

# ACADEMIC FREEDOM IN CHALLENGING TIMES – ADVOCACY AND COLLABORATIONS

## SWETALY - SAR WORKSHOP I

**ONLINE 3 FEBRUARY 2021, AT 10.00 – 12.30**

**Register in advance for this meeting:**

[https://unipd.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMod0ihpzwuG93tbF7rztcBujoB\\_8SbaZfo](https://unipd.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMod0ihpzwuG93tbF7rztcBujoB_8SbaZfo)

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

## PROGRAMME

- 10.00 – 11.15     **Part I (fully recorded)**  
                      **SAR in Sweden and Italy**  
                      Chair: Claudia Padovani, University of Padova and SAR Italy
- 10.00-10.15     Welcome and opening remarks
- Rosario Rizzuto, Rector, University of Padova
  - Maurizio Tira, Rector, University of Brescia and CRUI International Relations
  - Astrid Söderbergh Widding, President, Stockholm University and Chair of the Association of Swedish Higher Education Institutions
  - Eva Wiberg, President, University of Gothenburg and SAR Sweden
- 10.15 – 10.45     Presentation of SAR Sweden – Karolina Catoni (University of Gothenburg) + scholar from Turkey  
                      Presentation of SAR Italy – Ester Gallo (University of Trento) and Francesca Helm (University of Padova) + scholar from Yemen
- 10.45-11.05     Ambassadors' remarks
- Jan Björklund Swedish Ambassador in Italy (video message)
  - Maria Sica, Director, Italian Institute of Culture, Stockholm
  - Ulf R. Hansson, Director, Swedish Institute of Culture, Rome
- 11.05 – 11.20     Break

11.20 – 12.30 **Part II**  
**SAR and advocacy initiatives**

- 11.20-11.40 Brief remarks from Scholars at Risk
- Sinead O’Gorman (SAR Europe director) “Academic freedom in the spotlight: Capturing the opportunities together”(video message)
  - Denise Roche (SAR Advocacy manager)
  - Adam Braver (SAR Students Advocacy Seminars)

11.40 – 12.15 Breakout groups

- Group 1 - Political advocacy

This group will address the challenges for higher education institutions, and their associations, of carrying out advocacy initiatives in support of academic freedom; as well as the opportunities of networked advocacy initiatives between Sweden and Italy. The discussion will start from current cases of violation that are of concern to both countries and explore how participating universities have addressed them.

Facilitators: Claudia Padovani (University of Padova, SAR Italy and European Advocacy Committee) and Daniel Silander (Linnaeus University, SAR Sweden and European Advocacy Committee)

- Group 2 - Students’ advocacy seminar

This group will discuss the benefits of conducting advocacy seminars on academic freedom involving students and other members of the academic community. It will also address the challenges that may derive from students’ involvement, as well as the potential of transnational collaboration between seminars offered at different universities.

Facilitators: Francesca Helm (University of Padova and SAR Italy) and Ester Gallo (University of Trento and SAR Italy)

12.15 - 12.25 Reports from groups

12.25 - 12.30 Closing remarks

Alessandro Paccagnella, Vice-Rector for International Relations, University of Padova and Swetaly CRUI delegate