We invite you to think *Free to Think 2021*, Scholars at Risk's annual report documenting attacks on higher education communities worldwide.

This year's report analyzes 332 attacks on higher education communities in 65 countries and territories, including violent attacks on universities, wrongful imprisonment and prosecutions of scholars, and attacks on organized student expression. In Afghanistan, for example, scholars and students, especially women, are in hiding or trying to flee the country for fear of deprivations of their right to education under the Taliban. In Myanmar, a military coup has undermined years of improvements in higher education and academic freedom. And in the United States, lawmakers are advancing laws that seek to restrict what faculty and students can teach and learn on campus. These and other attacks described in *Free to Think* 2021 are part of a global phenomenon that undermines research, teaching, and public discourse, and damages higher education's ability to serve the public good. They must stop.

Scholars at Risk calls on states, higher education communities, civil society, and the public to help. Protect scholars, students, and higher education institutions. Protect everyone's freedom to think, question, and share ideas.

For more information, please visit the <u>Scholars at Risk Network</u> page under <u>Professional</u> <u>Advancement of UVM Faculty</u> from the <u>UVM Faculty Affairs</u> home page.