



COALITION FOR ACADEMIC FREEDOM IN THE AMERICAS (CAFA)



Fifth Conference

University of Ottawa, Social Sciences Building | FSS4007

120 University Private, Ottawa, ON, K1N 6N5

EVENT SCHEDULE

Ottawa Time Zone GMT-4

OCTOBER 21

8:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. Registration

9:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. Institutional opening

- Nomi Claire Lazar | Co-chair Senate Committee on Academic Freedom, University of Ottawa, Canada
- Penelope Simons | Human Rights Research & Education Centre (HRREC), Canada
- Camilla Croso | Coalition for Academic Freedom in the Americas (CAFA)

9:30 a.m. -10:30 a.m. • Keynote address | TBC

10:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. Coffee

11:00 a.m - 12:30 p.m. Advancing academic freedom as a right in Canada

- Eya Benhassine | University of Montreal, Canada
- Vannie Lau | University of British Columbia (UBC), Canada
- Érik Labelle Eastaugh | Université de Moncton, Canada
- Moderator: Joel Westheimer | University of Ottawa, Canada

12:30 p.m. -2:00 p.m. Lunch

Partners of the 2026
CAFA Conference:



2:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Academic freedom and gender justice

- Victoria Pasero | Universidad Nacional de La Plata (UNLP), Argentina
- Joyce Alves da Silva | Universidade Federal Rural do Rio de Janeiro (UFRRJ), Brazil
- Anny Ocoró Loanglo | FLACSO Argentina
- Joana Flores | Universidade Federal de São Paulo, Brazil
- Moderator: Camilla Croso | Coalition for Academic Freedom in the Americas (CAFA)

3:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Coffee

4:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Promoting an ecosystem of protection for Scholars at Risk

- Jaqueline Bertoldo | Universidade Federal do Paraná, Brazil
- Enchieh Erfani | Perimeter Institute for Theoretical Physics, Canada
- Manuela Menéndez Besada-Lombana | Universidad Pedagógica Nacional de Colombia, Colombia
- Pâmella Passos | Instituto Federal do Rio de Janeiro (IFRJ), Brazil
- Moderator: Danielle Pamplona | PUC Paraná, Brazil

5:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Free to Think Report

- Jack Mayerhofer | Scholars at Risk, USA

6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Cocktail

OCTOBER 22

9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.	Defending the right to academic freedom through legal approaches • Anna Santana Pontifícia Universidade Católica do Paraná (PUC-PR), Brazil • Steve Jordan McGill Association of University Teachers (MAUT), Canada • Victor Rescia Center for Civil and Political Rights, Costa Rica • Salvador Herencia Carrasco Coalition for Academic Freedom in the Americas (CAFA) • Moderator: Rafael Ibarra Garza University of Monterrey, Mexico
11:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.	Coffee
11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.	The right to academic freedom of students • Elthon Rivera Iniciativa Puentes por los Estudiantes de Nicaragua (IPEN), Nicaragua • Héctor Ríos-Jara Universidad Central de Chile, Chile • Henry Wright Global Student Forum, USA • Milad Mohebbi University of Nebraska, USA • Moderator: Iveta Silova Arizona State University, USA
1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.	Lunch or
3:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.	Modes of resistance and change • Cristina Burneo Salazar Independent scholar , Ecuador • Fernando Romani Sales Coalition for Academic Freedom in the Americas (CAFA) • Glenn Mitoma Columbia University, USA • Moderator: Jesse Levine Scholars at Risk, USA
4:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Closure • Viviana Fernandez Human Rights Research & Education Centre (HRREC) • Camilla Croso Coalition for Academic Freedom in the Americas (CAFA)