

## Welcome!

For those of you who are first timers, welcome, you're going to love it, and for those of you who have attended before, welcome back! This is the Amnesty Student Action Network's biggest event of the year and we hope you have a fantastic weekend. The conference is a great chance to meet fellow activists, share what you've been up to on campus, learn new skills and hear from inspirational speakers.

We have a lot of exciting things happening this weekend – workshops on our campaigns and on important skills for activism, a chance to network with students from across Europe, and an opening keynote from the inspirational Sakris Kupila. We'll also be hitting the streets of London doing what we do best – campaigning (make sure to wear warm clothes!), before coming back for some delicious food from around the world and some very special entertainment. The evening meal is supplied by the Welcome Kitchen, which was founded by a team of refugee women in 2016 who wanted to celebrate their cultures through food. Each dish is served on the night by the chef who cooked it!

Sunday will see the AGM and StAN committee elections. The StAN committee is a brilliant opportunity to shape the future of the student network, as well as being great fun. We encourage anyone who is interested to run, and there's lots of information on how at the conference. Head over to the StAN stall to find out more.

We hope you have a wonderful weekend and leave feeling inspired and empowered. If you have any questions don't hesitate to speak to a StAN committee member or volunteer (we'll be wearing the pink lanyards). For those of you who haven't, remember to like our Facebook page *Amnesty International UK Students*, follow us on Twitter, Instagram and Snapchat *@AIUK students* and please share photos and comments with us over the weekend on the hashtag *#studentconf*.

Love

StAN Committee 2016/17



## Accommodation

This year we'll be using two hostels – Dictionary Hostel, which is just around the corner from the Human Rights Action Centre, and Wombats Hostel, which is just a short bus journey away. If you are staying in Dictionary on Friday night you're in the same rooms for Saturday.

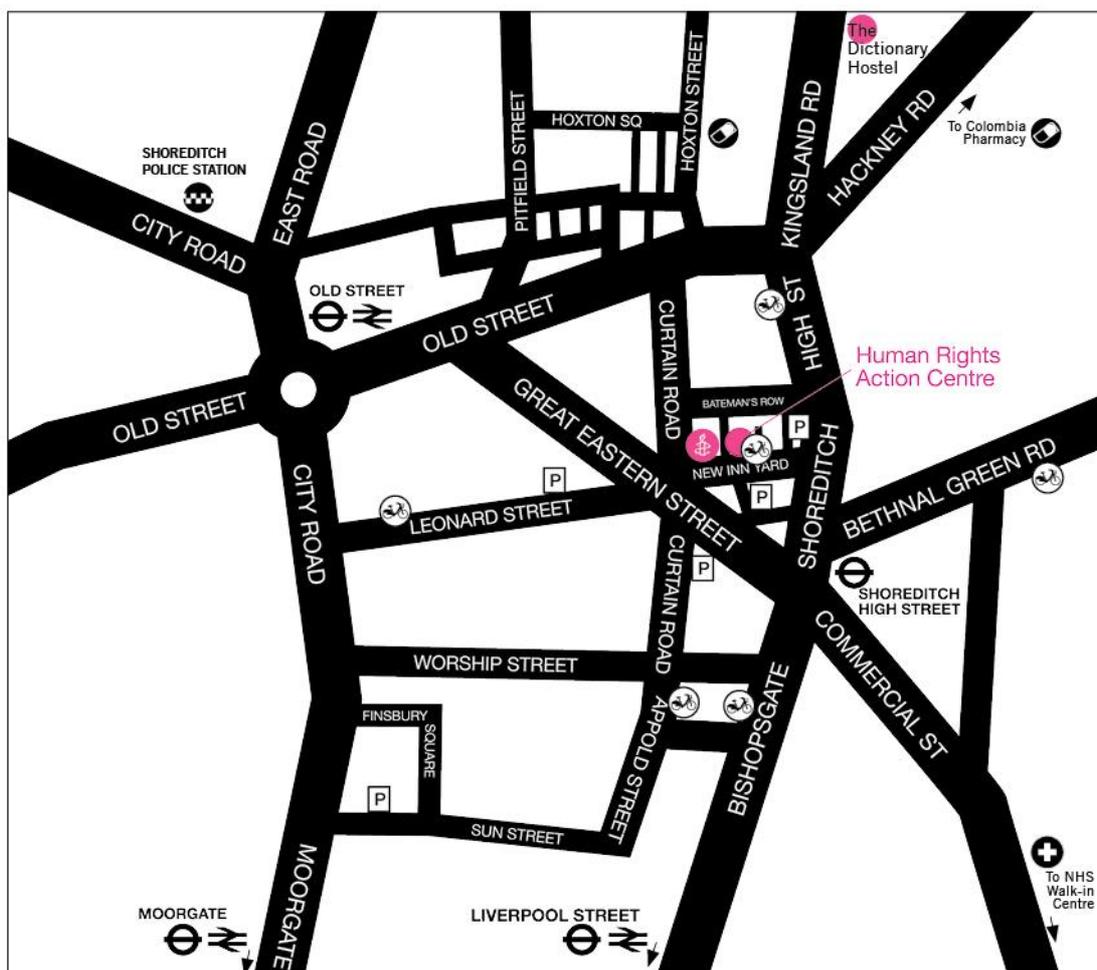
When checking in you will need to show Reception **your ID** (passport, EU identity card or UK driving license), and you will need to provide a **£5 cash** deposit per keycard. There is no curfew at either hostel, but please remember that Sunday is an early start with breakfast available from 8.30am back at the **Human Rights Action Centre**. You'll be able to store your bags at the HRAC throughout both days.

