

Free to Think 2017 is the third installment in Scholars at Risk (SAR)'s reporting of attacks on higher education communities, analyzing 257 reported attacks on higher education communities in 35 countries, from September 1, 2016, to August 31, 2017.

Killings, Violence, Disappeara	nces 55
Imprisonment	83
Prosecution	45
Loss of Position	32
Travel Restrictions	21
Other	21

Mission

To protect and host scientists and intellectuals from countries where the
political situation no longer permits them to work and endangers their lives
and those of their families. Researchers from all disciplines and countries
are eligible for the program.

Approach

- **To provide support** in the form of funding to the higher education and research establishments hosting them.
- 3 calls of proposal (/year) launched in French Higher Education organizations.
- A individual process for scholars at risk without link with a French organizations.

Eligibility criteria

- evidence of lecturer/researcher status in their current establishment
- urgency of the circumstances
- enforced exile or absence from the country of origin of up to three years maximum

Evaluation criteria

- degree of urgency
- support and integration facilities available
- scientific quality of the application

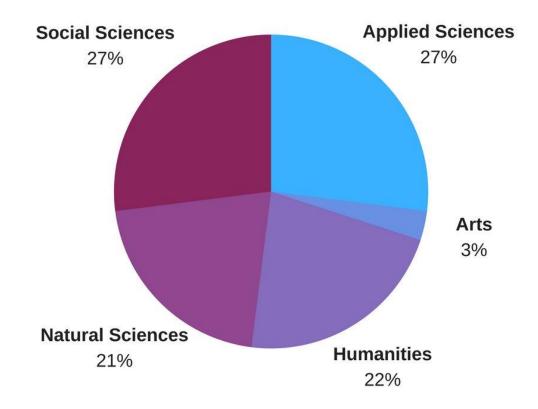
Exiled researchers hosted since the start of the program (Statistics: January-June 2017)

- 63 Scientists OUT OF 110 Applicants, hosted IN 50 participating French higher education establishments and research bodies
- Origin countries: Syrian, Irak, Turkey, Venezuela, Yemen
- GENDER BREAKDOWN: 48% Women 52% Men
- STATUS:

Doctoral researchers: 35%

Post-doctoral researchers: 17%

Senior researchers: 48%



Governance

- The Executive Committee is the program's decision-making committee. It brings together the bodies directly involved in the implementation of the program and sets out the general policy, strategic direction and objectives.
- The Sponsorship Committee brings together leading figures, notably scientists, involved in supporting the national PAUSE program with its fundraising campaign, and evaluating applications.
- The Program Management Office

PAUSE coordinates its activities with similar programs worldwide including Scholars at Risk hosted by New York University, The Council for At-Risk Academics in Great Britain, and The Institute of International Education Scholar Rescue Fund in the United States.

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