

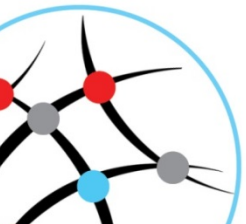
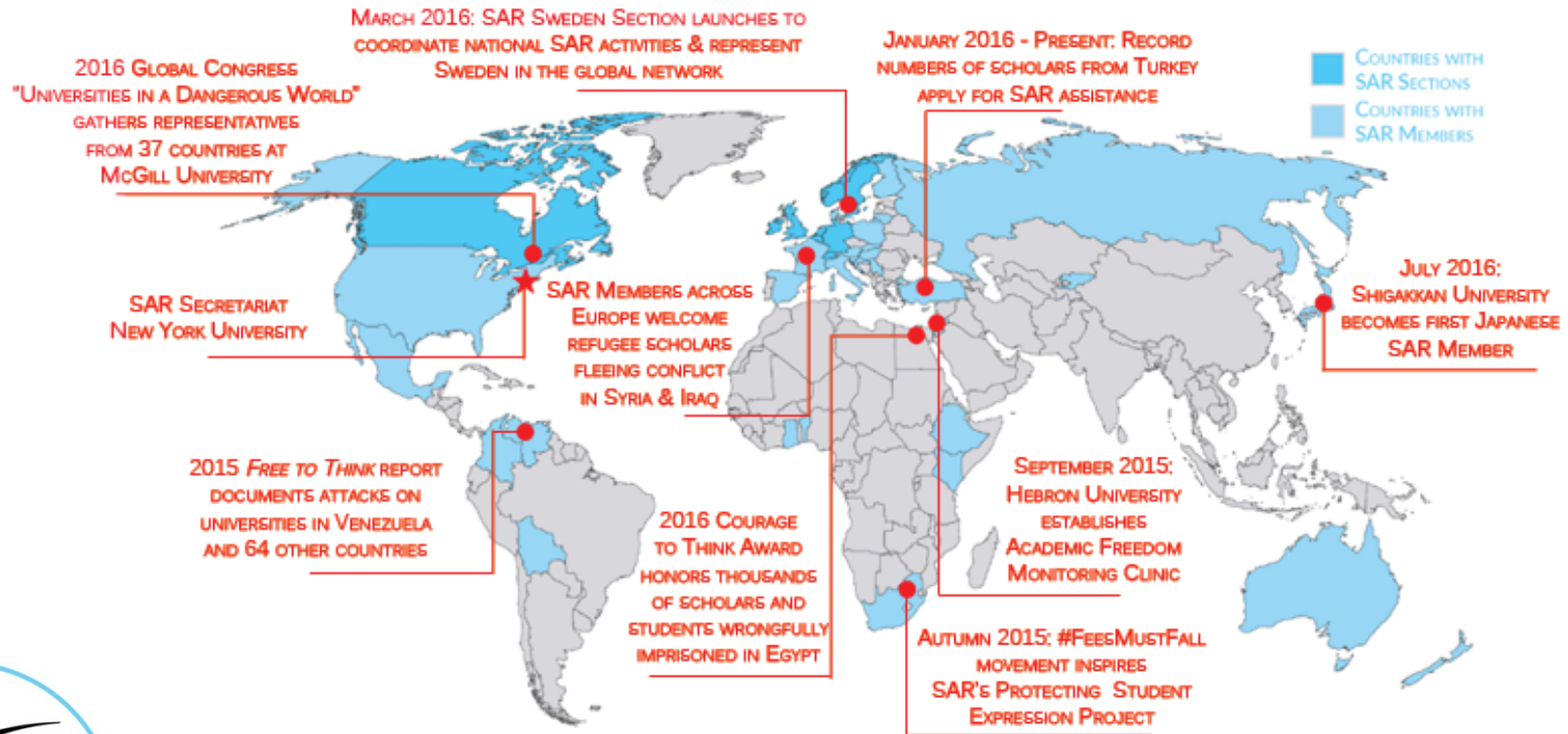
## Scholars at Risk 2018





# THE NETWORK

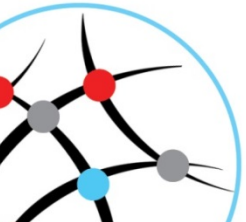
Over 500 institutions in 37 countries, including 'sections' in Canada, Ireland, Netherlands & Belgium (with UAF), Norway, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom (with CARA), Germany, and Finland.



