

**PRELIMINARY AGENDA**

# May 25, 2021

**DISCUSSION PANEL: INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS ON ACADEMIC FREEDOM AND UNIVERSITY AUTONOMY: A PENDING COMMITMENT. (English)**

**Hosted by: David Gomez Gamboa** (General Director of Aula Abierta)**; Mayda Hocevar** (Director of the ULA Human Rights Observatory)**; and Ricardo Villalobos** (International Research and Advocacy Coordinator of Aula Abierta).

1. **Clement Voulé.** United Nations Special Rapporteur for the Rights of Freedom of Peaceful Assembly and Association. **Topic: Academic freedom and the United Nations Special Rapporteur for Freedom of Peaceful Assembly and Association.**
2. **David Kaye.** Former Rapporteur for Freedom of Opinion and Expression of the United Nations (UN). **Topic: Main considerations of the 2020 report “Promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression in the context of academic freedom”. -TO BE CONFIRMED-**
3. **David Gomez Gamboa.** University professor, General Director of Aula Abierta and Coordinator of the Human Rights Commission of the University of Zulia. **Topic: Patterns of violation of academic freedom in Latin America. / Pending challenges in the jurisprudence of the Inter-American Court.**

9:15 AM - 11:30 AM

(GMT -4).

1. **Antoine Buyse.** Professor and Director of the Netherlands Institute for Human Rights at Utrecht University. **Topic: Situation of academic freedom in the Netherlands / Utrecht Declaration of Academic Freedom**.
2. **Carla Ferstman.** Professor at the University of Essex. **Topic: Academic Freedom: Challenges in Europe.**
3. **Ricardo Villalobos.** Professor at the Rafael Urdaneta University. Coordinator of Research and International Advocacy of Aula Abierta. **Topic: International incidence on academic freedom.**
4. **Jose Gustavo Prieto.** Postdoctoral researcher at the Department of European, Public and International Law at the University of Ghent. **Topic: Right to academic freedom in Ecuador.**
5. **Pam Fredman.** President of the International Association of Universities (France). **Topic: The future of Universities in Europe.**

**DISCUSSION PANEL: OVERVIEW OF ACADEMIC FREEDOM AND UNIVERSITY AUTONOMY IN LATIN AMERICA. (Spanish)**

**Hosted by: Karla Velazco** (Professor at the University of Zulia and the Rafael Urdaneta University.

Sub-Director of Aula Abierta Projects).

1. ARGENTINA. **Pablo Riberi.** Argentine professor at the University of Cordoba. **Topic: Rethinking the Argentine University: Education, Academic Freedom and Free Deliberation.**
2. MEXICO: **Elba Jimenez.** Professor at the National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM). **Topic: Restrictions on university autonomy in Mexico.**
3. CUBA: **Jose Raul Gallegos**. Cuban journalist, professor, and researcher.

Topic: Threats to academic freedom in Cuba.

1. HONDURAS: **Joaquin Mejia Rivero.** Lawyer and professor at the National University of Honduras. **Topic: Academic freedom and university autonomy in Honduras.**

11:30 AM - 01:00 PM

(GMT -4).

1. VENEZUELA: **Innes Faria.** University professor. Chief Editor of the Journal of Juridical Issues of the Rafael Urdaneta University. **Topic: Restrictions for university autonomy and academic freedom in Venezuela.**
2. BOLIVIA: **Marco Baldivieso.** Lawyer, university professor, (former) Dean of the Constitutional Court of Bolivia. **Topic: Right to academic freedom in Bolivia.**
3. COLOMBIA: **Nastassja Rojas.** Dean of the Faculty of Legal and Political Sciences of the University of St. Thomas. **Topic: Academic Freedom in Colombia.**

**DISCUSSION PANEL: ACADEMIC FREEDOM AND ITS RELATIONSHIP WITH FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS. (Spanish)**

**Hosted by: Sergio Angel Baquero.** (Associate Professor of the School of Politics and International Relations of the Sergio Arboleda University).

SPECIAL PRESENTATION: AHMED SHAHEED. UNITED NATIONS SPECIAL RAPPORTEUR ON FREEDOM OF THOUGHT, RELIGION OR BELIEF

Opening panel with special presentation by **Ahmed Shaheed. United Nations Special Rapporteur on freedom of thought, religion, or belief. Hosted by: Ricardo Villalobos** (Professor at the Rafael Urdaneta University. Coordinator of Research and International Advocacy at Aula Abierta).

