SAR announces a new application platform

We are pleased to announce SAR's new application platform for scholars seeking assistance. An accompanying Applicant Guide shares essential information about SAR's Eligibility Criteria and a list of required application materials. One of the key features of the new application is an Eligibility Questionnaire. The eligibility questionnaire allows candidates to determine quickly — and before beginning the application process — whether they are eligible for SAR support. As a benefit to SAR members, the application includes the capability for university representatives to nominate candidates for SAR review directly through the platform. The new platform will make the application review process more efficient for all involved and provide greater clarity to applicants. If you have any questions related to the new application, please contact us at scholarsatrisk@nyu.edu.

A warm welcome to new team members!

We welcome Amy, Brian, and Clarissia to the SAR team, and invite you to read about their positions and past experience below. SAR is still hiring and welcomes applications to the open Development Officer role — please help us spread the word!
Amy is a Senior Program Officer for Advocacy, where she leads work on the *Free to Think* report series and the Academic Freedom Monitoring Project, tracking attacks on higher education communities. Prior to joining SAR, Amy was a Visiting Assistant Professor in Peace and Conflict Studies at Swarthmore College. 
[Read more »](https://email.everyaction.com/EmailMessage/PreviewMessage/80a9a363-a9f9-ed11-907c-00224832eb73)

Brian is a Senior Program Officer with the Membership and University Relations team, where he supports the work of the Canada and United States sections of SAR, and works to develop and lead strategies for identifying, recruiting, and engaging universities, faculty, and students in these two sections. Brian has supported advocacy and organizing efforts across the United States, most recently, at Churches for Middle East Peace. 
[Read more »](https://email.everyaction.com/EmailMessage/PreviewMessage/80a9a363-a9f9-ed11-907c-00224832eb73)

Clarissia Bourdeau is a Program Assistant for Membership and Protection Services. She manages and processes payments to scholars as well as other administrative tasks. Prior to joining SAR, Clarissia worked with refugee high school students transitioning into higher education. She also held internships at CARE International and the U.S. House of Representatives. 
[Read more »](https://email.everyaction.com/EmailMessage/PreviewMessage/80a9a363-a9f9-ed11-907c-00224832eb73)
SAR is hiring a Development Officer! This role involves promoting Scholars at Risk programs and developing strategies to increase individual and foundation giving. [Read more »]

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**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.*

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**A Scholar of Education Administration**

This scholar of education administration has six years of teaching and research experience as a professor in Afghanistan. She has published several articles on comparative education and the evaluation of educational programs. In the future, she hopes to conduct research on managerial decision-making in university settings. She faces risk due to her involvement with a human rights organization in Afghanistan and is seeking a research, teaching, or PhD study opportunity beginning immediately. (Afghanistan-1358)

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**A Scholar of Environmental Development**

This scholar of geography specializes in water conservation and sustainable development and has several years of teaching and research experience at universities in Ethiopia and Switzerland. She also has several years of complementary experience as a managing researcher and consultant, and has published peer-reviewed articles on natural resource management, adapting conservation strategies for climate change, and extreme weather-induced disasters. She reports risk due to the conflict in the Tigray region of Ethiopia and
several detentions in connection with her ethnicity. She is seeking research or teaching opportunities beginning immediately. (Ethiopia-770)

A Scholar of Physics
This scholar specializes in condensed matter, nanophysics, and renewable energies and has several years of teaching and research experience at a university in Yemen where he instructed courses in classical mechanics, electricity circuits, and nuclear and semiconductor physics, among others. He has published numerous articles in international peer-reviewed journals, including on physical, electrical, and magnetic properties of nanocrystalline samples. He reports risk due to the ongoing conflict in Yemen and seeks research or teaching opportunities beginning immediately. (Yemen-619)

From prison, Niloufar Bayani publishes manuscript of interviews with fellow female political prisoners

