



GREECE

SARAH MARDINI AND SEÁN BINDER

On trial for saving lives

In Greece, you can go to prison for trying to save a life. It happened to Sarah Mardini and Seán Binder when, as trained rescuers, they volunteered for a search-and-rescue organisation in Lesvos.

Their job was to help spot boats in distress at sea and help refugees. But Sarah and Seán ended up behind bars charged with spying, people smuggling and belonging to a criminal organisation. They spent more than 100 days in prison before being released on bail in December 2018. If found guilty, they could be jailed for 25 years.

Seán, now in Ireland, says the scariest thing about the situation 'is not that it put me in jail, it's that this can happen to anyone'. This is what happens when governments criminalise people who try to help refugees rather than doing more to protect a refugee's right to find a safe place to live.

AMNESTY
INTERNATIONAL



EVERY MESSAGE COUNTS

Together we can call on the authorities to drop the charges against Sarah and Seán

'Humanitarian work isn't criminal, nor is it heroic.... Helping others should be absolutely normal.'
Seán Binder

SEND A MESSAGE OF SUPPORT AND SOLIDARITY

Sarah Mardini and Seán Binder
c/o Amnesty International
Europe Regional Office
1 Easton Street
London WC1X 0DW
UK

Language Sarah: English or Arabic; Seán: English or German.

Solidarity guidance Sarah and Seán would like solidarity to be directed, where possible, to refugee support organisations in your area, and/or in Greece.

Creative action Hold a joint event with a local refugee welcome organisation.

CAN I

- Send a religious card or message? No
- Send an Amnesty card or mention Amnesty? Yes
- Include my name and address? Yes

SEND AN APPEAL MESSAGE

Tell the Greek authorities to drop all charges against Sarah Mardini and Seán Binder.

Write to Minister of Citizens' Protection, Michalis Chrisochoidis

Twitter @chrisochoidis

Email minister@yptp.gr

Salutation Dear Minister

In your message ask him

- To drop the charges against Sarah Mardini and Seán Binder
- To make public statements acknowledging the legitimacy of humanitarian action and action to defend refugee and migrant rights.

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