

*International Human Rights Network
of Academies and Scholarly Societies*

ELEVENTH BIENNIAL MEETING
May 26-28, 2014

Symposium

**SCIENCE AND HUMAN RIGHTS:
A DYNAMIC SYNERGY**

Monday, May 26, 2014

Hosted by the
German National Academy of Sciences Leopoldina
Jägerberg 1 - D-06108 Halle (Saale), Germany



The roots of science lie in the soil of freedom. This is because imagination inhabits the individual mind. Take away the freedom to dream, and the plant wilts. You cannot command it to flower. So, all that you are saying and doing for us has that value. But also it is intrinsically valuable, since what is required for science is what is required for human dignity.

**John Polanyi, Member
Network Executive Committee**



INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS NETWORK OF ACADEMIES AND SCHOLARLY SOCIETIES

On the occasion of its eleventh biennial meeting, the members of the Executive Committee of the International Human Rights Network of Academies and Scholarly Societies acknowledge with gratitude the financial support generously provided by the Royal Danish Academy of Sciences and Letters, the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences, the Norwegian Academy of Science and Letters, the French Academy of Sciences, the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences, the Academia Sinica (Taipei)—which was particularly generous—the Royal Society, London, the National Academy of Sciences (U.S.A.), the National Academy of Engineering (U.S.A.), and the Institute of Medicine (U.S.A.) for supporting the travel and accommodation expenses of participants from national academies in developing countries.

The Executive Committee appreciates and particularly wishes to thank the German National Academy of Sciences Leopoldina for hosting this event and for supporting the travel of several participants; the Chair of its Human Rights Committee, Hans-Peter Zenner, who has shown devotion to our goals; and its hard-working staff for helping to organize this symposium and the two-day workshop to follow.



Leopoldina

Nationale Akademie der Wissenschaften

Founded in 1652, the Leopoldina is one of the oldest academies of science in the world. It is dedicated to the advancement of science for the benefit of humankind and to the goal of shaping a better future. With some 1,500 members, the Leopoldina brings together outstanding scientists from Germany, Austria, Switzerland, and many other countries. The Leopoldina was appointed as the German National Academy of Sciences in 2008. In this capacity, it represents the German scientific community in international committees and speaks out on social and political questions, providing a nonpartisan, factual framework for discussion. Under the auspices of the Leopoldina, interdisciplinary groups of experts publish policy guiding statements on issues of current interest. The Leopoldina also releases joint statements with other German, European, and international academies. It promotes scientific and public debate, supports young scientists, confers awards for scientific achievements, conducts research projects, and campaigns for the human rights of persecuted scientists.



INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS NETWORK OF ACADEMIES AND SCHOLARLY SOCIETIES

The Network aims to put into practice the professional duty of scientists and scholars to assist those colleagues whose human rights have been—or are threatened to be—infringed and to promote and protect the independence of academies and scholarly societies worldwide.

Approved unanimously at the May 11, 2001, fifth biennial meeting of the International Human Rights Network of Academies and Scholarly Societies, held at the French Academy of Sciences in Paris.

NETWORK MISSION STATEMENT

The International Human Rights Network of Academies and Scholarly Societies, created in 1993, consists of national academies and scholarly societies around the world that work together to address serious science and human rights issues of mutual concern. The primary objective of the Network and the motivating factor in its creation is to use the influence and prestige of participating academies, by working in a collaborative manner, to actively defend the rights of professional colleagues—scientists, medical professionals, engineers, and scholars—who are unjustly imprisoned or persecuted for nonviolently expressing their opinions. The Network’s appeals are based on the standards set forth in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which was adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in 1948 and applies to all 193 member countries of the United Nations. The Declaration includes rights of particular importance to science and scientists because, when they are violated, they can have a significant detrimental effect on science and scientists themselves, in addition to a nation’s economy and the health and well-being of its citizens.



