



The ACS Science and Human Rights
Webinar Series presents:

ACS Science and Human Rights: Past, Present, and Future

February 26, 2015
3:00-4:00 p.m. EST

www.acs.org/scienceandhumanrights

About ACS



ACS Vision:

- “Improving people’s lives through the transforming power of chemistry”

ACS Mission:

- “Advance the broader chemistry enterprise and its practitioners for the benefit of Earth and its people.”



ACS by the Numbers



158,000 Members

185 Local Sections

32 Technical Divisions

86% chemistry degree

60% industry
30% academia
10% students

30,000 cumulative attendance at two national meetings



47 peer-reviewed journals including 3 new in 2015

40,000 yearly published articles

70 million article downloads

300 million annual C&EN page views



3.7 billion+ chemical property records

71 million+ organic & inorganic substances in registry

ACS Internationally by the Numbers



25,000 members

100+ countries

8 International Chapters

200 projects/ programs have an int'l component

4,500 yearly int'l meeting attendees

7 Pacifichem Congresses co-sponsored/hosted since 1984



67% of articles are authored by international researchers

4,700 worldwide organizational *C&EN* subscribers



65% of content originates internationally

ACS International Activities

ACS Committee on International Activities (IAC)

The Committee on International Activities assists scientists and engineers worldwide to communicate and collaborate for the good of the chemical and chemically related sciences, chemical engineering, and their practitioners.

Website:

<http://www.acs.org/content/acs/en/about/governance/committees/international.html>

ACS Office of International Activities (OIA)

- Members, chapters, partnerships, exchanges (www.acs.org/international)
- ACS International Center (IC) TM (www.acs.org/ic)
- Global Chemistry Newsletter (to subscribe email: intlacts@acs.org)

Dorothy J. Phillips, Ph.D.

ACS Board of Directors



Dr. Phillips is serving as the Board representative for Science & Human Rights. She retired from Waters Corporation in 2013 after working there for 28 years. Prior to joining Waters she worked at Dow Chemical for nearly 10 years. During her industrial career she had the opportunity to work internationally by participating in events and conferences in Europe, China, India and Japan.

She earned her Bachelors degree from Vanderbilt University in 1967 and her Ph.D. from the University of Cincinnati in 1974. She has been a member of the American Chemical Society since 1973 and served in several leadership positions within the Society, prior to being elected to its Board of Directors.

ACS Science and Human Rights Overview



- ACS began to monitor violations of human rights in the 1980s
- Implemented at the level of the ACS Board of Directors
- Case monitoring continues to be a major part of the program
- Other key activities: webinars, symposia, work with allied science and human rights organizations

What are Human Rights?

Human rights are ...

- universal and inalienable
- equal and nondiscriminatory
- interdependent and indivisible

Expressed and guaranteed through customary international law, international human rights treaties, other norms, state laws and principles

Examples of Human Rights

- The right to equality before the law
- Freedom of expression
- The right to education

Key Documents

- Universal Declaration of Human Rights [UDHR] (1948)
- International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights [ICCPR] (1966)
- International Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights [ICESCR] (1966)

Intersections of Science and Human Rights

1. Violations of the rights of scientists and engineers, whether individually or as a group
2. Science and scientific discovery conducted in the service of human rights
3. The right to enjoy and benefit from scientific progress and its applications

Universal Declaration of Human Rights

Article 27

“...Everyone has the right...to share in scientific advancement and its benefits.”

U.N. International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

Article 15

“[Everyone has the right to] enjoy the benefits of scientific progress and its applications.”

Human Rights that Affect Scientists and Engineers

- Freedom of expression
- Freedom of association
- Freedom of movement
- Freedom from torture and other cruel, inhumane, and degrading punishment

ACS Process for Evaluating Potential Human Rights Cases



Potential cases must be:

- Grounded in principles set forth in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Council for Science (ICSU) Statute 5 about the Universality of Science, and the Objects of the Society;
- Oriented toward professionally engaged chemists, chemical engineers or practitioners in closely related fields in the chemical sciences;
- Directed towards human rights and scientific mobility abridgements and issues where ACS is uniquely positioned and qualified to impact the case in a meaningful way;
- Considered in the context of whether domestic remedies have been exhausted, unless it appears that such remedies would be ineffective or unreasonably prolonged;
- Made based upon clear evidence and a factual description of the alleged rights violations.

