
COALITION CALENDAR

July 12-13, 2018: Human Rights and Higher Education

The next Coalition meeting is only a month away! [Register](#) now so you won't miss these compelling talks on the human rights responsibilities of academic institutions, how these obligations frame important issues such as inclusion, academic freedom, accountability, and community relationships, and ways Coalition members can help address these critical concerns. In addition to a keynote address by Shirley Malcom, AAAS Director of Education and Human Resources Programs, speakers will include physicist Mustafa Bahran, in exile from Yemen; Jeff Toney, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs at Kean University; Karen Horting, Executive Director and CEO of the Society of Women Engineers; and Marcia Chatelain, who will talk about the efforts of the Georgetown University Working Group on Slavery, Memory, and Reconciliation. [More information »](#)

COALITION ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND ACTIVITIES

SPSSI Hosts Webinar on Human Rights and Migration

The Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues (SPSSI) [Expert Policy Webinar Series](#) hosted an installment on Human Rights and Migration. The presenter was Professor Jacqueline Bhabha from the T.H. Chan School of Public Health at Harvard University, who discussed the multifaceted drivers of distress migration, the legal and political gaps in the current system of migration and refugee management, the human rights violations at issue, and current international moves to address these shortcomings. [Watch the recording »](#)

ACS Hosts Webinar on Supporting Scientists Displaced by Conflict

The American Chemical Society (ACS) [hosted a webinar](#) as part of its [Science and Human Rights initiative](#) on creative approaches to support displaced chemical practitioners. [Download the slides »](#)

Webinar – Women's Empowerment in Research Roles

Sarah Hénon from ActionAid and Eva Otero from Leitmotiv Social Consultants [shared reflections](#) on three participatory evaluations carried out in Cambodia, Guatemala and Rwanda, which tested participant-led methods for measuring the impact of ActionAid programs in terms of shifts in power in favor of women. [Watch the recording and past webinars »](#)

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Job: Policy and Program Officer (Global Network Initiative)

The Global Network Initiative (GNI), an international multi-stakeholder group of Internet and telecommunications companies, civil society organizations (including human rights and press freedom groups), investors, and academics, who have created a collaborative approach to protect and advance freedom of expression and privacy in the information and communication technology (ICT) sector, is seeking a [Policy & Program Officer](#). The person in this position will help design and manage multiple programs supporting freedom of expression and privacy in the ICT sector, including a combination of project management and substantive oversight of public policy and shared learning activities.

Job: Director of Research and Investigations (Physicians for Human Rights)

Physicians for Human Rights (PHR) is committed to using medicine and science to document and call attention to mass atrocities and severe human rights violations. The organization is searching for a [Director for the Research and Investigations program](#). The person in this position will face responsibilities primarily

focused on the management, oversight, and development in existing research and investigations program areas and new program development within the organization's framework of investigating, documenting, and advocating to prevent human rights violations

June 18-22: Machine Learning and Human Rights, an Online Conversation

Human Rights Information and Documentation Systems (HURIDOCs), the Center for Human Rights Science - Carnegie Mellon University, and New Tactics communities will hold an [online conversation on machine learning and human rights](#). The discussion will bring together human rights defenders, tool developers, and machine-learning practitioners to share knowledge and experience with machine-learning techniques in human rights work.

July 1: Global Mental Health, Trauma and Recovery Certificate Program

The Harvard Program in Refugee Trauma and Harvard Medical School Department of Global and Continuing Education accredit a [six-month certificate program](#) in Global Mental Health: Trauma and Recovery. The first two weeks (November 4-16, 2018) of the program will take place in Italy and the following six months (November 2018 to May 2019) will continue online. The application deadline is July 1, 2018.

July 24: International Human Rights and Technology Conference in Australia

The Australian Human Rights Commission is holding an [international conference on human rights and technology](#) in Sydney, which will examine the human rights impacts of Big Data, artificial intelligence, and social media. Invited speakers include representatives from business, government, and academia.

SCIENCE AND HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE USA

Human Rights Groups Raise Concerns Over Use of Amazon's Face-Recognition Technology

The American Civil Liberties Union, Human Rights Watch and other organizations have written a [letter](#) to Amazon CEO Jeffrey P. Bezos to express "profound concerns" over the use of Rekognition, an Amazon surveillance system that uses facial recognition powered by artificial intelligence, by US law-enforcement agencies. Separately, a group of 19 Amazon shareholders have issued a letter to the Amazon CEO to stop promoting its facial recognition tool to local law enforcement agencies, according to [published reports](#). An [article](#) by Sarah St. Vincent of Human Rights Watch further examines the technology and raises the question of whether government officials are disclosing its use to allow courts to evaluate the system's legality and accuracy.

UN Expert on Extreme Poverty and Human Rights

Philip Alston, the United Nations' (UN) special rapporteur on extreme poverty and human rights, has issued a [report](#), which was presented to the UN Human Rights Council, to deliver findings from a fact-finding mission conducted in the US in December 2017 to determine which US policies and programs relating to extreme poverty are consistent with its human rights obligations and to offer constructive recommendations to the US government and other stakeholders. A recent [article](#) highlights the findings, which points to recent tax reform, policy moves to reduce funding for social-welfare programs, and a further concentration of wealth as factors exacerbating poverty in the US. The report says the US has the highest rate of income inequality among Western countries and scores low in relation to other developed countries on comparative measures contributing to poverty, such as the incarceration rate, child-mortality rates, and the youth-poverty rate.

