



Annual Report 2013
Amnesty International UK

2013

ABOUT THIS REPORT

Our annual report provides an overview of Amnesty International UK and Amnesty's work, from 1 January to 31 December 2013.

This report aims to show our stakeholders how our organisation is governed, managed and funded, the nature of our work and the extent of our impact. The report covers the combined activity of two legal entities:

Amnesty International United Kingdom

Section, a limited company registered in England (number 01735872), which undertakes campaigning work in the UK.

Amnesty International (UK Section)

Charitable Trust, a charity registered with the Charity Commission for England and Wales (number 1051681), in Scotland with the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator (number SCO39534) and a limited company registered in England (number 03139939), which funds some of the projects undertaken both in the UK and globally.

We refer to these two entities as Amnesty International UK (AIUK).

Amnesty International UK is one of 69 national entities in the Amnesty International movement. For information on activity elsewhere in the world, please visit www.amnesty.org

HOW TO USE THIS REPORT

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Links

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FROM THE CHAIR

It is my honour to introduce Amnesty International UK's 2013 Annual Report.

I have been a Board member since 2010 and was appointed Chair in September 2013. I feel privileged to hold the position of Chair and grateful for the dedication and expertise of my fellow board members and the staff of AIUK in delivering Amnesty International's crucial work.

We made a huge impact on human rights in 2013: on a global scale through the introduction of an Arms Trade Treaty, and on a personal scale through the solidarity we gave to hundreds of individual human rights defenders. The year also marked an important step in the transformation of Amnesty into a truly global human rights movement with a greater presence in the global south and east.

That transformation has significant ramifications for AIUK, so 2013 was in many ways a tough year for us. During the previous year we had identified the need to save £2.5 million in annual running costs and in 2013 we put the plans in place to do that. This meant that even after significantly reducing our non-staff costs, we had to reorganise our staffing structure so that we could make savings and maintain a strong campaigning and activist base. It meant that 20 staff left through voluntary redundancy. It was painful for many staff and activists and I am grateful for the way in which staff and members continued to maintain their focus on Amnesty's human rights work during this difficult time.

We have learned many lessons through the challenges of our past two years, not least of which is the need to build a stronger and more effective relationship between the governance of AIUK and our members, to communicate better and to address key issues in the way in which we organise our governance. We started the year with an Extraordinary General Meeting attended by more than 500 members: a sure sign that we had significant issues to resolve. At the AGM which followed in April the Board

proposed to create a governance task force to address some of those key issues. This is now up and running and I am grateful to the Amnesty members who give their time for this behind-the-scenes work which underpins our ability to carry out our human rights work so effectively.

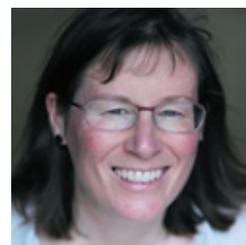
Amnesty is the world's largest human rights movement. Being a movement of ordinary people who volunteer to campaign for human rights and who also govern the organisation is a huge strength. It is also a huge job in itself to keep us all informed, organised and focused so that our efforts make the biggest impact for human rights.

Every two years, Amnesty International holds its International Council Meeting, its highest decision-making body. The 2013 ICM was my first, and it was very impressive to see how the delegates from more than 60 countries work so constructively together to strive for consensus in order to develop well-thought out and effective policy. It was a timely meeting for us at AIUK, as it enabled us to gain a better understanding of the impact of moving more of Amnesty International's resources to the global south and east. There was clear support for this direction from all, but some concern over how this is done, and the impact on sections such as ours in the UK. We particularly welcomed the decision to review the way in which the current funding mechanism operates and establish a clear vision for the human rights work of funding sections such as AIUK.

My abiding memory of the ICM is the sheer positive energy of being part of a movement of people so dedicated to working with each other for human rights. It is truly a privilege to feel a part of this global community of people doing such important work for humanity.



Sarah O'Grady



'Being a movement of ordinary people who volunteer to campaign for human rights and who also govern the organisation is a huge strength.'



FROM THE DIRECTOR

Last year was again a challenging year for Amnesty International UK as we carried out the budget cuts and staffing restructure required to protect our medium term financial health. I am grateful to the staff and members of AIUK who remained dedicated to promoting and protecting human rights during this difficult time. I particularly want to thank the staff who left AIUK in 2013 for their dedication and expertise during their many years of service to human rights and likewise to the 150 staff who remain with AIUK.

The commitment of members and the staff of Amnesty International is formidable. Even in the toughest of times, when jobs are insecure and when members are concerned about the direction Amnesty is taking, we are united in our commitment to our work for human rights. That shared goal drives us to strive for consensus to move forward again together in the global struggle for human rights.

The voluntary work of Amnesty members is inspiring. In 2013 we achieved the historic victory of a global Arms Trade Treaty. The idea that this may one day be possible was first dreamed up in our London offices in 1994. Since then Amnesty members across the world, from Finland to Senegal, from the USA to Argentina have taken on this dream and made it happen. They have campaigned relentlessly for this treaty which will bring the global arms trade under control. It is these individual members, and the work they do together, that give Amnesty the power to make change happen. The Arms Trade Treaty felt like an impossible dream back in the 1990s, but the determination of Amnesty members to collect signatures, to lobby politicians, to raise awareness and to provide the evidence and argument finally prevailed and the world will be a safer place because of it.

Amnesty members are also responsible for donating the vast majority of Amnesty International's funds. Even during difficult economic times such as these, our income has continued to grow and we are grateful for that support. It means we can do so much more for human rights.

I am privileged to have the opportunity to witness the value of that support at first hand. Amongst many of the inspiring experiences I have had this year was the opportunity to visit Amnesty Sierra Leone and support the work that they are doing in that country which has seen so much violence. Amnesty cannot raise enough money in Sierra Leone itself to support the Amnesty section, which is supported by the financial contribution made by funding sections such as AIUK. The work that Amnesty Sierra Leone does is astounding. I was particularly inspired by their human rights education work to end discrimination against women in rural villages. The results have transformed lives as you can read on page 14 of this report.

Like any Amnesty member, I am always heartened when I hear that our campaigning has made a real impact, and all the more so when I hear directly from people whose lives we have affected. Last year we celebrated 40 years of taking Urgent Action to protect individuals at risk. Our solidarity with individuals continues to be a key pillar of our work and the feedback we get gives us the strength and energy to keep up that vital struggle for human rights. With that thought, I leave the last word to Ihar Tsikhanyuk from Belarus: 'When I feel left with no hope to fight, I'll get a letter and it inspires me. The light of hope appears again, and my confidence in myself and my ability to change things returns!'



Kate Allen



'It is individual members, and the work they do together, that give Amnesty the power to make change happen.'



ABOUT US

Who we are

Amnesty International is a movement of ordinary people from across the world standing up for humanity and human rights. Our purpose is to protect individuals wherever justice, fairness, freedom and truth are denied.

Our vision

A world in which every person enjoys all of the human rights enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other international human rights instruments.

Our mission

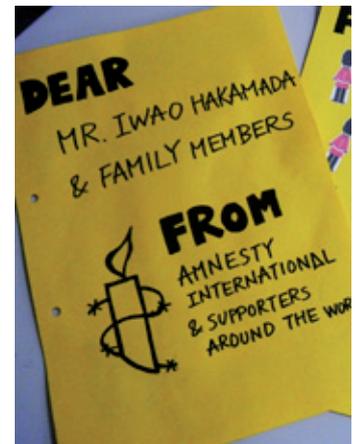
To undertake research and action focused on exposing, preventing and ending grave abuses of these rights.

Our values

- International solidarity
- Effective action for individuals
- Global coverage
- The universality and indivisibility of human rights
- Impartiality and independence
- Democracy and mutual respect.

‘If the feelings of disgust all over the world could be united into common action, something effective could be done.’

Peter Benenson, founder of Amnesty International, 1961



© Marie-Anne Ventura/AI





The world we work in

Amnesty International promotes human rights in a world that is rife with inequalities and in which those who have power – political, economic, or military – can abuse that power with little fear of being held to account. Yet it is also a world in which people everywhere are defending and claiming human rights for themselves and for others.



Arms

- At least **half a million people** die every year as a result of armed violence and conflict.
- The volume of international arms transfers grew by **17%** between 2003-7 and 2008-12.



Refugees

- **15 million people** are registered as refugees.
- **145 states** are parties to the UN Refugee Convention.



Freedom of expression

- In 2013 **75 journalists** were killed for carrying out their work.
- As of 1 December 2013 **211 journalists** were imprisoned because of their work.



Maternal health

- About **800 women** die every day because of complications relating to pregnancy and childbirth, **99 per cent** of them in developing countries.
- In the majority of developing countries, women in rural areas are up to **three times more likely to die** while giving birth than women living in urban areas.
- About **20 million** unsafe abortions are performed each year.



Gender gaps

- In 2013 women held just over **20 per cent** of parliamentary seats worldwide.
- Worldwide, **30 per cent** of women who have been in a relationship have experienced violence by their partner.
- Only **9 per cent** of police officers and **2 per cent** of soldiers in UN peacekeeping operations are women.



