

Current Events

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CEU Mentoring Program

Mentoring program

Mentoring Information

The CEU mentoring program is an important part of the CEU student experience. Mentors should be graduate students or post docs in nuclear science with a willingness to share their experience with undergraduate students.

Mentor Expectations

As a mentor you are expected:

- To attend a quick meeting to explain the logistics of your duties
- To attend the opening CEU meeting where you will be paired with 2-3 CEU students. Spend time getting to know them.
- Plan and attend one session with your students or a group of talks. After the session discuss the talks with them.
- Introduce them to a few people in the field (this can be a couple of graduate students or postdoc friends from your group).
- Attend their poster.
- Be a friendly face during the conference.

[Mentor Application](#)

Obvious Current Events

- North Korea
- Iran Nuclear Deal
- Climate Change / Nuclear Energy
- Anything to do with missiles / nuclear bombs

Less Obvious?



THE UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF Human Rights

Article 1 Recognition of the inherent dignity and of the equal and inalienable rights of all members of the human family is the foundation of freedom, justice and peace in the world.

Article 2 Everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms set forth in this Declaration, without distinction of any kind, such as race, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status.

Article 3 Everyone has the right to life, liberty and security of person.

Article 4 No one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.

Article 5 No one shall be subjected to slavery or to servitude.

Article 6 Everyone has the right to recognition as a person before the law.

Article 7 All are equal before the law and are entitled without any discrimination to equal protection of the law.

Article 8 Everyone has the right to an effective remedy by the competent national authorities for the violations of his fundamental rights granted by the constitution or by the law.

Article 9 No one shall be subjected to arbitrary arrest, detention or exile.

Article 10 Everyone has the right to a fair and public hearing by an independent and impartial tribunal in the determination of his rights and obligations.

Article 11 Everyone has the right to a fair trial.

Article 12 No one shall be subjected to arbitrary interference with his privacy, family, home or correspondence, nor to attacks upon his honour and reputation.

Article 13 Everyone has the right to freedom of movement and residence within the borders of each country.

Article 14 Everyone has the right to leave any country, including his own, and to return to his country.

Article 15 Everyone has the right to a nationality.

Article 16 Everyone has the right to marry and to found a family.

Article 17 Everyone has the right to own property.

Article 18 Everyone has the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion.

Article 19 Everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression.

Article 20 Everyone has the right to peaceful assembly and association.

Article 21 Everyone has the right to take part in the government of his country.

Article 22 Everyone has the right to social security.

Article 23 Everyone has the right to work, to free choice of employment, to just and favourable conditions of work and to protection against unemployment.

Article 24 Everyone has the right to rest and leisure, including reasonable limitation of working hours and periodic holidays with pay.

Article 25 Everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of himself and of his family.

Article 26 Education shall be free, at least in the elementary and technical schools.

Article 27 Everyone has the right to participate in the cultural life of the community.

Article 28 Everyone has the right to the realization of the economic, social and cultural rights set forth in this Declaration.

Article 29 Everyone has duties to the community in which alone the free and full development of his personality is possible.

Article 30 Nothing shall be interpreted as authorizing any State, group or individual to engage in any activity aimed at the destruction of any of the rights and freedoms set forth in this Declaration.

Article 31 No one shall be subjected to slavery or servitude.

Article 32 No one shall be subjected to forced labour.

Article 33 Everyone has the right to seek and to enjoy in his own country the asylum and refuge from persecution.

Article 34 Freedom of scientific research and creative activity shall be inviolable.

Article 35 No one shall be subjected to medical or scientific experimentation without his free consent.

Article 36 The rights and freedoms set forth in this Declaration shall be exercised without discrimination of any kind.

