

2026–27

MEMBERSHIP GUIDE

NEW UNIVERSITY IN EXILE CONSORTIUM



THE NEW
UNIVERSITY
IN EXILE
CONSORTIUM

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INTRODUCTION

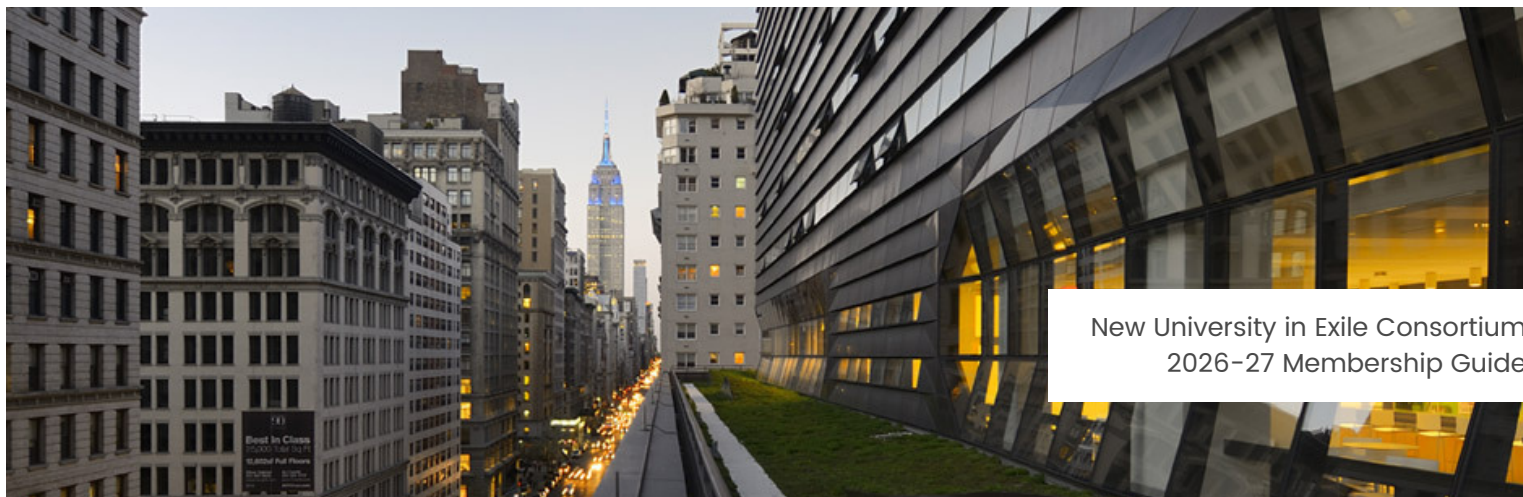
The New University in Exile Consortium carries out its mission to assist endangered scholars in many ways: first and foremost, by continuing to realize our original mission to create a vibrant, supportive, and intellectual online community to which each participating scholar-member can feel they belong. In the eight years since we launched the Consortium, it has grown to include 71 member institutions across 17 countries with significantly increased programming that supports our hosted scholars as they come to terms with the difficulties of exile.

In the pages that follow, we will tell you a bit more about our mission, our history, and the benefits of becoming an institutional member of the Consortium. We hope you will join us and we encourage you to reach out to us at [UIEconsortium @ newschool.edu](mailto:UIEconsortium@newschool.edu) should you have any questions.

As restrictions on academic freedom, threats to intellectual life and scholarship, and the actual destruction of university facilities continue, the institutions and scholar-members of the New University in Exile Consortium will work steadfastly together to do all we can to protect and nurture scholars forced into exile and the rich intellectual resources they represent.



Arien Mack
Founder & Director, New University in Exile Consortium



ABOUT



The New University in Exile Consortium is a globally expanding group of colleges and universities in Canada, Chile, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Jordan, Kenya, Lithuania, the Netherlands, Poland, Spain, South Africa, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, and the United States. Each institutional member is committed to hosting and supporting at least one endangered scholar for two years, with a re-evaluation at the end of the first year. These hosted scholars constitute our scholar cohort. We work with them individually and as a group to try to lessen the profound sense of dislocation that exiled scholars suffer and that adversely impacts their intellectual and personal lives. With the fall of Afghanistan and the invasion of Ukraine, the Consortium expanded its mission to include finding placements for threatened Afghan and Ukrainian academics, students, and artists at Consortium member institutions.