LGBTI

- Same-sex relationships are illegal in at least **76 countries**.



Poverty and economic crisis

- **Nearly one in eight** people worldwide suffer chronic hunger.
- Almost **202 million** people globally were unemployed in 2013, up nearly 5 million on the year before.
- The global youth unemployment rate is **13.1 per cent**, almost three times as high as the adult unemployment rate.



Death penalty

- **22 countries** carried out executions in 2013.
- The death penalty has been abolished in law in **98 countries**.

Sources: Amnesty International, CPJ, FAO, GAPS-UK, ILO, OHCHR, Reporters without Borders, SIPRI UNDP



OUR STRATEGIC DIRECTION

Our work over the medium term is framed by our strategic direction 2011-2016, which is in turn based on the integrated strategic plan of the Amnesty International global movement. For the full text of our strategic directions see www.amnesty.org.uk/accountability

Key challenges

The key challenge for the global movement is to achieve significant and sustainable growth in the global south and east, where Amnesty's presence has been too small for too long. Such growth is essential for the organisation's long-term relevance and human rights impact. To achieve this, Amnesty's International Council Meeting decided that larger sections such as Amnesty International UK should increase their annual contributions to the global movement from 30 per cent of their income in 2010 to 40 per cent by 2021.

For AIUK, the key challenge is to increase our financial contribution to the global movement to enable its growth, while maintaining our campaigning work in the UK. In the current economic climate, this has required some difficult decisions. Although our income has increased over the past few years, the growth was insufficient to meet our commitments to the international movement. This led us to restructure our operations during 2013 in order to cut our ongoing operational costs. We aim to maintain our campaign effectiveness in the UK and develop a stronger fundraising focus in our work, with the understanding that fundraising and campaigning are mutually supportive.

OUR TOP PRIORITIES 2013



Arms Trade Treaty

A binding international agreement that will help reduce the transfer of weapons where there is a substantial risk of fuelling armed conflict, poverty, or serious violations of human rights. **See page 22 »**



Women's rights in Afghanistan

Protection of women's rights as Afghanistan goes through peace negotiations and the international forces hand over responsibility for security to Afghan army and police; progress in tackling violence against women; and support and protection for women activists. **See page 26 »**



Zimbabwe

An election year free from violence against peaceful human rights defenders, civil society activists and supporters of political parties; solidarity with human rights defenders in Zimbabwe to boost their morale. **See page 30 »**



Growth

Increasing our income, building support for Amnesty's work in the UK, and taking a lead in efforts to improve fundraising performance across the global Amnesty movement. **See page 34 » page 37 » page 40 » page 42 »**



OUR STRATEGIC DIRECTION continued

The work of Amnesty International UK focuses on six key strategic directions. Each of our top priorities (see key) addresses one or more of our strategic directions.



1

Pursue and achieve **human rights change** through vibrant, focused campaigns

See priorities



2

Increase **net income** in order to support Amnesty's growth in the global south and to maintain campaign effectiveness of AIUK

See priority



3

Increase our ability to **raise awareness and educate** in order to achieve human rights change in the UK and internationally

See priority



4

Shape and deliver a more **effective global movement**

See priority



5

Build the size, vibrancy and effectiveness of **support for Amnesty** in the UK

See priority



6

Become more **efficient and effective** as an organisation

See priority

- Arms Trade Treaty

- Women's rights in Afghanistan

- Zimbabwe

- Growth



SPOTLIGHT 2013

Arms trade treaty: making history

2013 was the year the United Nations finally voted to adopt a comprehensive Arms Trade Treaty (ATT). Many thousands of Amnesty supporters helped make this happen with millions of actions, letters, emails, petitions and tweets. We hope that this legally binding international agreement will stop weapons from getting into the hands of those who kill and maim civilians, torture and suppress opponents, and force children into war. [More on page 22 »](#)



Amnesty activists raise awareness of the deadly impact of arms
© Marie-Anne Ventoura

A win for Indigenous peoples

After a decade-long struggle to protect their livelihoods and way of life, the Dongria Kondh Indigenous people of Odisha (Orissa) in India won the right to determine what should happen in their lands. Amnesty's campaigning helped secure their victory. In April India's Supreme Court ruled that the Dongria Kondh must decide whether to allow mining giant Vedanta Resources to build a bauxite mine in the sacred Niyamgiri Hills. In the vote that followed, the village councils unanimously rejected the plan – in spite of pressure from Odisha state government, a partner in the project. Now India's Ministry of Environment and Forests needs to uphold the villagers' decisions.

'After a decade of protesting against the mine plans, we now have an official channel to voice our concerns'

Lado Sikaka, Dongria Kondh leader

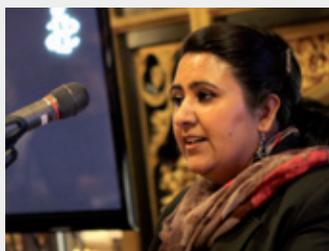


Dongria Kondh villagers won the right to decide their future © AP

UK support for Afghan women

After thousands of Amnesty supporters signed petitions and lobbied their MPs, the UK government stepped up its support for women in Afghanistan. Justine Greening, Secretary of State for International Development, made tackling violence against women in Afghanistan a strategic priority for her department. This was exactly what we were asking for.

[More on page 26 »](#)



Samira Hamidi talks about Afghan women's struggle for rights
© Marie-Anne Ventoura

Tackling sexual violence in war

We influenced a major initiative to end impunity for sexual violence in armed conflicts and we made sure that protection and support for women human rights defenders was at its heart. At their June summit, hosted by the UK, the G8 countries made a landmark declaration that conflict-related rape and other serious sexual violence are grave breaches of the Geneva Conventions, as well as war crimes. This means that states have a duty to investigate and prosecute anyone alleged to have committed or ordered such crimes. Our next step will be to make sure the declaration results in real action.

The right to asylum

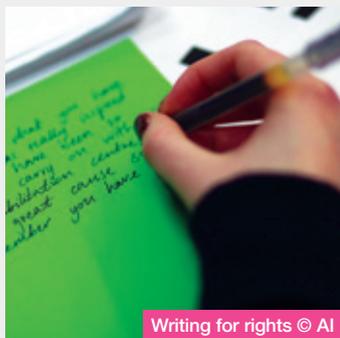
In 2013 we analysed 50 recent asylum cases and found that one in four initial refusals is overturned on appeal. We published our findings, *A question of credibility*, and made recommendations to the Home Office to improve its decision-making process. We continue to provide support in individual asylum cases. In at least four cases in the past year judges have specifically cited the impact of country evidence from Amnesty on decisions to allow people to stay.



Individuals at risk

In 2013 tens of thousands of Amnesty supporters in the UK sent appeals on behalf of hundreds of people directly affected by human rights abuses. This is something Amnesty has been doing for half a century – and it still works. Of the people whose cases we worked on in 2013, 50 were released from unjust imprisonment, three received stays of execution and one received life-saving medical treatment.

More on page 15 »



Writing for rights © AI

Support for peaceful activists in Syria

Despite the deadly violence in Syria, thousands of Syrians remain committed to non-violent efforts to build a strong and fair society. In June we hosted an intensive weekend of training in campaign strategy and organisation for 16 leaders of the Syrian Non Violence Movement (SNVM). The focus was on making human rights values central to the new society that emerges after the conflict is over, by promoting the rule of law, reform of the police and military, equality, and human rights education. The SNVM supports victims and survivors of the conflict, and uses the media to promote non-violent resistance and human rights.



Syrian Non Violence Movement activists at a training session at Amnesty's Human Rights Action Centre © Kristyan Benedict /AI

'For us, human rights abuses are characteristic of the regime. It makes us sad to see human rights abuses from the opposition, too. But we can do much to change this... It's non-violent resistance that will, in the end, bring a new democratic regime to Syria.'

Activist Husam Helmi

Calling Sri Lanka to account

As Sri Lanka prepared to host the Commonwealth Heads of Government meeting (CHOGM) in mid-November, Amnesty supporters urged the UK government to ask some hard questions and shine a spotlight on Sri Lanka's appalling human rights record. The summit turned into a PR disaster for the Sri Lankan government, as campaigners reminded the world of the 40,000 civilians killed in the Sri Lankan army's defeat of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam. Prime Minister David Cameron called for an international inquiry into allegations of war crimes if no credible domestic investigations are carried out by March 2014: this is what we had been asking him to do.



Activists draw attention to Sri Lanka's human rights record © Mark Sherratt/AI

Dealing with Northern Ireland's past

In September we launched a major new report on Northern Ireland, which helped shape political and public debate on addressing the legacy of three decades of political violence. Our report, *Northern Ireland: Time to deal with the past*, calls for a single, comprehensive mechanism to investigate the full range of human rights abuses committed by all sides. Published shortly before the start of inter-party political talks on Northern Ireland chaired by former US ambassador Richard Haass, it attracted huge media coverage and prompted parliamentary questions to the Prime Minister and to Northern Ireland Secretary Theresa Villiers. Resistance to further investigation of the past continues in Whitehall and in some quarters in Northern Ireland. We will work to ensure that our recommendations are heard and implemented.



