

## COALITION CALENDAR

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

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. Registration and agenda available soon.

## COALITION ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND ACTIVITIES

### May 15: Evaluation 101 for Human Rights Organizations: Part 2

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. A [recording](#) of the first session is now available, along with a growing list of resources for human rights organizations. Future sessions in the series will be held in October and November. This event is a project of the Coalition, led by Capital Area Social Psychological Association (CASPA) representative Ollie Moles.

### After the March for Science, What Next?

In the spirit of the March for Science, many members of the Coalition joined a [statement](#) signed by 40 scientific societies and associations vowing to continue demonstrating the value of science to society. The March for Science was held on April 22, 2017 in more than 600 locations worldwide to affirm that science is essential to human well-being and economic prosperity and a foundation for sound policy.

## CALLS FOR ACTION

### Scholars at Risk Calls for Letters of Support for Central European University

On April 4, Hungary's Parliament passed legislative amendments that apparently target Central European University (CEU). These changes, described as "administratively and financially prohibitive," threaten CEU's existence as well as academic freedom and institutional autonomy in Hungary more broadly. In light of these extraordinary circumstances, Scholars at Risk (SAR) encourages institutions and individuals to share their own letters and statements of solidarity with CEU. For more information, to read CEU's statement, and to learn more about how you can show your support, visit CEU's [website](#).

## OPPORTUNITIES FOR INPUT

### May 31: UN Expert to Visit US, Invites Input on Data Privacy

The United Nations Special Rapporteur on the right to privacy will conduct an official visit to the United States June 17-June 27. During the visit, he will consider various issues related to his [mandate](#), including security and surveillance; "Big Data" and open data; health data; and personal data processed by the private sector. In preparation for his visit, the special rapporteur is inviting academic institutions and NGOs to make brief submissions on any one or more of the above priorities or any other important privacy-related matter. Please send submissions by May 31, 2017 to: [srprivacy@ohchr.org](mailto:srprivacy@ohchr.org).

### July 7: Impact of Destruction of Cultural Heritage on Human Rights

The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights [invites](#) all civil society organizations, relevant UN agencies, funds and programs, other international organizations, national human rights institutions, and cultural rights defenders involved in the protection of cultural heritage to participate in a one-day seminar on July 7, 2017 at the UN in Geneva, Switzerland on ways to prevent, contain, and/or mitigate the detrimental impact of the damage to or destruction of the enjoyment of human rights, including cultural rights.

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

### May 29: Call for Papers on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

The School of Advanced Study, University of London is [calling for papers](#) due May 29, for a conference, “10th Anniversary of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.” The conference will be held October 20 to share research, experiences, and reflections on the current situations of the world’s indigenous peoples 10 years after the Declaration’s adoption. Invited topics include free prior and informed consent, indigenous peoples and data collection and disaggregation, and future research needs.

### June 15: Call for Nominations for Human Rights Education Award

[Human Rights Educators USA](#) (HRE USA) [invites nominations](#) for its Edward O’Brien Human Rights Education Awards for an individual who has made a significant contribution to human rights education in the United States or for an organization, institution, or program that has made an outstanding contribution to human rights education in the United States. The 2017 Edward O’Brien Human Rights Education Awards will be presented in November during the conference of the National Council for the Social Studies in San Francisco.

### 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 700-1000 words. Please contact Theresa Harris ([tharris@aaas.org](mailto: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](mailto:Philippa.Harris@biomedcentral.com)

### 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

### Indigenous People in Cross-Border Deaths Less Likely to Be Identified

[Research](#), reported in the journal, *American Anthropologist*, found that of the hundreds of people who die trying to cross into the US from Mexico each year, those with indigenous backgrounds are less likely to be identified than those with European ancestry. The finding underscores the importance of cooperation among community organizations, nongovernmental groups, and intergovernmental efforts in resolving border disappearance.

### Grassroots Body Holds Hearing on the Impact of Fracking as a Human Rights Issue

A human rights and environmental justice hearing on the impact of fracking was held in Athens, Ohio, the first such hearing in Ohio, according to [local media reports](#). The hearing was part of the work of the [Permanent Peoples' Tribunal \(PPT\)](#), a public opinion tribunal functioning independently of state authorities in applying human rights law and policy to cases brought before it. The PPT is a descendant of the 1967 Bertrand Russell-Jean Paul Sartre Vietnam War Crimes Tribunal and hears cases in which *prima facie* evidence suggests abridgement of human rights. Complaints heard by the Tribunal are submitted by the victims or by groups or individuals representing them. The Permanent People's Tribunal on Fracking held the hearing to gather information to deliver to the parent group, the Permanent People's Tribunal, and the United Nations.

