

COALITION CALENDAR

Jan. 25-26, 2018 Coalition Meeting: Human Rights in STEM Education

At the next Coalition meeting, learn from case examples and contribute to discussions aimed at identifying key challenges, considering potential models for integrating human rights into STEM education, and articulating needs and opportunities for mentoring and other types of faculty support. The keynote speaker will be [Dr. Juan Gilbert](#) from the University of Florida. [Registration is now open](#). Those who cannot join us at AAAS can [view](#) the plenary sessions on the Coalition website and ask questions on Twitter using #shrcoalition.

COALITION ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND ACTIVITIES

ASA Issues Statement of Support for Greek Statistician, Andreas Georgiou

The American Statistical Association (ASA) [issued a statement](#) and [press release](#) on January 10, 2018, calling on Greek authorities to halt legal proceedings against Andreas Georgiou, former head of the Hellenic Statistical Authority (ELSTAT) and his colleagues, who corrected inaccurate and misleading data about Greece's deficit and debt. Georgiou and his colleagues have faced numerous human rights and legal violations. The statement is the latest in a series of actions by the world's statistical community to express support for Georgiou and the process and value of producing official statistics according to statistical rules and principles. The statement, as of its publication, had an 39 additional signatures from scientific organizations (including Coalition members: the American Educational Research Association and the American Sociological Association) and 651 from individuals. The letter remains [open for additional sign-ons](#).

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Call for Coalition Project Leaders

Are you looking for a way to get involved in the Coalition in 2018? The Coalition is seeking individuals to become [Project Leaders](#) for new projects. These are projects that have been identified by Coalition members as important for advancing the Coalition's mission and goals. Most can be done remotely with online communication, email, and teleconferences. This is an opportunity to gain leadership experience, network with scientists, engineers, and health professionals interested in human rights, and make a lasting contribution. Click [here](#) to learn more.

Director of Strategic Impact and Campaigns, Earth Rights International

Earth Rights International is looking for a [Director of Strategic Impact and Campaigns](#) to start as soon as possible. The successful candidate should have at least five years' experience in corporate campaigning, environmental and/or climate justice, human rights, and policy advocacy with experience in human rights and environmental legal issues.

Jan. 26, 2018: Call for Papers and Workshops, World Congress on Justice for Children

World Congress on Justice for Children has issued a [call for proposals](#) to organize a workshop or contribute a paper. The World Congress will take place on May 29, 2018.

Jan. 31, 2018: Associate Director: Ethics, Technology, and Human Rights

Business for Social Responsibility's (BSR) Engagement Department is searching for an [Associate Director for Ethics, Technology, and Human Rights](#). The Associate Director will develop BSR's positions on and deliver consulting services regarding ethics, technology, and human rights, and lead the creation of new human rights tools, methodologies, and approaches that are suited to the emerging digital age.

Feb. 1, 2018: Research Initiatives Manager, Human Rights Funders Network

Human Rights Funders Network is looking for a new [Research Initiatives Manager](#) to lead efforts to build knowledge about and influence the field of human rights philanthropy. This position will oversee the [Advancing Human Rights initiative](#), which maps the field of human rights philanthropy and presents case studies that demonstrate the diversity and breadth of human rights funding.

Feb. 19, 2018: Call for Abstracts, Public Health and Health Equality

The Human Rights Forum of the American Public Health Association (APHA) seeks [abstracts for the APHA's Annual Meeting](#) occurring November 10th – 14th in San Diego, California.. The purpose of the Forum is to advance the idea that human rights are an essential part of public health. The theme for this year's Annual Meeting is health equity. The specific topics that one can submit an abstract under are: right to health advocacy in the United States; a rights-based approach to global health governance; sexual and reproductive health and rights; rights to participation and to access information; and sanitation and homelessness in California: social determinants' impact on health.

Feb. 20, 2018: Applications for Course on Health Systems Through Crisis and Recovery

The Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna in Pisa, Italy, is hosting a [course](#), "Health Systems Through Crisis and Recovery," from April 9–20 2018, which will focus on human rights, conflict management, and development cooperation. Applications are due Feb. 20, 2018.

