

## GET INVOLVED!

# SAR SPEAKER SERIES—REGIONAL INITIATIVE



SCHOLARS AT RISK  
NETWORK

The SAR Speaker Series provides higher education institutions with opportunities to invite at-risk scholars to campus to share their stories, raise awareness about academic freedom and attacks on scholars, and inspire students, faculty and guests to appreciate the opportunities they have to pursue knowledge and share ideas freely and safely. In an effort to expand the reach and impact of the SAR Speaker Series, Scholars at Risk seeks to partner with groups of higher education institutions in the same city, region or country to organize multiple events on the various participating campuses during a multi-day tour.

### ORGANIZING A REGIONAL SAR SPEAKER SERIES: STEP-BY-STEP

- Agree on the **lead campus**. SAR seeks one network member institution in each area to serve as the local organizing hub and primary point of contact for SAR staff assisting in planning events for the tour.
- Identify **partner campuses**. Two or more institutions in the same vicinity as the lead campus which are interesting in organizing events on their own campuses. (Depending on the distances involved, partner campuses may be in the same city, same national region or merely the same country as the lead campus.)
- Imagine your **ideal program of events**. Do not try to plan everything on your own, but discuss with partner campuses roughly the number of events, the types of audiences and the duration of any visits. Most regional series would last from a few days to one week. Events might range from public lectures or academic panels to classroom visits and VIP dinners. Topics may include an SAR scholar's academic work, their story of threat, or more general discussion of academic freedom and related values.
- **Contact the SAR staff**. SAR staff will work with the lead campus representative to suggest appropriate scholars for the desired program and together will develop suitable scheduling, budget and other options.

**WHAT ARE THE TIME AND MONEY COMMITMENTS?** Organizing a regional SAR Speaker Series is a good way to reduce the time and money needed to host events on your campus, and because multiple events in the same region is more efficient, Scholars at Risk is able to share in the costs of getting the scholar to the region.

**The Lead campus will** invite two or more partner campuses to participate in a regional SAR Speaker Series, each hosting ½-2 days of events; coordinate early discussions with partners about the ideal program of events; communicate with SAR staff to identify scholars and dates; organize and publicize events on their own (lead) campus; serve as coordinator for scholar's visit to the region, including managing the scholar's overall agenda and working with contacts at each partner campus to confirm logistics surrounding each leg of the tour; and identify budget support for events on their own campus, including a suitable honorarium for the scholar.

**Partner campuses will** participate in early discussions with the lead campus and other partners about the ideal program of events; organize and publicize events on their own (partner) campuses; coordinate with the lead campus and other partners any logistics surrounding their leg of the tour; and identify budget support for events on their own campus, including a suitable honorarium for the scholar.

**Scholars at Risk will provide funding for the scholar's travel and accommodations during the tour** (up to agreed limits); work with the lead campus to identify scholars and address scheduling, budget and other options; and provide advice and guidance throughout the event preparation period (including providing copies of SAR's Speaker Series Handbook to participating campuses).

**QUESTIONS?** SAR welcomes inquiries from potential lead campuses interested in organizing a regional SAR Speaker Series. Please contact us at +1 212-998-2179 or via email at [scholarsatrisk@nyu.edu](mailto:scholarsatrisk@nyu.edu).