

SCHOLARS at RISK

SAR uOttawa

ABOUT SAR uOttawa

The University of Ottawa joined Scholars at Risk (SAR) 2014. SAR is an international network of higher education institutions dedicated to protecting threatened scholars, preventing attacks on higher education communities and promoting academic freedom worldwide.

uOttawa is an elected member of the Steering Committee of the SAR Canada Section and the SAR uOttawa Program is managed by the Human Rights Research and Education Centre (HRREC).

PROTECTION

The network protects scholars facing grave threats to their lives, liberty and well-being by arranging positions of sanctuary at institutions in the network.

uOttawa has hosted 3 scholars since 2014 for periods of one or two years each, involving 3 distinct faculties on campus.

ADVOCACY

Scholars at Risk's work is rooted in the principle of academic freedom, the freedom to pursue scholarship and research without discrimination, censorship, intimidation, or violence.

Since January 2018, uOttawa contributes to the "Free to Think" annual reports published by the Academic Freedom Monitoring Project. The report compiles and analyzes attacks on higher education in countries around the world. The work is conducted by a team of the HRREC Human Rights Clinic who follow situations that may affect academic freedom in Canada, Colombia, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico and Venezuela.

uOttawa participates in advocacy actions and global campaigns. Specific submissions and appeals were made in 2018 for cases in Mexico and Colombia and a presentation was made during a hearing of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR) testifying with regard to attacks and threats on academic freedom in the Americas.

LEARNING

SAR uOttawa regularly organizes and hosts events to raise awareness about attacks on academic freedom in various regions of the world and to highlight pressing issues facing higher education and related institutions.

The University attended the SAR Global Congress in Montreal (2016) and in Berlin (2018). uOttawa also hosted a national meeting and workshop for SAR Canada members in December 2018.

SAR uOttawa in NUMBERS

3

of academic units who have hosted a scholar at risk at uOttawa

3

of scholars hosted at uOttawa since 2014

447

of participants who have attended SAR uOttawa events

20

of incidents reported by uOttawa since 2018 (6 countries)

WORDS from OUR SCHOLARS

"I joined Scholars at Risk after being persecuted in Iran for working on human rights cases involving women, children and death penalty accused. When I arrived in Ottawa, I was taken aback by the friendliness of students, staff and professors who showed me constant support as visiting professor. This support continues today." — **HOSSEIN RAEESI**, Faculty of Law, Common Law Section, 2015-2016

"SAR is home to glow of hope in the season of fear. It has affirmed my dream for a better world. If my dreams die, I am no more".
FAYYAZ BAQIR, School of International Development and Global Studies, 2018-2020

"I was able to gain a useful and different experience in a peaceful and honorable academic atmosphere in Canada, because the University of Ottawa supported my research on linguistics and language rights."

RAHIM SURKHI, Official Languages and Bilingualism Institute, University of Ottawa, 2018-2019

SAR uOttawa COMMITTEE

Rita Abrahamsen	Faculty of Social Sciences
Nadia Abu-Zahra	Faculty of Social Sciences
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Viviana Fernandez	Human Rights Research and Education Centre
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João Velloso	Faculty of Law

SUPPORT SAR uOttawa

Help us in our efforts to promote human rights and academic freedom and to give scholars at risk the freedom to pursue scholarship and research without discrimination, censorship, intimidation, or violence.

Donate to the SAR uOttawa Fund online at www.cdp-hrc.uOttawa/en/give.

Scholars at Risk uOttawa

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