Funding our human rights work

Everything we do depends on the generosity of our supporters and the hard work of our fundraisers. In 2013 we raised a total of £24.8 million for human rights work in the UK and across the world. We made a grant of £6.9 million to the international Amnesty movement.





OUR WORK

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We aim to end the abuse of human rights across the world by working in solidarity with the women, men and children directly affected by that abuse. All the work our members and supporters do – from lobbying and media work to fundraising, human rights education and running our organisation – contributes to that goal.

We are part of the global Amnesty International movement. The human rights impact reported here is most often the result of coordinated campaigning by the entire movement, and not of AIUK on its own.



WORKING INTERNATIONALLY

Amnesty International UK campaigns, educates the public and raises funds in the UK, but as part of an international movement we also help pay for human rights work in many other countries. In 2013 we made a grant of about 28 per cent of our income to the international Amnesty movement. Working internationally enables us to provide direct support to our colleagues who tackle human rights abuses affecting people all over the world, and to build the growth of the movement in the global south.

In 2013 we made a grant to the international movement of £6.9 million, to fund specific areas of our international work which are charitable under UK law, such as monitoring abuses of human rights, educating the public about human rights, and providing technical advice to governments and others on human rights matters. Our grant covers a wide range of issues such as arms control, addressing human rights violations in slums, maternal health, corporate accountability and more. We also grant money to develop Amnesty in countries where we need to strengthen our presence to achieve greater impact for human rights and to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of our work as a global movement.

Fighting forced evictions in Kenya

In 2012 AIUK helped to secure a three-year grant from Comic Relief to prevent forced evictions and make human rights a reality for people living in Nairobi's informal settlements. The project is led by Amnesty International Kenya. Its achievements in 2013 include:

- An additional police post was set up in Kibera, Nairobi's largest slum, after a dialogue between the police and residents organised by Amnesty Kenya.
- Local authorities agreed to reinstate 24 water kiosks and open eight ablution blocks, bringing clean water and washing facilities to 12,000 residents of Mukuru settlement.
- Recognition of community activists by government officials: five activists from Amnesty Kenya's community networks attended Nairobi City Council's first stakeholders' meeting on the city's development plan.



Women's march against forced evictions, Nairobi, Kenya, October 2013 © AI

One of the worst problems facing slum residents in Nairobi is insecurity: the constant danger of forced eviction. Entire neighbourhoods are under threat. An illegal eviction means that families lose not only their home, but their livelihood, their place of safety, and the community that helps them survive.

In 2013 we helped Amnesty Kenya to create a digital mapping website that allows citizens to monitor and report forced evictions. By sending a simple text message, they can alert housing rights activists that a forced eviction is threatened or under way, so that support can be mobilised and legal help secured in the crucial hours before a planned demolition. By the end of 2013 the website was ready and housing rights activists had been trained to use it.

This project also provided education for residents on their housing rights, and still and video cameras to enable them to record illegal forced evictions. This evidence, together with the digital map, can provide a database for activists to draw on to increase the pressure on the authorities to implement long-promised measures to respect the rights and improve the lives of slum communities.



Making a difference in Sierra Leone

'Amnesty villages' are blazing a trail towards equality for women in rural areas of Sierra Leone. The programme, run by Amnesty International Sierra Leone, is supported by funds from AIUK, among others.

Although national law guarantees their rights, women in Sierra Leone can face discrimination, abuse and exclusion, particularly in rural areas. Men dominate political life. Domestic violence and sexual violence are widespread. Girls are at high risk of female genital mutilation (FGM) and forced marriage. Local elders and officials often apply customary law that denies women's rights to own property, rather than national law which recognises their right to inherit.

In five villages in the rural north and east of Sierra Leone, the residents, with Amnesty's support, are beginning to change all that.

The difference is made by human rights education. When people are made aware of their

own rights and those of others, when they learn about the mechanisms that can enforce those rights, when they acquire the knowledge and skills to participate in political life, real change is possible.

Supported by local Amnesty staff, women and men are changing their attitudes and the balance of power in their communities. Literacy levels are low, so education comes through the media of drama, song, music and discussion.

The results have transformed lives. In villages where families once sent their daughters to the women's secret Bondo society, where they are subjected to FGM and forced into an early marriage, girls are now being sent to school instead. Women support each other to challenge and report domestic violence. And many men – after some initial reluctance – have learned to accept women's participation in community decisions and their inheritance of property.

VOICES FROM SIERRA LEONE

'Before, [families forced] children below the age of 15 to get married to older men. Now this generation they are never going to accept it and they've put a stop to it.'

Hawa Kanneh, Combema village

'Before this time, women don't even go to the courts to deliberate on their own issues. But now we are part of the process and we engage with authorities to ensure that we have our rights given to us.'

Fatmata Jamiru, Combema village

'We have now realised after human rights education, women are human beings like us. Also our children have their own rights and should be allowed their rights.'

Alpha S Kallon, community coordinator, Combema village



Working for human rights change – villagers in Combema, Sierra Leone, December 2013 ©Reuben Steains/AI



INDIVIDUALS AT RISK AND HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS

Human rights are much more than an abstract concept. Their absence has devastating effects on the lives of real people – individuals, families and communities – all over the world. Through our work with individuals at risk, we provide direct support to people whose human rights are abused or denied. By working on cases emblematic of widespread patterns of abuse, we hope to change the conditions that give rise to them. We also work to support and protect human rights defenders: people whose efforts to stand up for their own rights and those of others put them in danger.

We use two basic approaches in our work for individuals at risk: Urgent Action – rapid response to protect people in imminent danger of serious abuse; and long-term casework aimed at lasting change, such as the release of someone unjustly imprisoned. Both approaches rely heavily on the thousands of Amnesty supporters who

send appeals to government officials, and sometimes also messages of support to the people whose rights are being violated. For a prisoner held on trumped-up charges, for family members waiting for news of a relative who has ‘disappeared’, for survivors of abuse fighting for justice, letters and cards bearing simple messages of goodwill are a source of hope and encouragement.

Urgent Actions: 40 years of saving lives

Urgent Actions began more than 40 years ago, as a response to reports of arrest and torture under Brazil’s military dictatorship. We had learned that the first 48 hours after an arrest were crucial: this is when people are most likely to be tortured. So we urged supporters to send appeals as quickly as possible, to show the Brazilian authorities that the world was watching.

609

Total number of Urgent Actions (UAs) in 2013

101

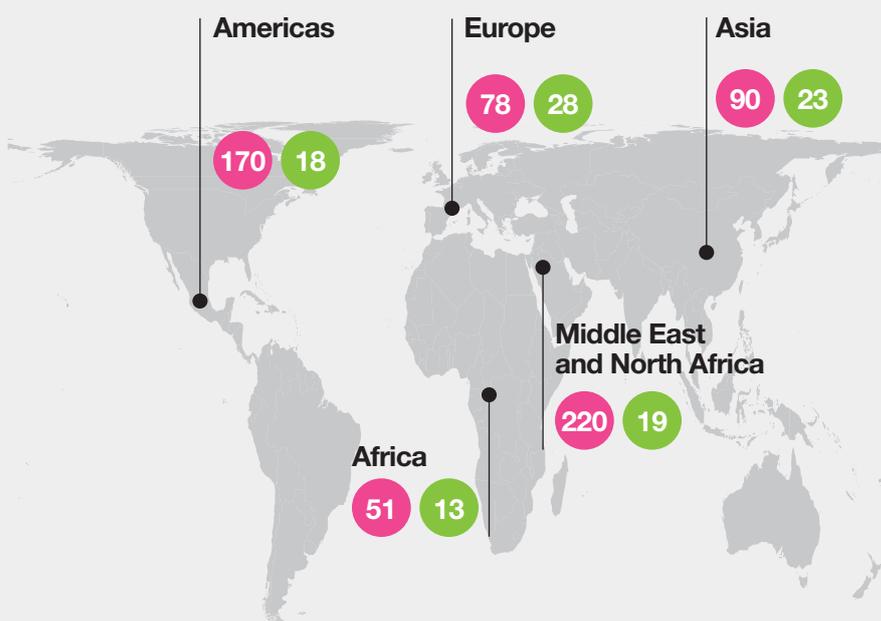
Total number of long-term cases the UK section worked on in 2013

Urgent Action cases

Women	71
Men	373
Mixed	161
Gender unknown	4

Long term cases

Women	21
Men	66
Mixed	14



Mixed 27%

Mixed 14%

(Excluding unknown)



INDIVIDUALS AT RISK AND HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS continued

In those days, we relied on telegrams and airletters. Today we use email, fax and SMS text messages as well as letters, and Urgent Actions remain an effective campaign tool. They have protected people from torture and ill-treatment, obtained the release of people wrongly detained, secured access to medical treatment or legal advice for prisoners, and sometimes even saved lives.

Today we have an Urgent Action network of nearly 14,000 people. In 2013 they took action on 328 new cases and took follow-up action on a further 281. See pages 20-21 for the success stories.

