her current research and
teaching interests include the rights of women and religious minorities. In a placement, she seeks to conduct a critical analysis of the “reasonable person” standard in civil liability law. She reports risk due to her women's rights activism and is seeking a research or teaching position in a safe location. (Afghanistan-1588)

**A Scholar of Biophysics**

This junior scholar holds a master's in biophysics and has five years of lecturing and research experience at academic institutions in Afghanistan. Her research interests include protein-ligand interactions, propolis nanoparticles, human hemoglobin, drug delivery, liposomes, and prostate cancer. She reports losing her position due to her gender and ethno-religious identity. She is seeking research positions in a safe location beginning immediately. (Afghanistan-1783)

**A Scholar of Organic Chemistry**

This scholar of bioorganic and medicinal chemistry recently completed a postdoctoral fellowship funded by a global science association, where he focused his research on extracting medicinal drug compounds from natural sources. He has several years of university teaching experience in medicinal science at universities in Yemen in addition to several years of professional experience in the pharmaceutical industry. He reports risk to his life and career due to the ongoing civil war in Yemen and is seeking research opportunities in a safe location beginning immediately. (Yemen-706)

SEE ALL SCHOLARS >

---

**New information-sharing drop-in sessions for SAR network members**
On February 16th, SAR will begin offering a new opportunity for connection and discussion within the network: **information-sharing drop-in sessions** (“drop-ins”) for network members.

Recognizing the substantial experience and activity across the network, these bi-weekly, virtual drop-in sessions are intended to increase information-sharing across the network, and with the SAR secretariat.

SAR staff will convene the sessions roughly every other week for ~30-60 minutes. We hope to create an informal, informative, and practical space for network members and partners to ask questions and to share information, experience, good practices, and resources. So grab a coffee and join us if:

- You have a question to ask of other network members,
- You have an update to share on activities on your campus/in your area,
- You just want to listen to what other members are experiencing,
- You want to contribute to the informal discussions as they develop

The first two sessions will be held on:

- Thursday, February 16th at 5 pm CEST/ 10 am EST/ 7 am PST [register here](#)
- Thursday, March 2nd at 8 pm CEST/ 1 pm EST/ 10 am PST [register here](#)

Sessions will be held roughly every two weeks, on the first and third Thursdays of the month. A preliminary schedule of sessions will be on [SAR's events page](#).

Please share the schedule with others at your institution who may have experience or announcements to share or questions about hosting scholars, events, or other SAR-related activities.

---

**Belarus: released students unable to continue education; others remain behind bars**

In November and December, 2022, the 11 students and one professor represented in the “students case” in Belarus were [released](#) from prison after serving the entirety of their sentences ranging from 24 to 36 months. They were arrested following their participation in nationwide protests against the 2020 re-election of Alexander Lukashenko.
While SAR welcomes their release, we remain concerned about their well-being and right to academic freedom, particularly considering their expulsion from their universities while in prison.

Still in prison is Marfa Rabkova, a student at European Humanities University who is serving a 15-year prison sentence for her participation in the protests. You can support Ms. Rabkova by [signing this letter](#). [Take action »](#)

---

**Peru: CAFA condemns university autonomy violation**

The [Coalition for Academic Freedom in the Americas (CAFA)](#) released a [statement](#) condemning the police raid on the Universidad Nacional Mayor de San Marcos in Peru. On January 21, police [violently stormed the university](#) in search of protesters who were sheltering on campus, following large-scale demonstrations in Lima.

Authorities arrested over 200 civilians, including university students reporting sexual harassment and denial of access to legal representation, among other claims. CAFA emphasizes Peru’s violation of the [Inter-American Principles on Academic Freedom and University Autonomy](#) and the state’s failure to uphold its responsibility to respect institutional autonomy. Read more here in [English](#) and [Spanish](#).

Pictured above: Riot police entering the San Marcos University campus on January 21. Photo: John Commandment (AFP)
Learn more about the forcible violation of the Universidad Nacional de San Marcos, Lima, Peru, with Salvador Herencia-Carrasco. SAR Executive Director Rob Quinn speaks with guests who inspire us with their courage to seek and speak truth — often at great risk — as well as those who work to defend them. Tune in now, available on Spotify, Apple Podcasts and all major platforms. [Listen here »](#)

---

**Yale expands its efforts to protect scholars at risk**

Yale is expanding its Scholars at Risk program, which welcomes threatened scholars to campus so that they can continue their work. “The university has increased the program’s funding by $2.6 million, allowing it to bring approximately seven additional scholars at risk to campus each year, doubling the number of scholars supported by the program,” writes Mike Cummings.