For those staying Friday night, Saturday breakfast will be served at Dictionary hostel. All other meals will be at the HRAC including Sunday Breakfast.

If you have any issues, you can speak to a member of StAN (07733 329928) or Jeni (07766731726).

Amnesty UK has a zero-tolerance policy on vandalism, drugs, excessive alcohol consumption and physical and sexual assault. Anyone found in breach of these rules will face exclusion from the event and will not be permitted re-entry.

## SHOREDITCH AREA GUIDE



<b>Saturday 11 November 2017</b>			
8.30	<b>Registration</b> Teas and coffees available from 9am.		Foyer
10.00	<b>Welcome</b> Ruth Breddal (Amnesty UK Board) and the StAN committee will welcome attendees to the conference and run through the weekend.		Auditorium
10.45	<b>Keynote: Sakris Kupila – The Portrait of an Activist</b> Sakris Kupila is a Finnish medical student and activist calling for a reform of Finland’s gender recognition law. Sakris has faced harassment, intimidation and violent threats because of his work defending the work of transgender people, yet he remains determined to continue his campaign. His talk is sure to be a powerful start to the conference.		Auditorium
11.15	<b>Break</b>		Atrium
11.30	<b>Plenary: <i>Brave</i> - Human Rights Defenders under attack</b> As we approach the 70 <sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, those who stand up for human rights, Human Rights Defenders, are experiencing increased threats and attacks. In response Amnesty has launched a global campaign, <i>Brave</i> , calling for the increased recognition and protection of Human Rights Defenders. Join Sara Rydkvist, Sakris Kupila and Peace Brigade International to hear about this powerful new campaign.		Auditorium
12.30	<b>Lunch</b>		Atrium
13.30	<b>Workers’ Rights in Iran (Auditorium)</b> This workshop will look at our ambitious plans for our BRAVE campaign in support of Iranian trade union human rights defenders. Join us to find out about our partnerships with UK trade unions and to share ideas about how students can get involved.	<b>Digital Campaigning (Conference Room)</b> This session will give you an overview of the general social media principles that Amnesty UK follows, and how you can use them to make the most of your own online voices. We’ll also take a look at some of Amnesty’s best digital work to date, and apply what you’ve picked up from the session to an interactive task.	<b>Creative Campaigning (Action rooms)</b> Run by Amnesty Legend, Dan Jones, this session will explore creative campaigning skills that you can utilise when campaigning throughout the year as well as getting hands on making props for the afternoons action!