Long-term casework

In 2013 Amnesty supporters in the UK worked on 101 long-term cases, demanding justice for people in different circumstances and different countries. The human rights abuses involved ranged from torture, unfair trials, arbitrary detention and forced psychiatric treatment to the threatened destruction of indigenous communities. Whenever possible, we seek to ensure that the people concerned know and approve of our actions on their behalf. We also seek their consent if we use their stories in our general advocacy and fundraising materials.

The initial investigation of these cases is done by researchers at Amnesty's International

Secretariat, who provide AIUK and other sections with information and recommend the type of action most likely to achieve results. In the UK, our country coordinators – dedicated volunteers with specialist knowledge of one or more countries – play a major role in long-term casework. They support the campaign activity of Amnesty groups, raise concerns with embassy officials and lobby UK politicians.

Cases are selected for long-term support precisely because we believe that sustained action is what it will take to achieve justice for the people concerned. That means it can take many months, sometimes years, to achieve success. But the persistence of Amnesty supporters does bear fruit. See page 19 for our successes in 2013.

Write for Rights

In our annual Write for Rights campaign, in the last two months of the year, we ask supporters to send messages of support to people whose rights have been abused, and to send appeals to the authorities who have the power to remedy the abuse. The 2013 campaign featured 13 cases.

Tens of thousands of Amnesty supporters took part in the campaign, and Amnesty groups all over the UK mobilised the public to get involved.



'It's incredible that there is so much support from different countries and cultures, and that people who don't even know me feel solidarity with me and support my struggle. I truly thank you all and hope that I can soon give good news regarding the case.'
Miriam Lopez, torture victim, Mexico



Forty years on from the first Urgent Actions, they remain highly effective.



It is never easy to determine the precise impact of such concentrated bursts of activity, but we were pleased to note that two of the people featured in the campaign were released from prison by the end of the year. Cambodian housing rights activist Yorm Bopha was freed on bail pending a re-trial, while in Russia Vladimir Akimenkov, charged with riot after peacefully demonstrating against President Putin, was pardoned. The messages of support were also much appreciated: many of the recipients wrote to tell us how much the good wishes meant to them.

Human rights defenders

A human rights defender is someone who actively promotes or protects human rights. It may be part of their job – for example, a lawyer challenging wrongful arrest or a journalist exposing police brutality. Or it may be something they do in their capacity as an individual and a citizen – for example, campaigning to stop the forced eviction of a neighbouring community.

Human rights defenders play a key role in their countries and communities: documenting and reporting human rights violations, advocating for better governance, laws and policies, helping victims and survivors to obtain justice, and educating people about human rights.

The work they do is often dangerous, because someone, somewhere – usually a person in authority – doesn't want them to do it. They are commonly at risk of intimidation, violence, arrest, torture and repression. Amnesty supports and defends them against these onslaughts and helps them to develop the skills and expertise to challenge and resist them. By defending one human rights defender, we support the rights of the many people they work for.

Advocacy with governments can help to bring international pressure to bear on those states where human rights defenders are in danger. Lobbying UK government departments was therefore a key element in our campaign to promote and protect women's rights in Afghanistan. The result was that both the Department for International Development and the Foreign and Commonwealth Office



(FCO) agreed to take action to protect women human rights defenders (see page 26). In Zimbabwe, we sought to ensure the 2013 elections would be free of violence, and that human rights defenders could carry out their legitimate work without threats and attacks. So we targeted those governments we knew held some influence in Zimbabwe (members of the South African Development Community). In the event, the elections were largely peaceful and conducted without bloodshed (see page 30).

We regularly brief FCO staff on Amnesty's human rights concerns and press for government action. This year much of our lobbying focused on Azerbaijan, where the expected crackdown on rights to freedom of expression, association and assembly took place ahead of the election in October. During his visit to Azerbaijan in December, Foreign Secretary William Hague raised the issue of human rights with Azerbaijan's government, and also raised the cases of individual human rights defenders.

We also advised the FCO on a revision to its internal guidance to staff in London and abroad on the support and protection of human rights defenders. Most of our recommendations were adopted.

We worked with Peace Brigades International to assist a human rights defender visiting from

Freed: A welcome for Cambodian housing rights activist Yorm Bopha, November 2013.
© Getty Images



INDIVIDUALS AT RISK AND HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS continued

Central America, setting up meetings with government officials, parliamentary bodies and other organisations. The defender also received advice on security, fundraising and using digital tools.

We invest in human rights defenders by building their capacity to carry out their work effectively and confidently. Each year we nominate up to three defenders to a Protective Fellowship at York University's Centre for Applied Human Rights. This gives them a period of respite from the stress of working under threat, and an opportunity to acquire knowledge and skills.

Looking ahead

In 2013 we saw further evidence of a growing trend of states using legislation to restrict the activities of non-governmental organisations (NGOs), human rights organisations included. Such laws and regulations have been adopted, for example, in Algeria, Azerbaijan, Ethiopia and Russia, and are under discussion in Egypt, Pakistan and Kyrgyzstan.

These 'NGO laws' violate the rights to freedom of association, assembly and expression, and contravene the 1998 UN Declaration on Human Rights Defenders. They also obstruct legitimate human rights work and put defenders at risk of criminal charges. Often, the laws seek to cut off access to the foreign funding that many NGOs rely on. AIUK will work with its partners to address these problems. In 2014 we will focus on strengthening the UK government's efforts to support and protect human rights defenders around the world.



Above: Released, September 2013: Nasrin Soutoudeh (top), human rights lawyer in Iran (shown with her husband Reza at one of her court appearances) © Alieh Motalebzadeh and in December 2013, Nadezhda Tolokonnikova, member of the Russian punk band Pussy Riot © AP



'When I feel left with no hope to fight, I'll get a letter and it inspires me. The light of hope appears again, and my confidence in myself and my ability to change things returns! I thank everyone for their support and solidarity letters.'

Ihar Tsikhanyuk, LGBTI activist, Belarus



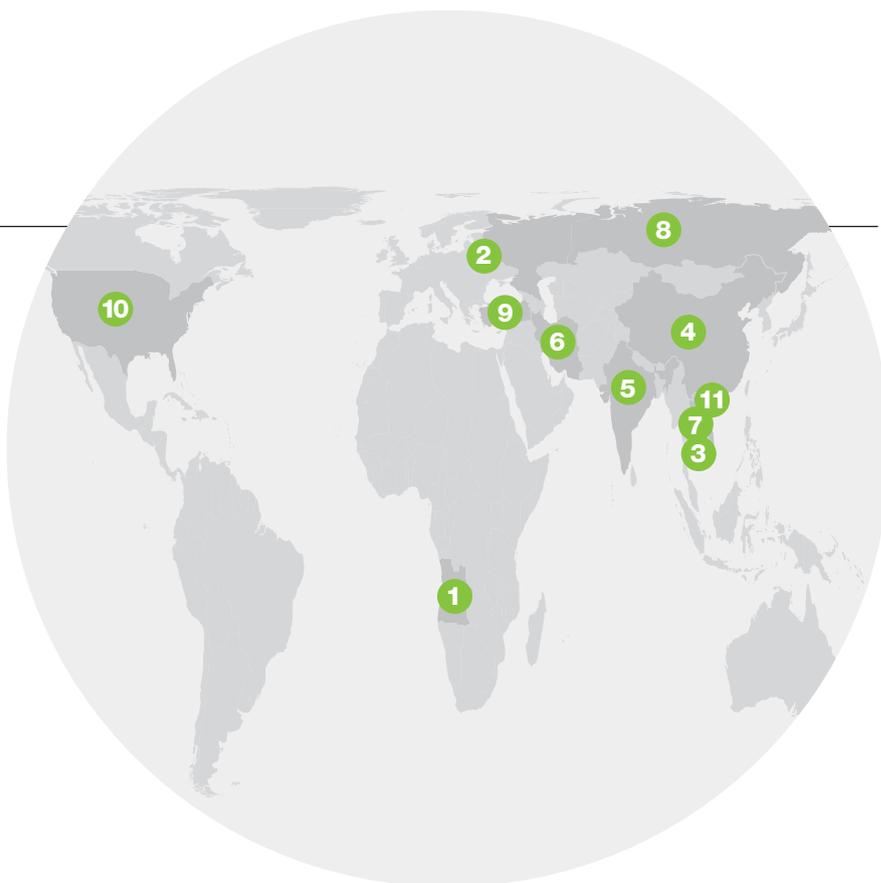
'I'm really impressed by the impact that the campaign is already having. People have learned about the campaign from the media and they're calling me to send me their wishes.'