Scholars at Risk is a global movement to protect everyone's freedom to think, question, and share ideas

## Facts & Figures

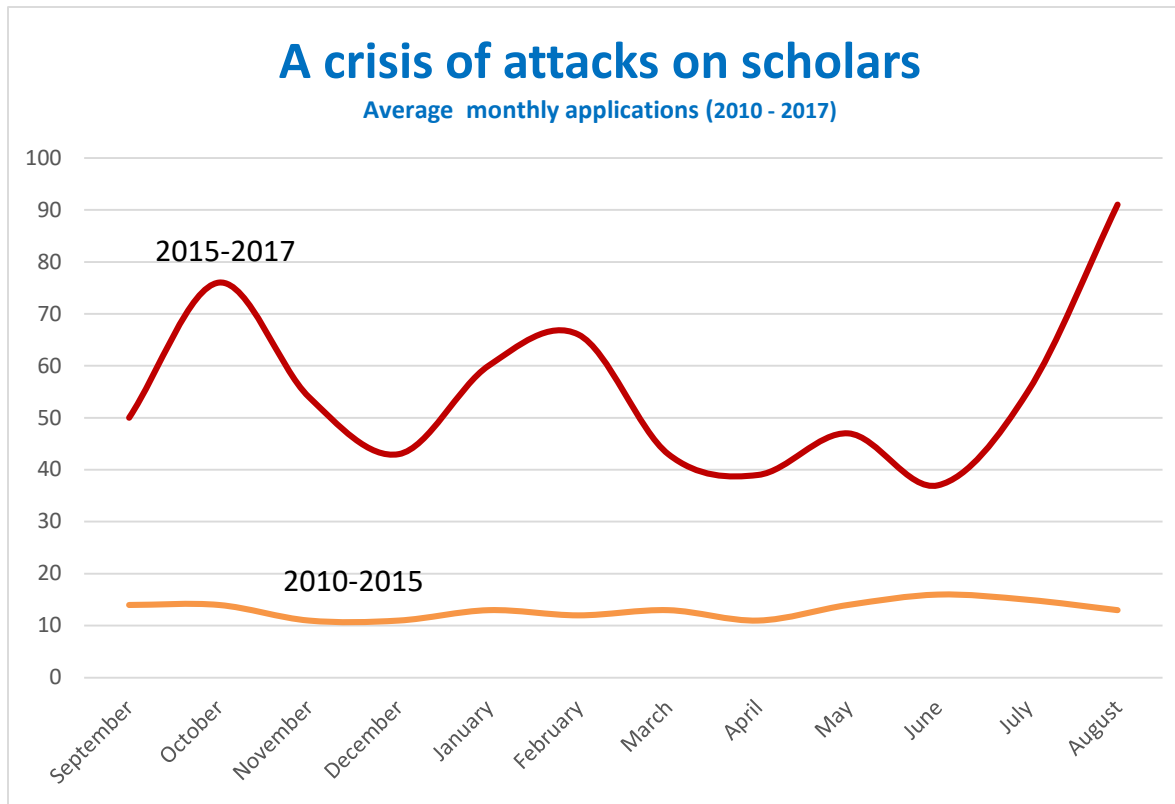
- Since founding in 2000, over 3,000 applications for assistance
- In 2016, over 700 applications; 150 placements
- Current rate of 70 to 80 per month; 61 on list currently seeking
- Top sources of applications: Syria, Turkey, Iran, Iraq, Ethiopia
- 80% of placements last year in Europe
- Over 645 applications from Turkey alone since Jan 2016
- SAR Monitoring Project F2T (2017): 256 attacks in 35 countries
- Currently advocating on behalf of 58 scholars in prison





# **RESPONDING TO CRISES**

Today, more people than ever are risking their lives to flee oppression and conflict, among them a record number of scholars and students.



### Top 5 origins (2016-17)

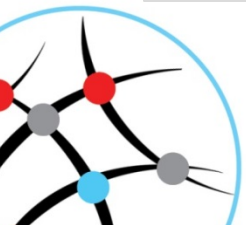
Turkey • Syria • Iraq •  
Iran • Ethiopia

### Top 5 risks (2016-17)

Arrest/imprisonment  
Insecurity/conflict  
Wrongful dismissal  
Harassment/threats  
Killing/disappearance

### Top 5 hosts (2016-17)

Germany • United States  
• The Netherlands •  
Norway • Belgium



 **ACTIVITIES**

As SAR members, university leadership, staff, faculty, and students have the opportunity to actively engage in:



**Protection**

- hosting threatened scholars for temporary academic visits
- referring scholars to the network for assistance



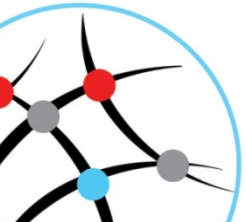
**Advocacy**

- offering Student Advocacy Seminars to teach real-world advocacy skills
- supporting scholars in prison by writing letters of appeal
- work with the SAR Academic Freedom Monitoring Project



**Learning**

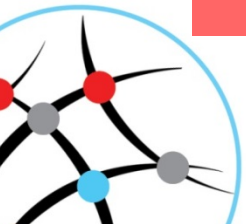
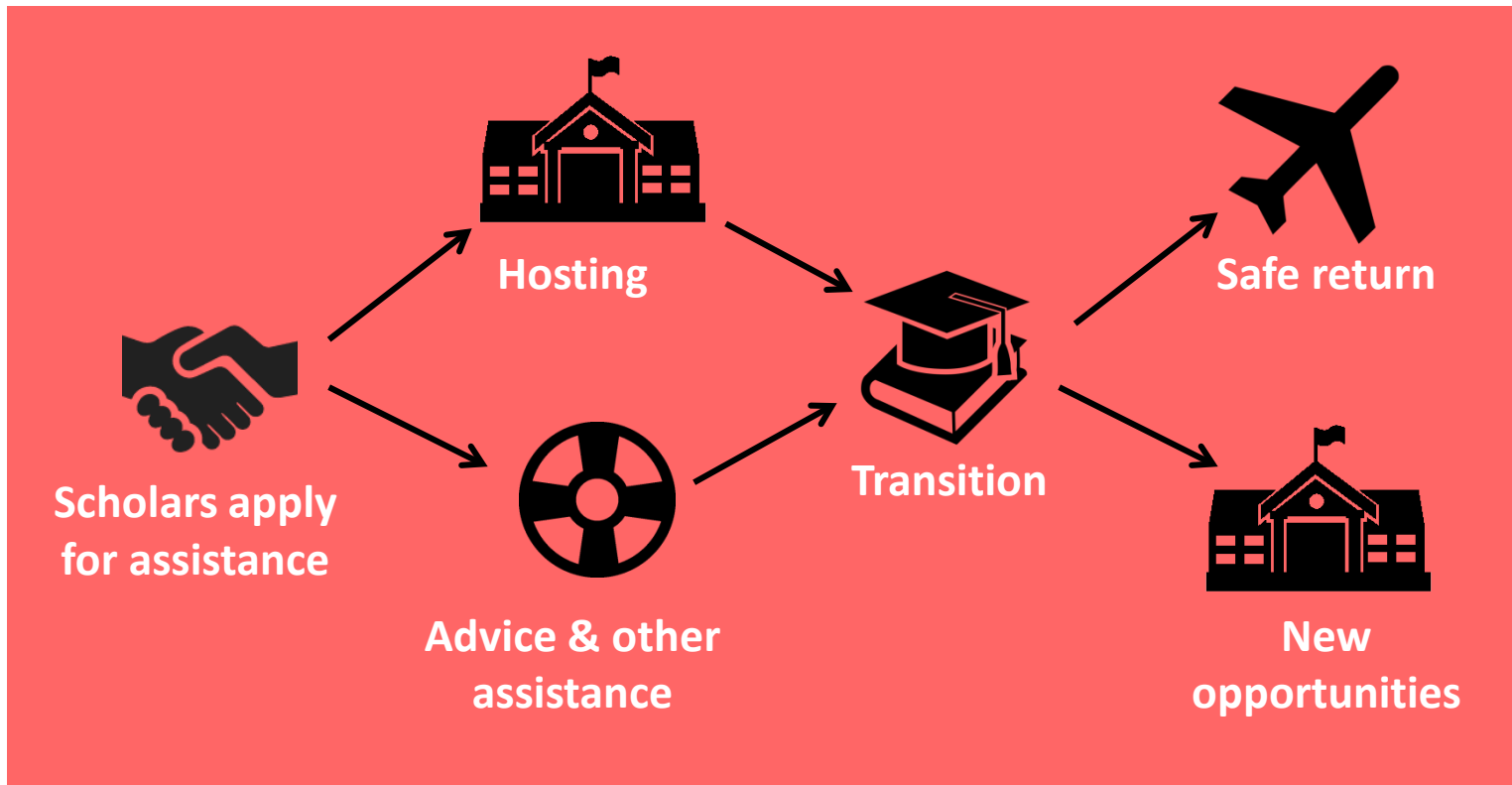
- attending SAR conferences and workshops
- inviting SAR scholars to share their stories on campus
- joining research groups looking at pressing issues facing international higher education





# PROTECTION

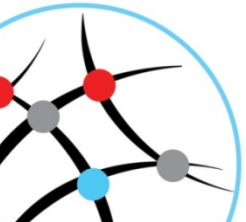
SAR informs the network of scholars facing threats and works with the scholars and host institutions through every step of the process.