“In May 2022, [President Peter Salovey] convened a 10-member committee of faculty and staff to review the SAR program and make recommendations on how to improve it. . . . It advised the administration to increase the program’s central funding for a period of three years; establish a committee, with appropriate staff support, to allocate the funds, match SAR nominees with schools and departments on campus, and assist in addressing logistical issues involved in bringing scholars to Yale; increase the funding level to allow for up to two years of support to help SARs to secure better positions after Yale; and for the university to make a commitment to fundraise to help sustain these efforts beyond the next three years.

“We are looking forward to supporting more threatened scholars and practitioners at Yale. We value and appreciate the opportunity to work further with the Scholars at Risk Network and other institutions and consortia similarly dedicated to this effort,” says Nathan Camp, Associate Director for Partnership Development, Office of International Affairs, Yale University. (Illustration: Eri Griffin). [Read more about Yale’s SAR program »](#)
Defending academic freedom in the Americas

Our vision is to support a strong community of advocates, equipped with legal and practical tools to defend the higher education environments where they work, learn and exchange ideas. - Viviana Fernández

Académicxs en Riesgo recently interviewed Viviana Fernández, a member of the Coalition for Academic Freedom in the Americas (CAFA) and Assistant Director of the Human Rights Research and Education Centre at the University of Ottawa, about the work to defend the higher education community in the region. In the interview, Viviana discusses the objectives of the Coalition and how CAFA responds to attacks on academic freedom.

She also provides information on how individuals and organizations can support their work. SAR is a founding member of CAFA, with the University of Ottawa and the University of Monterrey. Read the piece »
Fundraiser by the Bogazici University International Community for university students affected by recent earthquakes in the region
The campaign will focus on students from six universities: Boğaziçi University, Middle East Technical University (METU), Istanbul Technical University (İTÜ), Yıldız Technical University (YTU), Ankara University, and Hacettepe University with plans to expand the campaign’s reach to other universities in the following weeks after establishing reliable contacts and networks.

Take action »

A Scholar at Risk: How visiting professor Elisabeth Ayuk-Etang fled war-torn Cameroon with her family — and what happens next. | UC Santa Barbara, Jan 23, 2023
My family and I are grateful for the ongoing support from this community,” Ayuk-Etang said. “Before we came here, we were very traumatized. Now I can walk into my office without fear.” SAR is grateful to join UC Santa Barbara and IIE-SRF in their support for Dr. Ayuk-Etang.

Read more »

SAR Network “drop-in” sessions | February 16th - June 15th, 2023
Beginning on February 16th, SAR will be offering a new opportunity for connection and discussion within the network: Information-sharing drop-in sessions (“drop-ins”) for network members. SAR staff will convene the sessions roughly every other week for ~30-60 minutes. We hope to create an informal, informative, and practical space for network members and partners to ask questions and to share information, experience, good practices, and resources.

Register today »

Free Online Course on Academic Freedom | March 6, 2023
Are some questions too dangerous to ask? What happens to scholars and students who ask those questions? These are among the questions we will discuss in “Dangerous Questions:
Why Academic Freedom Matters,” a free online course created by the Academic Refuge project. This course run begins on March 6, 2023 and is free and available to anyone with internet access. The material is divided into 3 weeks with an expected workload of 3 hours per week. Once registered, participants will have access to the course for five weeks. [Register today »]

Afghan Challenge Fund Call for Proposals | Deadline: March 15, 2023
The OSUN Threatened Scholars Integration Initiative seeks applications for its Afghan Challenge Fund Initiative, which offers fellowships for newly arrived Afghans in the US, Canada, and the United Kingdom whose research, teaching, and public work have placed them in critical danger and whose continued activity is valuable for the future of their country and society. Hosts may be either higher education institutions or civil society organizations, including NGOs, art, and media organizations. Candidates and their proposed hosts should submit joint applications by January 15. [Read more »]

Student Advocacy Days, Washington DC, United States | March 29-30, 2023
Scholars at Risk’s annual US Student Advocacy Days will convene faculty and students in Washington, DC, to receive training and seek meetings with government representatives to raise awareness about wrongfully detained scholars and students. [Read more »]

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. You can manage your preferences here or (Unsubscribing is not supported in previews)