

must preserve the knowledge that  
wing that I had you behind me  
ywhere. Iraq is losing the real  
n and how to return to Iraq. They  
en that did not work, they put me  
was difficult for us who lost our  
one year of cooperative work with you.  
nk you very much for rescuing me  
m in the developing worlds. Thank  
hope. Please do not sleep or cross  
m the K. D. Many of such talented  
the disuse of their ability, talent,  
only because of the great relief it  
ing, but for the great opportunity  
owships in the world because it  
support I got from Scholar Rescue  
power to resist and start again from  
alin and from there to Amman and,  
t I will be that far but actually,  
seful contribution. I would like to  
this great opportunity not only to  
can to protect me at the moment of  
n t want - the chances were that  
re you'd gone. I cannot stand the  
s so much like the sound of the  
y use heavy pieces of wood to hit  
et. If it were not for such altruistic  
elfare of others, imagine how many  
? I am very happy to receive this  
me full of tears of joy after years  
your undiminished support. I will  
t I believe will touch the hearts  
eyond ourselves to understand  
news, kind support and encouraging  
provide me the Scholar Rescue  
ocation in IED and I am thankful to  
ible areas of the world. With this  
than once I could be killed. I can  
ole who can defend me and who have  
d and for the sake of science. The  
ld have been lost. I would be dead  
nigation is help and trust. It is a  
L never forget what Scholar Rescue  
the greatest challenge that scholars  
t I claim in the book I am writing.  
e never been a politician, nor have  
requent with my profession in being  
rain cleaning with regard to the  
ld seem dangerous because they  
detention, I have noticed that I am  
university, my colleagues who

## A LEGACY OF RESCUE A BEACON OF HOPE

will allow me to return to rebuild my country. In recent months  
made me feel strong. The academics are the real leaders of society  
leaders. We are more useful in Iraq and we must keep thinking about  
tried to make me shut up, first with harassment, then with the IED  
in prison. SRF changed our life from fear and terror to peace although  
house, our job, our friends, career and country. How could we smile?  
I am now definitely better than before my kids are so happy and so  
and putting me back to the normal life this year. There are millions  
you forever. And thousands of them academically discriminated  
your hands. Do wake up, point them and rescue such potential  
people die in Africa not because of malaria or ebola, but because  
skills. I am truly honored and grateful to accept your valuable be  
will represent for me and my loved ones in face of the threats we c  
to continue learning... I believe that it is one of the most importa  
saves the lives of the people who are in an immediate danger. The be  
Fund enabled me to collect my shattered life in Iraq and gave me  
scratch at seventy. Traveling through Rafah Crossing to Cairo, then  
now, on January 4th to London. It is amazing journey and never thoug  
I was equipped with hope grasping for a better academic career. I  
express my deepest gratitude to the Scholar Rescue Fund for giv  
continue my creative works and research but also for providing a so  
political interest in my country. If you said something the governme  
you'd actually disappear. Nobody would ever find what you had do  
sight, the sound of somebody chopping wood. I can't stand that becau  
foremost torture they like. They make somebody lie on the ground a  
from the hips downwards. And the sound is so like something you nev  
people like you and your colleagues, and their unselfish concern f  
flowers remain crushed in buds under the massive feet of those self  
great news. Thank you for your support. It is just an emotional memo  
of hard work and deep faith in spite of all odds. Thank you again f  
not let SRF down as I will use this opportunity to focus on the pr  
of many less fortunate children in Syria. I believe that we have  
the plight of those who love around us. Thank you very much for you  
me for future research with peace of mind in an academic environme  
Fund support. It will really help me advancing my research a  
the SRF organization and their scholarly support to those who are  
fellowship award, I am now able to face the past, to understand it a  
still be killed. However, now, I have the conviction that the world h  
defended my case. They want me to live again and work for the hum  
nine scholars with us here today represent 10 years of scholarship th  
without Scholar Rescue Fund. Thank you very much for your and you  
turning point in my life and my academic career. I am so happy.  
Fund has done for me. The relationship between knowledge and act  
face. When I'm done with the fellowship, I must go back and practi  
So far, I do not know the reason why I was personally arrested.  
I decided to become one. On the contrary, I chose to remain neutr  
open to all my students and colleagues. It seems however that there  
electoral process elections to take place next year. Neutral perso  
would not take a position for the government, nor for its opponents. Aft  
not free at all. Security Agents are still following me everywhere. I  
I know quite well how the system works are afraid of getting clo

