



**WE  
WON'T  
WAIT...  
FOR WOMEN  
TO BE FREE,  
EVERYWHERE**



# INTERNATIONAL WOMENS DAY 2017

**TAKE ACTION. MAKE CHANGE**

On International Women's Day 2017, we won't wait whilst women are kept silent. We won't wait for women to be liberated from abuse. And we won't wait for women to be free - everywhere.

The Women's Action Network is a group of activists within Amnesty International UK who focus on promoting and protecting women's rights. We work across the range of Amnesty campaigns, supporting specific campaign actions, urgent action cases and other work with individuals at risk. We also design actions and campaigns for our own network, and are always on hand to work with local groups or individual activists defending women's rights in the UK and across the globe.

We kicked off 2017 by working with the #againsthate campaign team and the Women's Rights programme director to deliver Amnesty's huge and powerful presence at the Women's March on London in January, and we are delighted to deliver this campaign pack to mark International Women's Day 2017. Take action for Narges Mohammadi - whose work defending human rights and promoting women's role in democracy in Iran has left her facing 22 years of prison across two convictions. Stand with us to take action for Turkish lawyer Erin Keskin, who's facing the death sentence for speaking her mind. Or tell us what you won't wait for in 2017.

If you'd like to get involved, we would be thrilled to hear from you. You can contact us at [womensnetwork@amnesty.org.uk](mailto:womensnetwork@amnesty.org.uk)

Yours,



Rachel Statham

Chair  
The Women's Action Network Committee

# SHE WON'T WAIT... WHILE WOMEN ARE KEPT SILENT

NARGES MOHAMMADI  
IRAN



## HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDER SENTENCED TO 22 YEARS IN PRISON

Narges Mohammadi is a distinguished human rights defender and a passionate advocate for women's rights. She was vice president of the Centre for Human Rights Defenders in Iran before it was forcibly closed and has earned various accolades for her work.

She is serving a total of 22 years' imprisonment after being convicted, in two separate unfair trials, of charges stemming solely from her peaceful human rights activities. The "evidence" used against her at trial included her meeting on International Women's Day in 2014 with the European Union's former High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy.

Prior to her imprisonment, she was banned from travelling outside Iran and, in 2010, was unable to attend an international conference organized by the Nobel Women's Initiative in Guatemala to deliver a speech on the "Role of Women and Democracy in Iran".

Narges Mohammadi has been cruelly separated from her 10-year-old twins who were forced to leave Iran to live with their father in France after she was imprisoned. She has serious health conditions, including a neurological disorder, which has led to her suffering seizures in prison. She requires ongoing specialized medical care, which she cannot receive in prison.

### SEND AN APPEAL LETTER

Urge the Head of Judiciary in Iran to release Narges Mohammadi immediately and unconditionally.

**Write to:** Office of the Head of the Judiciary  
c/o His Excellency Hamid Baeidinejad  
Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran  
16 Prince's Gate  
London  
SW7 1PT

**Salutation:** Your Excellency

**In your letter:** Call on the Head of Judiciary to:

- Immediately and unconditionally release Narges Mohammadi, as she is a prisoner of conscience held solely for her legitimate human rights work;
- Allow her to continue having regular visits and telephone calls from her family, including her children, as well as contact with a lawyer of her own choosing;
- Ensure that, pending her release, she is provided with ongoing access to adequate specialized medical care outside prison and that she is protected from torture and other ill-treatment, which the denial of medical care can amount to.

# SHE WON'T WAIT... FOR THE RIGHT TO SPEAK HER MIND

ERIN KESKIN  
TURKEY



## LAWYER FACING LIFE SENTENCE

An outspoken defender of human rights for over 30 years, lawyer Eren Keskin has been subjected to death threats, physical attacks and sustained judicial harassment.

She has been hauled before the courts more than a hundred times, and convicted on numerous occasions, largely because of her work defending Kurdish rights. In 1995 she served six months in prison for referring to 'Kurdistan' in an article, and has also received fines and suspended sentences.

Eren's most recent conviction is for 'Denigrating the Turkish nation'. It relates to a speech accusing the authorities of 'slaughtering a 12-year-old' after a father and son were killed in an army operation.

In December 2014 she was sentenced to a year in prison, later reduced to 10 months. After July's attempted coup – which Amnesty condemns – Eren was accused of offences linked to her work with Kurdish newspaper Özgür Gündem, including 'membership of a terrorist organisation'. If convicted, she could receive a life sentence.

## SEND AN APPEAL LETTER

Tell Minister of Justice Bekir Bozdağ that Eren must not be jailed for her human rights work, and to repeal laws that curtail freedom of expression.

**Write to:** Bekir Bozdağ  
Ministry of Justice  
Adalet Bakanlığı  
06659 Ankara  
Turkey

**Fax:** +90 312 417 71 13  
+90 312 419 33 70

**Email:** [ozelkalem@adalet.gov.tr](mailto:ozelkalem@adalet.gov.tr)

**Twitter:** @bybekirbozdag

**Salutation:** Minister

**In your letter:** Tell the minister that Eren must not be jailed for her human rights work. Let him know that if convicted under Article 301, Eren would be a prisoner of conscience. Emphasise that Amnesty is an impartial movement campaigning against human rights violations around the world.

# WHAT WON'T YOU WAIT FOR?

YOUR VOICE  
SOCIAL MEDIA ACTION



## TELL THE WORLD WHAT YOU WON'T WAIT FOR

No woman is free of being defined by her sex. No society has achieved equality. We all have more work to do, for every woman, all over the world.

As well as letters advocating on behalf of prisoners of conscience or for changes to draconian policy, we are asking you to stand together with other women all over the world and tell us, to tell each other, and to tell the world what you won't wait for. Because none of us can simply stand on the side-lines and expect the world to change for us. We have to be willing to step forward, to get involved, to act. To say that "We Won't Wait".

What are your priorities? Equal pay? The end of FGM or breast ironing? For all women to be recognised legally as women? Whatever rights you want to claim - tell us.

### SOCIAL MEDIA ACTION: I/WE WON'T WAIT

**Tweet to us:** @amnesty\_womenUK

**Hashtag:** #WeWontWait

**Spread it further:** Why not tweet to your followers, friends or women you admire asking them what they won't wait for?

AMNESTY  
INTERNATIONAL



## JOIN AMNESTY UK'S WOMEN'S ACTION NETWORK

# WE WON'T WAIT... WILL YOU?

**Email:** [womensnetwork@amnesty.org.uk](mailto:womensnetwork@amnesty.org.uk)

**Twitter:** @amnesty\_womenUK

**Facebook:** /AmnestyWomensActionNetwork

**Join online:**

[www.amnesty.org.uk/join-our-womens-action-network](http://www.amnesty.org.uk/join-our-womens-action-network)

**Or return the sign-up sheet below to:**

Women's Action Network  
C/O Michael Quinn  
Amnesty International UK  
Human Rights Action Centre  
17-25 New Inn Yard  
London  
EC2A 3EA

Give us your details below to join the Amnesty Women's Action network and to receive updates by email

NAME	EMAIL	Please tick if you would also like to receive email updates about the full range of Amnesty's work and other ways to support us

You can opt out from any communications and updates from Amnesty UK at any time, by emailing [sct@amnesty.org.uk](mailto:sct@amnesty.org.uk) or phoning 020 7033 1777

