

First Persian online university for Social Sciences and Humanities

## Introduction

Institute for Social Sciences and Humanities – also known as <u>Iran Academia</u> - started in 2012 due to violations of Right to Education, academic freedom and lack of University autonomy in Social Sciences in Iran. The institution is based in The Netherlands and connects its faculty and staff across an extensive global network with a mission to encourage critical thinking and build capacity for Iran's youth by increasing access to uncensored knowledge.

#### QUALIFICATION

The NLQF, the Dutch coordinating body responsible for The European Qualifications Framework (EQF) implementation in the Netherlands, has validated Iran Academia as a higher education institute and awarded a qualification for the Social Studies Masters level program. EQF, is an initiative of the European Commission as an effort to streamline (higher) education levels across Europe.

#### AWARDS

The EU Active Citizens of Europe-Awards in 2015 for contributions to sustainable development and global justice.

Nominated by **Scholars at Risk** for 2018 **UNESCO** ICT in Education Prize.

#### Our Services

We aim to surpass censorship and offer educational services to those who have been deprived of impartial and quality education. We do this by providing excellent learning opportunities, free of charge, through four different platforms; Academia (graduate school), AcademiX (Massive Open Online Courses), Agora (educational multimedia platform) and Publications (publishing house for academic journals and books). Through these platforms, we offer educational programs and courses to the public as well as private organizations or individuals (journalists, trainers, activists, etc.).

# Our Students

Our target audience consists of the general public, civil society and members of disadvantaged groups. 70% are from Iran - from 21 out of 31 provinces – with 40% being female, 30% ethnic and 15% religious minorities.

### Unique Points

Uncensored education
Interdisciplinary approach
Interactive learning space
Free of charge education

### Our Boards









Nazila Ghanea

Chair of the Supervisory Board

Professor of International Human Rights Law at the University of Oxford.

Jalil Roshandel

Chair of the Executive board

Professor Emeritus of Political Science at East Carolina University.

Saeed Paivandi

Chair of the Academic board

Professor of Sociology at University of Lorraine.

## Nayereh Tohidi

Chair of the Examination board

Professor of Gender & Women Studies at California State University, Northridge.

## International Honorary B<u>oard</u>

Peter Singer

Seyla Benhabib

Edgar Morin

Ariel Dorfman

Sari Nusseibeh

Nawal El Saadawi

Ira W. DeCamp Professor of Bioethics, University Center for Human Values, Princeton University.

Eugene Meyer Professor of Political Science and Philosophy, Department of Political Science, Yale University.

Sociologist and Philosopher, Emeritus Director of Research at the French National Center for Scientific Research (CNRS).

Walter Hines Page Research Professor of Literature and Latin American Studies, Duke University. Novelist and Playwright.

Professor of Political Philosophy and former President of al-Quds University in Jerusalem.

Writer and feminist scholar, Founder and President of the Arab Women's Solidarity Association and co-founder of the Arab Association for Human Rights.

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Iran Academia

Academia AcademiX Agora Publication