	<b>Lobbying for Human Rights Defenders (<i>Breakout Space</i>)</b>  This workshop will give you a short introduction to the UK political system and provide you with the skills you need to lobby your MP on human rights. After a short recap on our political asks for the Human Rights Defenders campaign, we will outline 5 top tips for lobbying your MP before giving you a chance to practice your persuasion skills!	<b>Online violence against women creative brainstorm (<i>Seminar Room</i>)</b>  For many women Twitter is a space where they experience violence and threats. We want Twitter to uphold their own community standards and make the platform safer but we need your ideas on how to do this! The campaign will be launching next March so come along and help us shape this work. No idea is too big/too small/too silly!	<b>Funding Change (<i>Annex</i>)</b>  A workshop exploring how to effectively fundraise at your university, whether it be as a student group or as an individual. Looking at tried and tested ideas and brainstorming in groups to try and expand and develop new ideas.
14.30	<b>Action Briefing</b>  A chance to get ready for the afternoons action on the streets of London...		Auditorium
15.00	<b>Break</b>		Atrium
15.15	<b>Campaign Action</b>  Focusing on the case of Sakris Kuplia we'll be leaving the HRAC for an afternoon of doing what we do best – campaigning!		Out and about
17.15	<b>Group catch up</b>  An opportunity for attendees to meet up and debrief in their university committee groups. A good opportunity to start brainstorming about events for your university this year! If you're not in here with a group come and find out how to start one on your campus!		Auditorium and Atrium
17.45	<b>Breakout – what's it like being on the board?</b>  An optional informal breakout run by current board members, for you to find out more about joining Amnesty UKs board of trustees.		Breakout space
18.00	<b>Free time</b>  A chance to go back and check in at the hostel.		
19.00	<b>Dinner</b>  Delicious recipes cooked from around the world by the <i>Welcome Kitchen</i> .		Atrium
20.00	<b>Entertainment</b>  We'll be joined by some very special guests...		Auditorium

<b>Sunday 12 November 2017</b>			
8.30	<b>Breakfast</b> Pastries, bagels and fruit all served at the HRAC.		Foyer
9.30	<b>Plenary – Human Rights Education</b> Led by the Human Rights Education team, who do incredible work across the country bringing human rights to life, this interactive session will get our brains fired up for the day ahead.		Auditorium
10.15	<b>Israel/Palestine: Ban Israeli Settlement Goods (Auditorium)</b>  For 50 years Israel has illegally occupied Palestinian Territories. In this workshop we will talk about how the trade of goods produced in illegal Israeli settlements impacts on Palestinian lives. We will explore how student activists can take part in Amnesty’s campaign for a ban on Israeli settlement goods.	<b>Football Welcomes (Conference Room)</b>  Football Welcomes launched in April 2017 as a weekend of action for football clubs to celebrate the contribution refugees make to the ‘beautiful game’ and to create opportunities for refugees and others living in the same community to come together. This workshop will explore how students can get involved and contribute to its development in 2018, including through encouraging local and university football clubs to participate.	<b>Amnesty Students Europe (F1)</b>  Joined by students from Amnesty Germany and Amnesty Ireland this is a chance to share ideas and knowledge, forging links for the future.
	<b>Lobbying for Refugee Rights (Breakout Space)</b>  This workshop will give you a short introduction to the UK political system and provide you with the skills you need to lobby your MP on human rights. After a short recap on our political asks for the Refugee campaign, we will outline 5 top tips for lobbying your MP before giving you a chance to practice your persuasion skills through a set of interactive activities.	<b>With Great Power Comes Great Responsibility (Seminar Room)</b>  We – Amnesty – believe that we are powerful. Our work with and for people facing human rights violations can have a real impact. We must ensure that this impact is positive not negative.  This workshop is an introduction to the ethical responsibilities we all have in our work, and to how we can best fulfil these responsibilities.	<b>Funding Change (Annex)</b>  A workshop exploring how to effectively fundraise at your university, whether it be as a student group or as an individual. Looking at tried and tested ideas and brainstorming in groups to try and expand and develop new ideas.

