



AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL UK JANUARY 2024

NEWS from WARRINGTON GROUP

ACTION FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

HOPE FOR HUMANITY

GROUP MEETING – Thurs. Jan.18th. 7pm-9pm
Howley St. Community rooms. 15-17 Nora
Street. WA1 2SG

Happy New Year to you all from the Warrington Amnesty group! Hope for improvement in human rights across the world in 2024

TESCO COLLECTION – Sat 18th November

The Tesco, collection on 18th Nov. 2023 raised £171.81 for Amnesty's charitable section. We thank Heather, Jane, Mary, Roger, Gill, Bryan and Evelyn for their help. Unfortunately, Tesco had double booked collections and so we had competition! We hope in any future collections AIUK may have facilities for people to donate using a debit card

CULCHETH CHRISTMAS TREE EVENT



Many thanks to Gill for arranging this and organising the setting up and taking down of our tree.

WRITE 4 RIGHTS

Sundays: 3rd and 10th DECEMBER

Gill encouraged the congregation at Stockton Heath Methodist Church to sign a card for Write for Rights 2023 after the morning service. She was very pleased with the response. Gill chose 6 cases supplying information and cards to be signed: Rita Karasartova (Kyrgyzstan), Ana Maria Santos Cruz (Brazil), Thulani Maseko (Eswatini), Ahmed Mansoor (UAE), Maung Sawyeddollah (Myanmar) and Chaima Issa (Tunisia).

MAILING GROUP

Members on the mailing list were sent an appeal letter for one of the 10 people featured in this year's Write for Rights.

NOVEMBER MEETING ACTIONS

IOPT - We are asked to keep contacting our MPs about the ongoing war in Israel / Palestine.

The Economic Activity of Public Bodies (Overseas Matters) Bill currently going through Parliament will make it potentially unlawful for public bodies such as councils and NHS trusts to consider human rights and ethical issues when making decisions about procurement or their investment of funds.



Journalist **Roshdi Sarraj** was killed on 22nd October in an airstrike on Gaza. The excellent short film he made about the August 2022 offensive is worth watching:

<https://youtube.com/watch?v=Z3asfllM7SO>

CASA – Appeals for **Virginia Laparra** sent. West Africa

- Forced evictions related to copper & cobalt mines in DRC.
- A social media campaign for **Dorgelesse Nguessan in Cameroon**, one of last year's W4R cases was.

JOURNALIST HOSSAM SHABAT



One of the few journalists covering the Israeli occupation massacres in the north of Gaza, reveals that he received a call from the Israeli forces ordering

him to delete the content he published and to stop covering news about Israeli massacres and aggression on Gaza. Dec.27.2023

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www.facebook.com/AmnestyWarrington

GOOD NEWS STORIES

DEATH SENTENCES OVERTURNED



Thousands of you have supported our campaign in support of those who protested in

Iran following the death of Mahsa Amini last year. The impact of your actions has set people free. Protesters Arshia Takdastan, Mehdi Mohammadifard and Kambiz Kharout, sentenced to death for daring to speak out in Iran following grossly unfair trials, had their death sentences overturned after we issued an urgent action to our supporters.

RELEASED FROM PRISON



Yasaman Aryani and Monireh Arabshahi, two Iranian human rights defenders we highlighted as part of our Write for Rights campaign back in 2019, were released from prison after serving four years of their 16-year sentence for speaking out against Iran's discriminatory forced veiling laws.

LGBTQIA+ RIGHTS



Sareh Sedighi-Hamadani's death sentence for defending LGBTQIA+ rights has been overturned after

facing unjust imprisonment and charges from Iranian authorities. Today, thanks to the support of passionate people like you, she has been released on bail.

CAMPAIGN TO ABOLISH DEATH PENALTY

The death penalty campaign has also made strides this year.

MALAYSIA has made significant steps in abolishing the death penalty, abolishing the punishment entirely for seven offences. Ghana's parliament also voted to remove the death penalty from its laws, making the country abolitionist in practice. Both developments are a victory for all those who have tirelessly campaigned to consign this cruel punishment to history.

GHANA: Landmark vote to remove death penalty from laws a major step forward
Ghana's Parliament voted to remove the death penalty from the 1960 Criminal and Other Offences Act as well as the 1962 Armed Forces Act.

GAZA



Thousands of you have supported our efforts to support those currently suffering in Gaza. Over 25,000 supporters here in Ireland alone have signed our petition demanding a ceasefire in Gaza. The City Councils of Dublin and Limerick also joined Cork and Fingal in endorsing our report declaring Israel an apartheid state, adding to the pressure on the Irish Government to take action.

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