Criteria for Human Rights Cases

Must be a:

- Chemist
- Chemical Engineer
- Chemistry-Related Professionals (material scientists, biochemists, chemistry science educators)

ACS Actions for Human Rights Cases



- Letters to key diplomats in U.S. and respective offending country
- Notification of science & human rights network
- In country visits
- Featuring cases at ACS National Meetings

ACS Science & Human Rights Case Example



Kemal Guruz – Turkey

- Chemical engineer, retired professor, & former university rector
- Imprisoned for conspiracy to overthrow the government
- Released from prison and awaiting his appeal
- Case included in 2013 State Department Human Rights Report on Turkey



AAAS Science and Human Rights Coalition



- A network of scientific and engineering organizations that recognize a role for science, scientists and engineers in efforts to realize human rights.
- ACS is a founding member – Coalition began in 2009
- Membership includes science and engineering associations as well as affiliated individuals (individual scientists, engineers, & health professionals)
- 2 meetings a year: January and July, based around a topic (i.e. rights of the child, business & human rights, etc.)

Primer on Scientific Freedom and Human Rights

Primer on Scientific Freedom and Human Rights



Primer on Scientific Freedom and Human Rights



- Developed by the ACS Office of International Activities in 2011 as part of the AAAS Science & Human Rights Coalition Welfare of Scientists Working Group
- The purpose of the Primer is to serve as:
 - Resource for scientific societies to begin engaging human rights or to expand their current activities
 - An internal document for scientific and engineering societies and their members

Primer Highlights

- History of Organizations Promoting Scientific and Academic Freedom
- Moving Forward: Engaging Human Rights in a Scientific Context
- Introduction to Human Rights Violations: Individual Scientists
- Responding to Human Rights Violations
- Sustaining Momentum: Developing Membership Engagement and Investment

Primer: Introduction to Human Rights Violations



- Violations of Personal Welfare
- Restrictions on Mobility
- Threats from Third-Party Actors

Primer: Introduction to Human Rights Violations Cont.



Impetuses for Human Rights Violations

- Content or context of a scientist's research
- Scientist's sociopolitical opinions, beliefs, or actions
- Diplomatic tensions or the global political climate instead of their work

Primer Cont.

Primer on Scientific Freedom and Human Rights



Access the Primer at
www.acs.org/scienceandhumanrights

Webinar Series

- Taken place since 2011
- Quarterly series
- Variety of Topics:
 - Seeding Labs & Empowering Research in Emerging Market
 - Coffee for Justice: Chemistry in Service to Small-Holder Coffee Farmers
 - Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons

2015 Science & Human Rights Events



Symposium at the 249th ACS National Meeting

The Interface of Chemical and Biological Sciences International Disarmament Efforts

Tuesday, March 24

Mineral D, Hyatt Regency Denver at the Colorado Convention Center

Including speakers from:

- Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons
- National Institutes of Health CounterAct Program
- U.S. Department of Defense: Program Executive Office, Assembled Chemical Weapons Alternatives

2015 Science & Human Rights Events cont.

Commendation recognizing the
Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons
at ACS Denver National Meeting in Denver, Colorado, USA

*“...contributions...in the peaceful
application of the chemical
sciences...”*



2015 Science & Human Rights Events cont.



Future Webinars

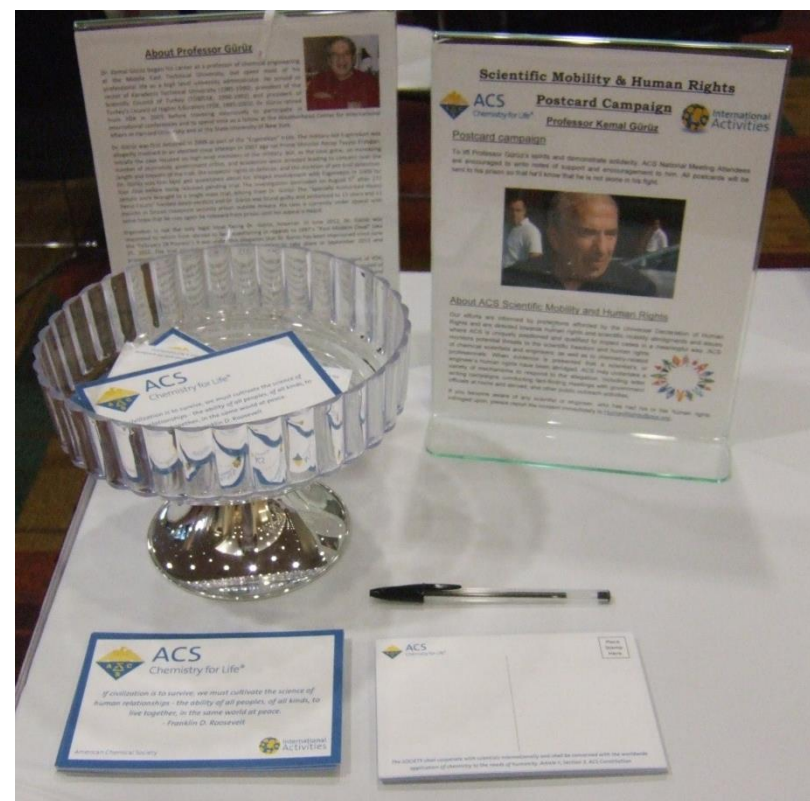
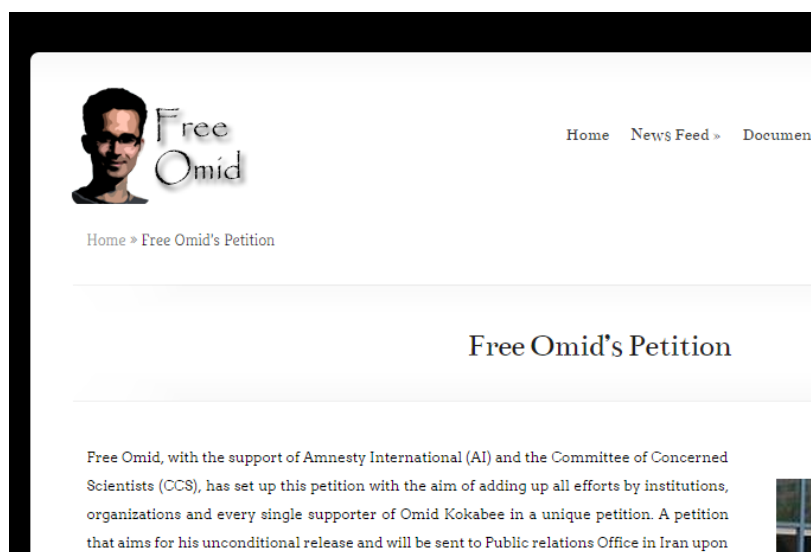
- The Malta Conferences – April/May
- Physicians for Human Rights – Summer
- Fall/Winter - TBD