11.15	<b>Break</b>	Atrium
11.15	<b>StAN Committee Elections</b> Your chance to vote for the candidates you'll like to see as your StAN Committee 2017-18.	Auditorium
12.15	<b>Plenary – I Welcome</b> The world is in the midst of an unprecedented global refugee crisis. More people are fleeing war and persecution today than at any time since World War 2. This is a global problem, requiring a global solution. But the response of the international community has been grossly inadequate. Find out more about our priority campaign, I Welcome refugees, and how you can get involved.	Auditorium
13.15	<b>Lunch</b>	Atrium
14.15	<b>StAN Election Results</b> We announce your new StAN committee – exciting!	Auditorium
14.25	<b>Plenary - Global Amnesty – What's going on?</b> Your chance to hear from Tom Sparks, former StAN committee member and Amnesty UK Board Member about what happened at the Amnesty International Council Meeting in Rome and what it means for Amnesty UK.	Auditorium
14.55	<b>Plenary - How to have your say at Amnesty</b> Amnesty UK's National Conference and AGM takes place 7-8 April 2018 in Swansea. Find out how it what it is, how it works and how you can get involved.	Auditorium
15.30	<b>Break</b>	Auditorium
15.45	<b>Student Network AGM</b> The Student Network Annual General Meeting is your opportunity to vote on motions that shape the student network.	Auditorium
16.30	<b>Closing remarks</b> All that's left for us to do is say a huge thank you for coming!	Auditorium

## Speakers

### **Ruth Breddal – Welcome to Conference**

An Amnesty member for nearly 30 years, Ruth was elected to the Board in 2013 and elected Vice Chair in 2015. The Board elected her to be Chair in May 2016. Ruth is also Chair of her Amnesty local group, and has been for over 15 years. She is committed to promoting human rights through local activism. Ruth works as a Company Secretary and Director of a private company and has a background of volunteering in the health sector.



### **Sakris Kupila – Keynote Speech/Brave Plenary**

Sakris Kupila became an activist in high school. Now he's a 21-year-old university student, balancing medical studies and international work. His main aim is to change the Finnish law of gender recognition, and grow acceptance and tolerance towards trans people in general. Sakris is a part of Amnesty's Brave and Write for Rights campaigns.



### **Sara Rydkvist – Brave Plenary**

Sara is the Campaign Manager for the BRAVE campaign at Amnesty UK. Sara has previously managed Amnesty's My Body My Rights campaign and worked in the Crisis & Tactical and IAR Programmes. She has a Masters Degree in Political Science and worked in the voluntary sector in Sweden before moving to the UK, including working for the Swedish Afghanistan Committee.



### **Cat Rainsford – Brave Plenary**

Cat Rainsford has been working for Peace Brigades International since 2015. She recently returned from PBI's Guatemala field team, where she spent a year accompanying human rights defenders who face persecution. Her career path has taken her from circus performer to travel journalist to human rights worker, and has been constantly drawing her back to Latin America for nearly 10 years.



### **Rebecca Dallison – Brave Plenary**

Rebecca Dallison is Amnesty's Individuals at Risk campaigner and leads our case work on key human rights defenders. She's just completed a Masters in International Studies and Diplomacy at SOAS University.



### **Rowena Seabrook – Human Rights Education Plenary**

Rowena is the Human Rights Education Manager at Amnesty International UK. This includes creating resources and delivering professional development as part of the Using Fiction to Explore Human Rights project. Prior to joining Amnesty, she was Head of English in a South Cambridgeshire comprehensive.



