



Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin
INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY

Threats to Academic Freedom – Historical and Contemporary Perspectives

Workshop Program

UTC +2 (German Times)

October 21, 2020

2:30 p.m.

Opening of the Meeting Room: Arrival of the Participants

3:00 p.m. – 3:05 p.m.

Welcome: Daniel Schönflug (Academic Coordinator, Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin,
Professor of History, Freie Universität Berlin)

3:05 p.m. – 3:20 p.m.

Introduction: Amr Hamzawy, Gisèle Sapiro, Başak Tuğ

3:20 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Academic Freedom: Philosophical and Legal Perspectives

Chair: Gisèle Sapiro (Professor of Sociology, EHESS, Research Director, CNRS, Paris)

Pascal Engel (Professor of Philosophy, EHESS, Paris)

“Academic Freedom is the Freedom to Know”

Olivier Beaud (Professor of Law, Université Paris II Panthéon-Assas)

“A Plea for a Restrictive Definition of Academic Freedom”

4:00 p.m. – 4:15 p.m.

Break / Group Discussions in Breakout Rooms

4:15 p.m. – 5:15 p.m.

Contemporary Threats to Academic Freedom

Chair: Zaid Al-Ali (Senior Adviser in Constitution-Building in the Africa and West Asia region, IDEA)

Amr Hamzawy (Professor of Political Science, Cairo University and Senior Research Scholar, Stanford University)

“Academic Freedom in Egypt – A Downward Legal Spiral since the 1950s”

Nandini Sundar (Professor of Sociology, University of Delhi)

“Universities as Objects of Counterinsurgency in India: The Simultaneous Construction of Danger and Irrelevance”

Zeynep Kivılcım (Professor of Law, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin)

“Academic Freedom and Neo-liberal Authoritarianism in Turkey”

5:15 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Plenary Discussion

October 22, 2020

2:30 p.m.

Opening of the Meeting Room: Arrival of the Participants

3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Historical Perspectives

Chair: Başak Tuğ (Professor of History, Istanbul Bilgi University)

Sandra Richter (Director, Deutsches Literaturarchiv Marbach, Professor of German Literature, University of Stuttgart)

“What kind of academic freedom and for whom? Karl Jasper’s “Idea of the University”?”

Mitchell Ash (Professor emer. of History, University of Vienna)

“The Suppression and Misuse of Academic Freedom during the Nazi Regime”

Libora Oates-Indruchová (Professor of Sociology and Gender Studies, University of Graz)

“Academic Presses in Czechoslovakia and Hungary under the Communist Regimes”

4:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Plenary Discussion

4:30 p.m. – 4:45 p.m.

Break / Group Discussions in Breakout Rooms

4:45 p.m. – 5:25 p.m.

**Current Practices of Academic Censorship and Rebuilding Academic Communities:
Testimonies**

Chair: Irene Schneider (Professor of Arabic and Islamic Studies, University of Göttingen)

Balázs Trencsényi (Professors of History, Central European University, Budapest)

“Notes from the Anti-liberal Underground: Academic Freedom, (Un)Civil Society and
Kulturkampf in Hungary”

Noémi Lévy-Aksu (Hafiza Merkezi, Istanbul)

“Academic Freedom Outside the Academia in Turkey”

5:25 p.m. – 6:10 p.m.

Closing Remarks and Final Discussion

David Armitage (Professor of History, Harvard University)