

# SCHOLARS AT RISK

## WALLONIA-BRUSSELS SECTION

### LAUNCHING EVENT – PROGRAMME

Fondation Universitaire, salle A (Rue d'Egmont, 11 – 1000 Brussels)

November 21, 2023, 1:15 PM - 5:30 PM

1 PM – 1:15 PM	<b>Arrival and registration</b>
1:15 PM – 1:20 PM	<b>Introductory remarks by M. Laurent Despy, administrator of ARES</b>
1:20 PM – 1:25 PM	<b>Introductory remarks by Mrs Charline Cauwe, Higher education advisor at the Office of Mrs Françoise Bertieaux, Wallonia-Brussels Federation Minister of Higher Education, Education, Social Promotion, Scientific Research, University Hospitals, Youth Aid, Houses of Justice, Promotion of Brussels, Youth and Sport</b>
1:25 PM – 1:35 PM	<b>Introductory remarks by Pr. Vincent Blondel, President of the CRef and Rector of UCLouvain</b>
1:35 PM – 1:40 PM	<b>Signature of the founding statement of the section</b>
1:40 PM – 2:40 PM	<p><b>Panel 1 : Academic Freedom in the World</b></p> <p>The panellists will present and discuss the state of academic freedom in the world, based in particular on the results of the 2023 Free to Think report, the role of foundations and (networks of) universities in protecting critical thinking, and the importance of the EU's actions in this area.</p> <p><b>Moderator :</b> Pr. Pierre Duysinx, Vice-Rector for International Relations, ULiège</p> <p><b>Speakers :</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» M. Hervé Lisoir, Senior Coordinator, International Programme, King Baudouin Foundation</li> <li>» M. Dominik Kalweit, Programme Manager – MSC4Ukraine, SAR Europe</li> <li>» Mrs Claire Morel, Head of Unit, Directorate General for Education, Youth, Sport and Culture, European Commission</li> </ul>
2:40 PM – 2:55 PM	<p><b>Session 2 : Presentation of the Scholars At Risk network</b></p> <p>The speaker will present the Scholars At Risk network, its main actions, challenges and opportunities.</p> <p><b>Speaker :</b> M. Dominik Kalweit, Programme Manager – MSC4Ukraine, SAR Europe</p>
2:55 PM – 3:25 PM	<b>Break</b>

<p>3:25 PM – 4:25 PM</p>	<p><b>Panel 3 : Student involvement in protecting academic freedom</b></p> <p>The panellists will discuss the importance of involving students in the protection of academic freedom and will present existing initiatives that enable students to get involved in the issue, such as Scholars at Risk's Student Advocacy Seminars initiative, the European Students' Union's grant programme for student associations to carry out advocacy and campaigning projects on academic freedom, and the work undertaken by university law clinics.</p> <p><b>Moderator</b> : Pr. Marthe Nyssens, Prorector « Transition and Society » in charge of human rights, UCLouvain</p> <p><b>Speakers</b> :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» M. Dominik Kalweit, Programme Manager – MSC4Ukraine, SAR Europe</li> <li>» Pr. Sylvie Sarolea, Clinique Rosa Parks, UCLouvain</li> <li>» Mrs Iris Kimizoglu, Vice President, European Students' Union</li> <li>» Mrs Louise Frère, Refugee Support Officer, Access2University, UCLouvain</li> </ul>
<p>4:25 PM – 5:25 PM</p>	<p><b>Panel 4 : Challenges faced by FWB universities in hosting academics and researchers at risk and sustainable support and integration solutions for them in Belgium</b></p> <p>The panellists will discuss the challenges encountered in welcoming academics and researchers at risk, from the point of view of the institution's authorities, supervisors, administrative staff, and the scholars themselves. The discussion will shed light on issues relating to the selection of scholar candidates, the sustainability of the hosting arrangements and the future prospects open to them.</p> <p><b>Moderator</b> : Pr. Anne Weyembergh, Vice-Rector for International Relations, ULB</p> <p><b>Speakers</b> :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Two scholars at risk hosted at ULB</li> <li>» Pr. Marek Hudon, Professor at the Solvay Brussels School of Economics and Management (SBS-EM), ULB</li> <li>» Mrs. Delphine Dieudonné, ULB International Welcome Desk</li> </ul>
<p>5:25 PM – 5:35 PM</p>	<p><b>Concluding remarks by Pr. Anne Weyembergh, ULB Vice-Rector for International Relations and Pr. Pierre Duysinx, ULiège Vice-Rector for International Relations</b></p> <p>The speakers will summarise the afternoon's discussions, highlighting the key points retained and the lessons learned from the experiences shared.</p>
<p>5:35 PM – 7:00 PM</p>	<p><b>Networking reception</b></p>