

Promoting Academic Freedom. Protecting the Human Rights of Scholars.

**UNICA - SCHOLARS AT RISK
SEMINAR ON ACADEMIC FREEDOM**

Freie Universität Berlin, 21-22 March 2013
Habelschwerdter Allee 45, 14195 Berlin

PROGRAMME

Thursday, 21 March

Chair: Herbert GRIESHOP, Managing Director, Centre of International Cooperation, Freie Universität Berlin

10:00-10:30

Venue: **Coffee and registration**
Room JK 26-101

10:30-11:00

Welcome addresses
Venue: Peter-André ALT, President, Freie Universität Berlin
Room JK 27-103 Stavros A. ZENIOS, UNICA President
Sinead O'GORMAN, Director, Scholars At Risk Europe

11:00-12:00

PLENARY SESSION: General framework and the notion of Academic Freedom
Venue: *What do we understand by the term 'Academic Freedom'? - Definition and general constitutional consequences:* keynote speech by Markus HEINTZEN, Professor, Freie Universität Berlin
Room JK 27-103 *How free are academics? A broader perspective of the concept of academic freedom:* keynote speech by Inga BOSTAD, Pro-Rector, University of Oslo, Member of the UNICA Steering Committee

12:00-13:00

PLENARY SESSION: Protecting Scholars, Promoting Academic Freedom, Preventing Attacks on Higher Education - Introduction to Scholars At Risk and Scholars Rescue Fund Activities
Venue: *Presentation of SAR activities* by Sinead O'GORMAN, Director, Scholars At Risk Europe
Room JK 27-103 *Introduction to the Scholar Rescue Fund* by Sarah WILLCOX, Deputy Executive Director, Scholar Rescue Fund
Testimonials from protected scholars from Iran and the Democratic Republic of Congo

13:00-14:00

Venue: **Lunch**
Room JK 26-101

14:00-14:30

Venue: **A Courage to Think Monologue** by Carrie GETMAN, English Theatre Berlin

Room JK 27-103

14:30-15:30

PLENARY SESSION: Higher Education Institutions Protecting Scholars, Promoting Academic Freedom, Preventing Attacks on Higher Education - Examples

Venue:

Room JK 27-103

The Dutch model: Higher education institutions in the Netherlands protecting threatened scholars and promoting academic freedom by Berend JONKER, International Policy Officer, Foundation for Refugee Students UAF

Experiences of UNICA universities:

Marit EGNER, Senior Adviser, University of Oslo

Mattias BUESS, International Relations Coordinator, Université de Lausanne

15:30-16:00

Venue:

Room JK 26-101

Coffee break

16:00-17:30

WORKING GROUPS: PART I

In parallel working groups, the participants will discuss the initiatives that universities already undertake to promote academic freedom and address different ways to expand and intensify these activities.

Two working groups are envisaged; each participant can take part in both groups (one on Thursday afternoon, second on Friday morning). Each working group is chaired by a SAR and a UNICA representative.

Green Group: Universities protecting threatened scholars

Chairs:

Mattias BUESS, International Relations Coordinator, Université de Lausanne

Berend JONKER, International Policy Officer, Foundation for Refugee Students UAF

Venue: Room JK 27-103

- Hosting scholars for temporary stays
- Scholars in Prison
- Speaker Series

Blue Group: Universities promoting academic freedom

Chairs:

Elke LÖSCHHORN, Acting Dean of International Affairs, Freie Universität Berlin

Sinead O'GORMAN, Director, Scholars At Risk Europe

Venue: Room JK 27-106

- Preventing attacks on higher education communities through monitoring and reporting
- Promoting academic freedom through research and advocacy

18:30

Guided bus tour from Seminaris CampusHotel to the Restaurant

19:30

Dinner at Restaurant Theodor Tucher, Pariser Platz 6a, 10117 Berlin

Situated between the Brandenburg Gate and Unter den Linden, the brewery restaurant, nicknamed "Tucher am Tor" remains an excellent place to eat quality German food. Its stylish gold interior with huge windows and tall pillars boasts a private dining room and even a library for solo diners.

(after "10 Best High-End Restaurants in Berlin", The Guardian, 17 August 2011)

ca. 22:00

Bus transfer from the Restaurant back to Seminaris CampusHotel

Friday, 22 March

09:00-09:30

Reflections on academic freedom

Venue:

Inga BOSTAD, Pro-Rector, University of Oslo, Member of the UNICA Steering Committee

Room JK 26-101

Nenad ZAKOŠEK, Dean of the Faculty of Political Science, Representative of the SAR Network at the University of Zagreb

09:30-10:30

WORKING GROUPS: PART II

Blue Group: Universities protecting threatened scholars

Venue: Room JK 27-103

Chairs:

Mattias BUESS, International Relations Coordinator, Université de Lausanne

Berend JONKER, International Policy Officer, Foundation for Refugee Students UAF

Green group: Universities promoting academic freedom

Venue: Room JK 27-106

Chairs:

Elke LÖSCHHORN, Acting Dean of International Affairs, Freie Universität Berlin

Sinead O'GORMAN, Director, Scholars At Risk Europe

10:30-11:00

Venue:

Coffee break

Room JK 26-101

11:00-12:30

CONCLUSIONS AND NEXT STEPS

Venue:

Meeting for UNICA member universities

Room JK 27-103

Chair: Stavros A. Zenios, UNICA President

11:00 - 12:30 Meeting for German HEIs on establishing a Scholars At Risk Germany section

Venue: Room JK 27-106

12:30-13:00

Venue:

CLOSING OF THE SEMINAR

Room JK 27-103

Chair: Stavros A. Zenios, UNICA President

13:00-14:00

Venue:

Lunch

Room JK 26-101

14.00-15.00

Freie Universität and its Commitment to Academic Freedom:

Meeting point:

Guided campus tour with focus on the university's founding history

Room JK 26-101

14:00-17:00

UNICA STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING*

Venue:

*only for the members of the UNICA Steering Committee

Room JK 27-103