***"Exile is strangely
compelling to think about
but terrible to experience.
It is the unhealable rift,
forced between a human
being and a native place,
between the self and its
true home..."***

**- Edward Said,
*Reflections on Exile***

Established in September 2018, the Consortium follows in the tradition of The New School's original University in Exile created by The New School's first President, Alvin Johnson, in 1933. The first University in Exile became the home of rescued, largely Jewish, endangered scholars from Germany and France. Today, members of the New University in Exile Consortium are hosting more than 400 exiled scholars from 30 countries.

BECOMING A MEMBER

Members of the New University in Exile Consortium are colleges, universities, and institutions of higher education from across the globe. See a full list of Consortium member institutions on page 11.

In becoming a member, institutions commit to the following:

- * *Host an Endangered Scholar***

When an institution joins the Consortium, the institution commits to hosting and supporting at least one endangered scholar, selected by the institution, for two years, with a re-evaluation at the end of the first year.
- * *Appoint a Liaison***

Upon joining the Consortium, the institution appoints a liaison who will serve as our point of contact on your campus.
- * *Provide Travel/Lodging Funding***

Providing scholars with funding for travel and lodging to attend Consortium-hosted programs when possible.
- * *Who counts as an "endangered scholar"?***

An endangered scholar is defined as anyone with a Ph.D. or equivalent degree who has held a teaching or researcher position in an institution of higher education beyond graduate school, and has faced or fled from severe and targeted threats to their lives and/or careers in their home countries or countries of residence. Your institution can identify this person on your own or through one of the many organizations that work to place endangered scholars, with whom we can put you in contact.

To join the Consortium, please email uieconsortium@newschool.edu for more information.

BENEFITS TO MEMBER INSTITUTIONS

Becoming a member of the Consortium

- Affirms and demonstrates your institution's commitment to **academic freedom** and **freedom of inquiry** as basic human rights.
- Supports **institutional diversity**, as hosted endangered scholars come from many different countries, backgrounds, and disciplines, bringing unique and valuable perspectives to their host institutions.
- Provides a **forum for liaisons** to discuss issues relating to hosting threatened scholars on their campuses and to share possible solutions.
- Provides the **local community** the opportunity to **learn about** the challenges faced by endangered scholars in different countries and the many ways academic freedom and free inquiry are threatened.



Institutions will join a network of nearly 71 schools in 17 countries in their commitment to academic freedom, human rights, and international education.



Members host over 400 scholars from 30 countries, bringing a valuable and truly global array of experiences and knowledge to their host campuses.

How We Are Different

The primary difference between the Consortium and other organizations that support endangered scholars is our focus on building lasting personal connections and assistance in navigating the job market after fellowships end. Our mission is to create a supportive intellectual community for hosted scholars who often feel isolated in their new academic environment.

BENEFITS TO HOSTED SCHOLARS

Our work with hosted scholars

Reduces Isolation

Though scholars hosted by Consortium member institutions may be physically safe, they all suffer a profound sense of dislocation and isolation, even on their host campuses. This is a challenge to which the Consortium provides a unique solution: an opportunity to be together weekly online with other exiled, hosted scholars whose areas of expertise vary widely but all of whom live with the difficult experience of exile.

Provides Long-Term Stability

Once a scholar joins the Consortium community, they are welcome to take part in our activities for as long as they wish, even after their fellowships have ended.

Reestablishes Academic Connections

Consortium programs are designed to connect hosted scholars with the academic community they have lost, in part through the opportunity to teach our co-led online seminars, for which scholars receive honoraria.

Provides Country Specific Support

With a truly global network of member institutions, the Consortium is able to provide scholars with academic connections and employment advice specific to their host country.



"'They Can't Kill Us All': These Scholars Lost Their Countries and Found Each Other", a feature published in Mother Jones in November 2022, describes in rich detail the origins of the Consortium and the meaningful impact it has had on hosted scholars since its founding.

"Salim sees the New University in Exile as an act of resistance against these terrifying [anti-democratic] trends. 'The Consortium tells us to open up to each other and try to make something out of this time, to continue the work we were doing before... I think the Consortium is actually helping us stay within history.'"

MEMBERSHIP CONTRIBUTIONS

Consortium liaisons, with our full support, have decided to self-impose a modest membership fee in order to provide the Consortium with a base level of funding. Since its founding, the Consortium has been funded exclusively by grant moneys and donations raised by the leadership and staff. Membership fees will go toward supporting Consortium programming and operating costs, helping to ensure the future of our work.

● ***Contributions***

Member institutions will be asked to contribute \$3,000.00 annually to help support Consortium programs.

