Science and Human Rights Course Offered at Princeton

by Richard P. Claude

This year, the Council on Science and Technology at Princeton University initiated a new academic course on “Science and Human Rights: Issues and Action.” The class is an advanced undergraduate seminar designed to enhance understanding of the international law and politics related to global human rights issues, and to explore some of the ways that the fields of science, technology and human rights impinge on one another. Taught by Professor Richard Pierre Claude, the seminar relies on outside speakers who can detail what Professor Claude calls “the contributions of science in the service of human rights.”

In a mid-April meeting of the class, Janet Gruschow, a former member of the staff of the AAAS Science and Human Rights Program, reviewed the history of the Program. Her presentation was followed by Stephen Hansen’s review of AAAS-sponsored consulting activities designed to improve the management of information systems for governmental organizations, such as that of the Honduran National Commission on Human Rights as well as intergovernmental organizations, e.g., the United Nations Human Rights Centre in Geneva.

Over the course of the Spring semester at Princeton, guest speakers in the class included Dr. Gabriel Otterman, M.D., who reported on his field research sponsored by Physicians for Human Rights focusing on health conditions in Cambodian prisons, and Dr. Allan Keller, M.D., who described the UN-sponsored process of developing a human rights curriculum for health professionals in Cambodia, taking Buddhist cultural perspectives into account. He also discussed his role in establishing an interdisciplinary team supplying medical and psychiatric care at the Bellevue Hospital in New York for U.S. immigrants who suffer post-traumatic stress symptoms as human rights victims and torture survivors.

Dr. Robert Kirschner reported on the forensic anthropological work done in Argentina during the mid-1980’s under AAAS

please see “Princeton” on page 2

Health & Human Rights: AAAS Program Initiatives

by Audrey R. Chapman

What does a human rights approach to health care reform entail? How should it be defined and conceptualized? Several major international human rights instruments recognize the right to health care in the context of a more inclusive right to health. For any right to health care, health, or health protection to be effectively implemented, however, this entitlement must be translated into specific obligations and commitments consistent with the resource levels of a society. This is a difficult and complex task. Enumeration of a basic human right to health in key international human rights instruments has not been paralleled by conceptual development specifying the content of this right. Some critics of rights-based approaches therefore argue that the concept of individual rights in general and a right to health care in particular are overloaded to the point of meaninglessness.

In April 1992, well before the inception of the comprehensive health care reform efforts, the Science and Human Rights Program of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS), with the assistance of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, initiated a project to explore the implications of recognizing a right to a basic and adequate standard of health care in the United States and to assess the benefits and problems in doing so. On the basis of a series of consultations during the following two years with a broadly multidisciplinary group of experts, the project proposed recognition of a right to a basic and adequate standard of health consistent with a society’s level of resources. The project also concluded that the right to a basic standard of health care could not be achieved, even in a more affluent society, apart from wider issues of health protection. The two project publications, *Exploring a Human Rights Approach to Health Care Reform* (Audrey R. Chapman, AAAS) and *Health Care Reform: A Human Rights Approach*, (Audrey R. Chapman, ed., Georgetown University Press)
LETELIER-MOFFITT MEMORIAL HUMAN RIGHTS AWARD

On 3 October 1996, the Institute for Policy Studies awarded Dr. Leo Valladares, the National Commissioner of Human Rights in Honduras, the Letelier-Moffitt Memorial Human Rights Award. The award is given to individuals who have distinguished themselves in their dedication and service to the promotion and protection of human rights. The AAAS Science and Human Rights Program has been working with the Commissioner’s office providing technical support for the past year. (Please see Science and Human Rights Work in Central America: Honduras on page 6 for details.)

