

# AAAS Science and Human Rights Coalition Meeting

## Agenda

January 15-16, 2015  
AAAS Headquarters  
Washington, D.C.

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### Big Data and Human Rights

Throughout the first day of this meeting, participants will deepen their knowledge about emerging human rights opportunities and concerns connected to Big Data, especially the implications for the work of scientists and engineers. Sessions will explore how collection, analysis, and access to massive data sets can impact human rights, both positively and negatively, and will identify ways in which human rights principles offer guidance for responsible data use.

Since the launch of the AAAS Science and Human Rights Coalition in January 2009, Coalition meetings have convened scientists, engineers, and health professionals with human rights leaders and policy makers to discuss emerging issues at the nexus of science and human rights. The Coalition serves as a catalyst for the increased involvement of scientific and engineering associations and their members in human rights-related activities.

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ADVANCING SCIENCE, SERVING SOCIETY

## Thursday, January 15

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8:30 a.m.      **Registration and Breakfast**

9:00 a.m.      **Welcoming Remarks** (*Auditorium*)

Speaker:      **Jessica Wyndham**, AAAS Scientific Responsibility, Human Rights and Law Program

9:30 a.m.      **Opening Plenary Session: What's New about Big Data?** (*Auditorium*)

What is meant by Big Data? How are these new data collection methods and analytic technologies different? What human rights challenges and opportunities do they present? Do we have to choose between progress and protection of our rights? Do the potential and unrealized benefits of Big Data for all justify relaxing protections aimed at preserving the rights of some?

Introduction:    **Toni Carbo**, Association for Information Science and Technology

Keynote:        **Kavita M. Berger**, AAAS Office of International and Security Affairs

Discussant:     **Theresa Harris**, AAAS Scientific Responsibility, Human Rights and Law Program

10:45 a.m.     **Break**

11:15 a.m.     **Plenary Session: Human Rights Implications of Big Data** (*Auditorium*)

This session will explore some of tensions and challenges raised by Big Data through a human rights lens. What are the human rights obligations of those who create, maintain, access, analyze, and publish massive data sets? Are data a commodity, a right, or a public resource? To whom do the data belong? Who gets to decide how data are collected and used? What mechanisms need to be in place to protect misuse? Are existing accountability mechanisms sufficient? Are our approaches to informed consent too outmoded for use in a Big Data world? What are the particular responsibilities of scientists and engineers to uphold human rights related to Big Data?

Panelists:      **Samir Goswami**, LexisNexis  
                     **Emmanuel Letouzé**, Data-Pop Alliance / MIT Media Lab  
                     **Jeramie D. Scott**, Electronic Privacy Information Center

Moderator:     **Jay D. Aronson**, Center for Human Rights Science, Carnegie Mellon University

12:45 p.m.     **Lunch**

2:00 p.m.      **Concurrent Sessions**

**Introduction to the AAAS Science and Human Rights Coalition** (*Auditorium*)

This session is for new and potential members of the AAAS Science and Human Rights Coalition. Learn about the goals and activities of the Coalition and the international human rights framework that guides its work, giving special attention to the connections of human rights to science and technology.

Speaker:        **Jessica Wyndham**, AAAS

**Workshop: Communicating About the Coalition within Your Organization** (*Revelle*)

*Pre-registrants Only*

Speakers: **Gabe Twose**, Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues  
**Theresa Harris**, AAAS

3:30 p.m. **Break**

4:00 p.m. **Plenary Session: Big Data in the Service of Human Rights: Opportunities and Responsibilities** (*Auditorium*)

Massive data sets are opening up new opportunities for human rights research, documentation, monitoring, and action. Using case studies, speakers in this session will delve into some of the potential applications of Big Data to advance human rights, as well as the potential dangers.