● ***Waivers and Reductions***

Member institutions will be able to **request fee reductions or waivers on a yearly basis.**

● ***Grace Periods***

Upon joining, new members will be granted a **two-year grace period** before they are expected to contribute membership dues. However, we encourage them to contribute if they are financially able to do so.

PROGRAMMING

At its core, the Consortium works to provide a welcoming and supportive intellectual community of endangered academics who share the experience of exile. We continue to develop innovative programs designed to address the intellectual, professional, and social needs of our scholar cohort.



Weekly Scholars' Forum

The cornerstone of our programming, the Scholars Forum, is an online meeting held each week to build community, share resources, and discuss topics of mutual interest. The Forum is led by Consortium scholar-members, giving our scholars an expanded leadership role in shaping their own community.

Co-Led Online Seminars

Co-led by a Consortium scholar and an endangered colleague of their choosing, these seminars are free and open to the public. Seminar co-leaders receive a stipend from the Consortium. Since 2019, the Consortium has offered 60 co-led online seminars, drawing over 17,000 registrants from 156 countries, with nearly 1,500 completion certificates awarded.



Annual Consortium Scholars Conference

Each spring, Consortium Scholars organize and participate in a public conference dealing with issues of mutual concern.



Library Access Initiative

Provides access for endangered scholars to electronic resources at our member institutions. This past year, libraries at The New School, Trinity College, and Wesleyan University provided access to 17 stranded scholars.



Career Assistance

We work one-on-one with scholars to help them find appropriate positions when their current fellowships end. This includes assistance with applications and resumes, interview preparation, letters of recommendation, and more.

PROGRAMMING CONTINUED

Legal Assistance

We provide pro-bono legal advice to scholars in the United States regarding visas, immigration, and other issues.

Scholar Lecture Series

Consortium member institutions are encouraged to invite Consortium scholars hosted at other universities to give presentations and lectures on their campus.

Global Sourcebook

An online database of resources for endangered scholars, students, and artists.

Mental Health Resources

Free, online counseling and mental health services are available to hosted scholars and students through the Safran Center for Psychological Services, based at The New School.

Endangered Scholars Worldwide

Endangered Scholars Worldwide is an affiliated initiative dedicated to reporting and raising public awareness about intellectuals, academics, researchers, and students who have been threatened, silenced, or imprisoned simply for doing their scholarly work or speaking out against the injustices around them.

Advocacy

The Consortium is part of a wide network of organizations that advocate for academic freedom and human rights. When necessary, we work with partners on a global scale to organize on behalf of endangered scholars, support detainees, and demand justice.



INITIATIVES

As authoritarianism, war and violence spreads, and academic freedom remains under threat across the globe, the Consortium continues to expand its work to reach the most vulnerable populations of students and academics.



University in Exile for Afghan Artists

In collaboration with the Artistic Freedom Initiative, the Consortium has hosted a total of 6 endangered Afghan artists on fellowships in the arts at The New School, with support from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, the Doris Duke Foundation for Islamic Art, and the Helen Frankenthaler Foundation. With this initiative, the Consortium effectively created a second University in Exile at The New School, the first of which was founded by The New School's first President, Alvin Johnson in 1933.



The Safa Hijjo Memorial Fund for Gazan Students

On May 17, 2025, Consortium scholar Dr. Nael Hijjo lost his sister Safa, a teacher, along with her husband and their four children, when an Israeli bomb hit the Gazan refugee camp where they were living. To honor her memory, the Consortium created the Safa Hijjo Family Memorial Fund for Gazan Students to help displaced Gazan students continue their education at The New School. Since opening in September 2025, the fund has raised over \$12,000 and currently supports three Gazan students studying at The New School.

INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONAL MEMBERS

Canada

McGill University
Queen's University
University of Alberta
University of British Columbia
York University

Chile

Columbia University Global Center – Santiago

France

Université Paris Nanterre
Université Paris 8 Vincennes-Saint-Denis

Germany

Friedrich-Schiller-Universität Jena
Freie Universität Berlin
Goethe Universität Frankfurt
Humboldt Universität zu Berlin
Philipps-Universität Marburg
Rheinische Friedrich-Wilhelms-Universität
Bonn
Ruhr-Universität Bochum
Technische Universität Dortmund
Technische Universität Dresden

Ireland

Maynooth University
Trinity College Dublin

Italy

Università degli Studi di Padova
Università degli Studi di Trento

Jordan

Columbia Global Center | Amman
Philadelphia University

Kenya

Columbia Glbal Center - Nairobi

Lithuania

European Humanities University

Netherlands

Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam

Poland

Kozminski University
Uniwersytet Dolnośląski DSW Wrocław

South Africa

Durban University of Technology
Nelson Mandela University
Stellenbosch University
University of Johannesburg
University of Kwazulu-Natal
University of Pretoria

