

# Advocating for Academic Freedom: l'impegno di SAR-Italia in una prospettiva multilivello



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SAR Italy, Working Group on Advocacy

*CNR-SAR: Ricerca scientifica, Dialogo e Diritti*

*Panel: Advocacy e Dialogo sui Diritti*

Roma, 27.11.2024

# IL LAVORO DI SAR SI REALIZZA IN TRE AMBITI



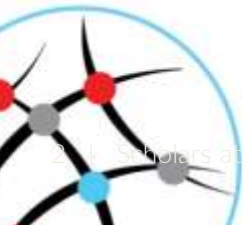
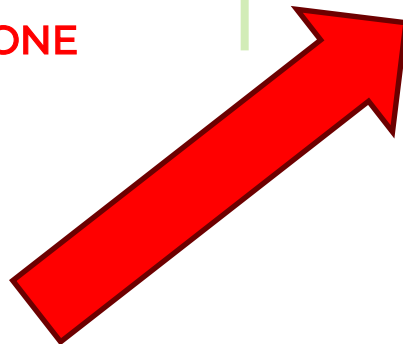
PROTEZIONE



ADVOCACY



APPRENDIMENTO, RICERCA  
E COINVOLGIMENTO DELLA  
COMUNITA' ACCADEMICA



# L'ADVOCACY DI SAR INTERNATIONAL

# Academic Freedom Monitoring Project

2024

Free to Think

Report of the Scholars at Risk Academic  
Freedom Monitoring Project



# Free to Think Report 2024

Number of attacks recorded in *Free to Think 2024*

#Free2Think2024

## TOTAL ATTACKS

**391**



Killings, violence, disappearances **100**



Loss of position **81**



Imprisonment **83**



Travel restrictions **8**



Prosecution **23**

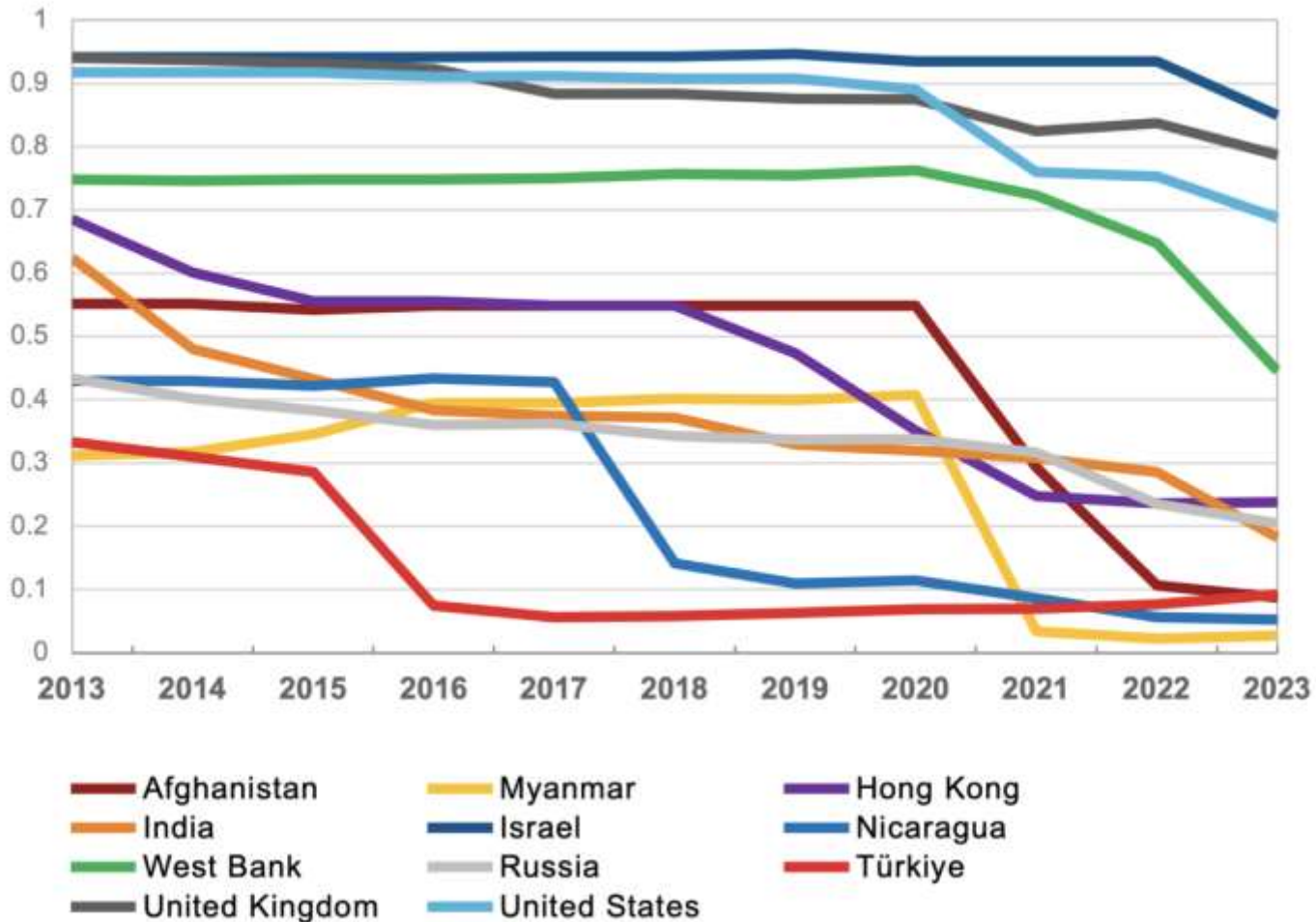


Other **96**

SCHOLARS AT RISK  
NETWORK

protection advocacy training

# Academic Freedom Index



**Scholars in prison projects and  
appeals on individual cases**

# L'ADVOCACY DI SAR EUROPE

- **SAR Europe Advocacy Manager, Denise Roche**
- **European Coordinating Committee for Academic Freedom Advocacy**
- **Advocacy roadmap to guide SAR 2021-2023:**
  1. Firm establishment of a **right of academic freedom in European higher education** and human rights systems.
  2. **European policymaking on academic freedom**, grounded in data and analysis on both *de jure* and *de facto* conditions.
  3. **Implementation of concrete policies, practices and cultures** that promote the broad right of academic freedom at the European, regional and national levels.