Feb. 28, 2018: Call for Input, Submissions From Indigenous Peoples

The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) is [calling for submissions](#) from indigenous peoples to inform the study being carried out by the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. The study will focus on the theme of free, prior and informed consent.

SCIENCE AND HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE USA**Apple to Vote on Shareholder Proposal for Establishing Human Rights Committee**

At its Annual Meeting on February 13, 2018, shareholders of Apple Inc. will vote on whether to [establish a human rights committee](#) on its board to review, assess, disclose, and make recommendations to enhance Apple's policy and practice on human rights, according to Apple's [proxy statement](#) filed with the US Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC). Jing Zhao, president of the [US-Japan-China Comparative Policy Research Institute](#) and an Apple shareholder, initiated the proposal to establish a human rights committee. In December 2017, Apple [lost a ruling](#) by the SEC in which the company sought not to include the proposal at its meeting. Apple's board has recommended a vote against the proposal, arguing in the [proxy statement](#) that the company already has an independent audit committee and Supplier Responsibility Team with oversight over its existing commitment to social responsibility and human rights and that a separate human rights committee is not necessary.

Tech Companies, Congress Address Harmful Internet Content and Free Speech

Representatives from Google, Facebook, and Twitter recently [testified](#) before the US Senate Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation on what their companies are doing to screen and remove extremist content and to implement counterspeech measures such as creating more anti-terror messaging to pre-empt violent messages at the source. A recent [report](#) by the NYU Stern Center for Business and Human Rights addresses this issue by examining the ways in companies can lessen the dangers of harmful content while still preserving free speech rights through a more proactive approach to governance of digital platforms. The report centers on two types of dangerous online content, terrorist incitement and politically motivated disinformation, as identified by the World Economic Forum's Global Future Council on Human Rights.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Role of Smartphones and Other Digital Platforms Among Refugees Examined

In a recent [article](#), Mark Latonero, Lead Researcher at the Data and Society Research Institute (and [Coalition meeting speaker](#)), discussed the tensions between emerging technologies and the law, in particular the inadvertent ways in which technology companies have made interventions in the refugee crisis. He explains that digital infrastructures are facilitating the movement of people on a mass scale, but also serve as a mechanism for social control.

NEW REPORTS AND RESOURCES

Reports Evaluate Countries on Civil Liberties and Internet and Digital Media Rights

Freedom House, an organization supporting democracy, civil liberties, and human rights, has issued [Freedom in the World 2018](#), the latest edition of its annual report on political rights and civil liberties. The report concluded that democracy faced its most serious crisis in decades in 2017 as its basic tenets—including guarantees of free and fair elections, the rights of minorities, freedom of the press, and the rule of law—came under attack around the world. The report cited that 71 countries suffered net declines in political rights and civil liberties, with 35 registering gains. Over a 12-year period since 2006, 113 countries have seen a net decline, and 62 have experienced a net improvement.

A separate report, [Freedom on the Net 2017](#), provides the results of an annual survey and analysis of Internet and digital media freedom around the world. The report evaluates ways in which governments and non-state actors restrict intrinsic rights online. Each country assessment includes three categories: (1) obstacles to access; (2) limits on content; and (3) violations of user rights.

2017 Report on Human Rights in the United States Released

The US Human Rights Network has released [Advancing Human Rights: A Status Report on Human Rights in the United States](#). The report connects important social justice issues, such as environmental and climate justice, healthcare, education, mass incarceration, immigration policies and privacy, to relevant international human rights laws and recommendations that have been made by international human rights bodies.

PEOPLE

Welcome New Project Team Leader, Anne Bryden

Among the new projects approved by the Coalition Steering Committee in December 2017 is “Human Rights, Science, and Disability: Attitudes of Health Professionals and Scientists,” which aims to measure how health professionals and scientist innovators understand and employ human rights principles as related to their clients’ enjoyment of the benefits of scientific progress. The team is led by [Anne Bryden](#), an occupational therapist and research manager at Case Western Reserve University. Welcome to the Coalition!

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