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Human Rights

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) was proclaimed by the UN General Assembly in Paris 10 December 1948

Whereas recognition of the inherent dignity and the equal and inalienable rights of all members of the human family is the foundation of freedom, justice and peace in the world

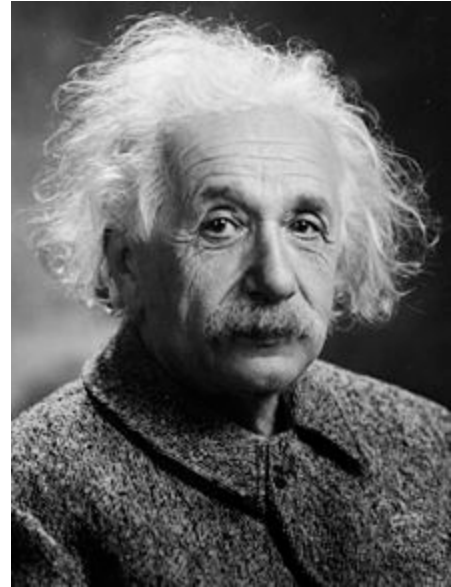
Science & Human Rights

... In talking about human rights today, we are referring primarily to the following demands: protection of the individual against arbitrary infringement by other individuals or by the government; the right to work and to adequate earnings from work; freedom of discussion and teaching; adequate participation of the individual in the formation of his government.

... There is, however, one other human right which is infrequently mentioned but which seems to be destined to become very important: **this is the right or the duty, of the individual to abstain from cooperating in activities which he considers wrong or pernicious ...**

Albert Einstein

Ideas and Opinions 02/20/1954



In defense of human rights

- WWII – Scientists developed a system to find academic posts for those who were victims of Nazism (Academic Assistance Council, Emergency Committee in Aid of Displaced German Scholars)
- CERN – created for international collaboration in pure science free of weapons work
 - in 1992 the International Science & Technology Centre was established with the overall aim of “nonproliferation through science cooperation”
 - encourages scientists to redirect their scientific skills to peaceful research & integrate into the international science community