Spain

Universitat de Barcelona

Sweden

Karolinska Institutet

Switzerland

École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne
Université de Genève

United Kingdom

Birkbeck University London
London School of Economics and Politics
Open University

INSTITUTIONAL MEMBERS IN THE UNITED STATES

Arizona

Arizona State University

Connecticut

Connecticut College

Trinity College

University of Connecticut

Wesleyan University

Yale University

Illinois

University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

Louisiana

Tulane University

Massachusetts

Amherst College

Northeastern University

Tufts University

Wellesley College

Wheaton College

Michigan

University of Michigan Institute for the
Humanities

Wayne State University

Minnesota

University of Minnesota

New Jersey

Rutgers University

New York

Barnard College

Binghamton University, State University of
New York

Columbia University

Hunter College

The New School*

Union College

University of Rochester

North Dakota

University of North Dakota

Ohio

Miami University

Pennsylvania

University of Pittsburgh

Rhode Island

Brown University

Virginia

George Mason University

Washington D.C.

Georgetown University

**Administrative home of the Consortium*

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Nicole Tuszynski, Associate Director

with support from New School Graduate Student Assistants

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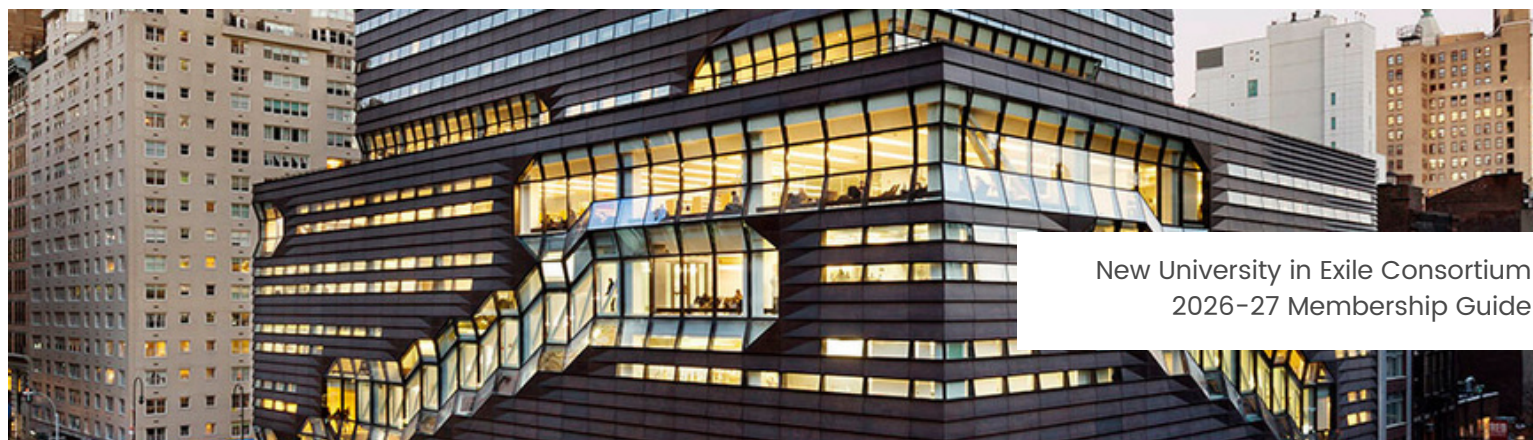
Katrina vanden Heuvel, Editorial Director and Publisher, The Nation

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Michael Ignatieff, Professor Emeritus, Department of Historical Studies, Central European University

Robert Mundheim, Of Counsel, Shearman & Sterling



LEADERSHIP AND STAFF

Executive Committee

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Ahmed Bawa, Former CEO, Universities South Africa

Elzbieta Matynia, Professor of Sociology and Liberal Studies and Director of the Transregional Center for Democratic Studies

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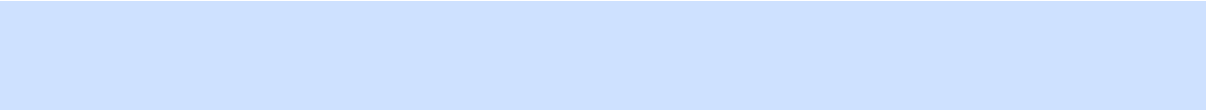
Paula Johnson, President, Wellesley College

Radenka Maric, President, University of Connecticut

Thandwa Mthembu, Vice-Chancellor, Durban University of Technology

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