

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL UK

MAKE A WILL MONTH

MARCH 2022

ONE MONTH

ONE GREAT OPPORTUNITY

**AMNESTY
INTERNATIONAL**



FREE WILLS SERVICE

Amnesty International UK's **Make a Will Month** is a great opportunity for you to get the important task of making or updating your Will out of the way.

To help you do this, we have partnered with the National Free Wills Network and Co-op Legal Services to provide a Free Wills Service for supporters like you.



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We have also put together this guide, with advice to help make the process of making or changing your Will as simple and convenient as possible.

Most people who use the Make a Will Month scheme do kindly choose to leave a gift to Amnesty International UK in their Will. You don't have to but we hope you will consider it. Any gift, whatever its size, really is priceless to us – gifts left in Wills by our supporters now fund around 20% of our campaigns.

HOW TO TAKE PART

Our **Free Wills Service** makes it easy for you to write or update your Will at no cost to you*. Our hand-picked will-writing partners can help you prepare a 'simple' Will in person, online and over the phone. Simply choose the option which best suits your needs.

YOUR OPTIONS



IN PERSON WITH A LOCAL SOLICITOR

Our partnership with the National Free Wills Network offers access to over 800 solicitors across the UK** and allows you to write or update your Will in person with a solicitor near to where you live.

- **Request referral to the Network** by completing and returning the enclosed form in the FREEPOST envelope provided
- The Network will send you details of your nearest participating solicitors
- **Arrange an appointment** with your preferred solicitor to discuss your free Will



BY PHONE AND ONLINE

If you live in England** or Wales, **our partnership with Co-op Legal Services** allows you to write your Will, in the comfort of your home, by phone and online, with a dedicated Wills specialist.

- **Start your Will online** by visiting www.co-oplegalservices.co.uk/amnesty and then you will get a follow-up call from one of their dedicated Wills specialists to answer any queries and finalise your Will
- **Or call 0330 0417 799** to request a call-back to write your Will entirely over the telephone

*Both schemes cover the cost of a 'simple Will' which Amnesty International UK pays a discounted fee for. If your Will is more complex, any additional charges would be agreed between you and your chosen solicitor or Wills specialist. **The schemes are not available in the Channel Islands and Isle of Man.



"I have been told of the work that you have done for me ... thank you for the titanic effort that has resulted in my release."

Joaquín Elo Ayeto

Joaquín Elo Ayeto – a youth activist in Equatorial Guinea – was arrested, held in pre-trial detention and then tried for defamation and threats against the President. Amnesty International campaigned for his freedom, and in February 2020, he walked free.

A GIFT IN YOUR WILL COULD HELP MORE PEOPLE LIKE JOAQUÍN IN THE FUTURE

SUGGESTED LEGACY WORDING FOR YOUR WILL

Here is some sample wording you may find useful if you do choose to leave a legacy to Amnesty International UK in your Will.

For a percentage of your estate after specific gifts and debts have been paid (a residuary gift):

"I give a % share of the residue of my estate to...
(see wording below)

For a specific sum (a pecuniary gift):

"I give the sum of £ (words and figures) to...
(see wording below)

Then add this wording:

...Amnesty International UK Section Charitable Trust,
The Human Rights Action Centre, 17-25 New Inn
Yard, London, EC2A 3EA, registered charity number
1051681 to be used for its general charitable purposes
and I declare that the receipt of their Treasurer or other
proper officer shall be a full and sufficient discharge."

YOUR WILL PLANNER

Before you start writing your Will, you can use this **simple Will planner** to work out the value of your estate, and decide who you would like to benefit from your Will.

YOUR ESTATE

What is the value of your major assets?

Your home (or share in it)

Other property and land

Cars and other vehicles

Home contents including furniture and fittings

Items of particular value (eg jewellery/art)

Money in banks and building societies

Shares, investments, national savings, premium bonds

Insurance and pensions
Other savings and assets

A Total assets

£

What are your major liabilities?

Your mortgage

Loans and overdrafts
Your credit cards

Credit or high purchase agreements

Other liabilities

B Total liabilities

£

Total assets – total liabilities = total estate value

£

YOUR BENEFICIARIES

Make a list of the family, friends and charities you would like to benefit in your Will and think about what you would like them to receive.

Name	Address	% share	Amount £	Specific item

Your executors

These are the people who will ensure everything happens. You can have up to four executors. They could be friends or family or a solicitor.

Please note that Amnesty International UK cannot act as an executor of your Will.

LEGAL TERMS

Here is a short glossary of the legal terms you might find useful when making your Will.

An **administrator** is someone who is appointed by law to settle your affairs if you die with no Will.

A **beneficiary** is anyone who receives something from a Will.

A **bequest** (legacy) is a gift left in a Will. It can be:

- **residuary**: a gift of money or assets left when other legacies and expenses have been paid – normally expressed as a part or percentage of the residue of your estate
- **pecuniary**: a gift of a particular sum of money
- **specific**: a definite object or property

A **codicil** is an addition or amendment to an existing Will.

Your **estate** is the total value of everything you own at your death, less any outstanding commitments.

An **executor** is the person or people you choose to make your Will happen. They can be a relative, a

friend or your solicitor. Amnesty International UK cannot act as an executor of your Will.

Guardians are the people chosen by parents to look after their children in the event of their death.

Intestacy is the name for the situation that arises when someone dies without making a Will.

Inheritance tax is a 40 per cent tax deducted from estates with a value of more than £325,000. Money left to your spouse or a charity is not taxed. Anyone leaving 10% or more of their taxable estate to charity may qualify for a reduced rate of Inheritance tax - 36% rather than 40%.

Probate (Confirmation in Scotland) is the legal process to establish whether your Will is valid. If not, an administrator is appointed.

A **testator/testatrix** is the person making the Will.

A **trust** is an arrangement you can make in your Will to administer part of your assets after your death.

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FIND OUT MORE

If you have any questions about Make a Will Month, please get in touch.

- Email legacy@amnesty.org.uk
- Call Christina on **020 7033 1657**
- Visit www.amnesty.org.uk/makeawill

SUPPORTER PROMISE

Amnesty International UK is committed to the highest standards in fundraising. Read our promise to you: www.amnesty.org.uk/promise

Amnesty International UK Section Charitable Trust, The Human Rights Action Centre, 17-25 New Inn Yard, London EC2A 3EA Telephone +44 (0)20 7033 1500 Facsimile +44 (0)20 7033 1503

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"I left a gift in my Will because the issues that Amnesty confronts will go on for many years to come. Knowing that my legacy can actually help continue this work is comforting to me."

Tatina Semprini, supporter who has pledged a gift to Amnesty International UK in her Will



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