Save a life, save ideas

PAUSE
PROGRAMME NATIONAL D'ACCUEIL EN URGENCE DES SCIENTIFIQUES EN EXIL
A commitment to hosting

In many countries, scientists and artists are unable to work freely and are forced into exile.

This is why PAUSE program has been providing support since 2017 to enable them to pursue their research.

Through incentive funding, we facilitate hosting for scientists and artists in exile at higher education and research institutions in France. We also help them with administrative procedures and support their career development.

These researchers are in emergency situations and need our help. By offering them our assistance we are safeguarding knowledge and research which can benefit us all.

“PAUSE offers a refuge for scientists and artists forced into exile. Our aim is to help them find a new impetus and to safeguard their knowledge so that they can one day use their skills to help rebuild their countries, if they so wish. PAUSE aims to be a laboratory, a transnational workshop based on freedom, cooperation, sharing and active solidarity.”

Laura Lohéac, Executive Director, PAUSE program
Researchers, intellectuals and artists promote critical thinking and free thought, create a space for peaceful dissent, and challenge prejudices. They are the best defense against fundamentalism and obscurantism of all kinds. It is precisely because they broaden our minds that they are the first to be targeted in countries at war or in the grip of political, ethnic or religious persecution.

When they are threatened, censored, dismissed, imprisoned, tortured or executed for their research or for expressing their opinions, academic freedom and scientific progress are also in peril.

THREATS FACED BY AT-RISK SCIENTISTS AND ARTISTS:

- Armed conflicts
- Killings, Violence, Disappearance
- Imprisonment
- Prosecution
- Loss of Position
- Travel Restrictions

“A heartfelt thank you to the program whose support and assistance enabled me and my family to escape a brutal war. Thanks to PAUSE, I now have a scientific future again.”

Ilene Mahfoud, Syrian researcher in forest ecology hosted by INRAE PACA
PAUSE protects and hosts scientists and artists who are prevented from pursuing their activities in their country of origin. It fosters their reception over periods long enough to allow them to continue their work and provide security for their families.

- **We co-fund institutions** seeking to host a scientist or artist forced into exile through three calls for applications per year.

- **We assist researchers** with identifying a host institution.

- **We help beneficiaries** access legal assistance and the services to which they are legally entitled.

- **We support beneficiaries who have completed the program with finding longer-term employment.** This support can take the form of help with building up their networks, accessing training or even making a career move to another sector.

- **We carry out advocacy work** to uphold academic freedom and protect threatened scholars.

- **We facilitate exchanges with similar programs** abroad and with European and international stakeholders involved in the protection of threatened scholars.

"With support from PAUSE, I was warmly welcomed with my family by the University of Poitiers where I have had the time and opportunity to complete my studies, carry out new research and reconnect with the international community through Fulbright and Marie Curie grants."

Refet Ali Yalcin, Thermal energy researcher from Turkey hosted by the University of Poitiers
“Urgent hosting of at-risk researchers is a duty of hospitality which extends beyond the academic community. Donations and support are vital in order to enable these scientists and artists to resume their research and to disseminate and share their work.”

Alain Prochiantz & Edith Heard, Co-Chairs of PAUSE program Support Committee
Supporting researchers in exile together

- **Provides** security for scientists and artists in exile and their families.

- **Offers** beneficiaries the opportunity to take part in rebuilding their country in due course.

- **Promotes** research without borders in which international cooperation produces tangible scientific advances.

- **Extends** the reach of France through projects which can benefit both the scientific and artistic communities and society as a whole.

- **Upholds** academic freedom and safeguards our global cultural and scientific heritage.

“The EHESS is proud to contribute to PAUSE program since its launch by offering researchers in exile optimal conditions to successfully pursue their scientific activities. Today, the influence of their research is recognized in other leading French and European institutions. This is a real success story!”

Christophe Prochasson, President of the Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales
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