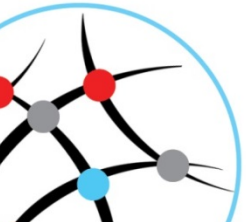
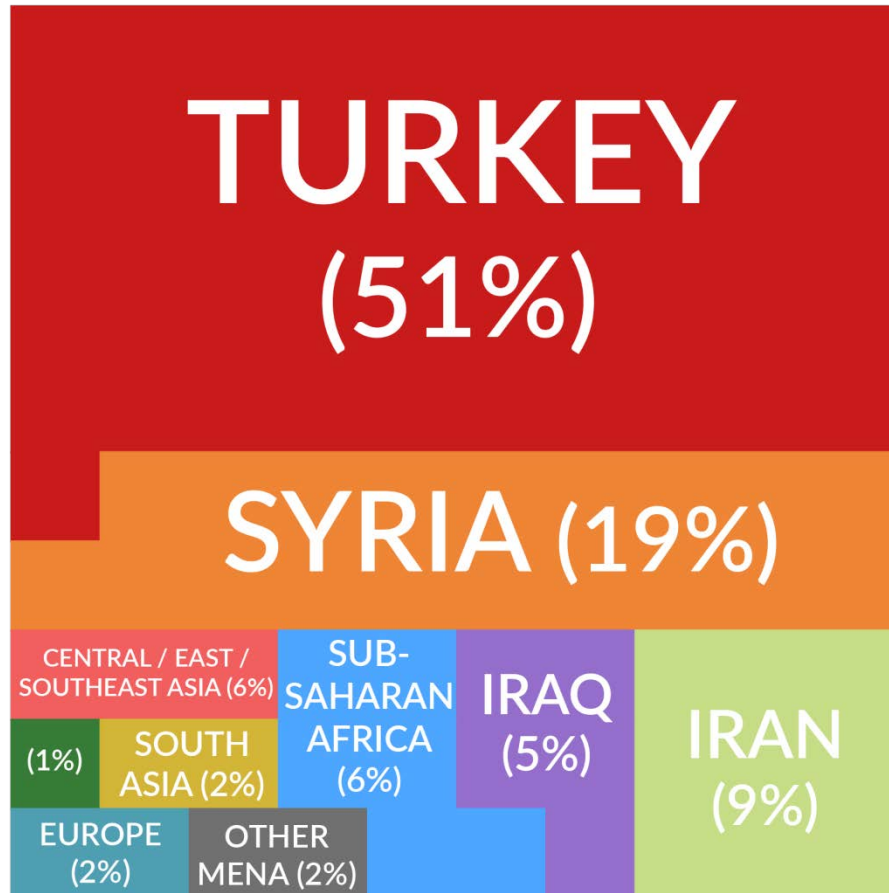
## SCHOLAR DISCIPLINES

In 2016, SAR received a record number of applications for assistance – over 700 – and arranged placements for 158 scholars from a wide variety of disciplines.



## SCHOLAR COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN

SAR currently provides assistance to threatened scholars from over 25 countries around the world.



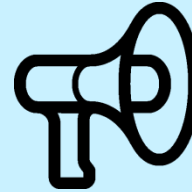


# **ADVOCACY**

SAR's advocacy programs call attention to attacks on higher education communities and the need to promote academic freedom.



**Action Alerts & Campaigns**



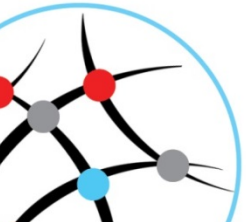
**Student Advocacy Seminars**



**Academic Freedom Monitoring Project**



**Publications**





## ADVOCACY: Joint statements

SCHOLARS AT RISK  
NETWORK

GET HELP

GET INVOLVED

GIVE TODAY

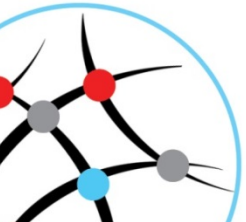


*Protecting scholars and the freedom to think, question and share ideas*

### Turkey: Detained higher education professionals at risk of torture

August 2, 2016 -- Scholars at Risk (SAR) is gravely concerned about sweeping actions against Turkey's higher education sector, including most recently prolonged incommunicado detention and related risks of torture and ill-treatment of hundreds of higher education professionals, in violation of Turkey's obligations under domestic and international law.