Network members subscribe to the belief that, because their academies and scholarly societies are held in high esteem and their dignity, integrity, and objectivity are widely recognized, their interventions can be an effective and influential tool in advancing respect for human rights. The Network strives to provide its member academies and scientific colleagues with protection and moral support when their independence is threatened, they are subjected to repression, or their scholarly work is undermined for political reasons. Through the exchange of human rights-related ideas, information, and experiences, the Network encourages cooperation and open communication among academies and advances understanding of human rights issues that relate to science, technology, and health. It opposes, unequivocally, boycotts of academics and academic institutions, preferring to remedy problematic situations through continued communication.

The Network supports human rights consciousness-raising, education, and institutional commitment to human rights work among counterpart academies and scholarly societies worldwide. Some two dozen member academies now work collaboratively in submitting cases of unjustly imprisoned colleagues to UNESCO's Committee on Conventions and Recommendations. The Network also sends observers to the trials of colleagues who are unjustly accused, such as those of Alexandr Nikitin in Russia and Saad Eddin Ibrahim in Egypt, and to visit unjustly imprisoned colleagues, such as Binayak Sen, M.D., in Raipur, Chhattisgarh, India and, most recently, Kemal Gürüz, Mehmet Haberal, Fatih Hilmioğlu, and Faruk Yarman in high security prisons in Istanbul and Ankara, Turkey.

The Network is administered by an Executive Committee. In 1993, the founding members were François Jacob* (France) [died in April 2013], Pieter van Dijk (Netherlands) [resigned in 2009], Max Perutz* (UK) [died in February 2002], and Torsten Wiesel* (USA) [resigned in 2007]. Today the Executive Committee includes Arjuna Aluwihare (Sri Lanka), Dorairajan Balasubramanian (India), Claude Cohen-Tannoudji* (France), Abdallah S. Daar (Canada/Oman), Felton Earls (United States of America), Belita Koiller (Brazil), Pedro León Azofeifa (Costa Rica), Dong-Pil Min (Republic of Korea), Ida Nicolaisen (Denmark), John Polanyi* (Canada), and Alenka Šelih (Slovenia). The Committee on Human Rights of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine (U.S.A.) serves as Secretariat for the Network. Carol Corillon directs the committee and is executive director of the Network.



While the Network's Executive Committee occasionally makes public statements about particularly grave situations of relevance to the Network's charge and encourages academies that are Network members to do the same, all participating academies in the Network have full autonomy and act at their own discretion. They are strongly encouraged to create human rights committees and to urge their academies and their members to intervene in cases and issues brought to their attention by the Network Secretariat through regular Action Alerts sent by e-mail and posted on a private Network website. Members are also encouraged to refer potentially relevant cases and human rights issues to the Network Secretariat for investigation and possible action and to inform the Secretariat of particular situations that Network members should be made aware of or in which its Executive Committee may want to intervene in a formal manner. It is possible that, in future, as relations among academies in the Network are strengthened and shared concerns are more widely identified, the Network will take action as a group with one voice on selected cases and issues.

About every two years a different member academy hosts a symposium and workshops for the Network. Hosts to date have been the U.S. National Academies (1993), the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences (1995), the Accademia Nazionale dei Lincei in Italy (1997), the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences and the Royal Swedish Academy of Arts, Letters, and Antiquities (1999), the French Academy of Sciences (2001), the Council of Swiss Scientific Academies (2003), the Royal Society, London (2005), the National Academy of Sciences of Sri Lanka (2007), the Academy of the Kingdom of Morocco (2009), and the Academia Sinica, Taipei (2012).

The Network receives limited financial support for its biennial meetings from several member academies and, occasionally, grants from private foundations and gifts from individual donors. It needs several hundred thousand dollars a year to support the operations of its Secretariat and gratefully accepts donations from private foundations and donors, as well as member academies. To make a gift, visit www.nationalacademies.org/humanrights.