### AN URGENT CALL TO HELP

Rescuing Scholars from Conflict and Repression

INSTITUTE OF  
INTERNATIONAL  
EDUCATION



Scholar  
Rescue FUND

**"I was not fearful of speaking out on issues that I thought were important. So they tried to make me shut up, first with harassment, then with threats. When that did not work, they put me in prison."**

—SRF SCHOLAR, MIDDLE EAST, LAW

**"The 9 scholars with us here today represent 180 years of scholarship that would have been lost. I would be dead without Scholar Rescue Fund."**

— ZIMBABWEAN PROFESSOR OF POLITICAL SCIENCE



Mark A. Angelson



Allan E. Goodman

January 1, 2015

Dear Friend:

**The world is a dangerous place for scholars.** At the Institute of International Education’s Scholar Rescue Fund (IIE-SRF) we are contacted daily by threatened scholars from many places making headlines today: Nigeria, Iran, Iraq, Syria, Uzbekistan and Ukraine, among others. In conflict regions the headlines are grim. According to the UN, Syria’s conflict has created “the biggest humanitarian emergency of our era” with over three million Syrians displaced and nearly 200,000 killed. In neighboring Iraq, entire cities live under violent siege with universities closed or operating under repressive ideologies. For IIE-Scholar Rescue Fund fellows, our news is their terrifying reality.

An Iraqi chemical engineer suffered the deaths of his brother-in-law, nephew, academic colleagues and friends due to sectarian violence in his Baghdad neighborhood. He lives in constant fear of his own death. Threat, however, does not always have a name or carry a weapon. A scholar hailed as “one of Cameroon’s most acute, productive and successful social scientists” of forced migration and human rights has received harassing emails, phone calls and mail from sources unknown. He no longer can practice his scholarship freely, and he fears that his family will be harmed. Stories such as these propel the work of IIE’s Scholar Rescue Fund. For nearly 100 years IIE has rescued persecuted scholars from around the world. Since 2002 we have had a team dedicated, prepared and equipped to mobilize rescue efforts in the face of crises that threaten scholarship and the lives of scholars. We also are poised to respond to the subtle movements of civil societies growing hostile toward the free exchange of ideas.

IIE-SRF remains at the heart of a global effort to save scholars before hostility mutes scholarship, learning and hope. Two recent articles in the Los Angeles Times (“Offering Refuge to Endangered Scholars”) and The Chronicle of Higher Education (“Scholars in Danger Join World’s Refugees”) also speak to the urgent need to end threats against scholars. On October 24th we gathered over 100 IIE-SRF partners for the first IIE Scholar Rescue Fund Summit. Partner universities mentored prospective hosts, IIE-SRF scholars shared stories of hope, human rights leaders brought insight into our rapidly shifting world, and many more gathered to form a plan of collective action in the face of scholar persecution.

Collective action is possible only with robust financial support. Together, with \$12 million to complete a \$50 million endowment, we can build a program that, in perpetuity, preserves national academies, protects scholarship and empowers threatened scholars for a more peaceful world. Please support IIE’s Scholar Rescue Fund today. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely yours,

Mark A. Angelson

Chairman, IIE Scholar Rescue Fund

Allan E. Goodman

President and CEO, Institute of International Education

**The Institute of International Education, Inc.** (“IIE”) is an independent not-for-profit dedicated to fostering mutual understanding, developing global leaders, and protecting academic freedom worldwide through educational exchange and training programs that advance the vision of Opening Minds to the World®. Upon request, a copy of the latest annual report can be obtained from IIE by going to its website ([www.iie.org/annual-report](http://www.iie.org/annual-report)) or from the Office of the Attorney General by writing to the Charities Bureau at 120 Broadway, New York, NY 10271.

## HOW IIE'S SCHOLAR RESCUE FUND WORKS

**E**stablished professors, researchers and public intellectuals from **any country, field or discipline** may qualify.

Applications are reviewed for academic qualifications, the quality/potential of the candidate's work, and the urgency of threats faced. Preference is given to scholars

- who are facing or recently fled from immediate, severe and targeted threats to their lives and/or careers in their home countries or countries of residence;
- with a Ph.D. or other highest degree in their field who have extensive teaching or research experience at a university, college or other institution of higher learning;
- who demonstrate superior academic accomplishment or promise;
- whose selection is likely to benefit the academic community in the home and/or host countries or region.

Applications from female scholars and scholars who are members of ethnic, racial, cultural or religious minority groups, or those otherwise underrepresented in their field, are encouraged.