The following are excerpts from Dr. Valladares’ acceptance speech:

“I feel bewildered because I believe that I do not deserve this award, when all I have done is follow my conscience. I do what I believe is right, and that is why I believe that what I have done is not so extraordinary that it deserves an award. On the other hand, I do believe in a world where there is so much injustice it is important to recognize the efforts of all those who struggle for justice. When I was first named National Commissioner for the Protection of Human Rights in my country, Honduras, I did not know exactly what challenges I would face. No one knows what he or she is capable of until faced with difficulties. I am a man of peace. I have never been able to be indifferent to injustice. That is why, when, as Ombudsman, they asked me to investigate human rights violations which had occurred in my country, I said: I must go forward. I accept the challenge. What I found was an enormous wall of impunity. Everyone knew that human rights violations had been committed—illegal detentions, torture, disappeared persons—but the more serious matter was that the violations were perpetrated or instigated by authorities, who said, [and this is a paradox] that they were defending “democracy and western Christian civilization,” as if democracy can deny human freedom in order to establish freedom, or Christianity can preach hatred to establish love. Such are the true aberrations of the dictatorships which Latin America suffered under during the 1980s. I also found that governments of other “democracies” undertook covert action in foreign countries, violating human rights. They did this, they said, in order to defend their democracy and what they understood to be their “national security.” I believe that, in order to prevent human rights violations in the future and in order not to repeat what happened in Latin America in the last decade, we must always search for the truth. We must find out what happened, who did it, and why they did it. Only through learning the truth can there be justice, and once there is justice reconciliation will come. We cannot permit our “democracies” to be grounded in anti-democratic acts which violate human rights. If we permit this, there will be new abuses. Trials have begun against some of those responsible for violations, but they have not yet been condemned. What is more, those who have been accused are fugitives from justice. We must do much more. We are opening holes in the wall of impunity, but we still have not demolished it. To achieve that, we must join our efforts.”

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sponsoring, and Dr. Mary Clair King (University of Washington) discussed issues of bioethics, genetics, and human rights. She explained how molecular biologists in collaboration with Argentine specialists brought the power of blood-typing and later mitochondrial DNA sequencing to bear on issues of kidnapped children and separated families. The techniques, in a process of “human rights technology transfer,” were later used in Brazil, Guatemala and Kurdistan, and most recently in the former Yugoslavia. On a related matter, Professor Claude shared with the students the results of a report he co-authored with Eric Stover (University of California, Berkeley) on Medicine Under Siege: Violations of Medical Neutrality in the Former Yugoslavia, 1991-1995, published by Physicians for Human Rights.

According to members of the Princeton University Council on Science and Technology, the class was very successful in expanding students’ understanding of scientific freedom and responsibility. It is being taught during the Fall term by Dr. Allan Keller, M.D., whose seminar emphasizes issues related to health, health care, and human rights. A comparable course is also being offered this year by Dr. Vincent Iacopino, M.D., at the University of California, Berkeley.

Teaching internationally defined human rights standards to students of science is entirely new but urgently needed. This is the point of an essay on “Science, Scientists, and Human Rights Education,” by Audrey R. Chapman, Herbert Springer, Louise Springer and Caroline Whitbeck, in Human Rights Education for the 21st Century (Philadelphia, University of Pennsylvania Press, 1996). The volume is co-edited by George Andreopoulos (Yale University) and Richard Pierre Claude. The new book advances the view that it is more important than ever that human rights education be extended beyond the law schools and social science and into the curricula of science training, schools of engineering, and medical colleges. The foundation for this view was succinctly articulated by the Russian physicist Andre Sakharov who asserted, “It is now both morally and technologically true that we can no longer ignore the way people are treated in their human rights from one country to another.”

Professor Claude was a member of the AAAS Committee on Scientific Freedom and Responsibility from 1989 to 1994.
TREATMENT FOR TORTURE SURVIVORS AND
HUMAN RIGHTS MONITORING ATTACKED IN TURKEY

On 13 September 1996, two representatives of the Human Rights Foundation of Turkey appeared in an Adana Penal Court for the third time. Tufan Köse, a doctor, and Mustafa Çinkılıç, a lawyer, have been charged under articles 526 and 530 of the Turkish Penal Code for “operating an unlicensed health center,” and “negligence in denouncing a crime.” Previous trials took place on 10 May, and 5 July 1996. As in previous trials, no decision was handed down. However, a new trial has been scheduled for 8 November 1996. A verdict is expected in November.

In two previous trials the Court demanded 167 medical records from the Foundation’s Adana center, including confidential records from victims of torture and the names of individuals who have collaborated with the foundation. The defendants refused the Court’s order citing doctor-patient confidentiality as one of their arguments. In an attempt to comply with the Court’s request without violating doctor-patient confidentiality, the Foundation submitted a summary of its patient files. Yet, the Court maintains its position that the Foundation has not complied with its demands. During a press conference following the September trial, Inge Genefke, Medical Director of the Rehabilitation and Research Center for Torture Victims in Denmark, stated that “this is the first time in more than twenty years of working with any of about 100 centers existing worldwide that we have experienced such a demand from any government.” She added that, “this will undermine the whole medical profession in Turkey.”