These detentions and concerns of torture, coupled with reports of forced resignations imposed by Turkey's Council of Higher Education (YÖK) on more than fifteen hundred faculty deans, suspensions of thousands of education ministry personnel, university closures, widespread travel restrictions and orders that academics abroad return to Turkey, suggest a broad campaign against intellectuals and intellectual expression, in violation of Turkey's international and domestic legal obligations to protect institutional



Scholars at Risk is a global movement to protect everyone's freedom to think, question, and share ideas

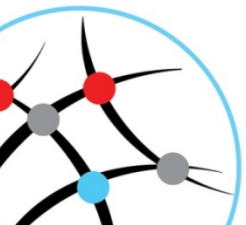


## ADVOCACY: Student Seminars & Legal Clinics

- Faculty-led human rights research and advocacy at SAR member institutions
- Campaigns for Scholars-in-Prison cases
- Research for SAR's Monitoring Project
- Reports and submissions for national and international advocacy



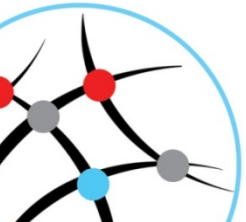
Universal Periodic  
Review



 **LEARNING**

SAR convenes faculty, students and professionals to join a growing conversation around human rights and university values.

 <p><b>Speaker Series</b></p>	 <p><b>Workshops</b></p>
 <p><b>Conferences</b></p>	 <p><b>Research Groups</b></p>

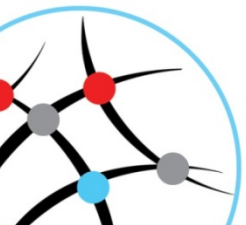
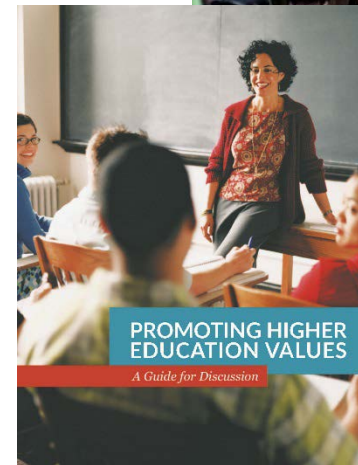




## LEARNING: Promoting Higher Ed Values & Protecting Student Expression

SAR convenes faculty, students and professionals to join working groups on critical issues facing higher education, including how institutions promote core higher education values on campus and the protection of organized student expression from violent threats.

- SAR-coordinated working groups & related workshops
- Values discussion guides & toolkits
- MOOC (2018-19 via Erasmus+ grant)
- Inviting case examples, participation, event co-organizers





Network of Universities  
from the Capitals of Europe



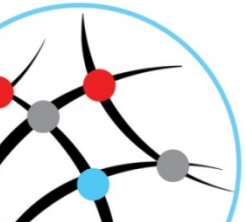
# 'Academic Refuge' Project

Erasmus+ Strategic Partnership  
(with associate partners EUA and EAIE)

2017: Develop curriculum and implement two-part training on  
(a) welcoming refugees and threatened academics to campus  
and (b) promoting higher education values

2018: MOOC: The Global University, Academic Freedom and  
Higher Education Values

2019: Electronic Handbook on Putting Higher Education  
Values into Practice



## Scholars at Risk: National Sections in Europe

National networks of higher education institutions dedicated to supporting threatened scholars and promoting academic freedom.

