Review from February 22 - 29, 2024

UKRAINE: Overseas students still in Ukrainian limbo after two years of war
Emily Dixon, Times Higher Education, 2/29
Some international students are still stuck in Ukraine more than two years on since Russia’s invasion, trapped in a legal limbo that means they can neither officially stay in nor leave the country. Read more »

UNITED STATES: This Bill Could Silence Pro-Palestine Student Groups. It’s Not the Only One.
Alecia Taylor, Chronicle of Higher Education, 2/28
A bill progressing quickly through the Indiana legislature could censor pro-Palestinian student organizations, mirroring a handful of bills across the country that purportedly aim to ban public colleges from engaging with terrorist groups. Read more »

UNITED STATES: The Kinsey Institute, the world’s top sex research center, faces existential threat from conservative attacks
Carter Sherman, The Guardian, 2/28
The future of the Kinsey Institute, the world’s premier sex research center, is in limbo. Last April, lawmakers in Indiana’s Republican-dominated state legislature voted to block the Kinsey Institute from receiving any state funds through Indiana University (IU), which houses the institute. Its researchers have spent the months since scrambling to figure out what this means for their work – and Indiana University, they say, has largely left them out of the discussion. Read more »

UNITED STATES: What Else Are We Seeing?
Maggie Hicks, Nell Gluckman, and Audrey Williams June, Chronicle of Higher Education, 2/26
The Chronicle highlights three emerging trends that could affect higher education this year.
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Free to Think features conversation with interesting, thoughtful, and inspiring individuals whose research, teaching, or expression falls at the always sensitive intersection of power and ideas. We'll be speaking with those who have the courage to seek truth and speak truth, often at great risk, as well as with those who support them and share their stories. 

UNITED STATES: ‘A Huge Red Flag’: How Florida Colleges’ Controversial Statement on Diversity Came Together
Documents appear to show that a state official helped inject more-aggressive language into a statement by public-college presidents. Read more »

AUSTRALIA/IRAN: Where freedom meets repression: Australian academics tread a fine line over ties to Iran
Jonathan Yerushalmy, The Guardian, 2/24
More than 20 papers involving collaboration have been published in the past year, despite the government warning against joint research projects. Read more »

IRELAND: Belfast event on ‘Academic Freedom under Threat: Global and Local Perspectives’
Queen’s University Belfast, 2/23
To discuss threats to academic freedom, over 50 people gathered in Belfast on Tuesday the 20 February, at an event of the Scholars at Risk Ireland Committee. This is the first ever event held in Northern Ireland, and as such was a joint offering hosted by Queen’s University Belfast and Ulster University. Read more » Join the network »

UKRAINE: MSCA4Ukraine: standing with Ukraine’s research community
Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions, 2/23
The Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions are helping safeguard Ukraine’s research and innovation ecosystem by allowing its researchers to continue their work. Two years after the start of the invasion, we spoke to five researchers supported by MSCA4Ukraine about their journey. The MSCA4Ukraine Programme of the European Commission is
implemented by a consortium comprised of Scholars at Risk Europe hosted at Maynooth University, Ireland (project coordinator), the German Alexander von Humboldt Foundation and the European University Association, with the French national PAUSE programme, hosted by the Collège de France, and the global Scholars at Risk Network participating as associated partners. Read more » Learn more about MSCA4Ukraine »

IRAN: Tehran University Deploys More Hijab Enforcers
Iran International, 2/19
Iran’s University of Tehran has deployed hijab enforcers amid nationwide rebellion of mandatory headscarves, reports Iran International. Read more »

BELARUS: The State of Academia in Belarus 2023 Report
Belarusian Students’ Association, 2/14
Following the 2020 and 2021 reports on the state of academia in Belarus, the exiled Belarusian national student union BSA has published the 2023 edition of the report covering the state of academia in Belarus in 2023. Read more » Learn more »

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