

A Look Back at
The Denise Benmosche Woman's Chair
of the Scholar Rescue Fund
Cocktail Reception



Hosted by **Dr. George and Judy Beraka**, this reception honored **Denise Benmosche** and her commitment to saving and protecting women scholars facing persecution. Both newcomers to IIE and IIE trustees came to learn about Denise's involvement in the **Scholar Rescue Fund (SRF)** and its mission.

Two participating rescued scholars—a prominent Iranian dissident formerly jailed for his advocacy of constitutional reform and a Pakistani scholar threatened by Muslim extremists for her work about the role of women in Sufi Islam—also spoke of their past struggles facing personal threats and academic persecution.



The **Denise Benmosche Woman's Chair of the Scholar Rescue Fund** seeks to rescue in perpetuity female scholars in danger around the world. IIE is pleased to announce that gifts to the Woman's Chair will be matched by an anonymous IIE donor as well as personally by Robert Benmosche, Chairman and CEO of MetLife in tribute to Denise.



Dr. Henry Jarecki, Vice Chairman of IIE and Chairman of the **Scholar Rescue Fund**, presented a grant on behalf of SRF to **Dr. Anatoly Mikhailov**—the rector of the **European Humanities University (EHU)**. The university recently reopened in exile in Vilnius, Lithuania after government closure in Belarus. This grant will support a prestigious institution and its scholars, as well as reinforce SRF's mission by sending a message that the suppression of academic freedom will not be tolerated.