Committee of Relatives of the Detained and Disappeared in Honduras (COFADEH) on Write for Rights



Long-term cases

These are cases where we believe our long-term casework helped make a positive difference to the lives of individuals at risk in 2013. Some of these people remain at risk and we continue to work on their behalf. For more information about our casework see www.amnesty.org.uk/iar



1 ANGOLA

Seven prisoners of conscience
Released



2 BELARUS

Ales Bialiatski
Improved prison conditions



3 CAMBODIA

Yorm Bopha
Released on bail



Born Samnang and Sok Sam Oeun
Released

4 CHINA

Gao Zhisheng
Granted family visit



Mao Hengfeng
Allowed to serve sentence at home



5 INDIA

Soni Sori
Released on bail



Dongria Kondh communities
Land protected from mining project (see page 10)



6 IRAN

Nasrin Sotoudeh
Released



Majid Tavakkoli
Granted temporary release



7 LAOS

Bouavanh Chanhmanivong
Released



8 RUSSIA

Vladimir Akimenkov
Released



9 TURKEY

Sultani Acibuca
Conviction overturned



Engin Çeber
Conviction of killers upheld



Ferhat Gercek
Police convicted of deliberate wounding



Halil Savda
Conviction overturned



10 USA

René González
Allowed to attend father's funeral



11 VIETNAM

Nguyen Van Ly
Nominated for Nobel Peace Prize



'Thank you to Amnesty International's supporters! Your campaign has been successful, as my release shows! But my case is not over yet. Please keep pushing the Cambodian government to end the case against me. And please keep supporting me, my community and others in Cambodia! We can achieve the most success when we all work together!'
Yorm Bopha, housing rights activist imprisoned on false charges in Cambodia



Urgent Actions

These are cases where we believe our Urgent Actions helped make a positive difference to the lives of individuals at risk in 2013. For more information about our casework see www.amnesty.org.uk/iar

BAHRAIN

Nadia 'Ali Yousef Saleh
Released on bail

Mohammad Mohammad 'Abdulnabi 'Abdulwasi
Released without charge

Sayed Yousif Almuhafehdah
Released on bail, charges dropped

BANGLADESH

Anwarul Islam Masum
Released

Nazrul Islam
Released

BELARUS

Andrzej Poczobut
Released, charges dropped



Aliaksei Shchadrou
Criminal case dropped

Igor Postnov
Released

Anton Suryapin and Syarhei Basharimau
Criminal case dropped

CHINA

Ni Yulan
Released



Jigme Gyatso
Released



CUBA

Calixto Ramón Martínez Arias
Released without charge

DR CONGO

Teachers' association leaders
State intimidation stopped

EGYPT

Tarek Loubani and John Greyson
Released

EL SALVADOR

Beatriz
Life-saving caesarean performed



EQUATORIAL GUINEA

Clara Nsegue Eyí
Released

Family of Jeronimo Ndong
Wife and brother released

GAMBIA

Imam Baba Leigh
Released



INDIA

Sheetal Sathe
Released on bail

IRAN

Ahmed al-Qubbanji
Released



Hamid Ghassemi-Shall
Released



Behrouz Ghobadi
Released

IRAQ

Ja'far al-Nasrawi
Acquitted

Nadir Dendoune
Released

JORDAN

Abd al-Rahman Fanatsa and Da'oud Fanatsa
Released on bail



'I am out, I am alive again, I am free and I will keep on what I was doing before I got detained. Thanks for all the wonderful work you did for us and still doing for all the people around the world.'
Mansour al-Omari, human rights activist Syria



Urgent Actions

MALAYSIA

Mohd Hilmi Hasim

Brought before a court



Yong Vui Kong

Life sentence commuted

MALDIVES

15-year-old girl

Sentence of 100 lashes quashed

MEXICO

Adela Gómez Martínez

Released

OMAN

Sultan al-Saadi

Released without charge

PAPUA NEW GUINEA

Three women accused of witchcraft

Released

QATAR

Mohammed al-Ajami

Life sentence reduced

Muhammad Issa al-Baker and Mansour bin Rashed al-Matroushi

Released

RUSSIAN FEDERATION

Magamed Abubakarov

Death threats investigated



Pussy Riot

Released



SAUDI ARABIA

Khalid al-Natour

Released

Mishal bin Zaar Hamad al-Mutiry

Deportation prevented

SERBIA

Roma communities

European Union publicly opposed segregated resettlement



SOMALIA

Abdiaziz Abdnur Ibrahim

Released

SRI LANKA

P Tharshananth and K Jenemajeyamenan

Released

SUDAN

Jalila Khamis Koko

Released



Salwa Fahmi Suleiman Gireis

Released

Asma Ahmed

Released

Adam Sharief

Released

SYRIA

Mansour al-Omari

Conditionally released



TURKMENISTAN

Rovshen Yazmuhamedov

Released

UKRAINE

Raisa Radchenko

Released



USA

Warren Hill

Stay of execution

Willie Manning

Stay of execution

UZBEKISTAN

Abdumavlon Abdurakhmonov

Released

Mamadali Makhmudov

Released

YEMEN

Muhammad Abdul Wahhab Faysal al-Qassem

Stay of execution

ZIMBABWE

Beatrice Mtetwa

Released on bail

URGENT ACTION CASES 2013

328 cases

New Urgent Actions issued

281 cases

Follow-up actions

181 cases

No update issued*

*In some cases this is due to the difficulty of obtaining information from remote places; in others, we may not hear from the individuals concerned once the immediate danger has passed.

68

cases closed of which

40

Positive outcome

20

Negative outcome /no progress

8

Other**

**Further action would be inadvisable or unnecessary



FOCUS: ARMS TRADE TREATY

The failure of states to regulate the flow of arms around the world blights the lives of millions of men, women and children every day. Proliferation and misuse of weapons fuel conflict, poverty and human rights violations. So for the past two decades Amnesty International has campaigned for a legally binding international agreement to bring the global arms trade under control. In 2013, our years of tenacious campaigning delivered the international Arms Trade Treaty. We regard this as a historic achievement.

A comprehensive Arms Trade Treaty (ATT) seemed within our grasp in July 2012. In that month the text of a draft treaty, with international human rights and humanitarian law at its centre, was put before a United Nations conference in New York. To the bitter disappointment of campaigners, at the 11th hour the United States and a few other countries refused to adopt it.

But Amnesty and other members of the Control Arms Coalition grasped the apparent setback as an opportunity to improve the Treaty. The text was sent back to the UN General Assembly; the wording was tightened and loopholes

closed. One crucial change was an agreement that the Treaty could be decided by majority vote if the consensus process broke down. No longer would any one country, or small group of countries, be able to veto it.

In March 2013 a new version of the treaty was finalised and on 2 April 2013 it was voted into existence by 154 countries at the UN General Assembly. Only three nations voted against: Syria, Iran and North Korea. Some significant players in the international arms trade, such as Russia and China, were among the 23 who abstained.

The Treaty requires national governments to put in place regulations controlling the export of arms, from tanks and combat aircraft to small arms and light weapons. It prohibits the transfer of conventional weapons to countries where they are likely to be used to commit or facilitate serious human rights violations. We hope that this legally binding international agreement will regulate the transfer of conventional weapons around the world – lessening conflict, saving lives and reducing the serious human rights violations that accompany all armed conflicts.

'I am proud to sign on behalf of all those who ever wrote a letter, or signed a card to their Member of Parliament and wondered if it truly made a difference ... all those who joined groups in their villages or towns, who join NGOs and charities, and those who lead them and who cry with despair at injustice and wonder if anything will ever become of their campaigns.'
FCO Minister Alistair Burt, signing the treaty on behalf of the UK



Campaigner David Grimason speaks at an event in Edinburgh to mark the adoption of the Arms Trade Treaty © PA



The challenge now is to ensure that the Treaty is ratified and that when it is all nations adhere to it.

The campaign and the Treaty were never intended to abolish the arms industry or to put an end to all international trade in arms. The aim, rather, was to curtail the irresponsible, often unregulated transfers of arms which fuel conflict, terrorism and crime around the world; violence leading to thousands of killings, and also to killing's companions: rape, displacement, dispossession, poverty and hunger.

UK government: from passivity to strength

Because the object of the ATT campaign was to secure a strong comprehensive international treaty, sealed at the United Nations, Amnesty's strategy in the UK focused upon ensuring that our government maintained a strong position in favour of the treaty. The UK would therefore not only vote for the ATT, but influence other governments to do so as well. As the March 2013 UN conference approached, the minister in charge of the UK government's position, then under-secretary of state at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO), Alistair Burt, said that ATT campaign supporters 'should be in no doubt of this government's determination to secure a robust and effective Arms Trade Treaty'.

Both the current Coalition government and the previous Labour government had always been broadly supportive of an ATT. But in May 2011 senior Amnesty campaigners were describing the government's position as 'passive' and later in that year as 'quite weak'. The strengthening of the government's position, from passive in 2011 to fully active support in 2012-13, coincided with the intensification of the campaign by Amnesty and others over those two years.

We put pressure on the UK government in a number of ways: by direct high-level lobbying of ministers and briefings to MPs, through contact with MPs by concerned constituents, and via the publicity generated by activists across the country. Nearly all the UK's 650 MPs received emails or letters from individual Amnesty members or groups. Student, local and youth

groups worked to build public support for the Treaty in their local communities. They held 'die-ins', put up mock headstones, made their own 'bullet-proof' vests, and waved inflatable bananas to show the absurdity of having global regulations over the trade in bananas but not for arms. A petition to the Prime Minister with 17,000 signatures was delivered to Downing Street in a tank. We also campaigned for the ATT online where more than 12,000 supporters sent emails to party leaders.

