

**“DEFENDING THE UNIVERSITY: ACADEMIC FREEDOM IN CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE.”
JUNE 20-21, 2008, VILNIUS, LITHUANIA**

A symposium celebrating the 15th Anniversary of the European Humanities University and
the 2008 Annual Meeting of the Scholars at Risk (SAR) Network

FRIDAY, JUNE 20

9:00 – 12:00: Academic Freedom Workshop

9:00 – 9:30: Introduction & Presentation of Draft Common Framework

9:30 – 11:00: Small discussion groups

11:00 – 12:00: Plenary discussion

12:00 – 13:00: Lunch

14:00 – 16:00: 2008 SAR Network Meeting & Orientation for New/Prospective Members

14:00 – 14:30: Introductory remarks and overview of SAR

14:30 – 15:00: Testimony from SAR scholars from Georgia and Azerbaijan

15:00 – 16:00: Examples from participating universities/affiliates:

- Marit Egnér, University of Oslo, Norway
- Kate Robertson, CARA/SAR UK Universities network, UK
- Berend Jonker, Foundation for Refugee Students (UAF), Netherlands
- Irv Epstein, Illinois Wesleyan University, USA; Scholars at Risk board member
- Sophie Howlett, Central European University, Hungary

16:00 – 16:30: Discussion and outline follow-up plan

16:30 – 17:00: Coffee/Break

SYMPOSIUM BEGINS

17:00 – 19:30: Awards Ceremony and Rectors' Panel

17:00 – 17:45: Certificates of recognition presented to:

- Mykolas Romeris University, Lithuania
- Ministry of Education and Science, Republic of Lithuania
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Republic of Lithuania
- Rolandas Pavilionis (*in memoriam*), Former Member of European Parliament

17:45 – 19:00: Rectors' Panel

Moderator: Paul Martin, Barnard College, USA; Scholars at Risk board member

Speakers:

- Anatoli Mikhailov, Rector, EHU, Lithuania
- Howard Robinson, Provost, CEU, Hungary
- Gigi Tevzadze, Rector, Ilia Chavchavadze State University, Georgia
- Zigmantas Lydeka, Rector, Vytautas Magnus University, Kaunas, Lithuania*
- Gregory Prince, Former President, Hampshire College, USA

19:00 – 19:30: Questions from EHU students & other participants

19:30 – 20:30: Opening reception

SATURDAY, JUNE 21: SYMPOSIUM CONTINUES

Master of Ceremony: Yevhen Bystrytsky, Renaissance Foundation

9:00 – 9:15 Introductions

Anatoli Mikhailov, Rector, EHU; Robert Quinn, Director, Scholars at Risk

9:15 – 10:15: Session 1: Opening Keynote: Josef Jarab, Senator, Czech Republic

Josef Jařab is professor of English and American Literature and director of the Center for Comparative Cultural Studies at Palacký University, Olomouc (Czech Republic). He was vice-chairman of the Committee on Culture, Science and Education of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe.

10:15 – 10:45: Coffee

10:45 – 12:30: Session 2: Case studies on Academic Freedom and Institutional Autonomy in Central and Eastern Europe

Chair: Pavel Tereshkovich, European Humanities University, Lithuania/Belarus

Panelists:

- Lithuania: Rimantas Vaitkus, Vilnius University
- Russia: Galina Lisitsyna, European University in St. Petersburg
- Russia: Alexei Koupryanov, State University Higher School of Economics, St Petersburg
- Georgia: Ana Dolidze, SAR Scholar
- Azerbaijan: SAR Scholar
- Turkey: Turgut Tarhanli, Bilgi University

12:30 – 13:30: Lunch

13:30 – 15:00: Session 3: Case studies on Academic Freedom and Institutional Autonomy in Central and Eastern Europe

Chair: Georgiy Kasianov, Renaissance Foundation, Ukraine

Panelists:

- Belarus: Vladimir Dounaev, European Humanities University, Lithuania/Belarus
- Estonia: Peeter Tulviste: Estonian Academy of Sciences
- Moldova: Virgiliu Birladeanu, International Independent University of Moldova
- Ukraine: Taras Dobko, Ukrainian Catholic University
- Ukraine: Volodymyr Turchynovskyy, Ukrainian Catholic University

15:00 – 15:30: Coffee

15:30 – 17:00: Session 4: Responding to Challenges to Academic Freedom & Autonomy: International Perspectives

Chair: Rimantas Vaitkus, Vilnius University, Lithuania

Panelists:

- Rob Quinn, Scholars at Risk Network
- Jonathan Travis, Network for Education & Academic Rights
- Nizam Assaf & Hoda Almutawah, Arab Society for Academic Freedom
- Michael Daxner, Magna Charta Observatory
- Sarah Willcox, Scholar Rescue Fund, Institute of International Education

17:00 – 19:00: Session 5: Plenary Discussion & Plan of Action

Chair: Peeter Tulviste, Estonian Academy of Sciences, Estonia

Discussion on proposals for follow-up (proposals provided by participants in advance)

19:00 Dinner

**invited*