Fellowships are approved by the SRF Selection Committee, which convenes at least three (3) times per year. Awards are issued for up to US \$25,000, plus individual health insurance. The final fellowship award is dependent upon the location of the host institution, the cost of living, and the value of any additional contributions from the host institution or other source.

Host academic institutions agree to accept the fellowship funds and disburse them to the scholar. In most cases, host partners are required to match the IIE-SRF fellowship award through salary/stipend support and/or a combination of salary and in-kind support, such as research materials, and other in-kind assistance.

Fellowships are for one year, with the possibility of a one-year renewal. Approximately 40% of IIE-SRF scholars are able to return to their home countries within five years of the fellowship. Those who are unable to return remain in safe host countries, where they can continue their academic work and contribute to their field of study from abroad.

## ABOUT THE INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION (IIE)

Founded in 1919, the Institute of International Education (IIE) is a private not-for-profit leader in the international exchange of people and ideas. In collaboration with governments, foundations and other sponsors and donors, IIE creates programs of study and training for students, educators and professionals from all sectors. These programs include the flagship Fulbright Program and Gilman Scholarships administered for the U.S. Department of State. IIE conducts policy research and provides a range of information resources on international exchange. The Institute's Emergency Student Fund and Scholar Rescue Fund provide support to students and scholars in danger.

[www.iie.org](http://www.iie.org)



In 2014, Charity Navigator awarded IIE its highest rating of 4 stars for the 7th year in a row. Their letter states: "Only 2% of the charities we rate have received at least 7 consecutive 4-star evaluations, indicating that the Institute of International Education outperforms most other charities in America. This 'exceptional' designation from Charity Navigator differentiates the Institute of International Education from its peers and demonstrates to the public it is worthy of their trust."

*must preserve the knowledge that will allow me to return to rebuild...*  
*of the real leaders of societies everywhere. It is losing the real leaders...*  
*they tried to kill me in my home country. My government dealt with the best of them...*  
*was although it was difficult for us who lost our home, our job, our friends, our...*  
*definitely better than other people. My kids are so happy and safe. Thank you very much...*  
*I'm in the developing worlds. Thank you forever for the thousands of them who...*  
*em and rescue such potentialities from the K. D. Many of such talented people...*  
*lent skills. I am truly honored and grateful to accept your valuable help...*

**"Armed men came for me. I was lucky, I was not home."**

—SRF SCHOLAR, LATIN AMERICA, HISTORY

## WHO WE HELP

Since its founding in 2002, the Scholar Rescue Fund has saved the lives and work of nearly 600 threatened scholars by providing them with fellowships at hundreds of safe host universities outside of their home countries. Here are a few of them along with their stories:



**Dr. Khalida Al Mousawy**, a professor of clinical immunology from Iraq, suffered vicious threats and public attacks from various factions within the University of Baghdad. The fellowship allowed her to spend one year at the University of South Carolina and her renewal year at the King Hussein Cancer Center (KHCC) in Amman, Jordan, where she was able to apply the research methods she learned in the United States to benefit cancer patients in the MENA region.



**Dr. Paul Ndebele** is a Zimbabwean scholar of psychology with a research focus on bioethics who is currently at the Henry Jackson Foundation in Bethesda, Maryland. Unable to work effectively amid the deteriorating political and economic environment in Zimbabwe, Dr. Ndebele received fellowship support to participate in a bioethics program at the University of KwaZulu-Natal in South Africa.



**Dr. Malniul Ahsan Khan** is a law professor in Bangladesh with expertise in human rights and Islamic legal issues who refused to remain silent when he observed political interference in his country's higher education sector. He was one of the Scholar Rescue Fund's first fellows and spent two years on fellowship at the University of California, Davis.



**Professor Mehrangz Kar** is a human rights lawyer and an internationally recognized writer from Iran who advocates for the defense of women's and human rights throughout the Islamic world. Her work led to her arrest and imprisonment in Iran and ultimately to her exile from her home country. Now a visiting professor at Brown University, she spent her fellowship at Harvard University.



**Professor Daniel Coronell**, a professor and renowned journalist from Colombia, received death threats for his reports linking Colombian drug traffickers, local self-defense forces, and government officials. His fellowship allowed him to pursue research on the origins of political violence in Colombia at the University of California, Berkeley. Now Senior Vice President and Executive News Director at Univision, he continues to report and research in the United States.