Ministers and MPs were impressed by the effectiveness of our campaigning at all levels. Feedback from Parliamentarians indicated that Amnesty's briefings were 'very clear and authoritative'. Mr Burt acknowledged the extent of the mobilisation of supporters of Amnesty and other campaigning charities, such as Oxfam and Saferworld, when he said that the Treaty had been signed 'on behalf of all those who ever wrote a letter, or signed a card to their Member of Parliament'.

'The death of my son Alistair affected me and inspired me to campaign against the illegal arms trade. This Treaty has the power to make a real difference'
David Grimason, whose two-year-old son was killed by a stray bullet in Turkey in 2003



Not only was the ATT campaign successful in itself, but it inspired both youth activists and longer-established Amnesty supporters, strongly reinforcing the message that Amnesty's determined campaigning, sometimes over many years, achieves tangible results.

Gently does it

Amnesty's basic strategy was to engage in a 'critical, but supportive' way with the government, to mobilise MPs to hold the government to a position in line with the aims of the campaign and to use media work and activism to reinforce our advocacy. That the strategy succeeded owed much to the fact that Amnesty's long-term work had already won many politicians over to our point of view. We had developed channels into ministries and developed relationships with key civil servants.

Key to winning the political battle was our ability to neutralise the argument that an ATT would 'cost British jobs'. Constructively engaging with the arms industry and trade unions, and securing their acceptance of the treaty, were crucial to preventing the emergence of potential opposition within some ministries and among some MPs.

Officials were impressed with Amnesty's relatively 'softly-softly' approach. One said that it seemed 'not a great public rampaging campaign, but something lower key and determined, [marked by] a willingness to work with government'. At the same time, the mobilisation of members to lobby their MPs and the FCO demonstrated that a 'louder' campaign would be entirely possible should the government show any sign of backsliding on the treaty.

FACTS AND FIGURES

- The global arms trade is estimated to be worth more than **US\$70bn per year**
- **875 million** arms are thought to be in circulation worldwide
- **12 billion bullets** are manufactured every year (two for every man, woman and child on the planet)
- **One person** is killed by arms **every minute**

Source: Control Arms campaign



What next?

By the end of the year 115 states including the UK had signed the treaty, and nine of those had ratified it. The UK is likely to ratify it in 2014. The treaty needs to be ratified by at least 50 countries before it comes into force.

Amnesty and its supporters will need to bolster the UK government in its efforts to encourage other states to ratify the treaty. And even once the treaty comes into force, the challenge will be to ensure that it is implemented, and that no state turns a blind eye to rogue operators transferring arms likely to be used to commit human rights violations. Amnesty will highlight where states fail to adhere to the correct standards, and ensure that human rights are to the forefront in the interpretation of how the Arms Trade Treaty is put into action. Looking to the future, we can help enhance and strengthen it. With vigilance and good faith this treaty is capable of saving many lives. We regard it as a historic achievement.

'The treaty is a demonstration of what can be achieved when governments, civil society and industry work together with common endeavour'
UK foreign secretary William Hague



KEY MOMENTS ON THE WAY TO AN ARMS TRADE TREATY

Amnesty and three other organisations agree that legally binding standards are needed to bring international arms transfers under control. Amnesty sections begin to promote the idea.

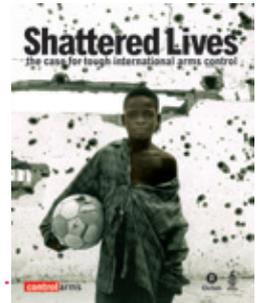


2002 Helen Mirren is one of the prominent figures to back our campaign

1994

1996

Nobel Peace laureates – including Amnesty International – call for a legally binding code of conduct on arms transfers.



2003 The impact of an uncontrolled arms trade: a report presents the evidence

2002

2003

Amnesty, Oxfam and the International Action Network on Small Arms launch the Control Arms campaign. Activists in 50 countries start lobbying politicians and mobilising public support for an international Arms Trade Treaty. UK trade unions back the campaign.



2003 A Chelsea Pensioner at the launch of the Control Arms Campaign in Trafalgar Square, London

2004

Just as we think we have made no headway with the UK government, Foreign Secretary Jack Straw announces the UK's support for the ATT. The U-turn helps persuade other EU governments to back the treaty.



2005 Activists use a tank to deliver a report on arms exports to embassies of the G8 countries

2005

2006

At a UN small arms conference in June, activists present the global Million Faces petition – photos of more than a million people demanding an ATT. At the end of the year, 153 UN members states vote to begin work on a treaty.



2006 Amnesty activists arrive at the House of Commons to lobby their MPs for the ATT



2006 Presenting the Million Faces petition

2009

The formal negotiating process starts. Amnesty and partners lobby for a strong treaty and maintain pressure on governments during the drafting.

2012

UN talks to finalise the treaty collapse at the last minute after the USA withdraws support for the draft.



2013 Minister Alistair Burt signs the ATT for the UK

2013

At a special session of the UN General Assembly, 154 states vote for a global treaty to control the arms trade and save lives.



2012 A young activist lobbies the Foreign Office



FOCUS: WOMEN'S RIGHTS IN AFGHANISTAN

The future is in the balance for the women of Afghanistan. Many positive changes have taken place since the Taliban were overthrown in 2001. Yet violence against women is rife and the country is still considered the worst place in the world for women to live. With the withdrawal of international forces the Afghan government is under growing pressure to negotiate a settlement with insurgents. Afghan women have well-founded fears that their rights will be sidelined as a result. Amnesty is determined that that should not happen.

In 2013 we successfully lobbied the UK government to promise projects that combat violence against women. This is vital, life-saving work. We also worked to ensure that female activists in Afghanistan get the support and protection they need. To back up our high-level lobbying, we mobilised supporters to take actions which brought the issue alive for the public, politicians and the media – online, on the airwaves, and on the streets.

Since the Taliban were ousted in 2001, Afghan women and girls have seen modest improvements in their human rights. Women are represented in Parliament, for example and a

law aiming to end violence against women was passed in 2009. Such gains must be protected, but they are not enough. Discrimination and violence persist. Women and girls are beaten, raped and killed. Armed groups attack them. Families and communities threaten them. And the authorities rarely investigate the violence against them.

In rural areas in particular, women's rights to education, employment and freedom of movement can be restricted. Yet many Afghan women risk their lives to defend these rights or simply to do their jobs as doctors, teachers, policewomen and politicians.



'In a country where life is easily disregarded, the lives of women are considered the lowest form of life that exists. Women are seen as property, their human rights are violated every second of every day.'

Mary Akrami,
Afghan
Women's Skills
Development
Centre



Above: 'No peace without women's rights' – Amnesty activists in Manchester with a message for the UK government © Private

Left: Presidential election, Kabul, 2009. The voter's ink-stained finger – representing participation in political life – was the emblem in our campaign © Reuters



Lobbying the UK government

The UK's influence in Afghanistan is considerable, not only because of its military role but also because of the millions of pounds spent to support reconstruction, development and governance. The country is a priority in UK foreign policy, international aid, and defence and security policy.

AIUK lobbied the Department for International Development (DFID) and the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) throughout 2013. We argued that the UK government's priorities for Afghanistan must be based on extensive consultation with Afghan women's organisations. We called for funding for shelters and Afghan organisations working on violence against women and girls to be prioritised.

On International Women's Day in March, the Secretary of State for International Development, Justine Greening, announced that one of the strategic priorities in her department's Afghanistan plan would be to address violence against women and girls. By the end of the year Ms Greening had announced an access-to-justice project and £2m ring-fenced funding for organisations working on violence against women and girls.



Taking our lead from Afghan women's organisations, who told us what their priorities are, we focused our campaigning at the FCO on the risks faced by women human rights defenders (WHRDs) and the need for mechanisms to protect them.

In May, Baroness Warsi, the FCO minister responsible for Afghanistan, told the Commons International Development Committee that the government recognised the importance of increasing the number of women police officers and of family response units in Afghanistan. (Family response units attached to police stations deal with domestic violence and female victims of crime.) These were issues Amnesty had campaigned on.

Afghan women's voices

In November 2013 we organised a speaking tour for two prominent Afghan women human rights defenders, Samira Hamidi, programme director at the Empowerment Centre for Women in Kabul, and Manizha Naderi, executive director of the group Women for Afghan Women. Samira and Manizha joined Amnesty activists, parliamentarians and major donors at an event hosted at the Palace of Westminster by the Speaker of the House of Commons, John Bercow.

Samira and Manizha described some of the improvements that have taken place in the

More than 20 MPs attended an Amnesty event for activists at Speaker's House to highlight the work of women's rights defenders in Afghanistan
© Marie-Anne Ventoura

'Organisations such as Amnesty are doing outstanding work to ensure that the voices of Afghan women will never again be pushed into the background.'
Baroness Warsi, Senior Minister of State at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office

FACTS AND FIGURES

- In 2008 an estimated **87%** of Afghan women suffered some form of violence
- Reports of violence against women went up **25%** in March-September 2013 compared to 2012
- Women hold **28%** of parliamentary seats
- There are only **nine women** in the 70-member High Peace Council
- **40%** of girls are married by the age of 18
- **15%** of girls are married by the age of 15
- Female literacy rate (age 15+) **12%**
- **42%** of girls enroll in primary school, compared with 60% of boys.