Niloufar Bayani, an Iranian scholar and environmental conservationist falsely accused of espionage in 2018 and wrongfully imprisoned, has published “Climate Literacy in the Land of Oil: Interviews with female political prisoners in Evin,” a manuscript written from Evin Prison between April 2022 and March 2023. The piece includes discussions between Ms. Bayani and fellow prisoners on climate issues in Iran, and includes a forward written by Ms. Bayani’s former colleagues at the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). Ms. Bayani has been teaching a climate course in the women’s ward in Evin Prison, and the class recently issued an open letter calling on Iranian authorities to address environmental concerns in the country.
Take action on the wrongful imprisonment of Ms. Bayani by sending a letter to Iranian authorities [here](https://email.everyaction.com/EmailMessage/PreviewMessage/80a9a363-a9f9-ed11-907c-00224832eb73), and read the full manuscript on the SAR website. Read more »

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**Network Reflection: Royal Society of Canada on mobilizing to continue research**

“There are now more than 40 [young academies] worldwide, including our own Royal Society of Canada's (RSC) College of New Scholars, Artists and Scientists, whose membership cuts across disciplinary boundaries. Young academy members are advocates for change and tend to be motivated by a desire to play active roles in tackling the world’s most urgent challenges. There is a shared belief in freedom and responsibility in science and that the inclusion of diverse voices underpins a healthy global research ecosystem. [...] 

In November 2022, RSC launched the ARDAA program for At-Risk and Displaced Academics and Artists. It embodies the principle of inclusive excellence and is an act of grassroots science diplomacy. ARDAA’s three components are membership, mentorship, and a “Cracking Canadian Academia” in-person workshop. This structure ensures that these exceptionally talented scholars displaced to Canada receive the support and recognition they deserve. It also provides direct links to Canada’s research and practice leaders—those best-positioned to offer strategic career and discipline advice.” | Photo credit: Russel MacDonald

S. Karly Kehoe
Past president and ARDAA founder and lead
Royal Society of Canada’s College of New Scholars, Artists, and Scientists

Read the full piece to learn how the Royal Society of Canada is supporting at-risk and displaced academics and artists. Read more »

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**Annual Philipp Schwartz and Inspireurope Stakeholder Forum in Berlin, Germany**
From May 23-24, around 350 individuals – including scholars, university representatives, government officials, policymakers, and partner organizations across Europe – came together for the 2023 Philipp Schwartz and Inspireurope Stakeholder Forum in Berlin, Germany, convened by the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation’s Philipp Schwartz Initiative and Inspireurope+. The programme included panels and exchanges on institutional, national, European, and global initiatives to promote academic freedom and support at-risk researchers and scholars. Read more about the event on the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation website, and subscribe to the Inspireurope+ newsletter for latest updates. Photo credit: Humboldt Foundation/David Ausserhofer

MSCA4Ukraine Consortium:

What is MSCA4Ukraine? Funded under the EU’s Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions, MSCA4Ukraine provides fellowship support to 124 researchers from Ukraine to continue their research in 21 European host countries. Read more »

Ukrainian scholars build community at annual PSI/Inspireurope forum

On May 24th, 28 MSCA4Ukraine fellows – who began their fellowships over the past three months – gathered for a day of networking and professional development opportunities during the annual Philipp Schwartz and Inspireurope Stakeholder Forum in Berlin, Germany.
The event began with two parallel trainings on research ethics, one tailored to the needs of social sciences and humanities researchers and the other focusing on science communication for physical and life scientists. Dr Oksana Seumenicht, MSCA4Ukraine Programme Director at the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation, moderated a brainstorming session for fellows and key stakeholders in Ukrainian science on strengthening cooperation between the Ukrainian and European research and innovation communities. Attendees detailed a number of concrete actions aimed at reforming and rebuilding the Ukrainian research and development sector. Finally, the MSCA4Ukraine team at SAR Europe held a speed-networking session for all attendees to foster professional and personal connections. Throughout the afternoon, colleagues from the European University Association (EUA), which is a project partner, recorded a series of interviews with MSCA4Ukraine fellows to promote and showcase the impact of the scheme. The finalised interviews are expected to be published by the end of June 2023.

The University of Groningen offers additional funding support
In addition, the MSCA4Ukraine Consortium is very pleased to share that the University of Groningen, Netherlands, has announced its funding of a third MSCA4Ukraine applicant from its own resources, in addition to two researchers who were selected for funding under the scheme. The MSCA4Ukraine Consortium is grateful to the University of Groningen for its exceptional leadership and proactive commitment to scholars from Ukraine.

