

**Winter School - Times and Spaces of Globalization**  
**7<sup>th</sup> edition, organized by**  
**NEXT GENERATION GLOBAL STUDIES (NGGS)**  
**in collaboration with**  
**University of Padova - University of Trento - Scholars at Risk international network**

**KNOWLEDGES AT RISK**  
**Padova, 18-22 February 2019**

The 2019 edition of the Winter School 'Times and Spaces of Globalization' addresses the many challenges to knowledge development and dissemination in times of crises, conflict, globalization and digital transformations. Particular attention is paid on higher education institutions, on their role and responsibilities, as well as on the initiatives they can activate to protect and support students and researchers in their activities.

*Titled 'Knowledge at Risk' - and organized in collaboration with the University of Trento and Scholars at Risk international network - this intensive course addresses the many issues emerging from global dynamics that are putting at risk - or promise to transform profoundly and in unexpected directions - the very existence of academic knowledge, the roles and activities of higher education institutions, the lives and experiences of scholars and students.*

Universities around the world are experiencing profound transformations brought about by a plurality of contradictory processes. Globalization, marketization and business-oriented management have an impact on how the educational mandate of university institutions is understood and translated into research and educational programs, often contributing to the marginalization of *important disciplines*, particularly the humanities and the social sciences.

The widespread adoption of digital technology in educational activities offers new and productive opportunities for knowledge exchange. Still, it also profoundly transforms the very processes of knowledge pursuit, production, dissemination, ownership and utilization. The outcome of these developments – in terms of access to knowledge and its relevance to public interest and democracy - is largely uncertain.

A strong push towards loosely defined 'internationalization' is leading to an increase of international agreements between higher education institutions. At the same time, a backlash against globalization - and a rise in nationalist populism across the globe along with growing anti-immigrant sentiment - are making it more difficult for scientists to conduct collaborative, international research and to share ideas, innovations and data – both with each other and the public.

In this context, the recent growth of authoritarianism and the rise of overt conflicts across the world have affected growing numbers of scholars in many regions. They have been exposed to violent aggression, imprisonment, prosecution, job loss, expulsion and travel restrictions. These developments spurred a widespread response by academic institutions, with the design and implementation of collaborative plans for the support and protection of at-risk scholars, as demonstrated by the activities of Scholars at Risk (SAR).

In all the above-mentioned cases, the nexus between knowledge and governance - particularly higher institution governance and risk-related politics - requires adequate attention for its possible consequences, as well as in depth reflection on future developments.

## WINTER SCHOOL DRAFT PROGRAM

18 and 19 February 2019

### KNOLWEDGES AT RISK: UNIVERSITIES PROMOTING ACADEMIC FREEDOM

The first two days of Winter School 2019 constitute an international public event jointly organized by the Universities of Padova and Trento in collaboration with the Scholars at Risk international network. Setting the tone for the following sessions, the first day features a number of international scholars addressing the challenges to academic freedom from different perspectives; the second day, at-risk scholars share their personal experiences, while SAR members from different countries present initiatives and good practices that are carried out to support scholars and students.

On this occasion, the SAR Italy section is officially launched (Tuesday, February 19 at 12.00).

#### Monday, February 18

##### Aula Nieveo

9.30 – 10.15

##### **Opening of WS 2019** (6<sup>th</sup> edition)

Greetings from the Vice-Rector for International Relations, University of Padova

Introduction to Winter School 2019: rationale, objectives, structure (NGGS)

10.30 – 12.30

##### ***A dialogue on contemporary challenges to academic freedom – I session***

This session addresses the many challenges to academic and scientific knowledge, deriving from on-going geo-political transformations across the world. It addresses issues concerning the different conditions that affect, constrain and endanger students, researchers and scholars, such as: the rise of populism, internal conflicts, repressive regimes, shortage of available resources, limits to freedom of expression and mobility. It also discusses the trans-national implications of such restrictions in relation to research, teaching and traveling and the consequences for academic communities and for the broader development of public-relevant knowledge and knowledge networks; as well as the gendered implications of constraints and oppression on female and male researchers. Academics from different disciplinary areas, and different regions are invited to contribute scientific reflections. Specific situations and case studies will be presented.

Chair: NGGS

Speakers:

- Asli Vatansever (Friedrich Ebert Stiftung, Germany) – **Intellectual Responsibility and Academic Freedom in 'Interesting Times'**
- Terence Karran (University of Lincoln, UK) – **Academic Freedom in Italy: *De Jure* Legalities and *De Facto* Realities**
- Monica Jitareanu (Central European University, Hungary) – **Who Is Afraid of Gender Studies? – the State of Academic Freedom in Hungary**

Lunch break

14.00 – 16.00

##### ***A dialogue on contemporary challenges to academic freedom – II session***

Chair: NGGS

Speakers:

- Ester Gallo (University of Trento, Italy) – **Academic freedom and scholars' international mobility. Reflections for migration studies and policy implications**
- Sreten Ugricich (University of Luzern, Switzerland) – **Strategies and statuses for artists and intellectuals in exile, in inner emigration, under censorship and under self-censorship**
- David John Locke (Magna Charta Observatory) - **invited**

16.30 – 18.00 (only for Winter School participants)

**@ SPGI department**

Winter School participants' introductions and initial reflection on how academic freedom relates to their educational and research activities.

