

AI UK SECTION BOARD UPDATE ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF AGM DECISIONS – END SEPTEMBER 2025

The AIUK Section Board receives a report at each meeting, setting out the progress in implementing AGM resolutions. Between Section Board meetings a monthly update is compiled. These reports will be posted on the website by the end of each month to enable members to keep up to date with developments. Please contact the relevant Section Board member if you require any further information.

Resolution Number	Title	Update	Section Board member
S1 (2025)	Special Resolution to amend the Articles of Association (early retirement)	Implementation of this resolution is complete. The Articles of Association have been amended. Companies House and the AIUK website have both been updated.	Helen Horton Helen.horton@amnesty.org.uk
01 (2025)	Continuing repression, injustice and human rights abuses in Belarus	The assigned Section Board member has recently checked in with the AIUK Campaign Director as well as the Regional Coordinator of the Former Soviet Union Country Coordinators' Team (AIUK national lead activists, which also link to the Amnesty International's (AI) International Secretariat's (IS) relevant Regional Researchers and Campaigners in terms of a) current ongoing and (draft) planned work of the International Secretariat on Belarus and b) any efforts or planned efforts by AIUK to lobby the UK Government (FCDO / HO) as well as relevant media or other human rights work relevant to this AGM Decision in the UK). Based on info, the Section Board or perhaps devolved to AIUK Senior Management Team (with oversight from the Section Board) will contact the IS in the spirit of the AGM Decision. On the 15th of September 2025, AI's IS reacted publicly to the Belarusian authorities' refusal to disclose the fate and whereabouts of the recently released opposition politician Mikalai Statkevich: "The ongoing lack of information about	Richard Kotter Richard.Kotter@amnesty.org.uk

		Mikalai Statkevich’s fate and whereabouts is profoundly worrying. He has not been seen since he was taken to the border with Lithuania where he refused to go into exile, after being released from prison. This has prompted fears the Belarusian authorities have returned him to prison. There is a clear and simple term for this: forced disappearance. Mikalai Statkevich’s whereabouts must be immediately disclosed, his safety guaranteed, and his continued detention brought to an end. He should have never been imprisoned in the first place, nor denied his right to stay in his country. Mikalai Statkevich’s forced disappearance following his refusal to leave his homeland is a chilling reminder of how appalling the human rights situation in Belarus is, under Aliaksandr Lukashenka. And let’s make no mistake about the recent prisoner release: the authorities in Belarus cannot be said to be rectifying injustices or showing good will – not when they continue to arbitrarily detain people in retaliation for expressing dissent.” https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2025/09/belarus-released-prisoner-mikalai-statkevich-forcibly-disappeared-after-refusing-to-be-exiled/ On the 12th of September 2025, AI’s IS reacted to the release of 52 people imprisoned under politically motivated charges, including journalists, independent trade union leaders and activists, in Belarus, noting that “The release [following a United States of America intervention] of 52 people locked up prison in Belarus for exercising their right to freedom of expression is welcome, but long overdue. While their walk to freedom is a relief, more than 1,000 people unjustly criminalized remain behind bars in the	
--	--	---	--

		country. The Belarusian authorities continue their vicious crackdown on dissent. Anyone who dares criticize or protest against the government risks arbitrary arrest and detention, torture and other ill-treatment, as well as unfair trial. The climate of repression in Belarus remains all-pervasive.”	
02 (2025)	Amnesty to support sanctions and boycotts against Israel	Work has begun and further details on progress will be provided in the next update.	Duaa Abdulal Duaa.abdulal@amnesty.org.uk
03 (2025)	Time to protect top human rights organisations	Work on this decision has not yet begun.	George Randall George.randall@amnesty.org.uk
04 (2025)	Restoring AIUK International Human Rights and International Women’s Day campaigns	Work on this decision has not yet begun.	Not yet assigned
05 (2025)	Restoring Real Lives appeal cases	Work on this decision has not yet begun.	Sophia Bhatti Sophia.bhatti@amnesty.org.uk
06 (2025)	Promoting partnership with Trade Unions in other Amnesty sections worldwide	Work on this decision has not yet begun.	Richard Wild Richard.wild@amnesty.org.uk
07 (2025)	Improving engagement and communication between activists and the Section Board of Amnesty UK	The proposer and Section Board member have met and agreed how this will be managed. The process of assigning Section Board members to Regions/Nations has begun. Some Section Board members have begun engagement with their assigned regions/nations. A format for reporting to the Section Board has been trialled at the Building Powerful Movement subcommittee.	Stuart Penny Stuart.penny@amnesty.org.uk
08 (2025)	Resolution to reverse the decline in the membership of AIUK	Work on this decision has not yet begun but the Board recognises the timescale for action in the three sections of	Not yet assigned.

