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Academic freedom : a guide for the academic leader

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Abstract

While arguably a well-established principle governing university life, academic freedom is also frequently an object of dispute. The controversies often concern such basic questions as the very meaning of the term, its range of application, its relation to other principles (for example, institutional autonomy) or arrangements (e.g., tenure) in higher education, and sometimes even its desirability. This article seeks to provide a systematic introduction to the topic, all the while stressing the complex nature of academic freedom. Its final section addresses directly the relationship between university administrators and academic freedom in light of some of the recent changes in global higher education. (HRK / Abstract übernommen)