February 2024

SAR 2024 Global Congress – Register Now!

Registration is open to the SAR Network for the 2024 Global Congress from June 25-27, 2024 in partnership with the European Humanities University (EHU) in Vilnius, Lithuania. The theme**, "Sustainable knowledge: Lessons from universities, scholars and students in exile,"** seeks to explore and capture the experience of current and prior generations of academic communities forced into exile by political unrest, repression, disaster and conflict.

The Global Congress is SAR's largest convening and held generally every 2-3 years. The event brings together network members and partners to learn, share experiences, build solidarity, and inform SAR's activities and agenda for the coming years.

We hope you join us! See an updated program and register on the SAR website.

Register today

Students in Europe advocate for wrongfully-detained scholars

On December 14-15, 2023, SAR, in collaboration with the University of Trento, the University of Padova, and SAR Italy, and co-funded by the European Union, co-hosted the first-ever in-person European Student Advocacy Days. The event, a conference and workshop for students and faculty from SAR's Student Advocacy Seminars and Legal Clinics, was attended by over 200 students, faculty, SAR scholars, civil society representatives, and members of the public.

Seminars and clinics from across Europe, Canada, and the United States, convened at the University of Trento to refine their advocacy skills and develop a foundational understanding of paths for raising awareness about academic freedom, particularly within Europe.

The event featured a keynote address by Patrick Zaki, a University of Bologna graduate who had been wrongfully imprisoned in Egypt. In his address, he emphasized the power students can leverage, especially when working together: "I've always believed students can make any change, whatever happens. When I thought about my own freedom campaign, I thought about students."

SAR's Student Advocacy Days provides students with practical tools and knowledge to advocate on behalf of imprisoned scholars, to learn more about academic freedom, and to collaborate across campuses.

Learn how to start a seminar or a legal clinic on your campus to join us at the next Student Advocacy Days. **Read more about European Student Advocacy Days 2023 »**

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.

Scholar of Biochemistry | Afghanistan-1256

Expertise: 12+ years of teaching, research, and university leadership in Afghanistan and Switzerland; specializes in hemophilia, infectious diseases in pregnant women, and public health
Reported risk: Threats to his life due to his collaboration with international scholars and minority ethnicity and religious group
Seeking: Research-focused position in Switzerland beginning May 2024

Scholar of Soil Science | Ethiopia-773
Expertise: 7+ years of university experience; consultant on urban environmental projects; specializes in deforestation, soil and water conservation, and geographic information systems
Reported risk: Ethnicity-based discrimination and harassment in the Tigray region of Ethiopia and 3-months of unlawful detention resulting in the loss of his university position
Seeking: Teaching or research positions anywhere in the SAR network beginning as soon as possible

Scholar of Political Science | Afghanistan-1042
Expertise: 10+ years of teaching, research, and university leadership; specializes in Islamic political thought, politics in Afghanistan, state-building, and failing states
Reported risk: Insecurity in Afghanistan due to research publications about the Taliban
Seeking: Research-focused position anywhere in the SAR network beginning April 2024; scholar is currently located in Europe

SEE ALL SCHOLARS >

Rehabilitation Expertise for Ukraine's Wounded: Organizing Training for Doctors During Wartime

The Russian invasion of Ukraine has inflicted catastrophic damage, leaving thousands grappling with traumatic limb loss, complex fractures, and other devastating injuries. Ukraine's healthcare system strains to meet the needs of the wounded. Wait lists for prosthetics stretch almost endlessly.

Moved by the anguish sweeping his homeland, Dr. Alex Moroz conceived of a training program for Ukrainian rehabilitation specialists.

An American physiatrist and educator of Ukrainian descent, he assembled an experienced interdisciplinary team at New York University (NYU) that understood the intricacies of blast injuries and post-amputation recovery. He then established a program that invited three Ukrainian physicians to NYU for a two-week intensive training on treating patients affected by the war. **Read more »**

SAR USA General Assembly: Save the Dates!

Carnegie Mellon University

On **October 15-17, 2024**, the United States section of the Scholars at Risk Network and Carnegie Mellon University will co-host a General Assembly for scholars, U.S. member institution representatives, and other partners. This conference will take place on the campus of Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Please save the dates for this important meeting, where we will discuss how to deepen our support for at risk scholars while defending academic freedom during these challenging times. We look forward to sharing more details soon, and hopefully seeing you in Pittsburgh.

A warm welcome to new staff:

Please join us in welcoming Rachel and Keith to SAR!