Call to Action

- Conduct online outreach on human rights cases through Twitter, Facebook, blogs, and other social media outlets
- Incorporate human rights into curricula
- Participate in ACS Science and Human Rights Webinars

Call to Action

- Participate in letter writing campaigns
- Sign Online Petitions



Call to Action cont.

- Dedicate scientific articles and presentations to a specific case or individual

Comment for Chemical & Engineering News – October 13, 2014
Volume 92, Issue 41

ACS COMMENT

Science And Human Rights: A Call To Action

DOROTHY J. PHILLIPS, DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE, ACS BOARD OF DIRECTORS, AND LIAISON FOR ACS SCIENCE & HUMAN RIGHTS INITIATIVES

THINK OF ALL of the reasons you became a scientist. Although the prospect of an exciting and rewarding career was likely one of the primary motivations, did you also consider how human rights could play a part in your work? Did you know that it already does?

As a member of the American Chemical Society, you are already supporting the society's work at the intersection of science and human rights. Our efforts—which include writing letters to key government stakeholders and visiting at-risk scientists in their home countries—have long been a model in the scientific community. In fact, the society has been involved in dozens of cases of persecuted chemists, chemical engineers, and related scientists since the early 1980s.

A current case that ACS is closely monitoring is that of professor Kemal Gürüz, a chemical engineer and former president of the Turkish Council of Higher Education. Professor Gürüz was originally jailed in 2012 as part of the Ergenekon conspiracy, which targeted academics, journalists, and other individuals as members in a fabricated coup against the Turkish government.

In addition to sending letters to officials in both the U.S. and Turkey, ACS brought the case to the attention of the U.S. Department of State. This meeting had a meaningful outcome: the inclusion of Gürüz's case in the Turkey section of the "2013 Country Reports on Human Rights Practices," published by the Department of State.

As a result of this and other efforts, Gürüz has been released from prison pending the appeal of his case. Bradley Miller, director of the ACS Office of International

Activities, connected with Gürüz this August while in Turkey to inquire about his welfare and the status of his case. Gürüz still faces challenges and expressed his gratitude for the efforts of ACS and its members.

ACS is also a founding member of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) Science & Human Rights Coalition. The coalition brings together participants from a variety of organizations that recognize the role that scientists and engineers can play in human rights. ACS sends representatives to the biannual meetings of the coalition and contributes to many of its efforts. As an example, ACS helped produce a primer on scientific freedom and human rights to help guide scientific and engineering societies on how to begin addressing human rights issues within their respective disciplines.

ACS will step up its support of science and human rights with a symposium on this topic at the spring 2015 ACS national meeting in Denver. Also in Denver, during the open session of the ACS Board of Directors meeting, the board will honor the 2013 Nobel Peace Prize recipient, the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons, for its work to find peaceful applications of chemical sciences worldwide (C&EN, Aug. 25, page 21).

Although ACS is proud of its long history of assisting chemists and allied scientists in distress, one area that could use improvement is member engagement with human rights issues. To that end, please consider this a call to action.

Are you a chemistry teacher? I invite you to think of ways to incorporate human rights into your lesson plans.

Are you a researcher? Explore the possibility of assisting human rights organizations that need technical expertise by becoming an on-call scientist for AAAS.