The Foundation operates four centers for the treatment and rehabilitation of torture victims and monitors human rights violations in Turkey. The Foundation’s international status as a credible source of information about Turkey’s human rights practices has placed it out of favor with key government agencies. Charges were brought against all four of the Foundation’s centers. Although charges were dropped against the Ankara and Izmir centers, the Adana center remains on trial, and a new trial will begin on 1 November in Istanbul Beyoğlu Penal Court of Peace against a representative from the Istanbul center. Like Doctor Köse, the Istanbul representative, Doctor Şükran Akm, has been charged with “operating an unlicensed health center.”

The current cases against the Foundation can be traced to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, which has expressed its annoyance at having to answer to criticism based on the Foundation’s documentation work. In particular, the case was initiated by a letter written by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on 21 December 1995. The letter was sent to various state agencies, including the Ministries of Health and Justice, claiming that the Foundation uses its centers to disseminate political propaganda about the prevalence of torture in Turkey. At the behest of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, investigations against the Foundation were launched by the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Justice, the Directorate of Foundations, and most recently the State Security Court.

The State Security Court’s investigation represents a significant escalation in pressure against the Foundation. The Court deals with defendants accused of crimes such as terrorism, drug smuggling, membership in illegal organizations, and espousing or disseminating ideas prohibited by law as damaging the indivisibility of the state.

The case has prompted a wide range of international support for the Foundation. A number of U.S. based organizations, including human rights, medical, torture treatment, and scientific groups protested the Turkish government’s actions in a joint letter handed to the then Foreign Minister, Emre Gönensay, during his visit to Washington in May 1996. A joint
Computing and Human Rights

The AAAS Science and Human Rights Program recognizes that computing has become an integral part of human rights activities. We hope these items help keep you informed about computing as it is applied to human rights.

Increased Security of the AAAS Human Rights Action Network (AAASHRAN)

The AAAS Science and Human Rights Program is pleased to announce an upgrade to its AAASHRAN service. As of 11 October 1996, AAASHRAN messages carry the “electronic signature” of the AAAS Science and Human Rights Program.

The Internet offers the Program greater access to thousands of people who support our cause. However, with the Internet’s openness comes the risk that someone might deliberately create messages indistinguishable from our AAASHRAN alerts and distribute them to our network. Or someone might modify an AAASHRAN as it passes through the system. With our electronic signature, AAASHRAN recipients will be able to confirm that each alert originated at the AAAS, and also verify that the message is in its original, unmodified form upon receipt.

The appearance of the alerts has changed only slightly. Each alert now begins with a header, which marks the beginning of the signed message and ends with the electronic signature itself. The signature itself appears as a random series of letters and numbers at the bottom of the message. Otherwise, each message maintains the standard AAASHRAN format to which subscribers are accustomed.

No special software is needed to view the signed AAASHRAN messages. However, in order to verify the authenticity of an alert, one needs a copy of the software package PGP (Pretty Good Privacy) and a copy of the Program’s public key, which is available on the Program’s Web page. PGP is free software and is widely available on the Internet and a Web search on “PGP” will turn up hundreds of references.

AAAS Connections

Surf to our website, tunnel into our gopher service, send us e-mail, or subscribe to our Listserv. The AAAS Human Rights Action Network (AAASHRAN), which distributes human rights alerts concerning scientists, engineers and health professionals via electronic mail.

World Wide Web
http://www.aaas.org/spp/dspp/shr/shr.htm

Gopher
gopher://gopher.aaas.org:70/11/activities/spp/shrp

E-mail
shrp@aaas.org

AAASHRAN Listserv
To become a subscriber to AAASHRAN, send the following message:

SUBSCRIBE AAASHRAN
firstname lastname
to LISTSERV@GWUMC.GWU.EDU
on the Internet.

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developed the concrete requirements and implications of recognizing a right to health care.

