### **AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL UK SEPTEMBER 2020**

### **NEWS from WARRINGTON GROUP**

**ACTION FOR HUMAN RIGHTS** 

**HOPE FOR HUMANITY** 

No group meetings
Please support Amnesty's work as many
desperate people depend on our support.

## THAI ACTIVIST IN EXILE, REPORTEDLY ABDUCTED



Wanchalearm Satsaksit, a Thai activist in exile, was reportedly abducted by unknown persons from outside his apartment building in Phnom Penh, Cambodia. A known dissident in Thailand, who often exercised his right to freedom of expression online in exile, Thai authorities issued a warrant for his arrest in 2018.

Wanchalearm Satsaksit is among nine Thai activists who sought exile in neighbouring countries and have gone missing in recent years. Two of them are confirmed to have been killed. Cambodian authorities must thoroughly and effectively investigate his disappearance and seek to establish his whereabouts, as provided by the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance.

If possible attached send letter to Embassy in London.

#### PALESTINE REFUGEE FAMILIES IN LEBANON



UNWRA highlights the needs of Palestine refugee families in the wake of the Beirut explosion.

The United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) expresses its solidarity with the Lebanese people after the catastrophic explosion in the port of Beirut. UNRWA fears that its aftermath will hit the vulnerable communities in Lebanon the hardest, sinking people such as Palestine refugees further into despair.



"The entire country is shaken by the scale of the damage, something that we fear will add further hardship on already

vulnerable communities," said Claudio Cordone, Director of UNRWA Affairs in Lebanon. "Palestine refugees are already amongst the most vulnerable in the country, many of them largely depending on emergency cash assistance from the Agency to help to feed their families."

CONTACT: Evelyn Kinsella, 39 Beechways, Appleton, WA4 5ER. Tel: 268871

website: www.amnesty.org.uk/warrington

y

@AmnestyWarrngtn

www.facebook.com/AmnestyWarrington

### THEIR OCCUPATIONS PUT JOURNALISTS AT GREAT RISK IN HONDURAS



In July television host German Vallecillo and Jorge Posas, a camera operator, were murdered in Northern Honduras. German had received threats but apparently Jorge had not. Since 1992, at least six journalists have been killed in Honduras in direct relation to their work, according to the Committee to Protect Journalists. Journalist David Romero recently died of Covid-19 in a Honduras prison where he was serving a 10-year sentence for defamation.

# **Guatemala** - INDIGENOUS DEFENDER IS NEW PRISONER OF CONSCIENCE



Amnesty has recognised Maya Indigenous leader Bernardo Caal Xol as a prisoner of conscience. Bernardo has been wrongfully imprisoned for more than two years for championing the rights of the communities of Santa María Cahabón against the construction of a hydroelectric plant. In 2017 the high courts acknowledged that the communities had not been consulted. Bernardo was then accused of carrying out acts of violence and in 2018, a court sentenced him to more than seven years in prison on the spurious charges of unlawful detention with aggravating circumstances and aggravated robbery.

#### JULIAN ASSANGE - EXTRADITION HEARING

Amnesty International's Europe Director, Nils Muižnieks, said:

"This hearing is the latest worrying salvo in a full-scale assault on the right to freedom of expression. If Julian Assange is prosecuted it could have a chilling effect on media freedom, leading publishers and journalists to self-censor in fear of retaliation.

"The UK must abide by its obligations under international human rights law, which forbid the transfer of individuals to another country where they would face serious human rights violations."

### USA: FREE ASYLUM SEEKER AT RISK OF DEPORTATION: STEVEN TENDO



Steven Tendo, or Pastor Steven, is an ordained minister, human rights activist, and

detained asylum-seeker facing imminent deportation to Uganda. He will likely be killed by security agencies if returned there. He fled to the USA seeking asylum after he was brutally tortured by government forces who amputated two of his fingers, and killed several of his family members

Detained by Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) for over 18 months, his health has rapidly deteriorated inadequate care in detention for his diabetes: he is now blind in one eye and losing vision in the other. He was hospitalised in July, and despite his destroyed immune system, ICE sent him back to a detention facility where over a hundred people have tested positive for COVID 19. Pastor Steven must be allowed to remain in the USA while he pursues the right to seek asylum and freed from detention for his health and safety. The USA must act quickly to save Pastor Steven's life. Demand ICE stop his deportation and release him now.

Demand ICE #FreePastorSteven