## INTERNATIONAL NEWS

### New Human Rights For Cognitive Liberty and Mental Privacy Proposed

A recent [article](#) in *Life Sciences, Society and Policy*, an open access journal, asserts four new human rights that the authors project will take on greater importance in the coming decades due to advances in human neuroscience and neurotechnology: the right to cognitive liberty, the right to mental privacy, the right to mental integrity, and the right to psychological continuity. Several additional publications and blogs, including [The Guardian](#), [Scientific American](#), and [Futurism.com](#), further examined these rights.

### US Signs New Scientific Cooperation Agreement with Arctic Countries

The governments of the US, Canada, Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Russia, and Sweden have signed the [Agreement on Enhancing International Arctic Scientific Cooperation](#) to advance the understanding of the Arctic through scientific research, monitoring, and assessment. The binding agreement was signed at the biennial ministerial meeting of [Arctic Council](#), a 20-year old intergovernmental forum promoting cooperation, coordination, and interaction among the Arctic states. Among the underlying issues of importance recognized by the agreement were: maintaining peace, stability, and constructive cooperation in the Arctic; the sustainable use of resources, economic development, human health, and environmental protection; and the "urgent need" for increased actions to mitigate and adapt to climate change. The agreement also encourages use of the traditional knowledge of Arctic indigenous peoples, whose representatives participated in the meeting.

### Article Highlights Impact of Venezuela Crisis on Scientific Discourse and Education

In an [op-ed](#) in *Nature*, Benjamin Scharifker, a rector at Metropolitan University in Caracas, Venezuela, provides an account of the difficulties in maintaining scientific discourse and education in Venezuela in the wake of the current and recent economic and political problems in the country. He notes that scientific productivity has declined, citing that the number of publications in 2012 matched the level in 1997. From 2008 to 2012, publications in international journals fell by 40%, and the current situation has further declined.

## NEW REPORTS AND RESOURCES

### **Call for a Code of Conduct for Marine Conservation and Human Rights**

A recent [article](#) in *Marine Policy* by researchers from the University of British Columbia and the University of Washington calls for a code of conduct for marine conservation that would include fair governance, social justice, and accountability practices. Advocates say that such a [code](#) could be widely used by governments, researchers, NGOs, the private sector, and local organizations to review such issues as human rights, indigenous rights, food and livelihood security, benefit sharing, and conflict resolution.

### **Introductory Reading List for Quantitative Human Rights Measures Offered**

Anita Gohdes, Assistant Professor of International Relations at the Department of Political Science at the University of Zurich and consultant for the [Human Rights Data Analysis Group](#), a non-profit organization applying scientific practices in human rights violations, posted an introductory reading list for social scientists on the [Responsible Data Forum](#), a collaboration for responsible data practices for activists and organizations that use data in advocacy. The reading list covers what constitutes a good measure of human rights, what certain measures can and can not tell, and how data and methodological innovations can help achieve a better understanding of human rights standards and practices across the world.

### **The Human Right to Water: A Research Guide and Annotated Bibliography**

Researchers from the Northeastern University School of Law have published, [The Human Right to Water: Research Guide & Annotated Bibliography](#). The guide defines the right, identifies some of the challenges of research in this field, delineates international standards and institutional mechanisms designed to protect those affected by the denial of this human right, and selectively reviews current literature that provides useful starting points for further research.

### **Ethical Guidelines Information and Communication Technology in Peacebuilding**

JustPeace Labs, a social enterprise that works with peacebuilders using technology, has released [Ethical Guidelines for PeaceTech](#), the first in its series of practical guidelines for PeaceTech stakeholders that provides a practical guide on the challenges of working with technology in post-conflict situations and the ethical considerations in applying information and communications technology to these efforts.

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**Editor: Patricia Van Arnum**

**Associate Editor: Mary Cate Carroll**

**Contributors: Theresa Harris, Ellen Platts, Jessica Wyndham**