Dangerous Questions: Why Academic Freedom Matters
A Special Event of the Academic Refuge project & Launch event for a Massive Open Online Course on academic freedom
13 June 2018 (09.00 to 16.30)

Venue: University of Ljubljana, Faculty of Social Sciences, Kardeljeva ploščad 5, 1000 Ljubljana
Morning events: velika dvorana, 2nd floor; Afternoon events: FDV-20

9.00-9.30 Registration

9.30-9.40 Welcome remarks by organizers, Marit Egner, University of Oslo & Andreja Vezovnik, University of Ljubljana

9.40-10.00 Welcome speech by Vice Rector prof. dr. Branka Kalenić Ramšak, University of Ljubljana

10.00-11.00 Keynote speaker: Sonja Biserko, President of Helsinki Committee for Human Rights in Serbia followed by Q&A Lecture title: Higher Education Values: Threats and Challenges to Western Balkans

11.00-11.15 Break with coffee/tea and snack

11.15-12.00 Presentation of new MOOC: "Dangerous Questions: Why Academic Freedom Matters". Marit Egner, University of Oslo & Olga Hünler, University of Bremen

12.00-13.00 Lunch

13.00-14.15 Session 1: Protecting at-risk scholars, promoting higher education values (Room: FDV-20)

Chair: Marit Egner, University of Oslo

Speakers: SAR scholar from Serbia, SAR scholar from Turkey, Klemen Miklavič (UL-Faculty of Education), Sinead O’Gorman, Scholars at Risk, Samer Arkawi (UL Student),

This session will discuss regional aspects of higher education values, challenges to academic freedom and practical ways in which universities in Slovenia and the surrounding region can support threatened scholars. We will hear testimonials from at-risk scholars, reflect on their experiences and how these relate to broader systemic questions. Speakers and participants will discuss good practices as well as challenges encountered in supporting scholars and promoting higher education values worldwide.

14.15-14.45 Break Coffee/tea and snack

14.45-16.15 Session 2 – Supporting access for refugee and asylum-seeking students and other migrants to higher education (Room: FDV-20)

Chair: Nena Močnik, University of Turku & University of Ljubljana

Speakers: Ajgul Hakimova (Social Centre Rog), Mohamad Orfahly (UL, MA Student at Faculty of Economics), Abood Orfahly (UL, BA Student at Faculty of Economics), Marta Wasowska/Kris DeJonckheere (UNICA).

This session will address the local challenges migrants, asylum seekers and refugees face in accessing higher education in Slovenia, with opportunities to discuss how other countries in Europe are approaching this question. Participants will also learn about and discuss alternative educational platforms established for migrants in recent years.

16.15-16.30 Closing remarks, Andreja Vezovnik, Universtiy of Ljubljana & Marit Egner, University of Oslo