Panelists: **Megan Price**, Human Rights Data Analysis Group  
**Mark Latonero**, University of Southern California, Data & Society Research Institute  
**Kalev H. Leetaru**, Global Database of Events, Language, and Tone (GDELT) Project

Moderator: **Patrick Vinck**, Harvard Humanitarian Initiative

5:30 p.m. **Closing Remarks** (*Auditorium*)

Speakers: **Max Richman**, DataKind DC Chapter / GeoPoll

5:45 p.m. **Reception** (*2<sup>nd</sup> Floor*)

7:00 p.m. **Meeting Adjourns for the Day**

## Friday, January 16

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In keeping with the Coalition's commitment to action and measurable outcomes, Coalition members and affiliates contribute to one of five working groups and a committee. Building on the previous day's discussions, the committee and working groups will take stock of progress made and, together with new and potential members, will continue work toward their objectives for 2015.

*Unless otherwise noted, all are welcome to attend these working meetings, which will be conducted according to the Chatham House Rule regarding attribution.*

**If you are a member of the Executive Directors' Circle, Welfare of Scientists working group or Education and Information Resources working group, please see the security desk upon your arrival to pick up a security badge. A badge is necessary to access the 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> floors.**

8:30 a.m. **Breakfast**

9:00 a.m. **Executive Directors' Circle** (*invitation only*)

9:00 a.m. **Outreach and Communication Committee** (*Revelle*)

Want to see a greater diversity of associations represented in the Coalition? Have innovative ideas for how to communicate with members about our on-going activities and achievements? Share your ideas for expanding Coalition membership and building a strong relationship with our existing members.

Co-Chairs: **Ali Arab**, American Statistical Association  
**Jeffrey H. Toney**, Sigma Xi

10:30 a.m. **Working Group Meetings** (*concurrent*)

**Welfare of Scientists** (*6<sup>th</sup> Floor Conference Room – please see staff for assistance*)

This working group is devoted to the protection and defense of scientists and engineers under threat and will work to increase the effectiveness of professional societies in defending the human rights of our colleagues.

Co-Chairs: **Kimberly Clark**, Affiliated Individual  
**Alec Greer**, Affiliated Individual  
**Melvyn Nathanson**, American Mathematical Society

**Ethics and Human Rights** (*Abelson-Haskins*)

This working group is devoted to fostering appreciation among scientists, engineers and professional associations for the relevance of human rights to ethical standards, the conduct of science, the applications of science and technology, and human research protections.

Chair: **Maya Sabatello**, Affiliated Individual

**Service to the STEM Community** (*Revelle*)

This working group is devoted to building the commitment and capacity of professional associations to contribute meaningfully to human rights issues and activities, including through the application of their discipline's tools and techniques.

Co-chairs: **Margaret Vitullo**, American Sociological Association  
**Clifford Duke**, Affiliated Individual

**Service to the Human Rights Community** (*Room 207*)

This working group is devoted to bridging the scientific, engineering and human rights communities, with the aim of encouraging and facilitating the greater engagement of scientists and engineers in efforts to advance human rights.

Co-chairs: **Brian Gran**, Sociologists Without Borders  
**Susan Hinkins**, Affiliated Individual  
**Oliver Moles**, Capital Area Social Psychological Association

**Education and Information Resources** (*Room 700 – please see staff for assistance*)

This working group is devoted to producing a variety of accessible information materials for the promotion and support of collaboration among scientists, engineers and human rights practitioners.

Co-chairs: **Bruce Friesen**, American Sociological Association  
**Sheryl Luzzadder-Beach**, Association of American Geographers  
**Liljana Stevceva**, Affiliated Individual

- 12:30 p.m.     **Council Lunch** (*Council Members and Student Delegates only*) (*Revelle*)
- 1:00 p.m.     **Council Meeting** (*Council Members only*) (*Abelson-Haskins*)
- 5:00 p.m.     **Meeting Adjourns**

The AAAS Science and Human Rights Coalition  
thanks the

**Capital Area Social Psychological Association**

for its support of this meeting.