Sources: Amnesty International, Oxfam, UNICEF, World Bank



lives of Afghan women and girls since the Taliban were ousted: equal legal status in the constitution; laws protecting women and strengthening their rights; more girls going to school. But they warned that such rights risked being traded for peace with the militants.

Samira told activists that 2013 had been 'the most violent year yet' for Afghan women. Women who seek to defend human rights are often targets of attack. In recent months, she said, two female MPs had been attacked, and two senior women police officers and a prominent writer murdered. All who attended agreed that hearing the firsthand accounts of women working on the frontline for human rights in Afghanistan was moving and inspiring.

Following the Speaker's House event several parliamentary questions were tabled calling on the UK government to improve support to Afghan WHRDs.

Creative campaigning

The great strength of Amnesty campaigning is how it combines targeted, high-level lobbying of politicians and civil servants, as described above, with the energy and creativity of thousands of individual supporters and groups. This has been demonstrated to great effect in the Afghanistan campaign.

Moved by the plight of women in Afghanistan, during the year thousands of supporters wrote to or met with their MPs, had letters published in the press and collected signatures for a petition to ministers. In July three youth activists handed over the petition, signed by 19,428 people, to Baroness Warsi. After receiving it she issued a statement saying 'Amnesty are doing outstanding work to ensure that the voices of Afghan women will never again be pushed into the background'.

Throughout the year thousands of supporters and groups took part in 'purple finger print' actions which garnered huge media interest. Activists held up index fingers dipped in purple ink, the symbol in Afghanistan that one has voted and participated in the democratic

process – and the mark that has led to some individuals having their fingers chopped off by militants. A selection of photographs and artwork was on display at the Speaker's House event.

More than 60 MPs signed our parliamentary pledge to support Afghan women's rights, a further 23 had their photo taken with a statement of support, and several raised parliamentary questions.

In 2014 we will continue to campaign for the UK government to keep its promises to help protect women from violence and support women human rights defenders in Afghanistan.

'The treatment of women in Afghanistan after troops pull out in 2014 will be the litmus test of whether we have succeeded in improving the lives of ordinary Afghans over the last ten years.'

Malcolm Bruce MP, chair of the International Development Committee

AMNESTY'S ACTION PLAN FOR WOMEN'S RIGHTS

- Guarantee the human rights of Afghan women and girls in the peace process.
- Address the needs of all Afghans, including women and girls, in the handover from international troops to the Afghan armed forces and police.
- Tackle violence against women and girls locally and nationally.
- Support and protect Afghan women human rights defenders.

Below: Afghan women chant slogans during a march calling for end of violence against women in Kabul, Afghanistan, February 2013 ©AP



It is really important that you continue the work you're doing, for two reasons. Firstly because it gives us strength to know we aren't alone, secondly because it sends a message to our government that people all over the world are watching, and they support Afghan women.

Samira Hamidi, Empowerment Centre for Women, Kabul



© Marie-Anne Ventoura



Artwork by Amnesty activists made a big impression during the campaign © Private

WOMEN IN AFGHANISTAN

A US-led military intervention overthrows the Taliban

2001



© Steve Dupont

2004

The new Afghan constitution guarantees equality among citizens and reserves 25 per cent of seats in the lower house of parliament for women

In the first parliamentary elections for 30 years, women win 28 per cent of seats in the lower house

2005



© AP

2007

The Afghan government approves the National Action Plan for Women of Afghanistan

The Elimination of Violence Against Women law is enacted

2009



© AP

2010

- Only one woman is invited to speak at the 2010 London International Conference on Afghanistan
- The Afghan government sets up the High Peace Council to negotiate with the Taliban

The majority of UK and NATO soldiers are due to be withdrawn from Afghanistan

2013

Afghan forces are scheduled to assume responsibility for security in the country

2014



© AP



ZIMBABWE: CAMPAIGN FOR VIOLENCE-FREE ELECTIONS

2013 was election year in Zimbabwe and given the high level of state-sponsored violence surrounding the previous polls, renewed bloodshed was a distinct possibility. We set out to persuade neighbouring states in southern Africa to use their influence to ensure a peaceful election. We also aimed to ensure that Zimbabwean human rights defenders would be able to go about their work in safety.

When Zimbabwe last went to the polls in 2008, the election was marred by extreme violence: over 200 people were killed, 10,000 injured and 28,000 displaced. These human rights violations were largely state-sponsored and the authorities repeatedly failed to bring those responsible to justice. Torture and ill-treatment of opposition supporters was widely reported but human rights defenders were also targeted. They were arbitrarily arrested, detained, beaten, tortured, and had their offices raided. Some were forced to flee the country. Jestina Mukoko, for example, director of the Zimbabwe Peace Project (ZPP), was abducted, tortured and then falsely charged with trying to overthrow the government. The violence subsided only after the Southern African Development Community (SADC) brokered an agreement between the ruling ZANU-PF party and the opposition.

With another election due in 2013, there was widespread fear that the violence and intimidation of 2008 would be repeated. By the end of 2012 the harassment and arrest of HRDs and civil society activists was increasing and this continued in the build-up to the referendum on a new constitution to be held in March. ZPP director Jestina Mukoko was charged with 'operating an unregistered organisation' and the country's most prominent human rights lawyer, Beatrice Mtetwa, was arrested and held for more than a week after demanding that police show a search warrant. We also documented police raids on seven non-governmental organisations, at least five of which are involved in voter registration and other election-related activities. We were concerned about this crackdown on civil society ahead of the election.

The strategy

We knew that, owing to colonial history, pressure from the UK government and public was unlikely to influence the authorities in Zimbabwe in the context of an election. But pressure from their neighbours in SADC could play a key role, as it had in 2008.

Our campaign was limited to the election period and its aftermath and had two aims:



'It is important to engage with SADC countries so that they play their role as guarantors and tell all the parties in Zimbabwe to respect human rights, rein in the violations by state security agencies and to make sure that police are not arbitrarily arresting people.'

Simeon Mawanza,
Amnesty
researcher on
Zimbabwe



Zimbabwean police assault demonstrators calling for a new constitution, Harare, 2007 © AP



- to provide support and solidarity for human rights defenders on the ground, to prevent or mitigate violence against them and to strengthen their resolve
- to pressure SADC and the international community to intercede with Zimbabwe to avoid a repeat of the bloodshed of 2008.

Solidarity with human rights defenders

During elections, human rights defenders can monitor and document human rights abuses, relay the information to a wider audience, and provide support for people whose rights have been abused. This role makes them a target for reprisals. We aimed to build up international pressure and solidarity in support of Zimbabwean human rights defenders, not only to stop or expose violence and threats against them, but to encourage them to continue their work.

We started in February, with a demonstration to mark the 10th anniversary of the grassroots organisation Women of Zimbabwe Arise (WOZA). Amnesty activists from across the UK gathered outside the Zimbabwean Embassy in London holding placards and red roses to demonstrate solidarity. Our press releases on the treatment of Jestina Mukoko and Beatrice Mtetwa helped expose abuses as well as demonstrate solidarity.

To raise the profile of Zimbabwe's human rights defenders, we made an online animated film featuring the voice and story of WOZA activist Nolwandle. Our target was for the animation to be seen by 3,000 people but it has now been viewed by 14,000 people all over the world.

The solidarity campaign did not stop after the election. In November Amnesty groups made posters with solidarity messages to send to Zimbabwe's human rights groups. These campaign actions gave hope and encouragement to the human rights defenders, who told us they valued support to their work.

Lobbying the people with influence

International pressure can be an important way of getting states to change their behaviour and policies. We concentrated our efforts on the



Human rights lawyer Beatrice Mtetwa arrives at Harare Magistrates Court, March 2013. Her arrest was condemned by Amnesty International – and she was released following an Urgent Action © Reuters

SADC countries, lobbying them directly, via embassies and high commissions in the UK, through the UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office and through the European Union.

We urged them to persuade Zimbabwe to welcome election observers, including human rights monitors, before, during and after the elections, and to send a strong SADC observer mission. We also asked them to press for commitments that the whole election process would be free from violence, that people would be free to express their views, meet and organise, and that any reports of violence would be properly investigated.

We targeted countries holding key positions in SADC (South Africa, Tanzania, Malawi, Namibia and Mozambique), sending letters and faxes. An online petition targeting Tanzania, supported via Twitter by actor Patrick Stewart and artist Stuart Semple, gathered 11,000 signatures. Amnesty activists across the UK ran election-themed stalls, using mock polling booths to collect signatures on action cards. More than 7,000 cards were sent to the South African government.

We also exerted pressure on SADC by publishing an open letter to the presidents of South Africa, Tanzania and Malawi in leading newspapers in those countries. The letter was signed by Amnesty African section directors and builds on the positive relationships we have formed with Amnesty International Zimbabwe and Amnesty International Ghana.

'We are really grateful for your support. We don't often get to say it but without your support no one would know about us. It makes a real difference ... Amnesty is always there for us.'
Beatrice Mtetwa, human rights lawyer



Targeting SADC members did not mean that the UK government was off the hook. We encouraged the FCO to put pressure on the SADC governments and worked to keep human rights in Zimbabwe high on the UK's political agenda. The UK did lobby the SADC governments and also monitored the trial of Beatrice Mtetwa.

