

Inspireurope+

Supporting Researchers at Risk

Newsletter, April 2023

Save the Date: Alexander Von Humboldt Foundation's Philipp Schwartz Initiative - Inspireurope+ Platform, 23-24 May 2023, Berlin



The annual platform of the Philipp Schwartz Initiative and Inspireurope+ will take place 23-24 May 2023 in Berlin. The programme will include panels and exchanges on institutional, national, European and global initiatives to promote academic freedom and support scholars, with plenty of informal networking opportunities for participants. We expect wide participation in the forum from researchers at risk from around the world, especially those supported by the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation's Philipp Schwartz Initiative, as well as researchers from Ukraine, supported by MSCA4Ukraine. European and national government officials and other policymakers will also participate alongside representatives from NGOs, SAR sections, and higher education institutions across Europe. For additional information regarding portions available online please sign up to the [Inspireurope+ mailing list to receive further updates.](#)

Events

Register now: Expanding Institutional Opportunities for Researchers at Risk: Leadership Roundtable, Gdańsk University of Technology, 19 April 2023



In concert with the 2023 EUA Annual Conference at Gdańsk University of Technology, registration is open for the first Inspireurope+ leadership roundtable on expanding institutional opportunities for researchers at risk. The roundtable will give university leadership the opportunity to share institutional approaches and strategies for supporting researchers at risk. It will also discuss national and European supports for researchers at risk. The programme and registration form are available via the [European University Association >>](#)

Register now

Guidance for researchers at risk
& host organisations



Webinar on Remote Fellowships

In December 2022, an Inspireurope+ webinar on remote fellowships for researchers at risk was hosted by the European University Association (EUA) and moderated by the University of Gothenburg. The webinar considered how remote fellowships might benefit at-risk scholars who for various reasons cannot travel, as well as institutions without the possibility to provide a physical academic sanctuary on their campus. Reflections were shared by a researcher at risk, and experiences were examined at Wilfrid Laurier University, Freie Universität Berlin, and the University of Copenhagen. [Learn more and watch the recording >>](#)



Brief Guide to Remote Fellowships

The Inspireurope+ project has produced a brief guide to remote fellowships as a flexible source of support for researchers at risk. The guide, developed by the University of Gothenburg, is available [here](#). We are seeking to gather further information on remote fellowship schemes underway for researchers at risk. If your organisation is involved in supporting researchers at risk via remote fellowships we invite you to contact us at inspireurope@mu.ie for a conversation.



UNIVERSITY OF GOTHENBURG

Publication Strategies for Researchers at Risk

In December 2022, an Inspireurope+ webinar on publishing in peer-reviewed journals was organised by Cara (the Council for At-Risk Academics). The webinar addressed actions publishers are taking to support researchers at risk and identified recommendations for writing for a peer-reviewed journal. The speakers, Dr. Wafa Kashbour, Dr. Harry Shirley, and Professor David Neal, shared resources and advice for researchers at risk on the topic of peer-reviewed publication. [Learn more and watch the recording >>](#)



Inspireurope+ Policy Submission

In February 2023, the Inspireurope+ consortium provided input to the European Commission's public consultation on the past, present and future of the EU's Horizon research and innovation programmes 2014-2027. The submission makes 5 recommendations on addressing current gaps in concrete support for academic freedom and researchers at risk. Available [here](#).

National-level efforts: Greece

Creating Secure Visa Pathways for at-risk scholars in Greece

by Assoc. Prof. Andreas Takis, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki



ΑΡΙΣΤΟΤΕΛΕΙΟ
ΠΑΝΕΠΙΣΤΗΜΙΟ
ΘΕΣΣΑΛΟΝΙΚΗΣ

A key component of the activities of any national Scholars at Risk (SAR) section is to locate or create academic employment outlets for scholars at risk residing in their respective country by working with national educational institutions to identify research fellowships, teaching assignments, etc. One of the greatest difficulties in any such effort is ensuring the legal entry, residence and employment of these scholars.

To this end, Greek universities are working together to establish a special cooperative relationship with the national authorities responsible for the issuing and renewal of visas, residence licenses and work permits for foreigners in Greece, and, in particular, with the General Secretariat for Migration Policy of the Greek Ministry of Migration.

The aim of such a permanent relationship is to create a semi-official cooperative structure through which the public authorities will be able to receive requests from SAR Greece in a timely and secure way in order to process official documents by third-country nationals who have been nominated by a reputable organisation assisting at-risk scholars.

The main instrument for the implementation of the action will be the conclusion of a Memorandum of Understanding between the Secretary General of the Greek Ministry of Migration and the rectors of Greek public universities participating in SAR Greece.

The conclusion of such memorandums by the rectors of universities under the guidance and auspices of SAR Greece will constitute a major step in providing for the legitimate and safe residence, as well as the employment of researchers at risk.

Such a development is a clear indication of dynamism of Greek universities in the field of protection of human rights and academic freedom internationally, as well as the benefit and impact in practice this carries for researchers at risk.

