

**Call for Speakers
Hybrid Conference on
“Scholars-at-Risk in the Social Sciences”**

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Academic freedom is not always guaranteed. The research of *particular topics* and in *specific regimes* is continuing to put scholars at great risks, ranging from imprisonment and restrictions to movement to loss of position and expulsion from study. Subjection to such threats commonly leads to the direct or indirect silencing of scholars.

Many scholars across the world continue to struggle with the effects of war and state repression, even as others try to regain their academic footing in host countries with the help of humanitarian NGOs. The war in Ukraine has brought these realities into focus more than ever before.

These curbs on academic scholarship as a result of repression by authoritarian regimes and/or living in conflict and war zones has led to the creation of what some of us may call ‘intellectual refugees’—citizens trying to make sense of their identities as, simultaneously, scholars and refugees.

Beyond the impact on the personal wellbeing and safety of scholars, this also has important ramifications for the production of knowledge. Particular topics tend to be under-researched, or researched principally by non-native scholars and/or scholars who hold positions outside the particular country, a fact that further silences native scholars who are deeply invested in these topics.

We invite scholars-at-risk from the social sciences to present ongoing research or, indeed, research that the scholar was forced to stop due to persecution by their respective government or war in their respective countries.

This conference thus aims to provide a platform for scholars-at-risk to:

- Present their research
- Discuss the challenges they face in doing a specific type of research, and/or in specific contexts
- Discuss the strategies they have adopted to mitigate these threats

The aim of this conference is therefore two-fold: first, to provide a platform to scholars-at-risk to present their research, and second, to raise awareness about the implications of being a scholar at risk within the broader scholarly circles.

The conference will be held in a hybrid format. Please submit your extended abstract (max. 500 words indicating the research question followed by methods and findings, if any) by 30 April, 2023, [here](#). Admitted applicants will be notified by May 15, 2023.

If you have any questions, please contact: Effrosyni Charitopoulou (email: effrosyni.charitopoulou@eui.eu); Natalia Garbiras-Díaz (email: natalia.garbirasdiaz@eui.eu), Raheel Dhattiwala (email: rdhattiwala@gmail.com).



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