



## Academics and Artists addressing Societal Challenges



### Call for Expressions of Interest from Academics

*Are you passionate about bringing your research to new audiences? Would you be interested in collaborating with a cartoonist to bring your research to life visually?*

Supported by the [Open Societal Challenges Fund](#) and the [British Association for the Study of Religions](#), the Open University, King's College London and Pitik Bulag cartoon collective are launching a competition to bring together outreach-focused academics and cartoonists to collaborate on a series of images that make the latest research about pressing social challenges accessible to general audiences.



***It's trapped!*** Freedom of the press is under threat.

Five successful academic applicants will each be matched together with a cartoonist with similar topical interests. Each academic-artist partnership will then have six weeks to collaborate to produce a cartoon and one paragraph accompanying text in English. The five resulting works will be exhibited at a series of international academic conventions and gallery installations, and put forward to a final competition with prizes for judges', people's and academics' choice. Copyright will remain with the creators.

If you have any questions about the call, please email one of the academic organisers:

[precious.chatterje-dooddy@open.ac.uk](mailto:precious.chatterje-dooddy@open.ac.uk)

[pitikbulagph@gmail.com](mailto:pitikbulagph@gmail.com)

[paul-francois-tremlett@open.ac.uk](mailto:paul-francois-tremlett@open.ac.uk)

[victoria.l.hudson@kcl.ac.uk](mailto:victoria.l.hudson@kcl.ac.uk)

### **Applications procedure:**

Academic applicants should submit a one-page Expression of Interest to [precious.chatterje-dooddy@open.ac.uk](mailto:precious.chatterje-dooddy@open.ac.uk) by 12 noon (GMT) on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> April. Half of this should be dedicated to the applicant's motivations for, and any relevant experience of, academic-artistic collaborations. Half should provide an outline of the academic's research topic and the particular finding/s that they envisage rendering

as a cartoon. Joint applications from academic co-authors will be considered, but should state a lead applicant to be matched with the cartoonist, if successful.

Work on any pressing social challenges is eligible for the competition, but we particularly welcome Eols related to: international relations, history politics, disinformation/counter-disinformation, and the political roles of religious organisations.

**Selection procedure:**

Successful academic applicants will be selected based both on the strength of their Eol and the closeness of their fit with the selected artists participating in the project.

**Project Timeline:**

Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> April, 12 noon (GMT)	Deadline for submission of Eol
Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> April	Notification to applicants
w/c Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> April	Artistic-academic collaborations begin
Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> May, 12 noon	Deadline for production of final cartoon and accompanying text
June – October 2024	Exhibitions and promotion of final outputs