Student? ACS has exciting plans to work with human rights organizations such as Amnesty International that would help you to engage.

IT'S IMPORTANT to emphasize that there is no need to reinvent the wheel when you become involved in ACS science and human rights initiatives. A number of mechanisms are already in place for ACS members, including participating in our webinar series, following the science and human rights section of *Global Chemistry* (ACS's international e-newsletter), and attending related symposia at ACS national meetings. There are also opportunities through signing petitions as well as incorporating the tenets of human rights into your work.

If you need inspiration, or if you already have the passion for science and human rights but need guidance on where to begin, please feel free to reach out to Miller or Lori Brown in the ACS Office of International Activities to see what you can do. Additionally, if you have ideas or initiatives that involve chemistry and human rights, the office might be able to assist you in developing them. You can contact the office at inlts@acs.org. I also encourage you to visit the ACS webpage dedicated to this topic: www.acs.org/scienceandhumanrights.

When you practice science, your work is tied to the progress of humanity and the general betterment of the quality of life for all. Providing access to science and its benefits, as well as ensuring the freedom for scientists to pursue their work, is where chemistry and human rights meet. Now that you know ACS has a direct connection to human rights work, I encourage you to see how you can get more involved in this area of the society.

Views expressed on this page are those of the author and not necessarily those of ACS.



FOR WHAT IT WORTH

When you practice science, your work is tied to the progress of humanity and the general betterment of the quality of life for all.

Call to Action Cont. Global Chemistry Newsletter Monthly Column

- Monthly e-newsletter for anyone with international interests in chemistry
- Anyone can subscribe
- Releases 15th of every month
- Dedicated science & human rights column
- Other features: funding opportunities & event information
- To subscribe, email intlacts@acs.org



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IN THIS ISSUE

- [International Scholarships Master Program by the Jacques Hadamard Mathematics Foundation - Deadline February 8](#)
- [Whitaker International Summer Program - Deadline February 3](#)

ACS ANNOUNCEMENTS

[ACS National Meeting – Denver, Colorado, USA March 22-26](#)

With days of sunshine, a walkable downtown, thriving arts and culture, an award-winning culinary scene, and the Rocky Mountains as a backdrop, Denver is the perfect location for thousands of chemical professionals to come together for the upcoming 249th ACS National Meeting & Exposition in Denver, CO from [March 22 – 26, 2015](#). The overarching multidisciplinary theme is Chemistry of Natural Resources. Join us for this 5-day meeting

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

I'm thrilled to begin my tenure as President of the American Chemical Society, and equally thrilled to engage ACS members with international interests. As I stated in my recent article in [Chemical and Engineering News](#), I fully embrace the practice of the ACS as stated in our Charter: to "advance the broader chemistry enterprise and its practitioners for the benefit of Earth and its people." I believe that this goal reaches beyond the U.S. borders, as further emphasized by Article II, Section 3 of the ACS Constitution, which states "The SOCIETY shall cooperate with scientists internationally and shall be concerned with the worldwide application of chemistry to the needs of humanity." Reaching these objectives will require engaging our membership not only in the United States, but around the world.

Recognizing that today's chemists and related practitioners require a broad range of skills and experiences, I am organizing a symposium "Transnational Practice of Chemistry" at the Denver National Meeting - all interested should attend. I also encourage young chemists to explore the option of studying or researching abroad by visiting the [ACS International Center](#) for hundreds of opportunities around the world. I also encourage ACS governance (local sections, technical divisions, committees, etc.) to explore collaborating internationally through applying for a [Global Innovation \(GI\) Grant](#).

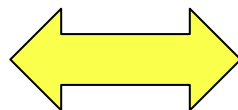
Finally, I encourage you to reach out to the [ACS Office of International Activities](#) or International Activities Committee with any thoughts or opportunities that you may

Call to Action

AAAS On-call Scientists



Human rights
organizations in need of
scientific expertise



Scientists interested in
volunteering their skills
and knowledge

Who they are:

- 800+ volunteer scientists, engineers and clinicians
- More than 100 are chemists or chemical engineers
- Volunteers come from more than 40 countries
- 200+ matches with human rights organizations

What they do:

- Answer scientific questions about evidence or methodology
 - Provide specialized expertise in investigations
 - Design a survey or help with sampling
 - Review documents for scientific accuracy
-

Most Importantly...Speak Up!

Report any chemistry related human rights
abridgement to

intlacts@acs.org

QUESTIONS?

Submit them into your Gotowebinar chat box
now*

Or, visit:

[www.acs.org/scienceand
humanrights](http://www.acs.org/scienceandhumanrights)

*Unanswered questions will be addressed after the session and posted online at www.acs.org/scienceandhumanrights, along with a webinar recording and presentation slides, after the session

Thank you for tuning in!