

## COALITION CALENDAR

### **Dec. 7: Human Rights Day Breakfast**

Join us from 8:30-11:00 am at AAAS headquarters in Washington, DC to commemorate Human Rights Day. Bradley Samuels of SITU Research will share his experience applying new technologies to support the work of human rights organizations and international justice mechanisms. More details and registration [here](#).

### **Jan. 26-27, 2017: Coalition Meeting | Human Right to Water**

Save the date for the next meeting of the AAAS Science and Human Rights Coalition. Sessions will focus on the human right to water and the roles of scientists, engineers, and health professionals in protecting this right. Watch your email for agenda and registration.

## COALITION ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND ACTIVITIES

### **Linguistic Society of America Submits Comments to the UN on the Rights of Children**

Michel DeGraff, a Coalition representative of the Linguistic Society of America (LSA), drafted the [LSA's comments](#) to the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights on the protection of the rights of the child in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

### **“Driving While Black in New Jersey”**

On November 7, the Washington Statistical Society (WSS) Human Rights Statistics Program, the American Statistical Association (ASA) Statistics Without Borders, and the AAAS Scientific Responsibility, Human Rights and Law Program hosted a talk by Jay Kadane. Attendees heard about his experiences as a statistical expert witness in a case brought by the New Jersey Public Defenders regarding racial profiling in traffic stops by New Jersey State Police.

## OPPORTUNITIES FOR INPUT

### **Dec. 5: Pesticides and the right to food**

The UN Special Rapporteur on the right to food [invites input](#) for her next annual report on the human rights implications of the widespread use of hazardous pesticides.

### **Dec. 31: Questionnaire: Climate Change and Child Rights**

The UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights invites input for an upcoming report on climate change and child rights. More information and questionnaire available [here](#).

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

### **Call for Articles: Data and Human Rights**

The global human rights community has access to more data from a wider range of sources than ever before, but it is not always clear how reliable and helpful these data are or how to best use them in human rights work. In a new series of articles, [Data and Human Rights](#), *openGlobalRights* authors will explore the types, sources, and uses of human rights data. *openGlobalRights* is accepting 700-1,000 word, op-ed-style submissions responding to any of the articles. Interested writers should send their drafts to Theresa Harris ([tharris@aaas.org](mailto:tharris@aaas.org)), Associate Editor for Science and Human Rights.

### **Nov. 21: Webinar on TB and Freedom from Torture**

Physicians for Human Rights will hold a [webinar](#) on November 21 (1:00 PM ET), “Tuberculosis and the Right to Be Free From Torture,” featuring Dr. Brian Citro, a clinical lecturer in law and associate director of the International Human Rights Clinic at the University of Chicago Law School, and Shelbi Smith, a student attorney in the International Human Rights Clinic.

### **Nov. 25: Call for Session Proposals for Digital Rights Conference**

RightsCon, a three-day conference focused on human rights and keeping the Internet open and free, is [accepting proposals](#) on digital rights. The conference, which will be held March 29-31, 2017 in Brussels, brings together human rights experts, business leaders, technologists, engineers, investors, activists, and government representatives to focus on digital rights, advocacy skills and strategies, and outcomes, best-practices, and policies that help defend and extend the digital rights of users at risk around the world.

## **SCIENCE AND HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE USA**

### **UN Condemns Confinement of Women Based On Pregnancy and Suspected Drug Use**

The UN Working Group on Arbitrary Detention has expressed concern over US laws that permit the confinement of pregnant women suspected of drug or alcohol use. The Working Group urges the US to adopt alternative measures that do not deprive women of their liberty and to take affirmative steps to maximize funding for healthcare services, including for mental health. The full report is available [here](#).

### **United States Re-elected to UN Human Rights Council**

The United States was re-elected by the UN General Assembly to the Human Rights Council, retaining its position on the Council, held since 2009, said the US State Department in a [statement](#). Among other responsibilities, the Human Rights Council conducts the Universal Periodic Review of each UN member state’s human rights record.

### **Human Rights Organization Urges Human Rights Adherence in New Administration**

Human Rights Watch issued a [statement](#) urging President-elect Donald Trump to put the United States’ core human rights obligations “at the heart” of his administration’s domestic and foreign policy agendas.

## **INTERNATIONAL NEWS**

### **UN Examines Rights of Assembly and Association for Workers**

The UN Special Rapporteur on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association has issued a [report](#) that examines the exercise and enjoyment of these rights in the workplace, with a focus on the most marginalized portions of the world’s labor force, including global supply chain workers, informal workers, migrant workers, domestic workers and others.

### **Human Rights Defenders Call for UN Inquiry into 1998 Massacre in Iran**

[Various NGOs](#) are calling on the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, the UN Human Rights Council, and the UN General Assembly to establish an international commission of inquiry to examine the massacre of some 30,000 political prisoners in Iran in the summer of 1988. The advisory committee of the [Justice for Victims of 1988 Massacre in Iran](#) met at the UN’s headquarters in Geneva to urge action, which included participation from: [Ingrid Betancourt](#), former Colombian Presidential candidate and ex-hostage; [Kirsty Brimelow](#) QC,

Chairwoman of the Bar Human Rights Committee of England & Wales; and [Tahar Boumedra](#), former chief of the Human Rights Office of the UN Assistance Mission for Iraq.

## **MUST-READ REPORTS**

### **Scholars at Risk Releases Report**

In its [annual report on attacks on higher education](#), Scholars at Risk identified negative trends drawn from 158 reported attacks in 35 countries, including extreme violence by armed groups and individuals against university communities in Pakistan, Afghanistan, Bangladesh, India, Iraq, and Syria. The [report](#) also describes pervasive state interference with academic inquiry and expression and violent suppression of organized student expression.

### **Linguistic and Cultural Diversity in International Criminal Justice**

In *IntLawGrrls*, a blog for women scholars, lawyers, policymakers, leaders, and activists on issues related to international law, policy and practice, anthropologist [Leigh Swigert](#) of Brandeis University [highlights](#) her recent [article](#), which examines the difficulties that administrators of international courts, such as the International Criminal Court, encounter when handling cases involving witnesses, concerns, and facts that have linguistic and cultural meanings other than their own.

## **PEOPLE**

### **Mark Frankel, Longtime Director of AAAS Programs, Retires**

For over 30 years, Mark S. Frankel has worked at the AAAS to advance our understanding of scientific integrity, science and the law, and human rights issues. He will be sorely missed, and we wish him well in his retirement. [Read more](#) about Frankel's recent work on human rights.

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