ISRAEL/PALESTINE: Scholars at Risk Ireland issue Statement regarding the ongoing conflict in Israel/Palestine

Scholars at Risk Ireland, 11/15

The ongoing conflict has led to serious threats to scholars, students and other members of academic communities and to academic freedom, in Gaza, Israel/Palestine and further afield. It has also led to the damage and destruction of academic infrastructure. SAR-Ireland joins in the condemnation of violent conflict raised by many of our colleagues on the island of Ireland. Read more »

UNITED STATES: Columbia Faces Protests After Suspending 2 Pro-Palestinian Groups


Students rallied after the university barred two groups from holding campus events until the end of the semester, and faculty members walked out in protest. Read more »

JAPAN/HONG KONG: Hong Kong sedition charge ‘conundrum’ for overseas universities

Pola Lem, Times Higher Education, 11/15

A Hong Kong student enrolled at a Japanese university has been found guilty of sedition under a colonial-era law, prompting discussion over how – and how far – overseas institutions can support students facing repression back home. Read more »

Free to Think 2023: Suppression of dissent and spread of illiberalism threatens academic freedom and endangers democracy
Free to Think 2023 analyzes 409 attacks on the higher education community in 66 countries and territories, between July 1, 2022, and June 30, 2023. The report highlights how attacks on academic freedom threaten democratic society and social progress more broadly, and calls on stakeholders to create robust protections for scholars, students, and higher education institutions. Read the report. Learn more.

RUSSIA: Russian researchers disappear from academic conferences as isolation bites
David Matthews, Science|Business, 11/14
Following Moscow’s invasion of Ukraine, a fear of working with the West, sanctions, visa restrictions, travel issues and an exodus of academics have forced Russia to retreat from the global scientific conversation. Read more.

SINGAPORE: On Academic Freedom and Singapore
Sol Dorotea Iglesias, Medium, 11/11
Political science professor Sol Dorotea Iglesias shares her disturbing experience of being suddenly disinvited from an event at her alma mater, the National University of Singapore, renewing concerns over the state of academic freedom and institutional autonomy in Singapore. Read more.

UNITED STATES: At Notre Dame, Documents Suggest a ‘Concerted Effort’ to Oust a Professor Over Her Views on Abortion
Nell Gluckman, Chronicle of Higher Education, 11/10
When Indiana’s abortion ban took effect, in the fall of 2022, Tamara Kay, a tenured professor in the University of Notre Dame’s Keough School of Global Affairs, tweeted that she was prepared to help students get access to health care. She hung a sign on her office door with her personal email address and a similar message. Read more.

UNITED STATES: Idaho retreats from ban on discussing abortion in classrooms
Paul Basken, Times Higher Education, 11/10
The US state of Idaho is retreating – at least strategically – from its first-in-the-nation attempt to restrict discussions of abortion in academic settings, under legal pressure from shaken faculty. Read more.

HONG KONG: Reshaped Hong Kong university council ‘brings political control’
Pola Lem, Times Higher Education, 11/10
After nearly a year, Hong Kong’s governing body has approved a controversial bill significantly lessening the role of staff and academics in decision-making at one of the city’s top institutions. Read more »

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