Auger & Bohr

*17 March 1954
CERN groundbreaking*

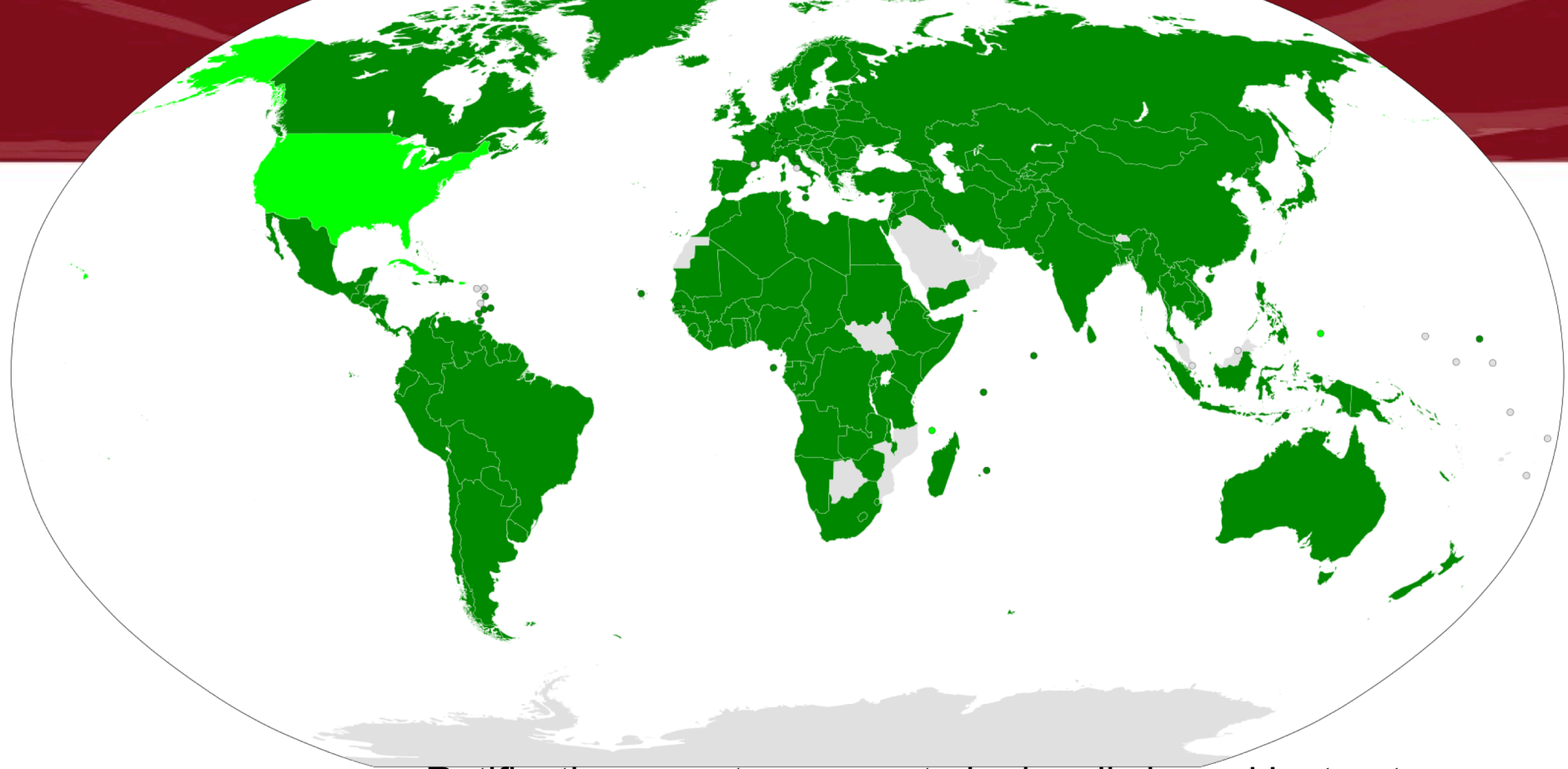
UDHR expanded

Adopted 1966, enforced 1976

1. The States Parties to the present Covenant recognize the right of everyone:
 - a. To take part in cultural life;
 - b. To enjoy the benefits of science progress and its applications;
 - c. To benefit from the protection of the moral and material interests resulting from any scientific, literary or artistic production of which he is the author.
2. The steps to be taken by the States Parties to the present Covenant to achieve the full realization of this right shall include those necessary for the conservation, the development and the diffusion of science & culture.
3. The States Parties to the present Covenant undertake to respect the freedom indispensable for scientific research and creative activity.
4. The State Parties to the present Covenant recognize the benefits to be derived from the encouragement and development of international contacts and co-operation in the scientific and cultural fields.

ICESCR

1. Everyone has the right to take part in cultural life and to enjoy the benefits of scientific progress and its applications
2. Authors have the right to benefit from the protection of the moral and material interests resulting from any of their scientific, literary or artistic productions.
3. Governments have a duty to ensure freedom for scientific research and creative activity, including in international engagement.
4. Governments should encourage and develop international contacts and co-operation in the scientific and cultural fields.



Ratification: country agrees to be legally bound by treaty.
For international treaties in the US President needs 2/3 vote in
the Senate.

In search of Peace

- **Nobel Peace Prize** – 97 years, 126 recipients. Majority given to politicians, world leaders, or jurists
- 7 awarded to individual scientists
 - Andrei Sakharov (1975)
 - Joseph Rotblat & Pugwash (1995)
 - An international organization that brings together scholars and public figures to work toward reducing the danger of armed conflicts and to seek solutions to global security threats, particularly those related to nuclear warfare.
- **Albert Einstein Peace Prize** – urges nuclear disarmament, many physicists honored
- Lewis Fry Richardson, Leo Szilard, Ghassan Andoni, Andrei Sakharov are known physicist/peace activists.

Committee on International Freedom of Scientists (CIFS)

APS committee responsible for monitoring the rights of scientists around the world, including the United States, and advocating on behalf of those in need. It apprises the President, the Board and Council of problems encountered by scientists in the pursuit of their scientific interest or in effecting satisfactory communication with other scientists and may recommend to the President and Council appropriate courses of action designed to alleviate such problems.