The ten criteria which the project identified as constituting a human rights approach to health care reform have been used both to evaluate the various proposals put forward and to assess the background and human rights implications of the failure to achieve comprehensive health care reform. An analysis of the Clinton administration’s proposed Health Security Act, was assigned a grade of C+ from a human rights perspective. This analysis is contained in Health Care Reform. A paper entitled “The Defeat of Comprehensive Health Care Reform: A Human Rights Perspective,” is available from the AAAS Science and Human Rights Program.

One of the findings of the initial AAAS project was the importance of developing improved systems to monitor health care access, but to do so in a manner consistent with human rights principles. This led the Program to undertake a second major project, also with the support of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, to explore ways to utilize health care information systems to monitor the status of underserved and disadvantaged communities while also protecting privacy and nondiscrimination and enabling individuals to have greater control over the uses of their health care data. In doing so, the study addresses a fundamental dilemma: human rights considerations seemingly impose contradictory requirements for a health care information system. On the one hand, achievement of greater universality in access to basic health care requires careful monitoring of the availability of health care services, particularly to such groups as homeless persons, migrant workers and their families, the poor, legal and undocumented immigrants, and ethnic and racial minorities, in order to identify and address problems and obstacles to their receiving health care. To be able to undertake such systematic and ongoing monitoring, researchers need considerable amounts of good quality and appropriate data and the ability to link data sources. On the other hand, rights to privacy and nondiscrimination presume legal and regulatory restrictions on the manner in which data are collected, linked, and applied, as well as strict limitations on access to data. Assuring that data collection and application are consistent with the requirements of the principle of consent also imposes restrictions that can inhibit research. Background papers and the conclusions and recommendations of this project will be published early in 1997 in an edited volume tentatively entitled Developing Health Care Information Systems Consistent with Human Rights Principles (Audrey R. Chapman, ed., Sheed and Ward).
SHRP Work in South Africa

The Truth and Reconciliation Commission of South Africa (TRCSA) is by far the largest effort ever undertaken to expose the human rights violations of a previous regime. The Commission's mandate covers over thirty years of South African turmoil. In addition to analyzing the patterns of violations that occurred during its mandate period, the TRCSA is charged with granting amnesty to applicants who make a full disclosure of their acts. These tasks must be carried out in a much larger context than other recent Commissions.

In January, 1996, the Program was invited to assist the TRCSA to develop an information management system with which the Commission could ensure that its preliminary and final findings are based on a consistent, systematic methodology for data collection, data processing, data representation, and data analysis.

The Program's work with the TRCSA has included helping to design an organizational structure to manage the flow of information from interviewers, researchers, and investigators to other parts of the organization. Program staff have also participated in questionnaire design, developing standards for data processing, database design, and preliminary design of analytic reports.

During the most recent mission to South Africa (the third), Program staff conducted a full organizational evaluation of the TRCSA's information system, and travelled to all four regional offices (Johannesburg, Durban, East London, and Cape Town), to meet with the regional managers, information managers, data processors, and interviewers. The Program also met with most of the seventeen Commissioners and the majority of the supplementary Committee members. Through these discussions, the Program developed an analysis of the successes and problems in different parts of each office.

Future missions will focus on helping the TRCSA define questions from their research agenda in terms of the interview, documentary, and physical evidence at their disposal in their information system.

New Hong Kong Initiative

In anticipation of the transfer of Hong Kong to Chinese control on July 1, 1997, the AAAS Science and Human Rights Program has been accelerating its contacts with human rights advocates in that territory. In June 1996, Program staff conducted a "needs assessment" mission to Hong Kong to explore ways to use information technologies to help address a number of potential threats to human rights and civil society raised by the transfer of authority. These threats include possible efforts to restrict the free press, interfere with the work of human rights advocates, and limit the free flow of information in and out of the territory.

During their one-week visit, Program staff met with local, regional, and international human rights groups, as well as with academics, barristers, journalists, labor rights activists, and pro-democracy politicians. Most of these groups and individuals felt that it is becoming increasingly critical that they be able to project their concerns to an international audience. Many saw the Internet as a cheap and effective way of reaching a worldwide audience, communicating with colleagues overseas, conducting advocacy campaigns, and getting information from the outside world that may, eventually, be censored out of other news media. However, for those groups hoping to get on-line, a recent statement by Chinese President Jiang Zemin announcing Beijing's plan to monitor the content of the Internet in China has raised uncertainty about on-line privacy after the transition.