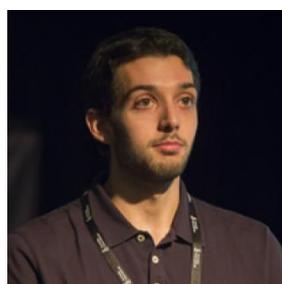
### **Tom Davies – I Welcome Plenary**

Tom is the campaign manager for the I Welcome Refugee Campaign. He has a background in international development and has worked for Amnesty for more than 10 years. In this time, he has led campaigns on issues ranging from torture, freedom of expression in Zimbabwe and refugee and asylum rights in the UK.



### **Tom Sparks – Global Amnesty, What's Going On? Plenary**

Tom Sparks has been a member of the Amnesty UK Section Board since 2014. Before joining the Board, Tom was a member of the StAN Committee, sat on the (then) Active Members Sub-Committee as its student representative, and Chaired the Durham University AI group. Tom is (still!) a student at Durham University, where he is writing a PhD on international law.



### **Dr Alex Rhys – How to Have Your Say at Amnesty Plenary / Student AGM**

Alex has been a member of Amnesty since he was 13, first joining his school group, then chairing his student group at Bath. Alex previously sat on the Activism Sub-Committee for 5 years, and has chaired the AGM for 6 years, as well as having chaired the Standing Orders Committee.



### **Shane Enright – Workers' Rights in Iran Workshop**

Shane is our trade union campaigner. His role is to bring trade union and Amnesty activists together at home and abroad to make common cause for human rights. As well as being a lifelong trade unionist, Shane is a campaigner for LGBTI rights, a bird watcher and regularly published art critic



### **Almas Korotana – Digital Campaigning**

Almas has worked as part of Amnesty's digital engagement team for a year, following a three-year stint running online activity for the UK Labour Party, London Labour Party and Australian Labour Party. She is now the digital lead at Amnesty UK for campaign areas including anything to do with Brexit, Trump and the death penalty.



### **Dan Jones – Creative Campaigning Workshop**

Dan has worked for Amnesty as a campaigner and education officer for 25 years. The Tower Hamlets Amnesty Group has been meeting in Dan's kitchen since 1980! He has written and illustrated a number of books, including stories for children and books on racism, development and human rights.



### **Laura Trevelyan – Online Violence against Women Workshop**

Laura Trevelyan is the campaign manager for Human Rights in the UK. Before working at Amnesty she worked at Shelter delivering welfare campaigns and before that at Christian Aid working on climate change. She started working in campaigns as a volunteer at Amnesty.



### **Lucy Wake – Lobbying for Human Rights Defenders Workshop**

Lucy is our Senior Government Relations Manager and has over 15 years' experience as an advocate for human rights, with a strong track record of success on a broad range of human rights and development issues; urging the UK Government to be world leaders in promoting and protecting human rights, through both their foreign and domestic policy agendas.



### **Sam Nadel – Lobbying for Human Rights Defenders Workshop**

Sam joined Amnesty as a Campaigns Volunteer in 2015 and now supports the work of the Advocacy & Programmes team where his responsibilities include meeting with Parliamentarians, preparing briefing papers for debates and inquiries, and researching the UK Government's position on human rights issues.



### **David Blakeley, Community Fundraising Co-ordinator**

David is our Community Fundraising Coordinator and works within the Community Fundraising Team, supporting groups and individuals to raise vital funds for Amnesty's human rights work through a variety of events and activities. Speak to him if you're interested in fundraising on your campus!



### **Jon Cornejo – Israel/Palestine Workshop**

Jon is our Crisis & Tactical Campaigner, his role is to develop campaigns against grave human rights abuses at times of crisis and conflict and identify tactical opportunities for campaigning impact. He was a student union activist in a previous life, is an LGBTI rights campaigner, and is a photographer.