* Nobel Laureate

Program



SESSION 1 *Chair: Dorairajan Balasubramanian*

09h00-09h15 Welcome
Jörg Hacker & Hans-Peter Zenner

09h15-09h30 Science, Human Rights, and the Purpose of Our Network
Felton Earls

09h30-9h45 Symposium Overview
Ida Nicolaisen

09h45-10h45 **KEYNOTE ADDRESS**
Mobilizing the Nobel Laureates for A Few Good Causes
Sir Richard J. Roberts

10h45-11h15 **T E A / C O F F E E**

SESSION 2 *Chair: Felton Earls*

11h15-12h00 **FRANÇOIS JACOB MEMORIAL LECTURE**
Science Behind the Veil: Tunisia and Beyond
Farida Faouzia Charfi

12h00-12h45 Syria: Medical Neutrality Criminalized
Zedoun Alzoubi

12h45-13h45 **L U N C H**



SESSION 3 *Chair: Belita Koiller*

13h45-14h30 **MAX PERUTZ MEMORIAL LECTURE**
Science and Human Rights in Turkey Today
Büşra Ersanlı

14h30-15h30 Four Unjust Trials in Turkey
Carol Corillon

Prison Visits in Turkey and Status of Cases
Hans-Peter Zenner

15h30-16h00 **T E A / C O F F E E**

SESSION 4 *Chair: Alenka Šelih*

16h00-16h45 Scientists and Science Education in Jeopardy in Egypt
Emad Shahin

16h45-17h00 Concluding Remarks
Pedro León Azofeifa



Speaker Bios

Bios of speakers who are members of the Network's Executive Committee can be found on the last two pages of this program.

ZEDOUN ALZOUBI is a university professor and quality manager at Arab International University in Syria. After the Syrian revolution, he became an activist defending human rights of the Syrian people. He has frequently spoken to Arab and western media to advocate for the Syrian people's struggle towards freedom, democracy, and equal citizenship. He has been very active in the medical field and has helped in the establishment of field hospitals in Homs, Daraa, and Damascus. He was detained twice for almost three months (two of which were in solitary confinement) and then was forced to leave the country. He has also helped establish several Syrian civil society organizations in the country and is now helping establish the largest coalition of civil society organizations (Tamas). Because of his peaceful activism, he served as focal point and contact for Lakhdar Brahimi's (special U.N. envoy to Syria) team in Damascus and supported the office by designing and implementing local level mediation projects in Syria. Dr. Alzoubi holds a Ph.D. in management from the Arab Academy for Finance and Banking Sciences and is currently pursuing his post-doctoral studies at the Technical University in Berlin.

FAOUZIA F. CHARFI is a physicist and served as a junior minister of higher education in the 1st and 2nd governments of Tunisia, post-revolution (January-March 2011). She was previously a guest professor of physics at Ecole Normale Supérieure de Cachan, Paris (2002-2009); general manager at the Preparatory Institute for Scientific and Technical Studies (IPEST) (1995-2001); professor of physics at the Faculty of Sciences of Tunis, IPEST and Tunisia Polytechnic School (retired in 2002); and director of the first Research Group of Physics of Semiconductors at the University of Tunis (1984). She received a Doctorat d'Etat Es-Sciences Physiques in semiconductor physics from the University of Tunis in 1984 as well as a Ph.D. in physics of condensed matter in 1978. She has been a member of the Scientific Committee of the Tunis Science City (1990-2000) and is currently a member of the Honorary Committee of the European Academy of Science, Arts and Letters and a member of international juries (Médaille Rammal, Prix Purkwa). She received the Presidential Award, Baccalauréat, Tunis in 1958, the Rammal Award in 1995, the Ordre du Mérite Culturel, Tunisia in 1996, the Chevalier de la Légion d'Honneur, France in 1997, the Commandeur des Palmes Académiques, France in 2001, and the Zoubeida Béchir Award, Tunisia in 2014. She has published books about science and religion as well as scientific articles about electronic and optical properties of semiconductors.



BÜŞRA ERSANLI is professor of politics and history at Marmara University, Istanbul, a position she has had since 1990. She has been chair of the university's Department of Political Science and International Relations since 2006. Her main areas of interest are historiography and nationalism in Turkey, history textbooks, language and politics, Caucasus and Central Asian studies, Eurasian studies, and the Kurdish problem in Turkey. Professor Ersanlı earned a B.A. in English language and literature (1978), an M.A. in politics (1981), and a Ph.D. in politics (1989) from Boğaziçi University. She was a research fellow at Hull University from 1983-1984 and has taught and conducted research throughout Europe. Professor Ersanlı is a human rights and peace activist, a member of various nongovernmental organizations, and has been a member of Turkey's Peace and Democracy Party since 2009. She is currently working for the Peace and Democracy Party's Academic Council.

