Friedrich-Alexander-Universität
Center for Human Rights
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FAU

FAU RUDOLF BENARIO HUMAN RIGHTS AWARD

RECIPIENT LIGIA BOLÍVAR

28 September 2026, 6 pm
Marmorsaal, Gewerbemuseumsplatz 2, 90403 Nürnberg

PROGRAMME

6 pm

- **Musical Interlude —** Helga Riedel & Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. Heiner Bielefeldt
- **Welcome and Introductions**
- **Commemorating Rudolf Benario —** Dr. Shmuel Hirschmann
- **Laudation —** Dr. Tainá Garcia Maia and Dr. Rainer Huhle
- **Presentation of the Award —**

  FAU President Prof. Dr.-Ing. Joachim Hornegger
- **Acceptance Speech —** Ligia Bolívar
- **Musical Interlude —** Helga Riedel & Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. Heiner Bielefeldt

7 pm **Reception**

This event is open to registered participants only. If you plan to attend the ceremony, please kindly register by email at humanrights@fau.de.

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About Ligia Bolívar

Ligia Bolívar is a research fellow at the Centre for Human Rights at the Universidad Católica Andrés Bello (UCAB) in Caracas, Venezuela, and currently lives in exile in Colombia.

She previously served as Director of the UCAB Centre for Human Rights and as Amnesty International's regional representative for Latin America and the Caribbean, Spain, and Portugal. In addition, she led a project on civil society participation within the Venezuelan Supreme Court's judicial reform initiative.

Over the course of her career, she has also worked as a consultant for several organizations, including the Inter-American Institute for Human Rights.

She is the founder of the Venezuelan Program for Education and Action in Human Rights (PROVEA), a prominent non-governmental organization in the region.

In recent years, she has spoken out forcefully against authoritarian tendencies in both the current Maduro government in Venezuela and the Trump administration in the United States.

About the Rudolf Benario Human Rights Award

In reaching its decision, the selection panel considered the nominee's contributions to both academic and activist human rights work.

It also took into account the severity of the pressures, precarious conditions, risks, and threats faced by the nominees, as well as whether they had previously received awards or other forms of support.

Finally, the panel sought to highlight a particularly urgent global human rights situation.

This year's award—the third to be presented—also marks the renaming of the award in honour of Dr Rudolf Benario, an FAU doctoral graduate who opposed complicity with the Nazi regime and was murdered in Dachau in 1933.

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