Based on the findings of this mission, the Program now hopes to return to Hong Kong in early 1997 to hold a training workshop on information technologies and human rights. The workshop will provide a forum in which human rights advocates in the territory can:
1) meet to discuss how they are using or plan to use the Internet in their work;
2) be trained in a number of Internet applications (including tools for electronic publishing in Chinese);
3) be introduced to data security and standards which will allow them to protect electronic information kept by their offices, including information about their contacts and sources, as well as help ensure privacy of communications sent over the Internet; and
4) become familiar with human rights information already on-line and skills for accessing and utilizing it.

☐ Mark Girouard

☐ Patrick Ball
Introducing Two New Staff Members at the AAAS Science & Human Rights Program!

Patrick Ball joined the Science and Human Rights Program as a Senior Program Associate in August, 1996. For the past three years Mr. Ball has been a consultant to the Program, working as the AAAS representative in information management assistance to the Haitian Truth Commission, the International Center for Human Rights Research (CIDHO - Guatemala), and as one of the AAAS participants in the July, 1994 human rights database meeting which produced “A Definition of Database Standards for Human Rights Agencies” (see “Hot Off the Press” in this newsletter, p. 7). His new work at the Program includes the development of a series of resource handbooks for human rights information management, as well as ongoing support for the CIDHO and the South African Truth and Reconciliation Commission.

Ria Galanos joined the Program in May as a Program Assistant. She was formerly with the Science and Engineering Fellowship Program, also within the AAAS Directorate for Science and Policy Programs. She holds a B.S. in Aeronautical Engineering from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute.

Science and Human Rights Work in Central America

HONDURAS

The National Commission for the Protection of Human Rights in Honduras was established by Presidential Decree in 1992 and now is a constitutionally-based organization. Its first Commissioner, Dr. Leo Valladares, is charged with investigating historic human rights violations, especially those that took place during the 1980s, and monitoring current human rights violations in Honduras.

Since November 1995, the Science and Human Rights Program has been advising the Commission on the use of electronic communication and data security and encryption. The Program is in the process of developing a large-scale, computerized information management system for the Commission.

Several modules of the information system are now in place. These modules contain bibliographical data: full text press clippings, which are updated daily from newspapers and on-line information sources; U.S. government declassified documents (from the D.O.S., C.I.A., and N.S.C.); transcripts of testimonies concerning human rights violations in the 1980s; national laws; and the Honduran Constitution.

The Program will now develop the modules for historical casework, which focus mainly on human rights violations perpetrated against the civilian population and current Quejas (complaints) collected and processed by the Commission. Once complete, this system will enable the Commission to track and analyze human rights violations, by using data from violations that have been reported, news sources, declassified documents, and Honduran law.

GUATEMALA

The Science and Human Rights Program is pleased to welcome the first report from the Guatemalan International Center for Human Rights Research, known by their Spanish acronym CIDHO. Their report, co-authored by the Mutual Support Group (GAM), was presented in Guatemala City on 5 July 1996. The report is titled “Draining the sea: an analysis of terror in three rural communities, 1980-1984.” It focuses on differences in the patterns of violence in Rabinal, Nebaj, and Santo Domingo Suchitepecuentes provinces. The report reflects over 7,000 interviews conducted by the CIDHO with individuals who suffered human rights violations.

The Science and Human Rights Program has actively collaborated with the CIDHO for the past three years. The delegation organized by the AAAS Science and Human Rights Program attended the Foundation’s second trial on 5 July 1996 and met with government officials to discuss the case. The delegation included representatives from AAAS, the Berlin Medical Association, Doctors of the World, the Helsinki Commission, and Physicians for Human Rights.

The Courts’ decision in this case not only affected the defendants on trial, it could lead to the closure of the only organization providing medical treatment to torture survivors in Turkey. If the government is successful in closing the Foundation, torture survivors in Turkey will have no recourse for treatment and human rights monitoring in Turkey will be severely hampered.

Elisa Muñoz

Stephen Hansen

Patrick Ball
Hot Off the Press!

