

## Membership

### Who We Are

The AAAS Science and Human Rights Coalition is a network of scientific organizations that recognizes a role for science and scientists in efforts to realize human rights. We invite eligible organizations who share the Coalition's goals (see Mission and Goals) to participate as members. Scientific organizations that wish to explore involvement in the Coalition may participate as an affiliated organization or may simply attend Coalition meetings. Individual scientists are encouraged to participate through their scientific organizations, but may also be involved as affiliated scientists.

### Membership Categories

#### Member Organizations

*Eligibility.* Membership is open to:

- Scientific associations, inclusive of the behavioral, life, physical, and social sciences, whether or not the association is affiliated with AAAS
- Professional societies of scientists, engineers, technicians, medical professionals, public health practitioners, and related professions
- Academies of science
- Other formal networks of scientists

Organizations both inside the United States and abroad are welcome to participate.

Member organizations may vary substantially in their level of prior involvement in human rights. Member organizations do, however, share a recognition of the need for scientists to participate in efforts to realize human rights, and a commitment to do so in some way (applying their science to human rights work, promoting specific human rights, defending the human rights of scientists, etc.). We encourage member organizations to seek the support of their governing boards in order to affirm this commitment, build a foundation of support for association activities in this area, and raise awareness among member scientists.

*Representation.* Member scientific organizations set the direction through the Coalition Council. Member organizations must designate two committed representatives to serve on the Coalition Council. The two representatives of the scientific organizations may be members of the organizational leadership, membership, and/or staff. The aim is to ensure both a voice for professional members of the organization and continuity.

*Participation.* The Coalition meets semi-annually in Washington, DC, and committees and working groups meet as needed to accomplish their goals.\* In keeping with human rights practice, the Coalition will promote a highly participatory membership, involving active and committed engagement. As such, member organizations are expected to make a meaningful contribution to the Coalition through regular and active participation in Coalition meetings, committees, and working groups. Member representatives will be called upon to serve on at least one committee or working group.

## AAAS Science and Human Rights Coalition

By joining the Coalition, organizational members also commit to raising awareness within their organizations about science and human rights. Organizations can do this by:

- Forming a science and human rights committee, working group, or section within their association
- Hosting science and human rights workshops for their association's members
- Writing articles about human rights for their organization's newsletter or website
- Organizing sessions at their association's annual meetings
- Drafting case studies of how their science has or can be used to address human rights concerns

***Benefits of Participation.*** The Coalition is at present the only broad-based effort to mobilize scientific organizations and scientists in the service of human rights. Member organizations become an integral part of a collaborative effort to promote human rights through science. Through this collaboration, organizations will be able to:

- Benefit from the Coalition's programs, workshops, and materials in five areas of activity and joint initiative
- Receive assistance in organizing science and human rights workshops, annual meeting sessions, and fora
- Receive assistance in developing principles on science and human rights for ethics codes
- Link with scientists and scientific associations across disciplines
- Link with the human rights community both in the United States and abroad
- Access human rights expertise
- Join the Coalition listserv and receive news and information about science and human rights developments, events, and publications

### **Affiliated Organizations and Scientists**

Scientific organizations that want to explore the relevance of human rights for their disciplines or associations are welcome to participate as affiliated organizations. Although member scientific organizations set the direction for the Coalition, affiliated organizations and scientists may help shape that direction through participation in Coalition committees and interactions with member organizations. Individual scientists and science professionals are encouraged to work through their professional societies but may affiliate with the Coalition. Only designated organizational representatives may speak on behalf of the member organizations, however.

Affiliated organizations and scientists will have the benefit of:

- Coalition support in introducing human rights to their associations
- Participation in all Coalition activities, including area of activity working groups
- Joining the Coalition listserv to receive news and information about science and human rights developments, events, and publications

## AAAS Science and Human Rights Coalition

### **How to Join**

The Coalition does not impose dues for participation in its activities. To join, please send a letter or e-mail to [shrp@aaas.org](mailto:shrp@aaas.org), indicating that you or your organization would like to join the Coalition in one of the following categories, together with the information requested:

- **Member Organization:** name and contact details for your organization, its executive director, and your two representatives
  
- **Affiliated Organization:** name and contact details for your organization, its executive director, and your representative
  
- **Affiliated Scientist:** your name, contact details, and area of scientific expertise

### **Collaboration**

The Coalition welcomes the opportunity to work collaboratively with all networks of scientists and scientific associations to achieve mutual goals. Although based in the United States, the Coalition especially welcomes the opportunity to work with our counterparts abroad to facilitate the use of science and the involvement of scientists in human rights issues.

### **Coalition Support**

The AAAS Science and Human Rights Program serves as the Secretariat and provides support for Coalition activities.