1. **Tulio Alvarez.** Professor at the Central University of Venezuela and the Andres Bello Catholic University. **Topic: Violations of academic freedom and freedom of expression in the Tulio Alvarez case before the Inter-American Court of Human Rights.**
2. **Marcia Ibarra.** Sub-Director of the Center for Research and Health Studies of the National Autonomous University of Nicaragua, Managua (CIES-UNAN). **Topic: Academic freedom threatened in the framework of COVID-19 in Nicaragua.**

02:00 PM - 03:40 PM

(GMT -4).

1. **Andrea Santacruz.** University professor. Director of the Human Rights Center of the Metropolitan University (UNIMET). **Topic: Criminalization of the protest of university students and crimes against humanity.**
2. **Carelia Hidalgo.** Professor at the Federal University of Rio Grande (Brazil). **Topic: Environmental rights and University in Brazil.**
3. **Ali Daniels.** University professor and Director of the Non-Governmental Organization “Acceso a la Justicia”. **Topic: Criminalization against university students and possible commission of crimes against humanity in Venezuela**.
4. **Eduardo Trujillo.** University professor. Director of the Human Rights Center of the Andres Bello Catholic University. **Topic: Financing of**

academic spaces regarding the 001-2021 of the National Office against Organized Crime and Financing of Terrorism of Venezuela.

1. **Hildebrando Arangu.** Professor at the Centroccidental University Lisandro Alvarado (UCLA). **Topic: Environmental rights in the university field.**
2. **Omara Ruiz Urquiola.** Former professor at the University of Havana (Cuba). **Topic: Freedom of association and Academic Freedom in Cuba.**

**DISCUSSION PANEL: ACADEMIC FREEDOM, UNIVERSITIES AND DEMOCRACY. (Spanish)**

**Hosted by: David Gomez Gamboa.** (General Director of Aula Abierta).

1. **Flavia Piovesan.** Second Vice President of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights. **Topic: -To be defined-.**
2. **Mariela Morales.** University Professor and Consultant for Latin America at the Max Planck Institute for Comparative Public Law and International Law (Germany). **Topic: The role of the Academy in the Democratic Society.**

03:40 PM - 04:30 PM

(GMT -4).

1. **Eduardo Ferrer Mc-Gregor.** Mexican jurist, academic and professor. Former president of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights (IACHR).**-To be confirmed-**
2. **Catalina Botero.** Former Rapporteur for Freedom of Expression of the IACHR. **Topic: Freedom of expression and academic freedom: fundamental elements in democratic societies.**

# May 26, 2021

**DISCUSSION PANEL: UNIVERSITY AUTONOMY: INTERNATIONAL PERSPECTIVE. (Spanish)**

**Hosted by: Mayda Hocevar** (Director of the ULA Human Rights Observatory); **and David Gómez Gamboa** (General Director of Aula Abierta)

1. **Mario Bonucci.** Rector of the Universidad de los Andes. **Topic: Budget suffocation against the Venezuelan university and destruction of the academy.**
2. **Cecilia Garcia Arocha.** Rector of the Central University of Venezuela. **Topic: Policies of persecution against AVERU and university authorities in Venezuela.**
3. **Waldo Albarracín.** Former rector of the Higher University of San Andrés (UMSA in its Spanish acronym). **Topic: University autonomy in Bolivia.**
4. **Ennio Vivaldi.** Rector of the University of Chile. **Topic: University Autonomy in Chile. -TO BE CONFIRMED-**

9:15 AM - 11:30 AM

(GMT -4).

1. **Jessy Divo.** Rector of the University of Carabobo. **-To be confirmed-.**
2. **Diana Romero La Roche.** Dean of the Faculty of Legal and Political Sciences of the University of Zulia. **Topic: University autonomy kidnapped in Venezuela.**
3. **Karla Velazco.** Professor at the University of Zulia and the Rafael Urdaneta University. Deputy Director of Aula Abierta Projects. **Topic: University autonomy and Academic freedom: A relationship from means to end**.
4. **Freddy Quezada.** Former professor at the National Autonomous University of Nicaragua (UNAN). **Topic: Case of expulsion from UNAN.**

SPECIAL PRESENTATION: SOLEDAD GARCIA MUÑOZ. SPECIAL RAPPORTEUR ON ECONOMIC, SOCIAL, CULTURAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL RIGHTS OF THE IACHR. TOPIC: ACADEMIC FREEDOM AND THE ESCER RAPPORTEURSHIP.

Special presentation: Soledad Garcia Muñoz. Special Rapporteur on Economic, Social, Cultural and Environmental Rights of the IACHR. **Topic: Academic freedom and the ESCER Rapporteurship.**

11:30 AM - 11:45 AM

(GMT -4).