Shelly R. Leshner, Univ. of Wisconsin, La Crosse
Don A. Howard, Univ. of Notre Dame
Ian Jauslin, Institute for Advance Study (GS)
Athena S. Sefat, Oak Ridge National Lab
Robert S. French, 12th Chief Justice of Australia (retired)
Christopher Watson, Northrop Grumman (PD)
Lucas F. Hackl, Penn State Univ. (GS/PD)
Petr Navratil, TRIUMF
Peter V. Vorobieff, Univ. New Mexico
Vasudevan Lakshmirarayanan, Univ. of Waterloo

Case: Omid Kokabee (Iran)



Laser scientist – grad student
Univ. of Texas at Austin

- Arrested – 30 January 2011 when visiting his family in Iran
- Asked to work on a military project, he refused
- “gathering and colluding against national security” (acquitted)
- “communicating with a hostile government” and “illegitimate/illegal earnings”

- Subjected to extended solitary confinement
- Tortured – developed kidney disease
- Denied access to medical treatment
- Kidney removed due to cancer which was left untreated for years of repeatedly being denied treatment



- Worldwide protest of his imprisonment and treatment
- 10 year sentence
 - released after 5 years (Aug 2016)

Sakharov Prize (2014) for "his courage in refusing to use his physics knowledge to work on projects that he deemed harmful to humanity in the face of extreme physical and psychological pressure"

Turkey

Super Duper Cliff Notes



- Gülen is an Islamic scholar and (de facto) leader of the Gülen movement, outlawed in Turkey as an alleged “armed terrorist group.” He is in self-exile in Pennsylvania.
- Critic of the current government and advocates full participation within professions, society, and political life of all participants of a country.
- Long-running conflict between Turkey and Kurdish insurgent groups in south-east Turkey

Turkey (2016)

- Actions against academics:
- Jan: “We will not be a party to this crime!” – 1400 Turkish academics sign
- July – an attempt was carried out by a faction of the Turkish Armed Forces to seize control of the government because of the erosion of secularism, elimination of democratic rule, disregard for human rights, and Turkey’s loss of credibility in the international arena.
 - Erdogan blamed the Gülen movement and set out to destroy the movement in Turkey and abroad.
 - Gülen schools & Univ. closed
- Over 169,013 people subject of legal proceedings on coup charges, 48,305 arrested, & 150,000 public servants dismissed
- 5,717 academics fired. (Other numbers are as high as 23,427 and low as 2,808)

Physics Today (30 Mar 2017)

Nature (30 Jan 2018)

Science (09 Feb 2018)

- Sensitive cases
- Passports revoked
- Physicists
 - Ali Basaran
 - Serkan Gölge
 - Ali Kaya



Infrared Logarithms in Minisuperspace Inflation

Ali Kaya*

Boğaziçi University, Department of Physics, 34342, Bebek, İstanbul, Turkey

(Dated: January 9, 2018)

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Press

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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Loops in Inflation

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(Dated: March 23, 2018)

On the archives

Acknowledgments

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On $i\epsilon$ prescription in cosmology

Can this happen in the West?

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E-mail: ali.kaya@boun.edu Screenshot

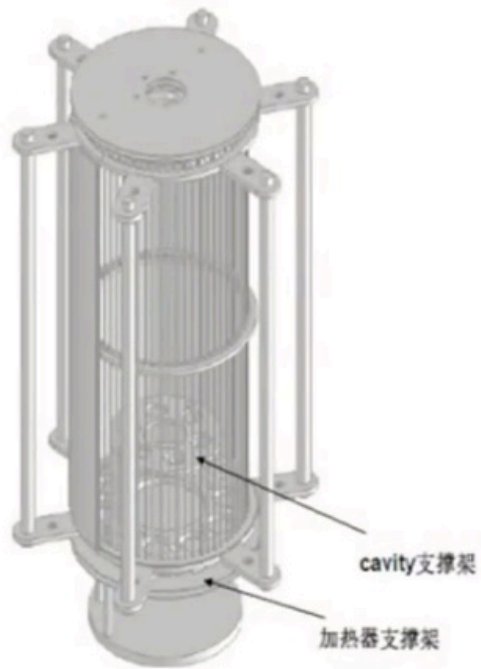
Case: Xiaoxing Xi (USA)



