

COALITION CALENDAR

July 27-28: Coalition Meeting | Article 15 – the Right to Science

[Registration now open!](#) The AAAS Science and Human Rights Coalition meeting will focus on the right to enjoy the benefits of scientific progress and its applications. Presentations will include updates on the Coalition's project to better define this right in international human rights discourse and opportunities for future involvement of Coalition members. Confirmed speakers include Mikel Mancisidor, a member of the UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.

COALITION ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND ACTIVITIES

Evaluation 101 for Human Rights Organizations: Part 2 Recording Now Available

The second webinar in a series of four designed to provide foundational information on program evaluation for human rights organizations was held on May 15. [Recordings](#) of this webinar and the first session in the series are now online, along with a growing list of resources for human rights organizations. Two additional webinars will be held in October and November. This series is a project of the Coalition, led by Capital Area Social Psychological Association (CASPA) representative Ollie Moles.

Statistical Approaches for Documenting Human Trafficking

Amstat News, the membership magazine of the American Statistical Association, recently [recognized](#) presentations at a recent event at AAAS by Davina Durgana and Paul Zador, statisticians working in anti-trafficking.

Student Competitions Winners to be Announced

Thank you to all who have served as judges for the Coalition's student essay and digital media competitions. The finalists have been selected and winners will be announced by the end of June.

APA Members Raise Awareness of Threats to Academics in Turkey

The American Psychological Association's (APA) *Monitor on Psychology* featured an [article](#) about the grave situation of academics in Turkey. Thousands of academics in Turkey—including many psychologists—have been targeted in the government's crackdown on academic and other freedoms. Several international groups, including Scholars at Risk, the Institute of International Education's Scholar Rescue Fund, and the Philip Schwartz Initiative in Germany, are lending support.

CALLS FOR ACTION

Grave Concern for of Bahraini Academic and Activist Sentenced to 10-Years in Prison

Scholars at Risk, the Committee of Concerned Scientists, and three other human rights organizations [have issued a joint statement](#) expressing grave concern over the case of Bahraini academic and activist Professor Khalil Al-Halwachi, who was convicted and sentenced to 10 years in prison in March 2017 in apparent retaliation for his peaceful expressive and associative activity. In a joint statement issued on June 7, the partner organizations have urged the Bahraini authorities to release Professor Al-Halwachi and drop any charges against him. Pending this, they are calling on authorities to ensure appropriate medical care, humane treatment, and due process rights throughout his appeal proceedings.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Work at AAAS – Director, Center of Science, Policy and Society Programs

AAAS is [hiring](#) a Director for the Center of Science, Policy and Society Programs (one of which is the AAAS Scientific Responsibility, Human Rights and Law Program). The Director will lead this

AAAS Center in supporting the AAAS mission, with an emphasis on advocating for and contributing to activities that focus on the intersection of science and policy, as well as science and societal interest. Applications are due July 30, 2017.

Call for Articles: Social Science Experiments to Support Human Rights

The *openGlobalRights* blog has launched an online [debate](#) on the use of social science experiments to support the work of human rights advocates. Topics addressed so far include applications of marketing research and public opinion polling, experiments to see which messages are most effective, and a video game experiment that reveals discriminatory practices. Authors conducting research in related areas are invited to submit articles between 700-1,000 words. Please contact Theresa Harris (tharris@aaas.org) if you would like to discuss a potential article.

Aug. 21: Submission for Special Issue on Business and Human Rights

The *Nordic Journal of Human Rights* invites [submissions](#) for a special issue on research methods related to business and human rights (BHR) to be published in 2018. The special issue will focus on the interdisciplinary potential of BHR research by inviting contributions that develop new methods for research and analysis or pragmatically apply methods across academic disciplines.

Aug. 31: Call for Manuscripts: Human Rights and Infectious Diseases

A new cross-journal article collection in [BMC International Health and Human Rights](#) and [BMC Infectious Diseases](#) is looking to highlight studies that illuminate human rights infringements as structural determinants of infectious diseases, including sexually transmitted infections. This includes epidemiologic studies, interventional outcomes leveraging implementation research, implementation research methods, mathematical modeling studies, and qualitative study of the contexts in which infectious disease programs are being implemented. Research to be considered for inclusion can be submitted directly to [BMC International Health and Human Rights](#) and [BMC Infectious Diseases](#) or you can email presubmission inquiries to Philippa.Harris@biomedcentral.com

September 28-29: Human Rights and the Arctic

The seventh [Human Rights and Science Symposium](#), hosted by the Council of Finnish Academies, will discuss the human rights dimension in Arctic studies. The focal themes revolve around the rights of indigenous peoples, preconditions of scientific research in the Arctic, and the human rights perspectives in research and utilization of natural resources. While the program on September 28 is only for European science academy representatives, the event on September 29 is open to the public.