The following publications are available through the AAAS Science and Human Rights Program unless otherwise indicated:

1996 DIRECTORY OF PERSECUTED SCIENTISTS, ENGINEERS, AND HEALTH PROFESSIONALS

The Science and Human Rights Program is pleased to announce the publication of the 1996 Directory of Persecuted Scientists, Engineers, and Health Professionals. The Directory contains the cases of 609 scientists, engineers, and health professionals whose human rights have been violated. Of this total, 496 are active cases.

This year, Syria remains the country with the largest number of cases since the Directory's initial publication in 1992. Libya continues to be the second largest source of violations documented in the Directory. China has ranked third in the number of cases appearing in the Directory since 1994. Ethiopia remains the fourth largest contributor of cases to the Directory. Although six cases from Cuba were closed, this year that country remains the fifth largest contributor to the Directory with a total of twenty-eight active cases. The Directory also depicts a marked increase in the number of cases in the Sudan and in Burma/Myanmar.

The breakdown of professions in this year's Directory has changed significantly since last year's publication. Last year, health professionals accounted for 44 percent of the total number of cases, this year they constitute 29 percent of the total. Likewise, engineers, who last year represented 37 percent, this year comprise 29 percent. All other scientists make up the remaining 42 percent of the cases. These changes are due in large part to releases that occurred in Syria, where most of the individuals imprisoned belonged to the engineering and medical professions.

As the number of cases of scientists, engineers, and health professionals that come to the Program's attention continues to grow, so do our efforts on their behalf. The Program has increasingly made an effort to work jointly with scientific, engineering, and human rights organizations to improve the condition of scientists and engineers around the world. We hope to continue to work collaboratively, not only with human rights organizations that have been instrumental in our casework activities, but with the broader scientific community, whom we feel can play a large role in the promotion and protection of human rights as a matter of scientific freedom and responsibility.

AAAS RESOURCE SERIES ON INFORMATION MANAGEMENT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS APPLICATIONS

The Science and Human Rights Program has begun the publication of a series of written resources that will discuss the use of information management technology for human rights applications. In addition to the first two volumes now available, the topics to be covered include: data security and authentication, human rights survey design and interview techniques, database design, database types, and statistical analysis. The Program hopes that these handbooks will provide a basis for a wider diffusion of these techniques to the human rights community.

Who Did What to Whom? Planning & Implementing a Large Scale Human Rights Data Project

First in the series, this handbook discusses why and how a human rights organization might build an information management system. It is principally an overview of the topics covered in more detail in later volumes. Chapters include: 1) an introduction that defines an information management system, 2) a section on problems with improperly designed information management systems, 3) a general overview of how an information management system might be built and what benefits can be realized, and 4) information regarding the personnel and material needed to build such a system.

Using the Internet: A Primer for Human Rights Organisations and Individuals

This second handbook focuses on the needs of individuals and organizations who wish to gain access to the Internet and take advantage of some of its features for human rights work. Topics covered include: how to make the connection to the Internet, the use of electronic mail, data transfers and security, and an introduction to accessing other Internet-based resources, such as electronic mailing lists, and file archives.

Haitian Truth Commission Report

The Program welcomes the publication of the report from the Haitian National Commission for Truth and Justice (CNVJ). The report was placed in the National Library in Port-au-Prince in the last week of September, 1996, nearly 8 months after it was presented to President Aristide. Throughout 1995, the AAAS Science and Human Rights Program assisted the CNVJ by providing extensive support for their information management system, as well as by organizing the work of Argentine, Guatemalan, and North American forensic anthropologists who did exhumations and laboratory work. With the publication of the report, the long-awaited legal process against the perpetrators of gross human rights abuses can now begin.
About the Report on Science and Human Rights

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The AAAS Science and Human Rights Program collects and disseminates information about foreign scientists, engineers, and health professionals who are victims of human rights abuses or who experience infringement of academic freedom. It also develops the application of scientific methods and techniques to the documentation and prevention of human rights abuses. The concerns of the Science and Human Rights Program are universal and independent of the ideology of any government or individuals it attempts to aid.

The Science and Human Rights Program is within the AAAS Directorate for Science and Policy Programs. The Program and its Committee on Scientific Freedom and Responsibility monitor the actions of the governments of the United States and other nations which may circumscribe the freedom of scientists or restrict the ability of scientists to exercise their professional responsibilities, and report on developments affecting scientific freedom and responsibility.

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