Support SAR today
With graduation season in full swing, you can make a gift to protect academic freedom and support scholars around the world. Your contribution at this time will make a lasting difference for all those in need. Join us today, and help us uphold the right to think, question, and share ideas. Give today »

Listen to SAR's 'Free to Think' Podcast

Episode 34: “Our voices really do matter from an early age” – Student advocates at UC Santa Barbara highlight wrongful charges against Egyptian scholar Patrick Zaki

https://email.everyaction.com/EmailMessage/PreviewMessage/80a9a363-a9f9-ed11-907c-00224832eb73
In SAR’s “Free to Think” podcast, 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 to our latest episodes, available on Spotify, Apple Podcasts and all major platforms. Listen here »

SELECT OPPORTUNITIES & RESOURCES
See a full list of scholar resources on SAR's website

Call for Papers: 2nd Regional Conference on Academic Freedom in the Americas | Deadline: June 30th, 2023
The Coalition for Academic Freedom in the Americas (the Coalition), issues a call for papers seeking contributions that highlight challenges and opportunities in protection, advocacy, litigation and best practices in academic freedom and university autonomy. Read more »

European Students’ Union small project grants for academic freedom-related student led initiatives in Europe | Deadline: July 1, 2023
ESU’s sub-granting program calls for student-led initiatives in Europe focused on academic freedom, offering small grants from 1000 to 3000 euros as a lump-sum payment to help awardees implement their projects. Learn more about the Academic freedom – Students At Risk track and Academic Freedom Awareness track.

MERIT Regional Postdoctoral Fellowship Programme | Deadline: July 31st, 2023
MERIT is a regional postdoctoral fellowship programme coordinated by the Central Bohemian Innovation Center, Czech Republic. The first call for applicants is open now, offering 15 postdoc fellowships in the fields of Biotechnologies/Biomedicine, Laser technologies, Space technologies, Sustainable Energy/Materials, and Digitalisation/AI, and its related-disciplines. Read more »

EVENTS
“Welcome Campuses: The Roles of Universities in Refugee Protection” World Refugee Day Event Series, United Nations | June 20, 2023
On World Refugee Day, this leadership panel will highlight current trends and models of how higher education is supporting refugee welcome and inclusion, and thereby contributing to national refugee resettlement efforts. The panel will serve to inform the international community of policies and initiatives promoting higher education for displaced populations, and to explore further how nations can collaborate to bolster these efforts. It will also provide an opportunity to learn about efforts to support Ukrainians displaced by the war there, and the innovations in persevering with the delivery of higher education in times of war.
Read more »

PEER Network symposium on Supporting and Learning from Universities in Times of Conflict | Jul 6-7, 2023
The Political Economy of Education Research Network (PEER) will host a symposium on Supporting and Learning from Universities in Times of Conflict.
SAR Europe’s Advocacy Manager, Denise Roche, will join a roundtable discussion on ‘Policy directions on issues of higher education, conflict and post-conflict recovery’.
Read more »

MEDIA

“From Sudan to USI with the Scholars at Risk programme,” Università della Svizzera italiana | May 15, 2023
An associate professor of archaeology at the University of Khartoum, in recent weeks, Professor Ahmed Hussein Abdelrahman Adam arrived at Università della Svizzera Italiana thanks to the Scholar at Risk (SAR) programme to which USI has been a member since 2016.
Academic freedom is under threat in many countries around the world. The aim of "Scholars at Risk" is to help threatened scientists. Neda Soltani fled Iran herself. Now she works at the Humboldt University and coordinates the help for others.

“Academic freedom is only in retreat if we retreat,” Wissenschaftskommunikation, June 5, 2023
From the displacement of Ukrainian researchers due to the Russian war, the exclusion of women and girls from the Afghan education system and the silencing of dissenting scholarly voices in Turkey and Syria – the news is full of the violent targeting of academic communities. But there are also more subtle threats at play. Robert Quinn, executive director of Scholars at Risk (SAR), talks about about these pressures on academic freedom and how the network intervenes.

Do you know someone who may want to read this newsletter? Please forward it to them! Stay connected with SAR by subscribing to our newsletters here.

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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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)