CARA-SAR UK Universities Network with CARA (2006)

SAR-UAF Netherlands & Belgium Network (2009)

SAR-Ireland section with Universities Ireland (2009)

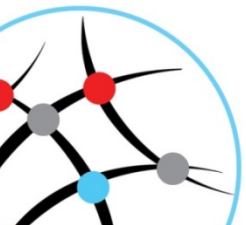
SAR- Norway section (2011)

**SAR-Switzerland section (2016)**

SAR-Sweden section (2016)

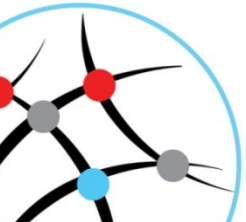
SAR-Germany section with Alexander von Humboldt Foundation (2016)

SAR-Finland section with UNIFI Universities Finland (2017)



## **National Sections: The Benefits**

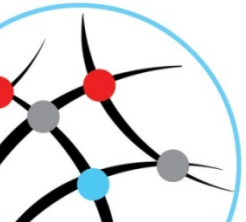
1. Pooling resources (financial and human) to protect scholars
2. Sharing and deepening of expertise on hosting, advocacy and values-promotion
3. Access to support networks: within national sections, between sections, across global network
4. Stronger voice





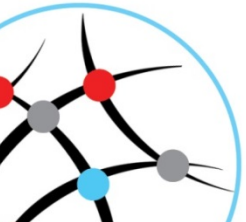
## Swiss Section: Facts and Figures

- First Swiss institution joined network in 2008
- 14 institutions are now members as well as swissuniversities and the Swiss Academies of Arts and Sciences
- At least 8 SAR scholars have been hosted at Swiss institutions to date
- Swiss Section founded in 2016
- October 2017: Co-Chairs & Steering Committee appointed, Terms of Reference approved



## Swiss Section: Current activities

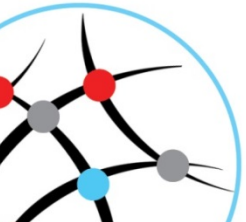
1. Outreach letters sent to key persons within the SNF, SBFI, Federal departments
2. Communication concept
3. Fundraising
4. Next Swiss Section meeting on March 12<sup>th</sup> 2018





## **BENEFITS OF HOSTING / JOINING THE NETWORK**

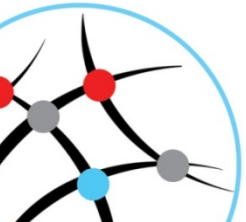
- **Commitment to academic freedom and related values**
- **Increase solidarity > help scientists to continue their career and research and to avoid a knowledge gap and loss of scientific capital**
- **Save lives and important voices**
- Access to courageous and inspiring educators / experts
  - Gain insight and understanding of other societies and cultures
  - Hosted scholar as a source of inspiration to the host institution
  - Guest-lecturing
  - On-campus resource to students and faculty





## **BENEFITS OF HOSTING / JOINING THE NETWORK**

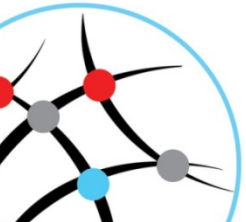
- Internationalization and diversification of the host campus
- Links to other higher education institutions
- Mutual benefit (scholar - host institution) > make it win-win!
- Support from SAR for the scholar and the host institution (counseling, relocation, funding, transition)
- Access to events
- Newsletter





## JOIN THE NETWORK

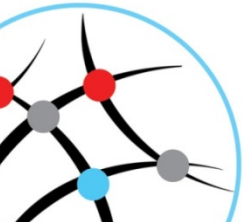
- Two requirements of membership
  - Commitment to academic freedom
  - Members designate a primary representative to communicate with SAR office and the network
- > Participation in any specific SAR activity, including hosting scholars, is at the discretion of the institution





## **CONCRETE NEXT STEPS:**

- Individual institutions :
  - Subscribe to receive SAR emails
  - Consider inviting a speaker to campus or organize a national speakers' tour
  - Consider hosting threatened or refugee scholars
  - Encourage staff, faculty, students to join SAR's academic freedom monitoring project as researchers
  - Advocate on behalf of a scholar in prison (e.g. through the student advocacy seminar)
  - Contribute real-life case examples to 'Promoting HE Values' project
  - Participate in SAR alerts/campaigns
  - Send representatives to SAR workshops/trainings



**Thank  
you!**





**SAR Switzerland:**

 <https://www.scholarsatrisk.org/sections/sar-switzerland/>

 [olivier.vincent@unige.ch](mailto:olivier.vincent@unige.ch) / [catrin.scheiber@unilu.ch](mailto:catrin.scheiber@unilu.ch)



**SAR headquarters**

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 [scholarsatrisk@nyu.edu](mailto:scholarsatrisk@nyu.edu)  
 [facebook.com/scholarsatrisk](https://facebook.com/scholarsatrisk)  
 [twitter.com/scholarsatrisk](https://twitter.com/scholarsatrisk)