Nov. 5-17: Global Mental Health: Trauma and Recovery Certificate Program

The [Harvard Program in Refugee Trauma's](#) (HPRT) Global Mental Health: Trauma and Recovery Certificate Program is [seeking applicants](#). The training program offers a cultural and scientific learning experience to address the needs of traumatized persons or communities worldwide. The course offers a two-week learning program in Italy followed by five months of collaborative online learning. Certificates of completion are awarded by HPRT and the Harvard Medical School Department of Continuing Education.

SCIENCE AND HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE USA

Reports Document Medical Neglect in US Immigration Detention Centers

A [blog](#) of the Law Professors Network points to a growing body of data that indicates that healthcare at immigration detention centers falls far below human rights standards. The blog cites a series of recent reports, including reports from the New York Lawyers for the Public Interest, Human Rights Watch, and the ACLU Detention Watch.

UN Global Compact Issues Statement on US Withdrawal from Paris Agreement

Lise Kingo, CEO and Executive Director of the UN Global Compact, a voluntary initiative composed of 9,454 companies in 162 countries focused on aligning strategies and operations with universal principles on human rights, labor, environment, and anti-corruption practices, [re-affirmed](#) its commitment to working with businesses to mainstream leadership standards on climate, including on reducing emissions, pricing carbon, and setting science-based targets. The comments followed the decision by the US government to withdraw from the Paris Agreement, an international agreement advanced by the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change to address greenhouse gas emissions mitigation and reducing the impacts of climate change.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

American Geophysical Union Statement on the Rights and Responsibilities of Scientists

The American Geophysical Union has adopted a [position statement](#), “The Responsibilities and Rights of Scientists,” acknowledging that scientists have certain “rights and responsibilities that must be followed individually and defended universally.” The statement charges all scientists with three key responsibilities: demonstrating excellence in research conduct; adhering to the highest professional ethics and integrity; and supporting a diverse, inclusive environment. In turn, the statement says that all scientists should have the right to conduct science without fear of retaliation; to collaborate with others independent of political opinion or affiliation; and to freely and openly communicate their findings, protect data, and respond to inaccurate portrayals or usage of science

UN Human Rights Office Forms Partnership with Microsoft on Human Rights

The Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights has formed a landmark five-year [partnership](#) with Microsoft Corp. Microsoft will provide \$5 million to support the work of the UN Human Rights Office with a particular focus on the development and use of advanced technology designed to better predict, analyze, and respond to critical human rights situations. Microsoft will also work with the UN Human Rights Office to raise awareness of the role that companies can and should play in driving respect for human rights and promoting more responsible business conduct globally. Microsoft also will work to promote broader adoption and implementation of the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, which provide a global standard for preventing and addressing the risk of adverse impacts on human rights linked to business activity and will also provide support for human rights advocacy and outreach campaigns of the UN Human Rights Office in key areas, such as freedom of expression, data protection and privacy, and inclusion.

Marine Scientists Urged To Adhere to Human Rights in the Seafood Industry

In line with the United Nations Oceans Conference in New York in early June, Conservation International, the University of Washington, and other organizations issued a [paper](#) calling on marine scientists to focus on social issues such as human rights violations in the seafood industry as outlined in a recent *Science* [article](#). The paper identifies three key principles that together establish a global standard for social responsibility in the seafood sector: protecting human rights, dignity and respecting access to resources; ensuring equality and equitable opportunities; and improving food and livelihood security.

NEW REPORTS AND RESOURCES

Science of Migration Examined in Special Issue of *Science*

A [special issue](#) of *Science* explores how science provides more clarity about the movement of people. The mental stress of exile and ways to address prejudice against immigrants are among the topics addressed. In addition, a [new visualization](#) developed by the Community Robotics, Education, and Technology Empowerment (CREATE) Lab at Carnegie Mellon University shows the flow of refugees around the world from 2000 to 2015 and highlights lesser-known stories in Africa, Sri Lanka, and Colombia as parallels to what has been happening recently in Syria.

Scientific Analysis for Investigating Use of Chemical Weapons Highlighted

The latest issue of *Public Interest Report*, published by the Federation of American Scientists, features an [article](#) co-authored by Jennifer Knaack and Keith Ward on the use of chemical weapons in Jebel Marra, Darfur. Ward's work with Human Rights Watch and Amnesty International through the AAAS On-call Scientists initiative were also featured in an [interview](#) in *El Periódico*.

Human Rights-Based Approaches to Women and Children's Health Examined

A new [report](#) by the High Level Working Group on Health and Human Rights of Women, Children and Adolescents, formed in May 2016 by the UN and the World Health Organization, calls for action relating to human rights and healthcare, particularly for women and children. The report offers recommendations required by the Global Strategy for Women's, Children's and Adolescents' Health (2016-2030), which seeks to provide a human rights-based roadmap by prioritizing the human right to health.

PEOPLE

Brian Gran was recently elected Chair of the American Sociological Association's (ASA) Section on Human Rights. Gran has been involved in the Coalition since its early days as a representative of the ASA and Sociologists without Borders. He has also served as a working group co-chair and now serves as the leader of the project team developing indicators for the right to enjoy the benefits of scientific progress and its applications.

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