Google CEO Outlines Its Principles for Artificial Intelligence, Including Human Rights

In a [blog post](#) on June 7, Google CEO Sundar Pichai outlined seven principles that the company has adopted for using and developing artificial intelligence (AI). He cited that AI should be socially beneficial, avoid creating or reinforcing bias, be built and tested for safety, be accountable, incorporate privacy-design principles, uphold standards of scientific excellence, and that it be made available for uses that accord with

these principles. He said that the company will not develop or deploy AI when it contravenes with widely accepted principles of international law and human rights, for use in weapons or other technologies that cause or directly facilitate injury to people, or in technologies that gather or use information for surveillance violating internationally accepted norms.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

German Chancellor Merkel Stresses Dialogue on Trade, Tech and Human Rights in China

German Chancellor Angela Merkel held [discussions](#) with Chinese leaders in late May to advance relations between the two countries as well as address issues relating to the rule of law, the economy, and trade and stressed the need for regular discussions on human rights and issues relating to science and technology. She also [met](#) with the wives of two detained Chinese human rights lawyers and brought up human rights during her talks with Premier Li Keqiang. A recent [editorial](#) by Wenzel Michalski Director, Germany, Human Rights Watch, highlights key human rights concerns in China.

Forensic Anthropology Team Studies Remains to Account for the Disappeared in Mexico

A recent [article](#) highlights the work of the Argentine Forensic Anthropology Team, which is examining the remains of disappeared people from three ranches in the city of Cuauhtemoc in the northern border state of Chihuahua, where bodies of victims were dissolved or burned in drums. Their work is part of a larger issue in Mexico to account for more than 20,000 disappeared people in Mexico since December 2012.

Human Rights Groups Call on EU to Modify Proposals of Surveillance Tech Exports

Access Now, Amnesty International, Privacy International, and Reporters Without Borders [are calling](#) on the Council of the European Union (EU) to reject positions set out in a working paper by certain members of the European Union (Czech Republic, Cyprus, Estonia, Finland, Ireland, Italy, Poland, Sweden and the UK) relating to EU regulation on exports on surveillance technology that the groups say weaken human rights protections.

UN Meeting Highlights Science and Technology in Achieving Sustainable Development Goals

A [meeting](#) of the Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) Forum of the UN Economic and Social Council brought together UN officials and leaders in science and technology, to share sustainable technology expertise and explore collaborative efforts to achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. These goals seek to realize human rights for all, achieve gender equality, empower women and girls, and balance the three dimensions of sustainable development (economic, social, and environmental). “No one can ignore the vital role of science, technology and innovation in advancing the transformative impact of the 2030 Agenda,” said Marie Chatardová, President of the Economic and Social Council at the STI Forum. “The aspirations of the 2030 Agenda cannot be through business as usual,” Maria Luiza Ribeiro Viotti, Chef de Cabinet for the UN Secretary-General told the forum, pointing to the promise of new technologies, such as artificial intelligence and robotics, but also cautioning on risks, including exacerbating inequality.

Researchers Use New Statistical Method for Documenting Numbers Killed in Syrian Conflict

Researchers from Rice University and Duke University have published an [article](#) in the *Annals of Applied Statistics* on a data-indexing method called “hashing with statistical estimation” to estimate the number of identified victims killed in the Syrian civil war. The researchers [say](#) that the new method produces real-time estimates of documented, identified victims with a far lower margin of error than existing statistical methods for finding duplicate records in databases. The four-year research project was developed in collaboration with Human Rights Data Analysis Group (HRDAG), a nonprofit that helps build evidence-based information of human rights violations. An interview with one of the co-authors, Anshumali Shrivastava, Assistant Professor of Computer Science at Rice University, to discuss the method may be found [here](#).

NEW REPORTS AND RESOURCES

Human Rights Resilience Project Launches *Resources for Resilience*

The [Human Rights Resilience Project](#) team at NYU School of Law launched the [Resources for Resilience](#), a new website that brings together resources, research and tools to improve resilience and well-being within the human rights community. The website has been launched in partnership with a global community of human rights advocates and organizations who are committed to furthering mental health and well-being in human rights practice.

Defining Internet Universality Indicators

UNESCO has released its second draft of the [Internet Universality Indicators](#). UNESCO launched its concept of Internet Universality in 2014, which was endorsed by UNESCO's General Conference. The concept roots the future of the Internet in four core themes, which are concerned with rights, openness, accessibility to all, and multi-stakeholder participation, also known as the ROAM Principles.

The Global Business of Forced Labour: Report Findings

The Sheffield Political Economy Research Institute (SPERI) at the University of Sheffield in the UK has released a report, [The Global Business of Forced Labour](#), which examines business models of forced labor in global agricultural supply chains with a focus on case studies of cocoa and tea supply chains.

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