# Achievements

- Greater **Europe-wide cooperation** on advocacy for academic freedom & Better coordination and **transfer of knowledge in Europe** between existing and new initiatives for academic freedom: EUA, ERA, EP, existing programs like Pause, PSI ...
- Increased **visibility and knowledge at the European policy level of the importance of academic freedom to democratic society**, and concrete interventions
- Increased **public understanding of attacks on higher education communities** and the importance of academic freedom to society generally

# Latest developments across Europe

- SAR member of a new Council of Europe Project and Group on '[Academic Freedom in Action](#)'
- Fundamental Values Working Group within Bologna Process, [Final Report 2024](#)
- EUA is elaborating Principles for Protecting and Promoting Academic Freedom
- SAHI (students at-risk programme, Norway) Report: '[Activism under attack](#)'
- 'Supporting at-risk researchers with fellowships in Europe' project ([SAFE](#))

**SCHOLARS AT RISK**  
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# L'ADVOCACY DI SAR ITALIA

- **Petizioni e azioni di advocacy** per studiosi/e: [Ahmad Reza Djalali](#), Patrick Zaki, Niloufar Bayani; ricercatori/trici e studenti Bielorussia, Afghanistan, Turchia, [Iran](#)
- Collaborazione [Swetaly su advocacy](#)
- **Student Advocacy Seminars** (Trento, Padova) e Legal clinics (Torino)
- Collaborazioni transnazionali e [European Advocacy Days](#)
- **Relazioni istituite** con MEPs e Membri del Parlamento Italiano & organizzazioni locali, nazionali (Amnesty, Shelter cities, Global Campus of Human Rights...)



