

# US Student Advocacy Days Program: March 20-21, 2024

## Training the Next Generation of Advocates

Scholars at Risk's annual event, US Student Advocacy Days, hosted by our colleagues at the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS), brings students and faculty from SAR's Student Advocacy Seminars from across the United States together for training on best practices in advocacy on behalf of imprisoned scholars.

All sessions on March 20 will be held at AAAS, 1200 New York Ave NW, Washington, DC 20005. Meetings held on March 21 will take place across the Hill, as scheduled by student participants.

DATE	EVENT
<p>Wed., March 20, 2024</p>	<p><b>WORKSHOPS: PREPARING FOR MEETINGS ON THE HILL</b></p> <p><b>9:30 AM:</b> Coffee and check-in</p> <p><b>10:00 - 10:15 AM:</b> Welcome Adam Braver, Coordinator, SAR Student Advocacy Seminars Theresa Harris, AAAS Clare Robinson, SAR</p> <p><b>10:15 - 11:00 AM:</b> Student presentations: Teams introduce themselves and formally present their cases to conference participants</p> <p><b>11:00 AM - 11:45 AM:</b> Small group sessions: How (not) to present your case</p> <p><b>11:45 AM - 12:00 PM:</b> Full group advocacy action Ayodele Abinusawa, SAR Alisen Stasiowski, SAR</p> <p><b>12:00 - 1:00 PM:</b> Lunch</p> <p><b>1:00 - 2:00 PM:</b> How government addresses human rights Sasha LaPonte, Tom Lantos Human Rights Commission Scott Busby, formerly of Department of State</p> <p><b>2:00 - 3:00 PM:</b> Keynote: Jewher Ilham, daughter of wrongfully-imprisoned scholar Ilham Tohti</p> <p><b>3:00 - 3:15 PM:</b> Break</p> <p><b>3:15 - 3:45 PM:</b> Guest expert: Ali Arab, Hostage Aid Worldwide</p> <p><b>3:45 - 4:00 PM:</b> Closing Reminders for tomorrow Group photo</p>

**Thurs.,  
March 21,  
2024**

**STUDENT ADVOCACY DAY ON THE HILL**

**9:00 AM:** Meet at Union Station, outside, to walk to Capitol Hill

**9:30 AM - 2:00 PM:** Students take their pre-arranged meetings with Members of Congress on Capitol Hill in Washington, DC, as well as with NGOs and civil society partners who have expertise in the cases of concern.

SAR will be at Dirksen Senate Office Building, 50 Constitution Ave NE, Washington, DC 20002, in the North Dirksen Serverly (Basement, NW corner), to consult and debrief, at least from **12:00 to 2:00 PM**.

(Students are welcome to take meetings outside the 9:30 AM - 2:00 PM window, as well.)