18.30 – 19.30

Welcome drinks and informal introductions

**Tuesday, February 19**

**Aula Nieveo**

9.15 – 10.15

***Experiencing knowledge at risk***

At-risk scholars, supported by SAR, are invited to share their experiences, personal and professional stories. An opportunity for students and scholars, as well as for higher education institutions, to explore the meanings and implications of researchers' displacement for their life and work experience; and to reflect on opportunities and challenges for receiving universities.

Chair: NGGS

Speakers:

- Asli Vatansever (Turkey/Germany)
- Sreten Ugricich (Serbia/Switzerland)

10.15 – 11.45

***Putting principles into practice: How universities can support at-risk scholars and promote academic freedom***

This session introduces the SAR network's activities in support of at-risk scholars and researchers and to promote academic freedom. Meaningful practices will be presented and participants will be encouraged to get involved in a range of activities including welcoming scholars to campus, advocating on behalf of scholars in prison, joining a global academic freedom monitoring project, participating in international efforts to promote higher education values. Related work in the area of supporting refugee students will also be presented. An opportunity to learn from international experiences in view of collaboration within the emerging SAR Italy section.

Chair: NGGS

Speakers:

- Sinead O'Gorman (SAR European Director) - **An invitation to get involved**
- Marit Egner (International Office, University of Oslo) – **Academic Refuge. European cooperation promoting university values and welcoming refugee students and researchers at risk to campus**
- Catrin Scheiber (University of Luzern, SAR Switzerland) – **Developing SAR activities at national level: the Swiss section's experience**

12.00 – 13.00

***Official signing ceremony for the launch of Scholars at Risk Italian Section***

Rectors of adhering universities and SAR officer

Lunch break

Parallel sessions 15.00 to 17.30

**@ Palazzo Bo**

**SAR Italy First General Assembly:** SAR Italy members working session to define priority goals of collaboration and future steps.

**@ SPGI department**

Participants in WS 2019: **THINKING TOGETHER** - Group reflections on suggested questions. How to get involved? Initial elaboration for final group presentation. With remote participation of Adam Brave (Roger Williams University) on **What Can I Do? — a discussion on how advocacy work can support Academic Freedom**

**Wednesday, February 20**

**Aula seminari 2, SPGI**

9.30 – 12.30

***Technologies at risk and the risks of technology***

The session deals with the pursuit of knowledge, ownership of knowledge, dissemination of knowledge and utilization of knowledge in global and digitally mediatized contexts. By focusing on the wagers as well as on the opportunities of harnessing the knowledge-potential of digital technologies, presentations will touch upon controversial issues such as: Copyright or open access? Datafication or governing the commons? Are the innovation in information and communication technologies really implementing the emancipation of human beings? How is knowledge changing inside this process? Are technological transformations producing a post-human being?

Chair: Mauro Farnesi Camellone

Speakers:

- David Burigana (University of Padova) – Title TBD
- Paolo Magaudo (University of Padova) - Title TBD
- Arne Hintz (Cardiff School of Journalism) - Title TBD

Lunch break

14.00 – 16.00

*Students present their research plans and activities*

16.30 – 18.00

Visit to Palazzo della Ragione, Padova Municipality main building

**Thursday, February 21**

**Aula seminari 2, SPGI**

9.30 – 16.00

### ***Mobility, virtual exchange and knowledges at risk: acts of resistance***

Student mobility, the spread of English and the use of digital technologies are related phenomena which put knowledges at risk by privileging and disseminating dominant ways of knowing which are deemed to be of universal relevance and value. This session aims to explore ways in which these tools can be used 'otherwise' in order to engage with different meanings and interpretations, different ways of seeing and knowing.

Chair: Francesca Helm

Speakers:

- Lynn Mario de Souza (University of San Paulo) - **Interculturality, mobility and access: learning for citizenship or learning for the workplace?**
- Maha Bali (American University in Cairo, Egypt); Catherine Cronin (National Forum for the Enhancement of Teaching and Learning in Higher Education, Ireland) and Mia Zamora (Kean University, NJ, USA) - **Equity Unbound**
- Alice Baroni (University of Padova) - **Future teachers engage with difference through virtual exchange**
- Giuseppe Acconcia (University of Padova) - **Bridging the gap between north and south of the Mediterranean: video and discussions with virtual exchange participants**

16.15 – 18.00

Group work to prepare presentations on Friday morning

18.00 – 19.00

Social drinks and polite conversations

### **Friday, February 22**

**Aula comune, SPGI**

9.30 – 11.00

### ***Quality assessment: knowledges (and freedoms) at risk?***

The last session is an opportunity to reflect on the different lenses through which at-risk knowledges have been presented, in due consideration of the fact that not only conflicts and authoritarian regimes put academic knowledge/s under threat but also global capitalism, and governing arrangements that adopt and reflect a managerial approach to education, may transform and threaten forms of knowing and knowledge production. What does it mean to manage the contradictions of the contemporary university as a place of knowledge sharing? How can the tension between market and academic values be addressed? How to anticipate, and prevent, the long term consequences of disciplinary marginalization?

Chair: Mino Conte

Speakers:

- Monica Jitareanu (Central European University, Hungary)
- Lynn Mario de Sousa (Universidade de Sao Paulo, Brazil)

11.30 - 13.30

*Students final interventions: THINKING TOGETHER*

**Closing session of WS 2019**