"In [the U.S.] now I live in freedom. I live in liberty. I can say anything. I can read anything I feel like reading. I can write anything I feel like writing, which would have been impossible for me in Ethiopia. I can go anywhere I feel like going without any security detail. I live in complete freedom in this country." — ETHIOPIAN ECONOMIST

# AT A GLANCE: FELLOWSHIPS TO SCHOLARS

August 2002–December 2014: 919 awards – including renewals | 591 scholars – 80% men & 20% women  
Over \$22 million in grants approved | More than \$10 million in matching grants from host institutions

Reports gathered in 2010 from 152 Iraqi fellows found that they have, together, while on fellowship:

- 10,000** Taught over 10,000 Iraqi students including 4,000 via distance learning
- 4,000**
- 500** Published more than 500 articles or books
- 100** Participated in over 100 scientific research projects
- 25** Presented more than 25 papers at academic conferences around the world

Based on a 2011 survey of 184 alumni:

**79%** of alumni are currently affiliated and engaged in academic work in either a university or college

When asked about current work:

**71%** of scholars responded that they are involved in research

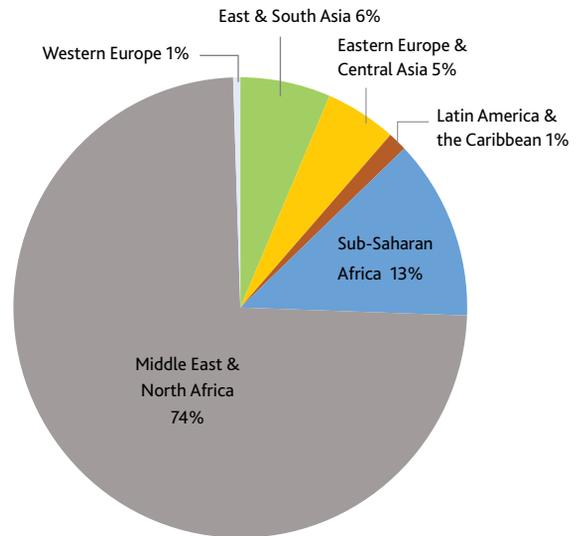
**51%** of scholars are teaching or training

**40%** of scholars are currently writing and publishing

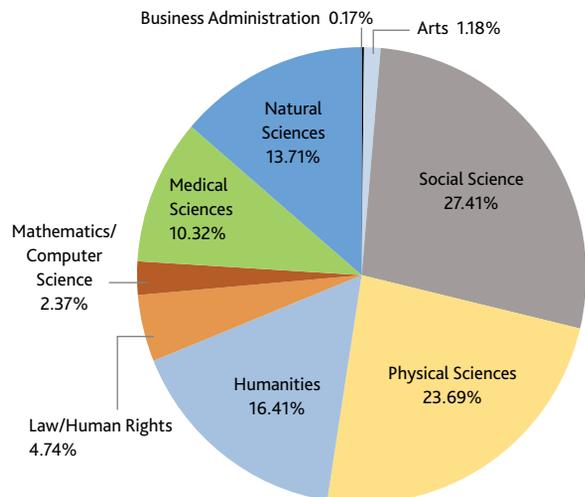
**69%** of scholars published between one and five peer-reviewed academic journal articles since the completion of the Scholar Rescue Fund Fellowship

**38%** of alumni reported teaching between 60 and 200 students per year

## SCHOLARS' REGIONS OF ORIGIN



## SCHOLARS' ACADEMIC FIELDS OF STUDY



"If you said something the government didn't want – the chances were that you'd actually disappear. Nobody would ever find what you had done, where you had gone."

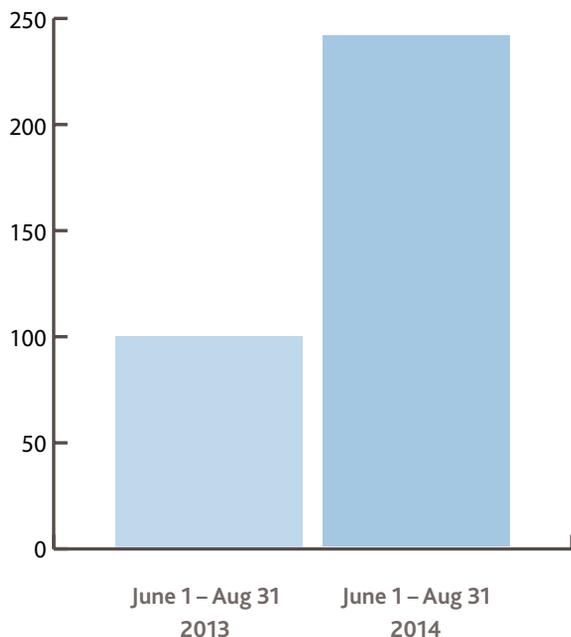
— ZIMBABWEAN POLITICAL SCIENTIST

## URGENT NEED TODAY

“More scholars are displaced and in danger now than at any time since the start of World War II.”