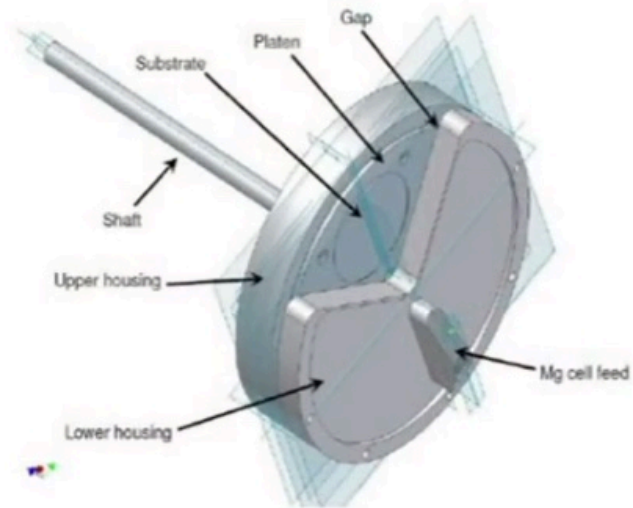
Material Science Professor
Temple University

- Arrested – 21 May 2015
- Accused of sending Chinese colleagues schematics of a “pocket” heater which he previously pledged to keep secret.
- Accused to offering to build a world-class laboratory in exchange for a lucrative appointment
- Faced 80 years in prison and \$1 million fine

SINAP Tube Heater Is Unrelated to the STI Pocket Heater



SINAP Tube Heater



STI Pocket Heater 

Case: Xiaoxing Xi (USA)

“I was charged for things that were just normal collaborations. If all these normal activities could be seen as criminal activities, then the environment is quite frightening.”

Xiaoxing Xi

- **All charges dropped – Sept 2015**
- May 2017 – Suit against the FBI alleges they fabricated evidence and maliciously prosecuted him in violation of his 4th and 5th Amendment rights. Suit also claims he was racially and ethnically profiled. (later amended to include ACLU)

Isolated Case?

Question

- How many were not born in the US but live in the US?
- Work with a physicist not born in the US?
- Is someone or works with someone who was born in China, Russia, or Iran?

US Government Crackdown

- NIH enforcing rules requiring grantees to report foreign ties
- Since 2018 – 180 letters >60 institutions (corresponds with the US/Chinese trade war)
- Impacted biomedical research community
- Unknown number of scientists fired from US universities
- MD Anderson (3), Emory University (2) all Asian American

- Chinese born Americans are frightened
- Most encouraged to develop contacts abroad
- NIH rules are not obvious or consistent
- Most information is not patented or marketable – cancer research (not drug)
- Many have followed Univ. rules
- NIH expects these inquiries to extend to other agencies & to scientists born in Russia & Iran

Today (29 June 2019)



- Turkey purchased advanced Russian S-400 missile defense systems to be delivered in July
- Trump & Erdogan met **today** at the G-20 summit in Osaka, Japan.

- US upset about missiles but also, “support for Iran, Russia and Qatar vs. the US-supported Saudi Arabia and Israel”


- “We have heard from him personally that this would not happen. We are strategic partners with the United States. As strategic partners, nobody has the right to meddle in Turkey’s sovereign rights. Everyone should know this.”

Erdogan, 29 June 2019 @ G20

Scientific impact of sanctions?

- Free flow of scientific information
 - Foreign scientists cannot attend conferences, collaborative meetings, and experiments
 - US restricted travel to the country / restricted money in country / flight restrictions / national lab “black listed”
- Impact on students
- US scientists under suspicion in the US, alliances questioned
- Push collaborations away from US

Ahmed Abdel-Basit (USA)

- Graduate student at Cairo Univ, Egypt
 - He organized peaceful protested against the military's removal of Egypt's first freely elected president, Mohammed Morisi
 - University expelled him in June 2014
 - Tried in absentia by a military court and sentenced to death in May 2016
 - Arrived in the US, immediately applied for asylum – allowed to work while application was processed
- 
- ICE agents detained him April 2018 for “overstaying his visitor visa”
 - Jailed and awaited hearing. Faced deportation



- Aug 24, 2018 – judge granted asylum
- ICE won't appeal decision
- Ahmed studied for the Physics GRE, and read advanced physics books.
- His HS students took turns visiting him in detention.

What can you do?

- Speak out when you see injustice
- Report to CIFS
- Help fellow students/colleagues

Questions?
Discussion?

