Amnesty Activist Campaign Updates - MAY 2016

Refugee and Migrants Rights update

EU -Turkey deal

On 4 April the first people were returned from Greece to Turkey as part of the EU-Turkey deal. Amnesty considers this a potentially disastrous undoing of the commitment to protect refugees. Read a briefing ahead of the returns starting:

https://www.amnesty.org.uk/press-releases/turkey-illegal-mass-returns-syrian-refugees-expose-fatal-flaws-eu-turkey-deal

Read a blog on why the EU-Turkey deal is wrong

https://www.amnesty.org.uk/blogs/yes-minister-it-human-rights-issue/five-reasons-why-eu-dealturkey-refugees-inhumane

Take action for refugees

Email your MP and call on the government to change the immigration rules to help more refugees to be reunited with family members in the UK at: <u>www.amnesty.org.uk/refugee</u>

Stop Torture update

The global campaign will come to an end in May. If you are interested in continuing to campaign against torture in the five countries of focus (Mexico, Morocco, Philippines, Nigeria, Uzbekistan), please contact the relevant country co-ordinator. To find out who the country coordinators please contact <u>activism@amnesty.org.uk</u>. We will share highlights from the Stop Torture campaign in the July Mailing.

REMINDER 31 May deadline for petitions

The deadline for returning your petitions calling for a fully independent inquiry judge-led inquiry into UK involvement in torture is the 31 May. Please send your completed petitions to: Activism, AIUK, 17-25 New Inn Yard, London, EC2A 3EA

To take action online go to: <u>www.amnesty.org.uk/tortureinquiry</u>

The Human Rights ACT

The government has still not announced their plans to replace the Human Rights Act. This delay means they are finding this hard to do this so your campaigning is having an effect! We don't expect any announcements until after the European referendum but are getting ready for when this comes. We will get in touch as soon as we know more of their plans. While we wait please carry on putting pressure on in your area. We have loads of resources you can order via MDA (badges, stickers, guides etc...) and also we template letters to send to your local paper or your MP (see HRA resources page). This pressure helps us show that people across the country care about the Human Rights Act and are willing to stand up for it.