JÖRG HACKER studied biology at Martin Luther University Halle from 1970 to 1974, where he also obtained his Ph.D. in 1979. From 1980 to 1988, he worked at the Department of Microbiology at the University of Würzburg, where he was promoted to professor in 1986. His research focused on the molecular analysis of pathogen bacteria and host-microbe interaction. Since 1993, he has lead the Würzburg Institute for Molecular Infection Biology. In 2000 and 2005, Professor Hacker did research at the Pasteur Institute in Paris as a visiting researcher. Furthermore, he taught at Tel Aviv University as guest professor in 2006. From 2003 until 2010 he was vice president of the German Research Foundation (DFG), and from 2008 until 2010 he was president of the Robert Koch Institute. Since March 2010, he has been president of the German National Academy of Sciences Leopoldina. He has received numerous awards and honours and is a member of national and international academies, scientific societies, and committees. Recently, he has been appointed to the new Scientific Advisory Board, which has been set up by U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon.

RICHARD J. ROBERTS is a molecular biologist and the chief scientific officer at New England Biolabs, Beverly, Massachusetts. He was awarded the 1993 Nobel Prize for Physiology or Medicine for his independent discovery of "split genes." Dr. Roberts earned a B.Sc. in chemistry in 1965 and a Ph.D. in organic chemistry in 1968 from the University of Sheffield. He completed his postdoctoral studies in Professor J.L. Strominger's laboratory at Harvard University, where he studied the tRNAs that are involved in the biosynthesis of bacterial cell walls. From 1972 to 1992 he worked



at Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory in New York, reaching the position of assistant director for research under Dr. J.D. Watson. Dr. Roberts was knighted in 2008. Dr. Roberts' many awards and honors include the Gabor Medal from the Royal Society (U.K.) (2007), the Medicus Magnus of the Polish Academy of Medicine (1998), the Golden Plate award of the American Academy of Achievement (1994), an honorary Doctor of Science from the University of Bath (1994), and the Convocation Award from Sheffield University (1994). He is an elected fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, a fellow of the American Academy of Microbiology, an elected foreign fellow of the National Academy of Sciences of Pakistan, an elected fellow of the Royal Society, London, and an associate member of the European Molecular Biology Organization.

EMAD SHAHIN is a professor of political science with recognized experience in the fields of comparative politics, Middle Eastern studies, and public policy. He has taught in leading universities in the United States including Harvard, Notre Dame, Georgetown, George Washington, and Boston before rejoining the American University in Cairo in 2012. Dr. Shahin has served as a consultant for a number of organizations and participated in more than 100 regional and international conferences. He has authored and co-authored more than seven books in both Arabic and English. In addition, he has more than 50 academic publications in the form of book chapters, academic papers, and encyclopedia entries. He has also written numerous articles for national and international newspapers, including *Al-Ahram*, *al-Shorouk*, the *New York Times*, the *Washington Post*, the *Guardian*, *CNN*, *Atlantic Monthly*, and *Foreign Policy*. His areas of interest include comparative politics, public policies, Islamic law and politics, and democracy and political reform in Islamic societies. He is currently a public policy scholar at the Woodrow Wilson Center and editor-in-chief of the Oxford Encyclopedia of Islam and Politics.

HANS-PETER ZENNER is distinguished professor and chairman of the Department of Otolaryngology and Head and Neck Surgery at the University of Tübingen in Germany, a position he has held since 1988. He is chairman of the Ethics Commission and a representative on the Member Council of the German National Academy of Sciences Leopoldina. He has chaired the Human Rights Committee of the Leopoldina for the past three years. In 2010 Professor Zenner co-founded the Center for Neurosensory Systems in Tübingen, and, in 2008, he was a founding spokesperson of the Head and Neck Cancer Center at the Comprehensive Cancer Center in Tübingen. He is a member of the Germany Academy of



Sciences Leopoldina. Professor Zenner served as the president of the German Association of Sciences and Medicine from 2009 to 2010 and has served as president of the Society of German Natural Scientists and Doctors, president of the German Academy of Otolaryngology, Head and Neck Surgery, and president and secretary-general of the German Society of Otolaryngology, Head and Neck Surgery. He has been a member of the Scientific Advisory Board of the German Medical Association and the Ethics Committee of the International Federation of ORL Societies. Professor Zenner received a Doctor of Medical Sciences in cancer research and an M.D. from the University of Mainz.



