



AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL UK JANUARY 2021

NEWS from WARRINGTON GROUP

ACTION FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

HOPE FOR HUMANITY

No GROUP MEETINGS until further notice

FOR 2021, AIUK SET SOME RESOLUTIONS.

Here are a few of them (in no particular order):

- End Direct Provision
- Campaign for the Covid-19 vaccine to be equally available to people in all nations
- Amplify the calls for climate justice
- Support and fight for LGBTI+ rights

THE DECISION TO EXTRADITE JULIAN ASSANGE TO BE MADE ON JANUARY 4TH

**DON'T
EXTRADITE
ASSANGE**

Jonathan Cook wrote

'The US is using the Guardian to justify jailing Assange for life. Why is the paper so silent?'
22 September 2020

Julian Assange is not on trial simply for his liberty and his life. He is fighting for the right of every journalist to do hard-hitting investigative journalism without fear of arrest and extradition to the United States. Assange faces 175 years in a US super-max prison on the basis of claims by Donald Trump's administration that his exposure of US war crimes in Iraq and Afghanistan amounts to "espionage". The charges against Assange rewrite the meaning of "espionage" in unmistakably dangerous ways. Publishing evidence of state crimes, as Assange's Wikileaks organisation has done, is covered by both free speech and public interest defences. Publishing evidence furnished by whistle blowers is at the heart of any journalism that aspires to hold power to account and in check. Whistle blowers typically emerge in reaction to parts of the executive turning rogue, when the state itself starts breaking its own laws. That is why journalism is protected in the US by the First Amendment. Jettison that and one can no longer claim to live in a free society.

IRAN: STAND WITH YASAMAN, MOJGAN & MONIREH - THEY ARE IN GRAVE DANGER



There have been confirmed cases of COVID-19 in prisons right across Iran. This raises grave fears that prisoners like Monireh, Yasaman and Mojgan are at risk of contracting the virus because they are unable to take the social distancing and hygiene measures to protect themselves.

FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS OF FEMALE POLITICAL PRISONERS IN IRAN VIOLATED

They are the main targets of the clerical regime's vindictiveness

October saw violations of the most fundamental rights of female political prisoners in Iran. The clerical regime adopted various inhumane measures especially against political prisoners.

Besieged by various political, social and economic crises, and in the face of growing public discontent, the clerical regime has no answer but to step up repression.

It has ramped up the number of executions, arrests, humiliating punishments, and more heavy sentences which are un-proportionate with the alleged crimes. So, the clerical regime attempts to put up a show of force to cover up its tremendous instability. **SIGN ON-LINE PETITION: put: YASAMAN, MOJGAN & MONIREH in Google search then click on IRAN – 42 years in prison**

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JUSTICE FOR PALESTINE

PALESTINIAN OLIVE TREES DESTROYED



On 30th December while we were preparing for New Year's Eve Israeli bulldozers uprooted dozens of olive trees in Bethlehem - on Palestinian-owned lands in the village of Al-Jab'a in the southern West Bank city of Bethlehem.

The destruction of Palestinian olive trees by Israeli soldiers and Jewish settlers has become routine in recent years.

Israeli settlers have uprooted, burned down and chemically poisoned 101,988 olive trees since 2010. The attacks have caused losses of \$47 million to Palestinian farmers.

Settler attacks have escalated in recent weeks as a result of calls by ultra-radical Jewish leaders such as Neseam Moufel and Shlomo Retsaken to uproot olive trees belonging to Palestinians.

Palestinian olive oil producers based in the occupied West Bank have faced enormous difficulties as Israeli authorities have confiscated or denied access to land, uprooted ancient trees and controlled water resources.

Over 800,000 Palestinian olive trees have been uprooted by Israeli authorities and settlers since 1967, according to research from the Applied Research Institute of Jerusalem.

MESSAGE FROM KEN LOACH

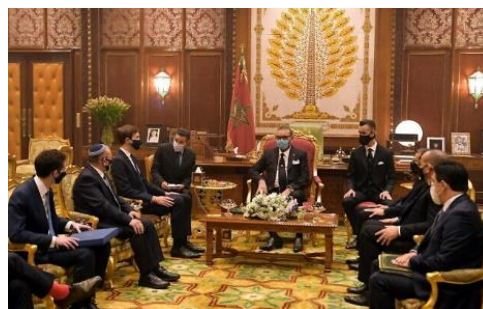
The struggle for the rights of the Palestinians is one of the great causes of our time. The theft of their land, destruction of their homes, collective punishment of the people of Gaza, transportation of their children, military occupation and the permanent disruption of daily life – all this shames the world.

Israel disregards International Law, the Geneva conventions and human rights with impunity. When politicians refuse to act, civil society must accept the responsibility.

Now the situation is even more desperate. Israel is continuing its formal annexation of stolen Palestinian land and reinforcing its system of apartheid. The demolition of homes continues apace. Israel's illegal siege of Gaza has already devastated the lives of those who live there. It is now, inevitably, making the effects of the pandemic even more intolerable.

Despite this brutal oppression some Arab regimes, themselves no supporters of human rights, are 'normalising' their relations with Israel, (see below) encouraging it in its crimes against humanity. After all the injustice that Palestinians have suffered, there is now an attempt to silence their voices.

MOROCCAN DIPLOMATS DISCUSS OPENING AN OFFICE IN TEL AVIVE



Not a woman in sight (my comment)

Moroccan diplomats arrived in Israel Sunday night to begin laying the groundwork for the reopening of a liaison office in Tel Aviv next month. Last week, Moroccan Foreign Minister Nasser Bourita announced that the country planned to reopen its diplomatic office in Israel within two to three weeks, after closing it some 20 years ago in a sign of solidarity with the Palestinians.

"Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere." - Martin Luther King, Jr.