**DISCUSSION PANEL: CHALLENGES FOR ACADEMIC FREEDOM IN THE INTERNATIONAL CONTEXT. (English)**

**Hosted by: Antoine Buyse** (Professor and Director of the Netherlands Institute for Human Rights of the Utrecht University)**; and David Gómez Gamboa** (General Director of Aula Abierta)

1. **Armando Chaguaceda.** Cuban researcher at the Center for Ibero- American Constitutional Studies Member of Amnesty International Mexico**. Topic: Ideological biases and threats to academic freedom in Latin America.**
2. **Benjamin Scharifker.** Rector of the Metropolitan University of Caracas. **Topic: Scientific research and academic freedom: pending commitment in Venezuela.**
3. **Ülkü Doğanay.** Former professor at the University of Ankara (Turkey).

Topic: Academic Freedom in Turkey.

11:45 AM - 01:15 PM

(GMT -4).

1. **Maggi WH Lung.** Associate Professor of International Development Studies in the Department of Human Geography and Spatial Planning, Utrecht University. **Topic: Situation in Hong Kong, concerns related to COVID-19.**
2. **Lizzy Van Dijk.** Project officer of the “Shelter City Utrecht” program. **Topic: Forced migration of academics: Realities and challenges.**
3. **Rika Theo.** Journalist and researcher at the University of Utrecht. **Topic: Indonesian academics in exile and their intergenerational interactions with young Indonesians in Europe.**
4. **Ariel Ruiz Urquiola.** Biologist. Former professor at the University of Havana (Cuba). **Topic: Indoctrination policy in Cuban universities.**
5. Student representative **-To be defined-.**

**DISCUSSION PANEL: PHILOSOPHICAL AND HISTORICAL CONCEPTIONS OF ACADEMIC FREEDOM. (Spanish)**

**Hosted by: Juan Carlos Barreto** (Director of the Center for Peace and Human Rights of the Central University of Venezuela); **and Karla Velazco** (Sub-Director of Aula Abierta Projects).

1. **Sergio Angel Baquero.** Associate Professor of the School of Politics and International Relations of the Sergio Arboleda University (Colombia). **Topic: Trends in the literature on academic freedom in the main**

scientific journals

02:00 PM - 03:15 PM

(GMT -4).

1. **Mayda Hocevar.** Professor at the University of Los Andes (ULA). Director of the Human Rights Observatory of the ULA. **Topic: Academic freedom, historical references. Philosophical conceptions.**
2. **Angel Lombardi.** University professor and historian. **Topic: The University in the history of humanity.**
3. **Carlos Lusverti.** Professor at the Andres Bello Catholic University (UCAB), Coordinator of the UCAB Center for Human Rights. **Topic: Rule of Law, Democracy and Academic Freedom.**

**DISCUSSION PANEL. INCLUSIVE UNIVERSITY: RIGHT TO EQUALITY AND NON-DISCRIMINATION. (Spanish)**

**Hosted by: David Gómez Gamboa** (General Director of Aula Abierta); **and Ricardo Villalobos**

(International Research and International Advocacy Coordinator of Aula Abierta).

1. **Pastor Elías Murillo. Former Vice-Chairman of the United Nations Committee for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination. Topic: Special focus on people of African descent.**
2. **Monica Godoy.** Colombian university professor and activist for gender rights. **Topic: Gender violence in Colombian universities. / Monica Godoy case sentenced by the Colombian Constitutional Court.**
3. **Dhayana Fernandez Matos.** Professor at the Central University of Venezuela (UCV). **-Topic to be defined-**
4. **Edward Perez.** Legal advisor to the Center for Reproductive Rights. Lawyer specialized in International Law. Topic: **The right to an education free of sexual violence in the university context.**

03:15 PM - 04:30 PM

(GMT -4).

1. **Beatriz Borges.** Director of the Center for Justice and Peace (CEPAZ).

Topic: University spaces free of gender violence.

1. **Ligia Bolivar.** Professor at the Andres Bello Catholic University (UCAB). **Topic: Forced migration of academics.**
2. **Isabel Zerpa.** Director of the Center for Women's Studies of the Central University of Venezuela (CEM - UCV). **-Topic to be defined-**
3. **Hisvet Fernandez.** Professor at the University of Los Andes (ULA).

Topic: The university protocol against gender violence.

1. **Yolima Arellano.** Professor at the University of Los Andes (ULA). **Topic: Rights of vulnerable people and groups within universities. Protocol for psychosocial care.**

## CLOSING ACTIVITY.

Exhibition of manifesto of the university community and civil society in favor of the creation of international standards for the protection of academic freedom.

04:30 PM - 04:45 PM

(GMT -4).