Executive Committee Bios

INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS NETWORK OF ACADEMIES AND SCHOLARLY SOCIETIES

ARJUNA ALUWIHARE is emeritus professor of surgery at the University of Peradeniya in Sri Lanka. He was vice chancellor of the university from 1988 to 1989 and chairman of the University Grants Commission of Sri Lanka from 1989 to 1993. He is former president of the National Academy of Sciences of Sri Lanka, was a member of the Human Rights Commission of Sri Lanka from 1997 to 2000, was founder and president of the SAARC Surgical Care Society, and is past president of the College of Surgeons of Sri Lanka. Dr. Aluwihare has written widely, including a chapter in the Oxford Textbook of Surgery. Dr. Aluwihare completed his basic medical degree at Kings College, Cambridge and the London Hospital. He completed postgraduate work in Sri Lanka and England, earning a FRCS (Eng) in 1966 and a Master of Surgery (Cambridge) in 1970. His awards and honors include an honorary fellowship from the Royal College of Surgeons, England, and the title of Vidya Jothi, awarded by the Sri Lanka Government in 1998 for outstanding contributions to science.

DORAIRAJAN BALASUBRAMANIAN is a biologist with particular interest in the biology of the human eye. He has been a professor at the University of Hyderabad, India, director of the Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology, Hyderabad, and the president of the Indian Academy of Sciences, as well as secretary general of the Third World Academy of Sciences, Italy. He is also a fellow of the German Academy of Sciences Leopoldina. He is currently the head of the “Committee of Elders” of the three science academies of India, representing them in areas of human rights and scientific misconduct.

CLAUDE COHEN-TANNOUDJI is a research scientist in the Department of Physics of the Ecole Normale Supérieure in Paris. In 1973 he became professor of atomic and molecular physics at the Collège de France. Professor Cohen-Tannoudji is a member of the French Academy of Sciences and former chairman of its Committee for the Defense of Scientists. He is a member of the International Scientific Council of the Israeli-Palestinian Science Organization. In 1997 Claude Cohen-Tannoudji, Steven Chu, and William D. Phillips were awarded the Nobel Prize in Physics “for their development of techniques that use laser light to cool atoms to extremely low temperatures.”



ABDALLAH S. DAAR is professor of public health sciences and of surgery at the University of Toronto. He is the Chief Scientific and Ethics Officer of Grand Challenges Canada and Chair of the Advisory Board of the United Nations University International Institute of Global Health. His major research focus is on the use of life sciences to ameliorate global health inequities, with a particular focus on building scientific capacity and increasing innovation in developing countries, in addition to studying how technologies can be rapidly taken from “lab to village.” In 2005, he was awarded the UNESCO Avicenna Prize for Ethics of Science, and he has recently been appointed to the newly established U.N. Secretary-General’s Scientific Advisory Board.

FELTON EARLS is research professor of human behavior and development at the Harvard School of Public Health and professor emeritus of social medicine at Harvard Medical School. He served as principal investigator of the Project on Human Development in Chicago Neighborhoods from 1990-2005. Currently, he is principal investigator of the Ecology of HIV/AIDS and Child Mental Health Project in Tanzania. From 1983-1989, he was the Ittleson Professor of Child Psychiatry at Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri. Dr. Earls is a member of the U.S. Institute of Medicine, a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and the Mahatma Gandhi fellow at the American Academy of Political and Social Science. He has numerous honors and awards, including an Honorary Doctor of Science from Northwestern University.

