

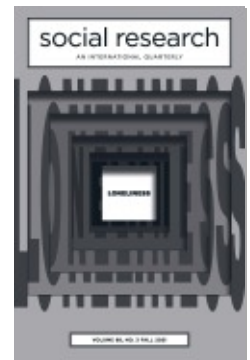


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Endangered Scholars Worldwide

Social Research: An International Quarterly, Volume 88, Number 3, Fall 2021,
pp. iv-vi (Article)

Published by Johns Hopkins University Press



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Endangered Scholars Worldwide

In response to an increase in threats to academic freedom around the world, Endangered Scholars Worldwide is evolving as an online publication to provide more frequent, up-to-date alerts. With the global increase in internet access, sharing online updates has allowed us to respond more rapidly to new and developing cases, and to make information visible and accessible to readers in the most remote parts of the world. While we will still publish a regular update in *Social Research: An International Quarterly*, we look forward to sharing a majority of our work with you on www.endangeredscholarsworldwide.net.



For our new readers: Launched in 2007, ESW initially focused on gathering information from prominent human rights organizations and mounting petitions on behalf of imprisoned scholars in Iran and Ethiopia. Over time, we began monitoring human rights organizations and news sources in languages other than English, and building our own networks of correspondents across regions where the threat to academics is greatest. Since 2015, ESW has significantly expanded its outreach and started sharing updates from different countries regularly. Going forward, our activity will continue under the auspices of the New University in Exile Consortium, www.newuniversityinexileconsortium.org. Initially an outgrowth of ESW, the Consortium was launched as an independent initiative in 2018 and is based at The New School. The mission of the Consortium is to create a supportive intellectual community for threatened, exiled scholars.

Attacks on higher education communities are occurring at an alarming rate worldwide, threatening the safety and well-being of scholars, students, and academic staff, as well as the autonomy of higher education institutions. ESW endeavors to track individual cases, identifying potential risks to the individuals in question before publicizing their names and the details of their cases. As mentioned above, each issue of *Social Research* will open with one pressing case that has come to our attention over the past three months and requires immediate consideration. If you are aware of a scholar or student whose case you believe we should investigate, please write to us at esw@newschool.edu.

For the most up-to-date information and ways in which you can be involved in our efforts to defend academic freedom and free expression, we invite you to visit our website www.endangeredscholarsworldwide.net or to follow us at www.facebook.com/endangeredscholars.

Thank you for your unwavering support.

SPECIAL DELIVERY:

Endangered Scholars Worldwide is deeply concerned about recent reports from Afghanistan regarding the plight of the academic community. Female university staff have been told to leave their posts. They have been reportedly harassed, threatened, spat on, and beaten for not wearing burqas—full-body garments for women required by the Taliban. During the Taliban’s brutal previous rule, many schools were closed, and girls were banned from school and forced into marriage, isolation, and oppression at home.

Afghan students and scholars, who have already lived their entire lives through conflict and war, have a right to live free from threats to their lives and their work. Students have the right to education and the free exchange of knowledge, safe from harm. ESW stands in solidarity with Afghan students and scholars in their struggles for freedom and safety. We call upon all international organizations, and academic and professional associations, devoted to the promotion and defense of

academic freedom to join us in urging the Taliban leadership to make all efforts to honor their obligations under international humanitarian law and human rights treaties, including to ensure free and unhindered humanitarian access to people in need of assistance and protection, open borders for the safe movement of students, faculty, artists, human rights activists, and journalists, and to honor the right to education and free expression.

For more information about how to make your voice heard, visit www.endangeredscholarsworldwide.net.