



Celebrate Human Rights Defenders!



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We hope you will feel inspired to take action on all of our campaigns but remind you that all actions are optional.

This mailing is also available to download at

www.amnesty.org.uk/youth

YOUTH GROUP ACTION

BRAVE CAMPAIGN

Celebrate Human Rights Defenders and every day bravery

Day in day out ordinary people around the world carry out extraordinary things to stand up for the rights of themselves and others. Human Rights Defenders are everyday superheroes – they don't fly or wear capes but to do their work they show bravery and courage every day. They are the people who stand up for justice and equality and against bullying and racism around the world. Over the next few months we're stepping up our call to action on the UK Government to improve support to Human Rights Defenders around the world to make sure that they are safe and protected to carry out their important work and activism.

We are calling on MPs to raise in Parliament the unprecedented increase in attacks on Human Rights Defenders around the world and to write to the Foreign Secretary asking him to prioritise support for defenders.

We want to celebrate the everyday bravery of people around the world standing up for human rights to help build a more just and fairer world. We're launching a new campaign action to push this call and action linking to the world of Marvel-style comics in which a more diverse range of super powers are now changing the world.

Your group can help get our message out to MPs and the general public. Organise a stunt or creative competition or action, invite your local media and show that you support human rights defenders wherever they face intimidation or attacks.

Take Action - Get Creative!

There are lots of ways your groups can show solidarity with human rights defenders whilst putting the issue on your MPs radar. Your main objective is to raise awareness of the bravery human rights defenders show, and the dangers they face. Aim to involve/engage or just reach as many people as possible and try to plan something that would be of interest to local media (online or offline). [You can download our media handbook.](#)

Here are just a few ideas...

Organise a stunt and get people at your school/college involved

- Organise a stunt representing the everyday super powers and human rights interest of human rights defenders in your school/college.
- Create your own materials and download placards and resources on the Amnesty UK Website (*available from mid-March*)
- Contact your local media to get press coverage about the stunt

YOUTH GROUP ACTION

Host an illustration or comic strip competition and / or exhibition

We're launching five new superhero defender characters who are fighting for LGBTI rights, freedom of speech and against environmental destruction. You could:

- Organise a comic strip competition for students to design their own story involving our 5 defenders
- Organise a competition to design a 6th character
- Link up with creative/art clubs or departments to promote your competition.
- Ask your local media to advertise the competition and announce the winners – you could ask local journalists to help you judge

Photo action / Create your own superhero Human Rights Defender characters

If you don't have much time and can only do one thing, you could:

- Download our placards (*available from mid-March*) or create your own
- Take a group or individual photos and send to us
- Create your own superhero character illustrations and send them to us

When planning a photo action please be aware we will have to ask for parental permission to use photos of any under 18s.

Remember the above are just suggestions – if you can think of other creative ideas feel free!

What to do with your creative actions

Send them to us at anne.montague@amnesty.org.uk

We are hoping to host a youth **Human Rights Defenders Conference** in **Westminster** in the summer where we would like to display all your amazing creative actions. Some of you may have the opportunity to attend!

Materials

There will be downloadable placards and resources for your stunt and photo action on the page where you downloaded this document from mid-March.

Coming Up..

On the **18th March** we're launching our new campaign action with a Marvel- style video about 5 human right defenders characters – watch Amnesty UK's social media channels in March for more information and inspiration. We will also send a further update in the April Monthly Mailing.