Inspireurope+ at MCAA Annual Conference 2023

Inspireurope+, represented by [SAR Europe](#) and [European University Association](#), joined [International Science Council](#), [Eurodoc](#), and [SAR Italy](#) at a panel during the [2023 Marie Curie Alumni Association \(MCAA\) Conference](#). The panel was on the topic of “Science Diplomacy in Times of Crisis” and was convened by MCAA Board Member Dr. Donata Iandolo. The panel highlighted initiatives in support of researchers at risk taking place at European, national and institutional levels. [Learn more >>](#)



Cara Appeal: Syria / Turkey Earthquakes

The February earthquakes across southern Turkey devastated huge areas of the country, killed tens of thousands, and displaced millions. The major international aid agencies have been getting more fully engaged, in partnership with the Turkish authorities. But they face an enormous task, and their work will take many months. Meanwhile, a vulnerable community of exiled Syrian academics needs your urgent help. Cara has launched an [urgent appeal](#) and looks in particular to the higher education community to help. [Learn more >>](#)

cara

a lifeline to academics at risk

Donate now

PAUSE Program – Call for Applications Deadline 13 Apr. 2023

Initiated by the French government, PAUSE program supports scientists and artists in exile by facilitating their reception in higher education and research institutions or cultural institutions. The PAUSE application process is open to higher education and research institutions under the aegis of the French Ministry for Higher Education, Research and Innovation; EESPIG-designated private higher education institutions; institutions and structures under the aegis of the French Ministry of Culture. The next deadline for applications is 13 April 2023. Information to apply is located [here >>](#)

PAUSE
PROGRAMME NATIONAL D'ACCUEIL EN
URGENCE DES SCIENTIFIQUES EN EXIL

Country Focus: Ukraine



MSCA4Ukraine Fellowship Results

On 23 February, the results of the MSCA4Ukraine scheme were officially [announced](#) by the EU Commissioner for Innovation, Research, Culture, Education and Youth, Mariya Gabriel. Funded under the EU's Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions, the scheme provides fellowship support to 124 displaced researchers from Ukraine to continue their research in 21 host countries. The duration of fellowships awarded ranged from eight months to two years, with the majority of applicants awarded two-year fellowships. The research projects selected span all scientific disciplines, with life sciences, social sciences and humanities, and chemistry comprising the majority of successful applications.

Researchers are taking up their positions from 1 March 2023 onwards and will receive ongoing support through the provision of career development opportunities, training activities, and networking sessions. MSCA4Ukraine fellows will also be supported to maintain their connections to research and innovation communities in Ukraine in order to prevent permanent brain drain and contribute to the strengthening of the Ukrainian research and university sector. If safe conditions for return are met then MSCA4Ukraine fellows may be facilitated to reintegrate to Ukraine. Further information on the scheme, including a full list of successful applications, is available at <https://sareurope.eu/msca4ukraine/>.

MSCA4Ukraine is implemented by a consortium comprised of [Scholars at Risk Europe](#) hosted at [Maynooth University, Ireland](#) (project coordinator), the German [Alexander von Humboldt Foundation](#) and the [European University Association](#), with the French national [PAUSE programme](#), hosted by the [Collège de France](#), and the global [Scholars at Risk Network](#) participating as associated partners.

EU Funding Opportunities

MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships Call Deadline 13 Sept. 2023

[MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships](#) are EU-funded fellowships for researchers holding a PhD and who wish to acquire new skills through advanced training, international, interdisciplinary and inter-sectoral mobility. MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships are open to excellent researchers of any nationality. [Learn more and apply >>](#)



MSCA Doctoral Networks Call Deadline 28 Nov. 2023

[MSCA Doctoral Networks](#) are open for applications from universities, research institutions and research infrastructures, businesses including SMEs, and other socio-economic actors from different countries across Europe and beyond. MSCA Doctoral Networks are open to the participation of organisations from third countries, in view of fostering strategic international partnerships for the training and exchange of researchers. [Learn more and apply >>](#)



Asylum, Migration and Integration-based EU Funding Opportunities Available

The EU's [Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund \(AMIF\) programme](#) has published calls for proposals for collaborative projects focused on supporting the effective integration and social inclusion of third country nationals and strengthening the common European asylum system. Any nonprofit organisation actively working to support migrant communities can apply for funding to deliver projects that address the AMIF programme's objectives and priorities. The open calls for proposals include Integration and Inclusion at Regional and Local Level; Promoting Complementary Pathways Linked to Education and/or Work; and Support to Integration in Education of Migrant Children and Young Adults. [Learn more >>](#)



External Resources

Common mistakes to avoid when applying for Horizon Europe funding: a European Research Executive Agency Resource

Submitting a project proposal under [Horizon Europe](#) is a challenging task that requires careful planning, precise budgeting, and a seamless collaboration with partners. The European Research Executive Agency has prepared some Dos and Don'ts to help in the preparation of a quality proposal. [Learn more >>](#)





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