



Amnesty International (AI) - Hammersmith and Fulham (H&F) Group – Frequently Asked Questions

Q1. What is Amnesty International?

A1. Amnesty International (AI) is a worldwide movement of people who campaign for human rights. Its work is based on careful research and on the standards agreed by the international community. Amnesty International UK is one of more than 50 nationally organised sections that make up the Amnesty International worldwide movement. At the latest count we have over 7 million members from 150 countries.

Q2. What does Amnesty International do?

A2. Amnesty works independently and impartially to promote respect for all the human rights set out in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. It concentrates on ending abuses of the rights to physical and mental integrity, freedom of conscience and expression, and freedom from discrimination. This includes;

- Promotion of awareness through various means including public events, fundraising activities and multimedia outreach.
- Opposing specific abuses of human rights through a programme of research and action.

Q3. Is Amnesty effective?

A3. Since 1961 Amnesty has made appeals on behalf of thousands of individual victims of human rights abuses and has established a concrete record of achievement over the years.

Q4. How is Amnesty funded?

A4. Amnesty is independent of any government, political ideology, economic interest or religion. To ensure our independence, we do not seek or accept money from governments or political parties for our work in documenting and campaigning against human rights abuses. Our funding depends on the contributions of our worldwide membership and fundraising activities. To safeguard the independence of the organisation, all contributors are strictly controlled by guidelines laid down by the International Council.

Q5. How does Amnesty decide what causes to support?

A5. Each year, Amnesty produces hundreds of reports covering many different countries and issues based on thorough research and analysis by experts at the International Secretariat.

Q6. Who are Amnesty International - Hammersmith and Fulham Group (AI H&F)?

A6. We are a locally based group of people that campaigns on behalf of AI and human rights defenders worldwide.

Q7. Where and when do you meet?

A7. Quaker Meetinghouse, 20 Nigel Playfair Ave., Hammersmith, W6 9JY. We meet in the "Library Room" at 7:45 pm every second Wednesday of the month. Please see the map on the back.

Q8. What do you do during these meetings?

A8. Present and sign letters and petitions, organise campaigns, co-ordinate actions and protests, manage fundraising and social activities, host talks from expert speakers and generally have fun!

Q9. What else do you do?

A9. We regularly hold an action stall every third or fourth Saturday of the month, located adjacent to Santander Bank, next to the Kings Mall, on King Street, in Hammersmith. (Please see the map below). At these stalls we engage members of the general public to sign our letters and petitions and donate money if they can.

Q10. If I join, how involved do I need to be?

A10. As much or as little as you like! Thanks to the excellent resources we have via Amnesty International, taking action can often take as little as two minutes. Preparing an action can often take as little as five minutes.

Q11. If I join, what can I do?

A11. Anything that is AI related. What are you passionate about? Do you want to defend freedom of speech? Do you want to free prisoners of conscious? Do you want to see an end to the Death Penalty? Do you want a regulated arms trade? Amnesty is involved in all of this and more. If you want to know more contact us!

Q12. How do I contact you?

A12. Please contact;

- Victoria Brignell (Group Secretary), at: SecretaryHammersmithAmnesty@outlook.com
- Nicholas Ageridis (Group Chair), at: chair.hfaigroup@gmail.com or on 07910 874 304.
- Or just drop into a meeting!

