



AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL
WARRINGTON GROUP
NEWS SHEET OCTOBER 2017

DATES

GROUP MEETING

Next Meeting

Thurs. 16th Nov. 7.30 – 9.30 pm

Nora St. Community House, Howley, WA1 2JG

Sat. 9th. Dec.

Write for Rights Culcheth

Also: Sale of 2nd-hand paperbacks

See more details below

WRITE 4 RIGHTS 2017

The world's biggest human rights event

SEND A MESSAGE OF HOPE THIS CHRISTMAS

Sat. 9th December

NEWCHURCH PARISH HALL

Small hall (next to Sainsbury's)

Between 11am and 1.30pm

ALSO

Second-hand paperbacks for sale



March & Rally for Palestine – Sat 4th Nov.



Harold and Evelyn went to London to take part in this march

REFUGEE / ASYLUM SEEKER NEWS

Sue gave an update on the situation of refugees and asylum seekers in Warrington. A 'City of Sanctuary' is being set up in Warrington. Some families have already arrived via the Syrian refugees resettlement programme and more will be arriving in January. The SERCO representatives were aware of 30 refugees / asylum seekers already living in Warrington. SERCO act as private landlords and say the housing stock in Warrington is of a good standard.

A drop-in is starting at the Care UK shop in the Cockhedge Centre on Thursday mornings. There will be someone to help with translation.

The Care UK shop is collecting items to be shipped to Lesbos.

INDIVIDUAL at RISK

TASHI WANGCHUK – CHINA



Tibetan activist Tashi Wangchuk appeared in a short New York Times documentary 'A Tibetan's Journey for Justice' about his attempt to highlight the lack of Tibetan-language education in schools.

This resulted in his being detained 18 months ago on charges of 'inciting separatism' which carries a 25-year prison sentence. He is in a prison in the remote region of Yushi and we are not able currently to find out if he has been given treatment for his severe joint pain. Send the attached letter to the Chinese Embassy on behalf of Tashi



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GOOD NEWS

Sudan: Dr Mudawi released after eight months of wrongful imprisonment



Sudanese human rights defender Dr Mudawi Ibrahim Adam was released from prison on 29th August and all charges against him dropped,

Sarah Jackson, Amnesty International's Deputy Regional Director for East Africa, the Horn and the Great Lakes, said: "It is a great relief that this awful chapter has drawn to a close. Dr Mudawi, a prisoner of conscience, has been reunited with his family and is once again a free man.

Dr Mudawi's eight months in prison represent a grave miscarriage of justice and his release must serve as a first step towards ending the criminalization of human rights work in Sudan

The BDS Movement – FRANCE

(BDS – Boycott Divestment & Sanctions)



Last week activists from [BDS France](#), a group supporting the boycott, divestment and sanctions campaign, [rallied](#) outside the Paris headquarters of the Institut Français "to

denounce the scandalous propaganda operation France-Israel 2018, which aims to enhance relations between France and the Israeli apartheid regime."

"We do not let ourselves be fooled by calls for dialogue when they concern a state that uses culture for the political goal of restoring its international image," BDS France said. "Culture can never whitewash Israel of its crimes, persecutions and discrimination, whether against the populations of Gaza and the West Bank, Palestinians living in Israel, or refugees."

During his election campaign earlier this year, President [Emmanuel Macron](#) [vowed](#) that if elected he would continue his predecessor's campaign of repression against the BDS movement.

SALAH HAMOURI



In contrast to France's enthusiasm for promoting Israel's interests, it stayed silent for two full months about Israel's ongoing detention without charge of **Salah Hamouri**, a Palestinian-French human rights defender.

Hamouri, who works for the human rights group Addameer, was arrested by Israeli forces from his home in occupied East Jerusalem in August and ordered to be held for six months under so-called administrative detention.

The foreign ministry said Israel's high court had heard an appeal against Hamouri's administrative detention on 22 October, but that "neither our compatriot nor his lawyers were informed of any charges."

"The systematic and abusive use of administrative detention undermines the right to a fair trial and the right to a defence," the foreign ministry added.