		the resolution that the Chair confirmed the Board were committed to at the AGM.	
09 (2025)	Making Amnesty International UK affiliated membership free for student and youth groups	The Section Board formally approved this (as it has to do so formally according to AIUK's Articles of Association) at its meeting on 20 th September 2025. This will now be implemented.	Duaa Abdulal Duaa.abdulal@amnesty.org.uk
010 (2025)	Restoring the International Issues sub-committee	Work on this decision has not yet begun.	Not yet assigned but a working party of the Section Board is likely to be formed to implement this.
011 (2025)	Introducing demonstrable independence and impartiality into the Activist code of conduct	The proposer and Section Board member have met and prepared a draft Terms of Reference for the working party which will lead this implementation. The Terms of Reference have been approved by the Building a Powerful Movement subcommittee.	Stuart Penny Stuart.penny@amnesty.org.uk
012 (2025)	Mid-term review and strengthening of the 2022-2030 strategy	The Senior Management Team have instigated a review which will report to the Section Board in October.	Full Section Board to be engaged.
013 (2025)	Enhancing the Treasurer's report to the AGM	The content of the Treasurer's report to the 2026 AGM will reflect this AGM resolution.	Andy Townend Andy.Townend@amnesty.org.uk
014 (2025)	AGM voting procedure	The proposer has submitted a document as to how they wish this resolution to be fully implemented, and this has been forwarded to the Head of Governance and the Standing Orders Committee for further discussion.	Graham Bisset Graham.Bisset@amnesty.org.uk
015 (2025)	Handling of AGM Decisions	The two newly elected Section Board members have already taken their seats and most AGM Decisions were allocated to Board members at a meeting on 19 th July. A monthly update on the implementation of AGM decisions is provided on the website.	Graham Bisset Graham.Bisset@amnesty.org.uk

ER1 (2025)	The future of Amnesty's bookshops	The Section Board met on 24th July to consider this issue. The Board decided to pause the proposed closure of the Section's bookshops in order to provide time for a bookshop strategy to be considered alongside the wider AIUK strategy, and to determine whether bookshop purposes extend beyond fundraising to include additional deliverables and, if so, to determine what those benefits are. The Section Board have now agreed a Terms of Reference for this work. Our intention is to have completed that consideration by the end of February 2026.	Helen Horton Helen.horton@amnesty.org.uk
ER 2 (2025)	Israeli attacks on Iran	In consultation with the proposer of this resolution, the Section Board proposed a Motion to the Global Assembly (GA) in July. This was accepted as an Emergency Motion. After considerable debate at the GA, the Motion was not approved by the GA despite the best efforts of the AIUK delegation. This implementation is complete as no further action will be taken.	Helen Horton Helen.horton@amnesty.org.uk
O2 (2024)	Research into Indigenous Peoples Rights in Guyana	The Chair of the AIUK Section Board continues to be in contact with the International Secretariat, being directed there by AI's International Board, regarding this AGM Decision. Since no response from the International Secretariat (IS) has been forthcoming so far, despite attempts by the Chair of the Board, the Chair and the assigned Section Board Member have agreed and have asked the AIUK Campaign Director and her team to pursue a staff-to-staff (AIUK to IS) ongoing line of enquiry until such time as when we get a response from Amnesty's International Secretariat. https://www.amnesty.org/en/what-we-do/indigenous-peoples/	Richard Kotter Richard.Kotter@amnesty.org.uk