—THE LOS ANGELES TIMES

The number of Scholar Rescue Fund applicants has increased **143%** in this past year.



## HOW YOU CAN HELP

### GIVE A MAJOR GIFT

The Institute seeks gifts of \$500,000 to \$5 million to the SRF Endowment, which currently stands at \$38 million towards its goal of \$50 million.

### ESTABLISH A NAMED CHAIR

For \$500,000 to \$1 million, the Institute will name a Chair of IIE's Scholar Rescue Fund in the donor's name.

### PARTICIPATE IN OUR SAVE-A-SCHOLAR CAMPAIGN

Gifts of \$45,000 rescue a scholar in the donor's name for one year.

### ENCOURAGE HOSTING

Talk with your alma mater about hosting a rescued scholar on their campus.

### NOMINATE A THREATENED SCHOLAR

Let IIE-SRF know about scholars from any country or any field who may need our support.

### INFORM FRIENDS AND COLLEAGUES

Let others know about IIE-SRF's work and encourage their support.

“Through the Scholar Rescue Fund, the Institute of International Education has dedicated itself to nothing less than advancing and preserving the knowledge and history of the world's cultures and civilizations. How much would have been lost—and would continue to be lost—without their efforts is almost unthinkable.”

—VARTAN GREGORIAN, PRESIDENT, CARNEGIE CORPORATION OF NEW YORK

## IIE-SRF IN THE PRESS

Excerpt from

### NUMBER OF ACADEMIC REFUGEES GROWS

*The Chronicle of Higher Education* and *The New York Times*

November 3, 2014 | By Aisha Labi

Their stories are grim.

A Syrian engineer escapes the country after being detained and tortured by government forces. A writer and human rights activist flees Greece following threats from members of a far-right political group. In Thailand, a military coup forces an outspoken anthropologist to seek refuge abroad.

Intellectual dissidents have long faced political persecution and violence. But in recent years, the dangers facing them and universities in troubled regions have reached a crisis point. According to the Institute of International Education, which has been helping imperiled scholars since 1919, academics and students are being forced to flee their homes and homelands at a level not seen since World War II, when thousands of professors and scientists escaped Nazi-controlled Europe.

While those seeking aid are from all corners of the globe, the greatest need is in the Middle East, said Allan E. Goodman, the institute's president.

The Syrian civil war and violent expansion of the extremist Islamic State militant group, also known as ISIS or ISIL,

have caused a wave of destruction in Iraq and Syria and a vast flood of refugees into countries like Turkey, Jordan, and Lebanon. Academics and their families have often been caught in that tumult.

But to a greater extent than in previous wars and conflicts, scholars are now specifically attacked, and centers of learning have gone from being incidental victims to "battlegrounds," Mr. Goodman said. "War is being more driven by terrorists than ever before," he said, "and terrorists get a lot more bang for their buck by destroying universities and killing professors, and thereby intimidating a whole lot more people, than if just fighting a regular army."

**The renewed chaos in Iraq over the summer due to the Islamic State has been a significant setback for that country's higher-education system.** In recent years, Iraqi scholars who had fled earlier sectarian violence and persecution there had started to return. But now many have reversed course and been forced to again find sanctuary elsewhere. **"Three months have undone three years of effort,"** Mr. Goodman said.

"For three years [in prison] I didn't even see a green leaf on a tree."

— POLITICAL SCIENTIST FROM CHINA, 2008

Excerpt from

## OFFERING REFUGE TO ENDANGERED SCHOLARS

*Los Angeles Times* | October 9, 2014

By Mark A. Angelson and Allan E. Goodman

The application from an Iraqi university professor to the Scholar Rescue Fund was chilling. It described how he had been pressured relentlessly by a local militia to promote its agenda in his publications. He had received multiple death threats, he wrote, including a message left in his classroom saying simply: "We are waiting for you." Still, he continued to teach until his sister was abducted and killed to underscore the threat to him. At that point, the professor finally reached out to our organization, in the hope of finding a safe haven.