BELITA KOILLER is professor of physics at the Instituto de Física, Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro. She is the first woman to be elected a full member to the Brazilian Academy of Sciences in physical sciences, and she has been a research fellow of the Brazilian National Research Council since 1985. In 1982 she received a Guggenheim Fellowship and, in 1994, she served as a member of the International Council for Science’s Committee on Capacity Building in Science. She was decorated “Comendador da Ordem Nacional do Mérito Científico” by the presidency of Brazil in 2002. Professor Koiller is a L’Oréal UNESCO 2005 Laureate for Women in Physical Sciences. She was awarded the Ordem Nacional do Mérito Científico* – Brazil (Gra-Cruz, 2010) and became a fellow of the Academy of Sciences for the Developing World in 2010.



PEDRO LEÓN AZOFEIFA, a biologist, has been a professor at the University of Costa Rica for the past 45 years and is former director of its Center for Advanced Studies. He established, in collaboration with Gabriel Macaya and Rodrigo Gámez, the first molecular biology lab in Costa Rica, in which he conducted research in genetics and molecular biology for 25 years. His communication skills were recognized by the medical students of the San Juan de Dios Hospital in 2002 with the “Quijote” award for teaching. He serves as scientific advisor to former Costa Rican President Oscar Arias Sánchez and was instrumental in establishing the National Park system of Costa Rica. Dr. León is a founding member of the National Academy of Sciences—Costa Rica, foreign associate of the Latin American Academy of Sciences (ACAL), and foreign associate of the National Academy of Sciences (U.S.A.) since 2004.

DONG-PIL MIN is professor emeritus of Seoul National University, where he has been a professor of physics since 1980. He serves as a member of the Scientific Advisory Board to the U.N. secretary-general and served as the ambassador-at-large of science and technology cooperation of the Republic of Korea. He is a member of the Human Rights Committee of the Korean Academy of Science and Technology. Professor Min previously served for 3 years as chair of the Korea Research Council of Fundamental Science and Technology (KRCF), which establishes the policies of 13 Korean government-funded research institutions as their common Board of Trustees. In 2010 Professor Min launched the Seoul Science & Technology Forum. He has held leadership positions including vice president of the Korean Physical Society, chair of the National Information Research Center, and director general of the Korea Research Foundation. Professor Min earned a Ph.D. (1976) and Doctor of Science (1980) in theoretical physics from the University of Paris.

IDA NICOLAISEN is a cultural anthropologist and a senior research fellow at Copenhagen University. She is author or co-author of more than 20 scientific books on indigenous peoples and has conducted extensive anthropological research among the pastoral Tuareg of North Africa, the Haddad of Chad, and the Punan Bah of Central Borneo. She is chair of the Soeren Kierkegaard Research Center, editor-in-chief of the Carlsberg Foundation Nomad Research Project, and previously served as vice-chair of the U.N. Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues. She serves on various



other international boards, including the World Diabetes Foundation, Humanity in Action, the Israeli-Palestinian Science Organization, All European Academies' Ethical Commission, and the Chittagong Hill Tract Commission. She is a member of the American Philosophical Society, the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and the Royal Danish Academy of Sciences and Letters.

JOHN POLANYI is professor of chemistry at the University of Toronto. In 1960 he was the founding chair of the Canadian Pugwash Group, where he remained chair until 1978. He has published over 100 articles on peace and human rights and served many years as president of the Canadian Committee of Scientists and Scholars, a human rights organization. He was awarded the Nobel Prize in Chemistry in 1986 for his “contributions concerning the dynamics of chemical elementary processes.” Dr. Polanyi earned a B.Sc. (1949) and Ph.D. (1952) from Manchester University and completed postdoctoral studies at Princeton University and the National Research Council, Canada. He is a fellow of the Royal Societies of Canada, of London, and of Edinburgh, also of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, the U.S. National Academy of Sciences, the Pontifical Academy of Rome, and the Russian Academy of Sciences. He is a member of the Queen’s Privy Council for Canada, and a Companion of the Order of Canada. Dr. Polanyi’s many awards and honors include the Royal Medal of the Royal Society (U.K.) and over 30 honorary degrees from 6 countries.