- Collaborazione con progetti SAR: **Academic Freedom Monitoring Project** e **Scholars in Prison Project**
- Opportunità di collaborazione tra università e con altre realtà
- Attività di ricerca su violazioni di diritti umani e libertà accademica
- Sviluppo competenze di advocacy



# SAR Student Advocacy Seminars @ unipd

- Dal 2019, corso 6 crediti, oggi: **General Course**
- **Azioni di advocacy** per scholars e studenti: Ahmadreza Djalali, Niloufar Bayani, Patrick Zaki, Marfa Rabkova
- **Articoli su Bolive, lettere a MEP, Wikipedia, petizioni, video, mostre, report per SAR**
- **Presentazioni** degli studenti in altre occasioni pubbliche (ESU a Bruxelles, Student Advocacy Days a Trento, Conversazioni sul Futuro a Lecce)
- Studenti in **stage**, **tesi** sulla libertà accademica
- **Coinvolgimento dell'intera comunità accademica**



# FINAL REPORT

## SCHOLARS AT RISK STUDENT ADVOCAY SEMINAR

2021

COORDINATING PROFESSORS: CLAUDIA  
PADOVANI, FRANCESCA HELM

PREPARED BY  
ALESSANDRA BIASIOLO, SOFIA FONTANA, CATERINA  
CASTAGLIUOLO, AIYM MUZAFAR, DANIELE  
DUCA, RICCARDO VOLPI

Università degli Studi di Padova  
Dipartimento di Scienze Politiche, Giuridiche e Studi Internazionali

**JUNE 9**

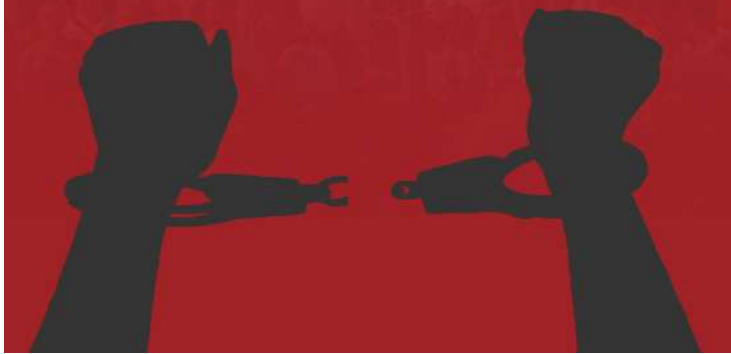
# **BELARUS AT RISK**

**STUDENT ADVOCACY DAY**

**Aula 4**

**Beato Pellegrino Complex**

University of Padua



# **STORIES OF RESISTANCE**

## **From Iran and Afghanistan**

**10 June 2024**  
**14.30-20.00**

**Scholars at Risk Student  
Advocacy Seminar**

- 14:30 Institutional greetings
- 14:45 Afghanistan - Education is not a crime
- 16.00 Iran - Hope for change:  
Iranian students lead the way
- 18.00 Film Refugee Girls  
(Aula 1 Beato Pellegrino Complex)

**Aula 9**

**Beato Pellegrino Complex**  
**via Vendramini 13, Padova**



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DI PADOVA

**Spigi** 100 ANNI DI SCIENZE POLITICHE  
Dipartimento di Scienze Politiche, Giuridiche e Studi Internazionali

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Jean Monnet  
EUROPEAN CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE  
UNIVERSITY OF TRENTO

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protection advocacy learning



European  
Societies and  
Academic  
Freedom



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# EUROPEAN STUDENT ADVOCACY DAYS

Training the Next Generation of  
Advocates for Academic Freedom

**December 14-15, 2023**

Palazzo di Sociologia  
Department of Sociology and Social Research  
via Verdi 26 - 38122 Trento

# 29 April - 30 April 2025

## European Student Advocacy Days 2025

📍 Dundee and Edinburgh

**SCHOLARS AT RISK**  
NETWORK

🛡️ protection 🗣️ advocacy 📖 learning



School of Humanities,  
Social Sciences and Law  
University of Dundee

**Contact: Edzia Carvalho ([e.carvalho@dundee.ac.uk](mailto:e.carvalho@dundee.ac.uk)) - for logistics related to the event, or Student Advocacy Seminar Coordinator, Adam Braver ([adam.braver@nyu.edu](mailto:adam.braver@nyu.edu)) - for queries related to the seminars.**

## About European Student Advocacy Days 2025

Scholars at Risk and the University of Dundee, Scotland, invite students and faculty to join us 29-30 April 2025 for **European Student Advocacy Days 2025**. The event is also supported by [Viasna](#), [Libereco UK](#), the [People's Embassies of Belarus](#), [Scottish Human Rights Defenders Fellowship](#) and the [University of Edinburgh](#).

SAR Italia sta ridefinendo la propria Roadmap per l'advocacy 2025-26. Il gruppo è aperto alla collaborazione.

### **Contact**

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