Another professor from Iraq described how she went into hiding after her husband was killed in front of their 9-year-old son by an improvised explosive device placed under their car.

These scholars are just two of more than 100 who have sought help in recent months from our organization, which helps arrange emergency placement and funding for imperiled academics seeking visiting scholar positions at universities outside their war-torn countries.

More scholars are displaced and in danger now than at any time since the start of World War II. With the rapid advance of Islamic State, university systems in Iraq and Syria are in ruins. Campuses have been converted into makeshift militia bases and refugee camps. And the very achievements that under ordinary circumstances convey honor and prestige on scholars are bringing them brutality, persecution and threats of assassination.

**Saving these threatened professors is crucial to post-conflict stability.** Not only will their intellects and expertise be essential to creating functioning societies once the fighting stops; they are also the ones who will provide opportunity for the next generation — and an alternative to jihadist militias.

With the help of a visiting fellowship, Alachkar came to UC Irvine to continue her important research on the neurological causes of psychiatric disorders. But she is eager to return when the threat lifts.

We are working to provide as many of these scholars as possible with fellowships and secure places to continue their work until they can return safely to rebuild their once flourishing academic communities, but much more is needed. The professors need colleges and universities to host them as visiting scholars, and they need funds to meet their basic costs of living. In the last 12 years, we have placed nearly 600 faculty members from 51 countries at universities in 40 countries.

As government leaders struggle to find the right military approach, the international academic community also has a responsibility to do its part by rescuing the people who are essential to rebuilding their war-torn societies when Islamic State is defeated.

"Living in peace is not something you can appreciate until you live without it."

—IRAQI SCHOLAR OF PHARMACEUTICALS, 2008

# HISTORY OF RESCUE

## From the 1920s to the Present



The Scholar Rescue Fund forms part of the Institute of International Education's longstanding legacy of responding when academics and students are threatened in the face of crisis. For over 90 years—from the Bolshevik Revolution and the rise of Nazi Germany to the Hungarian Uprising and apartheid in South Africa—IIE has brought threatened students and scholars out of danger and to safety around the world. Beginning in 1925, as Stalinism gripped the Soviet states, the Russian Student Fund helped more than 600 students and scholars find welcoming universities in Europe and the United States.

[This excerpt from our archives regarding scholars in the 1930s and 1940s reads just like one of our case binders today:](#)

One world-renowned medical scientist was taken into “protective custody” by the Nazis. While there, his youngest son was beaten in prison because pressure was brought from outside to release the father. The record of another scholar states: “He was removed from his Directorship.... He was not allowed to use the library or museum, even though many of the most significant objects in the museum had been procured by him. Finally, all his property was confiscated, and he was obliged to borrow three thousand dollars from his friends to get out of Germany.

“ We will not walk in fear, one of another. We will not be driven by fear into an age of unreason if we dig deep in our history and doctrine and remember that we are not descended from fearful men, not from men who feared to write, to speak, to associate, and to defend causes which were for the moment unpopular. . .”

—Edward R. Murrow, Renowned American journalist and IIE Assistant Director from 1932–1935

In the 1930s, IIE was instrumental in founding the Emergency Committee in Aid of Displaced Foreign Scholars, which rescued more than 330 scholars from persecution in Europe. After periods of assistance to Hungarian, Asian, and South African students and scholars, IIE helped thousands devastated by the Third Balkan War in the 1990s. With the establishment of the Scholar Rescue Fund in 2002, IIE formalized this vital work of protecting scholars and scholarship. In the past 12 years, nearly 575 scholars have found protection at over 300 host partner institutions around the world.



Participants of IIE's South African Education Program, 1979

**"To rescue scholars is to rescue the future."**

—DR. HENRY KAUFMAN, IIE CHAIRMAN EMERITUS  
AND SCHOLAR RESCUE FUND CO-FOUNDER

**"Whatever the definition of academic freedom may be,  
professors should not be physically threatened, jailed,  
tortured, or killed. Silencing scholars is inevitably an  
offense against the global community."**

—HENRY G. JARECKI, VICE-CHAIR, IIE;  
CHAIRMAN EMERITUS, IIE SCHOLAR RESCUE FUND

**"If I escaped, it is because somewhere,  
someone took care of my life."**

—SRF SCHOLAR, AFRICA, PHYSICS

INSTITUTE OF  
INTERNATIONAL  
EDUCATION



**Scholar  
Rescue FUND**

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