ALENKA ŠELIH is professor emeritus at the Faculty of Law and senior research fellow at the Institute of Criminology at the University of Ljubljana, Slovenia. She has also served as the dean of the Faculty of Law and vice-rector of the university. Her research and academic fields are criminal law, juvenile law, and criminology. Professor Šelih has been very active in international associations in her field, as well as in bodies on crime problems in the Council of Europe. She has lectured at the Universities of Brussels, Graz, Cracow, Munich, Novi Sad, Sarajevo, Warsaw, and Zagreb, among others. In 1990 she was a Fulbright visiting professor at the University of Wisconsin Law School. She is author or co-author of 8 books and over 300 articles, research reports, and reviews. Professor Šelih is a member of the Slovenian Academy of Sciences and Arts and served as its vice president from 2005 to 2008.

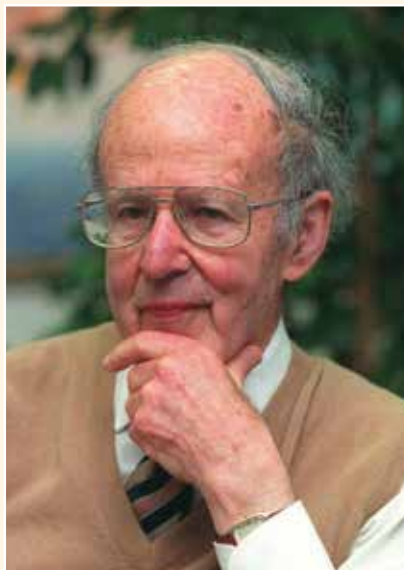


Network Executive Director

CAROL CORILLON is director of the Committee on Human Rights of the National Academy of Sciences (NAS), National Academy of Engineering, and Institute of Medicine and executive director of the International Human Rights Network of Academies and Scholarly Societies. She has led human rights delegations to many countries and written or contributed to numerous NAS and National Research Council reports. Memberships have included the Committee on Freedom and Responsibility in the Conduct of Science, of the International Council for Science (ICSU), advisory committee of Human Rights Watch/Africa, Centre for Constitutional Governance in Nigeria, Friends of the Institute for Practical Research and Training in Somaliland, and director of Friends of the Israeli-Palestinian Science Organization, USA. From 1980-1984, she worked and traveled in Africa for the National Research Council's Advisory Committee on the Sahel, and, from 1975-1980, she was a freelance journalist in Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of Congo (formerly Zaire), working for *BBC radio* (reporting for the Africa service in French and English), *Reuters*, the *Economist*, and several other news organizations.



FRANCOIS JACOB
(June 17, 1920 – April 19, 2013)



MAX PERUTZ
(May 19, 1914 – February 6, 2002)

Tribute

by Carol Corillon, Executive Director

International Human Rights Network of Academies and
Scholarly Societies

In 1993, in response to an initiative by the Committee on Human Rights of the U.S. National Academy of Sciences, Max Perutz, François Jacob, Pieter van Dijk, and Torsten Wiesel became founding members of the International Human Rights Network of Academies and Scholarly Societies (Network). Their vision was to raise the consciousness of academies around the world about the need to defend fellow scientists and scholars who become victims of severe repression solely for having exercised their basic human rights, as promulgated by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The goal of these four men was to persuade and equip national academies to use their prestige and the humanitarian concern of their highly respected members to advocate for their unjustly detained or imprisoned colleagues, anywhere the world over.

FRANCOIS JACOB

(June 17, 1920 – April 19, 2013)

There are many adjectives that describe François Jacob—brilliant, elegant, eloquent, heroic, handsome, charming, self-possessed—but noble comes first to my mind. Joining the free French forces as a medic in North Africa early on in World War II, and, later, in Normandy in 1944, he courageously remained on the battlefield with a dying friend, who asked not to be left alone, as enemy planes bombed from above. These were but a few of his noble acts. The agony he endured for the rest of his life, from the wounds sustained that day, was well disguised and nobly endured. He derived enormous satisfaction from receiving the French Legion of Honor’s highest rank and, up to the very end of his life, from spending precious time with his beloved “Compagnons de la Libération.”

