

SAVE THE DATE

Academic Freedom in Action 2025

Strasbourg, 25-26 November 2025

Academic freedom is under pressure. The time for coordinated action is now.

Join us this November in Strasbourg for Academic Freedom in Action 2025, a high-level international conference convened by the Council of Europe to strengthen academic freedom as a core pillar of democracy.

Across Europe and beyond, academic freedom is increasingly threatened by political interference, shrinking institutional autonomy, and direct attacks on scholars. This 1,5-day event will bring together parliamentarians, government representatives, academics, civil society organisations, legal experts, and international partners to explore how we can respond, collectively, strategically, and effectively.

Highlights will include:

- Parliamentary and governmental panels on legislative frameworks, national observatories, and policy commitments
- A session on sanctuary and solidarity, exploring programmes for at-risk scholars and their role in defending democracy
- A session on legal protections under the European Convention on Human Rights with judges and legal experts, alongside a session on constitutional safeguards, in cooperation with the Venice Commission
- Interactive workshops on monitoring threats, the role of universities, and putting academic freedom into practice
- A global panel on shared struggles and international solidarity beyond Europe

Whether you are a policymaker, university leader, researcher, or advocate, this event offers a space to connect, reflect, and collaborate on safeguarding academic freedom in a changing world.

Invitations and registration details will follow in September 2025.

For more information, please contact: jelena.drca@coe.int