Rachel Durning joins SAR as a Development Officer, Grants Management where she supports SAR's fundraising efforts through maintaining existing relationships with institutional funders and researching new prospective grantmakers. Prior to joining SAR, Rachel had worked in refugee resettlement programs at the International Rescue Committee and New York University, and in fundraising and communications at the Friends of the Arava Institute, an environmental peace-building program for Israelis and Palestinians. **Read more »**

Keith Green joins SAR as a Department Administrator responsible for a range of financial and administrative operations, overseeing accounting and financial reporting as well as technology and facilities for various teams in support of SAR's global mission. He is passionate about helping people, democratizing information, and protecting those in need. Prior to joining SAR, Keith was a Grants Administrator at New York University and brings extensive experience in audit management, vendor coordination, payments, balancing budgets, forecasting spending and quality control. **Read more »**

Support SAR Today
Support human rights and stand in solidarity with at-risk scholars around the world. Your contribution helps promote their indispensable scholarship and allows us to advocate on their behalf, preserving everyone's right to think, question, and share ideas. **Give today »**

SELECT OPPORTUNITIES & RESOURCES
See a full list of scholar resources

The Royal Society of Canada's At-Risk and Displaced Academics and Artists Program | Deadline: Feb 16, 2024

Through the ARDAA program, the RSC College invites applications for membership from academics and artists who have been displaced through war, conflicts or threats of violence and who, prior to their displacement, were engaged in innovative and entrepreneurial activity, demonstrating a commitment to interdisciplinary collaboration, leadership and responsibility to communities, and who were making meaningful contributions to society. **Read more »**

Centre for Applied Human Rights at the University of York Protective Writing Fellowship | Deadline: Feb 18, 2024

This is an exciting programme for HRDs in key or leadership positions in their local human rights movements, keen to develop their own and their organisation's or movement's research potential, and record learnings from their human rights work to be shared with the global human rights community. More information can be downloaded here: PWF 2024. For questions, please reach out to hrdhub@york.ac.uk

Centre for Applied Human Rights at the University of York Protective Fellowship | Deadline: Feb 18, 2024

The fellowship provides human rights defenders at risk with an opportunity to enhance their research skills and share their expertise with other human rights defenders, academics and students. During their stay, they will work on a research project related to their work in their home country/region and attend human rights courses taught at the Centre. More information can be downloaded here: PFS 2024. For questions, please reach out to hrdhub@york.ac.uk.

CUNY Dominican Studies Institute 2024-2025 Fellowship Program for Threatened Dominican Scholars | Deadline: Feb 29, 2024

The CUNY Dominican Studies Institute (CUNY DSI) of the City College of New York (CCNY) is pleased to request applications for the 2024-25 Fellowship for Threatened Dominican scholars, a pioneering program in Dominican Studies, generously funded by the Mellon Foundation. The Fellowship for Threatened Dominican scholars seeks to broaden the scope of current conversations on censorship and suppression of civil liberties by examining the limits on people's freedom to think and speak in their work or in public spaces in fully established and long-lasting democracies.
Read more »

SARU Fellowships, SAR Denmark & Universities Denmark | Deadline: March 7, 2024

The SARU fellowship program is supported by VILLUM FONDEN and enables 7 researchers affected by the war in Ukraine to continue their academic research in a secure and international environment at Danish universities. Applications are open now. **Read more »**

Call for papers to be presented at the 3rd Conference on Academic Freedom in the Americas | Deadline: March 30, 2024

The Coalition for Academic Freedom in the Americas (CAFA) invites proposals for papers to be presented at the Third Conference on Academic Freedom in the Americas that will take place in November 2024 at the Washington, DC, campus of the University of Notre Dame (exact dates to be announced soon). This conference will be hybrid, combining in person and virtual presentations. Interested parties are kindly asked to submit abstracts by March 30, 2024. **Read more »**

Global Academy Call for Applications for the 2024-2025 academic year | Deadline: May 1, 2024

The MESA Global Academy offers competitive fellowships to Middle East Studies scholars from the MENA region who are currently displaced. The Global Academy awards $5,000 scholarships and faciliates programming for its fellows, including speaking engagements at partner universities across the United States, publication opportunities, mentoring, and professional development workshops. **Read more »**

Forum Curator at the Miami Institute for the Social Sciences | Deadline: Rolling

The Miami Institute for the Social Sciences— a virtual community of scholars bringing to the center of academic scholarship perspectives and understandings of the Global Majority in the social sciences and neighboring fields— invites scholars in the SAR Network to curate virtual forums on topics of interest to them in their fields. At the Miami Institute, curators of virtual forums tend to bring together a group of four to five colleagues across the Global South and North to reflect on a central question about their field to which the group responds first through relatively informal and short essays of 1,500 words. Once the essays are published online at the Miami Institute— with open access—the forum curator leads a virtual public conversation among the essay authors. See examples of virtual forums here. Please email the Miami Institute for the Social Sciences with interest (miamisocialsciences@gmail.com).

SELECT SAR & PARTNER EVENTS

See a full list of SAR events

SAR Scholar Webinar: Navigating new academic spaces in North America: Lessons learned from at-risk scholars | Feb 15, 2024

SAR will be hosting a webinar for scholars on February 15th at 3pm EST entitled “Navigating new academic spaces in North America: Lessons learned from at-risk scholars. **Read more »**

US Student Advocacy Days in Washington, DC | March 20 - 21, 2024

Scholars at Risk’s annual US Student Advocacy Days 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 »**

SAR 2024 Global Congress | June 25, 2024

SAR invites you to register for the 2024 Global Congress to be held June 25-27, 2024, in partnership with the European Humanities University (EHU) in Vilnius, Lithuania. Global Congresses are SAR’s largest network events, and bring together leading scholars, advocates, students and professionals to rethink issues of academic freedom and related values, to learn from each other, and to help shape SAR’s agenda for the coming years.
Read more »

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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