In making his brilliant scientific discoveries, which got him elected to the French Academy of Sciences, earned him the 1965 Nobel Prize, (along with Jacques Monod and André Lwoff, in physiology or medicine), “for their discoveries concerning genetic control of enzyme and virus synthesis,” and many other honors as well, François also concerned himself with their potential negative impacts on society. François’ insightful books, for which he was elected to l’Académie française—and, thus, became one of the “quarante immortels”—are seamlessly written and reflect a keen observance of human kind, honest introspection, profound scientific insights, and sensitivity to the possible harmful aspects that scientific work could engender. He served for many years on the French Bioethics Committee and as chairman of the Committee for the Defense of Scientists (CODHOS) of the French Academy of Sciences.

François graciously hosted the Network’s fifth biennial meeting in May 2001 at the French Academy of Sciences and unfailingly gave gracious credit to the Network’s secretariat for the reliable research it did and accurate case information it provided to the CODHOS every year. Of course, as a founding and devoted member of our Network and its Executive Committee until his death, he is deeply missed, but his legacy lives on through CODHOS, which has been and continues to be one of

the most active human rights committees in our Network. Over the years it has brought us cases for investigation, made inquiries about specific science and human rights issues, undertaken diplomatic visits to influential government officials, signed case submissions to UNESCO, and written hundreds of letters of inquiry and appeal.

Although François had not been physically able to attend the last few meetings of the Network, he was always interested to hear the details of the meetings and the issues of concern and to offer his comments—preferably after offering a glass of sauternes from his favorite region of Provence, accompanied by pistachio nuts. His noble sentiments, humorous irony, particularly with regard to pretentious people, and steadfast intellectual honesty remained with him until the very end.

MAX PERUTZ

(May 19, 1914 - February 6, 2002)

In his essay titled “By What Right Do We Invoke Human Rights?”, Max Perutz wrote, “I plead for human rights because many innocent men and women owe them their freedom and because they have had, and are having, a strong civilizing influence. They are something to strive for to make a better world.”

Max was a world-renowned scientist who, in 1962, along with John C. Kendrew, was awarded the Nobel Prize in Chemistry “for their studies of the structures of globular proteins.” Busy as he was, Max always found time to defend human rights. The Network’s files contain copies of dozens of letters from Max, all meticulously written in his own hand. He wrote to imprisoned colleagues and their families, encouraging them to stay strong. He wrote to heads of state and government ministers, requesting their humanitarian interventions for his professional colleagues who were prisoners of conscience. And he wrote to the Network’s secretariat to raise human rights issues, to comment on the direction of its work, and, sometimes, to point out a grammatical error or improper punctuation. He even wrote to apologize for not being able to do more than he was already doing—which was a considerable amount.

According to Georgina Ferry, in her biography, *Max Perutz and the Secret of Life*, Max wrote a letter to his son Robin, shortly after the creation of the Network, to say that “The people who run this committee are idealists with a thoroughly practical bent and a shrewd understanding of human nature. It is a pleasure to work with them.” After Max passed away, the Royal Society, London hosted a Network meeting in May 2005, and some years later created a human rights committee.

In addition to a brilliant mind and creative spirit, Max had a passionate and compassionate soul as well as a single minded determination to promote and protect human rights. His innately caring nature surely was reinforced during World War II when, having come to England from Austria in 1936, he was declared an “enemy alien” and, in 1940, sent to an internment camp in Canada, where he gave scientific lectures.

Embracing life with joy and humor, he took an interest in and cared deeply about people everywhere and what happened to them, reaching out to those in need of help and support. He was outraged by injustice and appalled by brutality. Pulling no punches, he fought the good fight for the promotion and protection of human rights with energy and fervor to the end of his life.



For further information contact the Network Secretariat:

International Human Rights Network of Academies and Scholarly Societies

c/o Committee on Human Rights

The National Academies

500 Fifth Street, N.W.

Washington, D.C. 20001

Tel: 1-202-334-3043 * Fax: 1-202-334-2225 * chr@nas.edu

www.nationalacademies.org/hrnetwork