		As fairly recent (Jan. 20025) context from the United Nations' Human Rights Council Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review, Forty-ninth session Geneva, 28 April – 9 May 2025: https://docs.un.org/en/A/HRC/WG.6/49/GUY/2	
O3 (2024)	Commitment to Individuals and Communities at Risk work by Amnesty International UK.	Individuals at Risk is one of AIUK's 6 priority human rights issues. We are actively discussing both with staff and the relevant activists how to introduce measures to improve the visibility of, and show the level of participation and engagement in, Individuals at Risk work undertaken by the section including that led by country coordinators. The Urgent Action website pages are updated twice a week by a staff member whose role is focussed on keeping the UA website and AIUK case management system up to date. We email members of the UA network on a monthly basis. In 2024 there were almost 130,000 actions taken in support of Individuals and Communities at Risk, accounting for 29% of all actions taken for AIUK in 2024.	Helen Horton helen.horton@amnesty.org.uk
O4 (2024)	Increasing the scale of regional/country-focussed campaigning by improving communications between local groups and Amnesty UK members	An e-mail was sent to all AIUK national members on 28 January 2025 inviting them to become involved in long term support for Individuals and Communities at Risk work led by the Country Coordinators by joining their regional or country specific mailing lists. This process will be completed manually every January until it becomes automated as part of the digital transformation project. The process for 2025 is about to begin.	Stuart Penny Stuart.penny@amnesty.org.uk

O5 (2024)	Increasing the scale and effectiveness of campaigning by improving communications between local groups and Amnesty UK members	The precise proposals for processes whereby national members can be given information about how to contact their local groups and networks and those local groups and networks can directly contact national members is dependent on the forthcoming Online Community Platform. This is due in early 2026.	Stuart Penny Stuart.penny@amnesty.org.uk
O6 (2024)	Put in place a full-time Local Groups Officer, together with a system of effective monitoring of local groups	A dedicated Local Groups Administrator has been recruited and is in post. A Groups Health Audit was completed in 2024 and the results published in the Groups Newsletter in December. This will be undertaken annually. The Groups Health Audit has begun for 2025. The output will be used to inform actions by colleagues in the Activism and Education Directorate to support local groups. A working party to review strategies to stop the decline in local groups/local entities is currently on hold, pending development of the forthcoming Activism Strategy.	Stuart Penny Stuart.penny@amnesty.org.uk
O7 (2024)	Introduction of AIUK Digital Campaigning Workshops for Beginners	A survey of local groups to better understand their digital training requirements was undertaken in January 2025. An introductory guide to social media and other key pieces of technology is now published on the 'Essential Training for Activists' AIUK website page. The guide includes links to other more in-depth guides and a glossary of tech terms. Three online training sessions are planned in 2025 for digital campaigning; the February and September sessions are focused on digital campaign strategy and the June session is focused on social media. These are being led by specialist staff from our digital team.	Stuart Penny Stuart.penny@amnesty.org.uk

O8 (2024)	Put in place an AIUK Training Programme	A consultation is ongoing in 2025 to understand the training needs of AIUK activists and local groups. The output will be fed into planning for next year's business plan and will begin in 2026. Three streams of department-level training delivery have been identified for 2025, with other training and development happening at constituent level. The connect stream focuses on priority campaigns and calendar moments (e.g. Pride) and are scheduled online for the second Tuesday of most months. The skills stream focuses on different activism skills identified from the local group audit and current areas of work and are scheduled online for the fourth Tuesday of most months. The leadership stream focuses on developing campaigning skills and on providing a basis for activists who want to lead and facilitate human rights education in the community. These will be 4 in-person training days on Saturdays in March, May, June and September. We have staff allocated to support or facilitate each session and are in the process of advertising and designing the different sessions. For some sessions, activists may also be facilitators, for example the March connect session was led by a member of the Amnesty Feminist Network. Plans for training for local groups will be defined following the completion of the needs analysis.	Stuart Penny Stuart.penny@amnesty.org.uk
O5 (2023)	Section support for local groups	The Groups Health Audit was completed and the results published in the December 2024 edition of the Groups	Stuart Penny Stuart.penny@amnesty.org.uk

		Newsletter. The 2025 planning pack has also been issued in the same edition of the Groups Newsletter. The 2025 Groups Health Audit is currently being undertaken.	
O4 (2021)	Increasing youth participation in governance	1. We now have 2 reserved seats on the board (1 x under 23 and 1 x under 18) and both are currently filled. 2. To accommodate the under 18 seat, this required a change to our articles of association and an update of our safeguarding policy and procedures – both of which have also been actioned. 3. Resolution 09 (2025) passed to remove the fee for youth members and will be actioned. The implementation of this resolution is complete.	Helen Horton helen.horton@amnesty.org.uk