### **Shoomi Chowdhury**

Shoomi is Amnesty's Human Rights Education Officer, and is responsible for our Amnesty Trainer Programme and our adult education resources. She has a Law and Human Rights Degree and Masters in Human Rights and Cultural Diversity from the University of Essex.



### **Kathy Voss – With Great Power Comes Great Responsibility Workshop**

Kathy manages Amnesty UK's Urgent Action Network and leads the UA Plus Programme, mobilising activists and delivering strategic campaigning in urgent individuals at risk cases.



### **Ruth Dawson – With Great Power Comes Great Responsibility Workshop**

Ruth is responsible for providing support, advice and facilitation within the Priority Campaigns & IAR team, in the areas of campaign planning, strategy, evaluation and ethics.



### **Kerry Moscogiuri – Amnesty Students Europe Workshop**

Kerry is the Director of Supporter Campaigning and Communications at Amnesty International UK. She is responsible for Amnesty's priority campaigns, activist networks and communications with supporters. She has worked at Amnesty since 2000 and studied French and History at Birmingham University before doing a postgraduate at Manchester Metropolitan in Marketing.



### **Freshta Sharif - Lobbying for Refugees Workshop**

Freshta works in the Advocacy and Programmes team at Amnesty UK. She leads on advocacy for the BRAVE campaign and the Individuals at Risk work. She has a Masters in International Politics and Human Rights, and a BA in Sociology from City University of London.



## Meet the conference organisers

### James Farndon

James is the Community Organiser for Students, and is the newest member of the team. He supports the StAN committee and all the Amnesty student groups to campaign for human rights. James was the Vice Chair of Leicester University Amnesty Society for two years before working at People & Planet and ActionAid. Get in touch with him via Facebook (*James Amnesty Farndon*) or email (*james.farndon@amensty.org.uk*) if your group needs any help or support, from running great meetings, ordering materials, to planning your next campaign action. He'll also be around all conference so say hi!



### Jeni Dixon

Jeni is the Community Organising Manager at Amnesty UK. She has been active with Amnesty since letter writing in her youth group at 13. She has previously worked as the International Secretariat's campaigner on Iraq and been the Amnesty UK volunteer Country Coordinator for Syria, as well as being active in Southwark and Lambeth local groups and with the London Region. Jeni is around the conference all weekend, so please do ask her if you have any questions about the conference, Amnesty UK, or how to get involved in other forms of activism. **She is available on 07766 731726 throughout the conference** or any time in the future, except when she's not working or sleeping.



### Katherine Odukoya

Katherine is the Community Organising Assistant at Amnesty UK. She first joined Amnesty as a student activist on the committee of her Amnesty Group, while studying for a BSc in Sociology and Social Policy. She went on to gain an MSc in Human Rights and joined Amnesty UK as a volunteer in the Campaigns team focusing on Human Rights in the UK, before moving over to work in Community Organising. Prior to working at Amnesty, she gained experience working in social policy and social research. Katherine is on hand all weekend to help out with the conference and is happy to answer any questions!



## Useful Information

### **Info Point**

If you have a question, big or small, head over to the Info Point located in the foyer. This is also the place to come to affiliate your group, find a first aider or find or hand in lost property.

### **#studentconf**

Share your photos, session highlights and plans for next year.

### **Action Centre**

Head to the atrium during the breaks and lunch and you'll have a chance to meet other activists from across Amnesty, and take action on our campaigns.

### **StAN Stall**

Want to run to be on the next StAN Committee? Got a question about the network? Head over to the StAN stall in the foyer.

### **Food**

Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner is provided throughout the conference. For those staying Friday night breakfast will be served in the Dictionary hostel. All other meals will be at the HRAC.

### **Bag Drop**

You will be able to leave your bags at the HRAC both days over the weekend. The bag drop will be on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor, and volunteers will be around to help you.

### **Emergency contact numbers**

StAN Committee 07733 329928

Amnesty Staff 07766 731726