Measuring success

Zimbabwe's elections took place on 31 July. SADC put 600 election observers in place – the largest observer mission it has ever deployed.

The widespread human rights violations that had accompanied previous elections were not repeated. Both the run-up to the election and the day itself were largely peaceful, although there were a few isolated incidents of violence and intimidation. The crackdown from earlier in the year did not lead to violence. On a visit to London in October, Jestina Mukoko told us that international pressure had played an important role in making the elections peaceful. This was the main objective of our campaign, and we believe we played a part in building that pressure.

There were also two legal victories for Zimbabwe's human rights defenders in November: Beatrice Mtetwa was acquitted of 'obstructing the course of justice' and Abel Chikomo, director of Zimbabwe Human Rights NGO Forum, was cleared of running an 'illegal' organisation.

Work still to do

There is still a long way to go before human rights defenders and other civil society activists can operate safely in Zimbabwe. In September, WOZA organised demonstrations in Harare and Bulawayo to mark the UN International Day of Peace. Many demonstrators were beaten by police and a number were arrested at both events. Amnesty activists in the UK will continue to work in solidarity with human rights defenders in Zimbabwe.

ZIMBABWE TIMELINE

President Mugabe's ZANU-PF party loses in a referendum on a new constitution, but wins a narrow majority in parliamentary elections.

2000

2002 New laws restrict media freedom. Amid deepening economic crisis and a rise in violence by police, ZANU-PF supporters and the party's youth militia, President Mugabe wins a presidential election.

2005

The destruction of homes and small businesses in a government 'clean-up' of slum districts leaves an estimated 700,000 people homeless.

2006

Protests escalate as inflation hits 1,000%. Leaders of the Zimbabwe Congress of Trade Unions are arrested and tortured.

2008

The opposition claims victory after the first round of presidential and parliamentary elections, but the electoral commission orders a second round, the signal for a wave of violence targeting perceived opposition supporters. The SADC brokers a power-sharing agreement under which President Mugabe retains the presidency and opposition leader Morgan Tsvangirai becomes prime minister.



2012

Statements by police and military leaders fuel fears of unrest as election year approaches. At least 300 people are injured in politically motivated violence.

A new constitution is approved. ZANU-PF wins a largely violence-free election.



DEFENDING HUMAN RIGHTS IN ZIMBABWE

Below are some of the organisations and individuals that have been affected by a crackdown against civil society in Zimbabwe. In spite of a relatively violence-free election, many of these individuals continued to be targeted and the solidarity of Amnesty supporters has been important for them

Women of Zimbabwe Arise

Founded in 2003 by Jenni Williams (pictured) WOZA campaigns for basic human rights and repeatedly falls foul of Zimbabwe's repressive legislation. Many members have been beaten and arrested over the years.



Zimbabwe Peace Project

Founded during the election violence of 2000, ZPP monitors and reports politically-motivated violence. Its director, Jestina Mukoko (pictured), was abducted, tortured and then sent to prison in 2008 after ZPP criticised election related violence in 2008.



Zimbabwe NGO Human Rights Forum (Forum)

The Forum is a coalition of human rights organisations which helps coordinate the civil society response to threats to human rights. Its director, Abel Chikomo, was on trial for two years for running an 'illegal' organisation. He was cleared in November 2013.



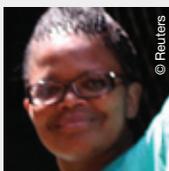
Gays and Lesbians of Zimbabwe

GALZ supports the rights of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex (LGBTI) community in Zimbabwe and calls for an end to discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation. In 2012 the GALZ office was raided and several GALZ members, including Ellen Chademana (pictured) were subjected to prolonged harassment.



Zimbabwe Lawyers for Human Rights

ZLHR provides a critical service to victims of human rights violations and is often the first port of call for human rights defenders targeted for their work. ZLHR staff, and Board members such as Beatrice Mtetwa (page 31), have in turn been targeted for defending human rights.



Zimbabwe Human Rights Association (ZimRights)

ZimRights works to improve human rights across Zimbabwe and has been targeted by the authorities on several occasions. In December 2012 its director, Okay Machisa (pictured) and his colleague Leo Chamahwinya were arrested and charged with 'publishing falsehoods and conducting an illegal voter registration'. They were acquitted.



'Amnesty is close to my heart, because Amnesty came at a time when I was at my lowest.'

Jestina Mukoko, human rights defender who was abducted and tortured in 2008

'Amnesty members have spoken for us when we could not speak! They have helped send a clear message to the individuals and institutions that oppress us to respect human rights...'

Jenni Williams, who has been arrested more than 50 times



FUNDRAISING

Amnesty International UK relies entirely on voluntary income, the bulk of it from regular, relatively small donations from committed members and supporters. It is their commitment to funding human rights that makes our work possible.

The international Amnesty movement has grown steadily since its birth more than 50 years ago. We believe that we now need to build a stronger presence in the global south and east to enable us to achieve much more, and direct more resources to where our human rights work is most needed. AIUK needs to raise more money to help support this growth, while continuing to fund our own campaigning work in the UK. In the current uncertain economic climate, this is a considerable challenge.

The charity sector

Despite some positive news on the UK economy (the Office for National Statistics reported economic growth of 1.8 per cent in 2013) the fundraising environment in the UK remained difficult. Research by the National Council for Voluntary Organisations and the Charities Aid Foundation (CAF) in 2012 showed charitable giving levels decreasing significantly and Gift Aid in decline for the first time since the survey began in 2004. According to CAF, people still feel bruised by the recession and it may be one to two years before charitable giving starts to revive.

The research also showed that major donations continue to increase, with those worth over £1 million up 9 per cent (although higher education institutions receive the majority of these). On the high street, charity shops are doing well.

Fundraising for human rights

In 2013 we raised £24.8 million, a decrease of £200,000 compared with 2012, when a windfall donation of £679,000 boosted our income. We spent 32 per cent less on fundraising than in 2012, so our net income from fundraising (excluding salaries) increased by 7 per cent. Although the net result is positive, the saving in expenditure was predominantly due to reduced investment in recruiting new supporters, which will have a knock-on effect in future years.

Most of our fundraising programmes struggled to meet their income targets. Clearly, the adverse economic climate has hit some of our core supporter groups. But we have also learnt that when we tell strong human stories that clearly demonstrate Amnesty's impact, we can continue to raise funds.

Supporter recruitment

Our single biggest fundraising challenge in 2013 was recruiting new supporters. Supporter recruitment has been falling for a number of years: in 2013 we attracted 11,922 new supporters – 3,630 fewer than in 2012. We now lose more supporters annually than we recruit, so until we can reverse this trend supporter numbers are in decline.

4.04
2013 fundraising return on investment including salaries

Team Amnesty at the London-Brighton bike ride – Amnesty was the event's official charity in 2013 © AI



Returns also diminished from many of our standard recruitment practices, for example advertising flyers inserted in newspapers and telephone calls to people who have indicated they would support Amnesty. However, we continue to recruit large numbers of new supporters via the website, which remains our most successful recruitment channel.

We continued to test new recruitment methods. In 2013 we recruited 1,253 financial supporters via our SMS action network, Pocket Protest, 849 more than in 2012. At the end of the year we started to test door-to-door recruitment in Northern Ireland, and also revived a style of press advertising we last used a decade ago: hard-hitting, full-page newspaper adverts. The results of these trials will be assessed in 2014.

Legacies

Our income from legacies rose by £875,000 in 2013 to £3.5 million. This increase was predominantly due to the value of the individual legacies we received, which was significantly higher than in previous years.

Regular donations from supporters

Supporters who pay by direct debit form the bedrock of AIUK's finances. Their regular donations accounted for 43 per cent of our total income in 2013. However, for the first time income from these supporters started to decline:

£14,227,000 in 2013, compared to £14,711,000 in 2012. Although the number of Amnesty supporters fell during the year from 218,000 to 208,000, the average donation from supporters rose from £80.15 to £81.06.

Retaining our supporters

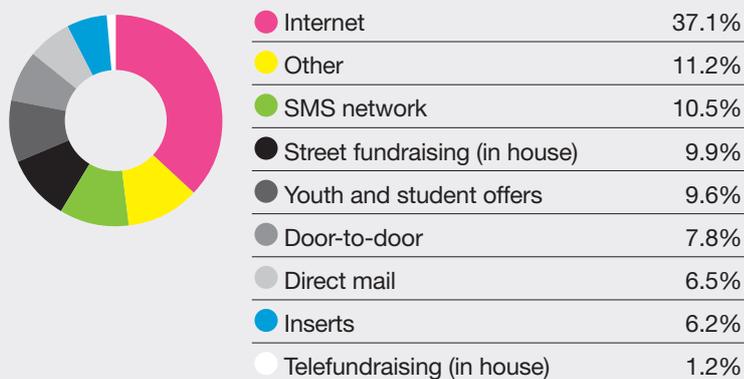
In 2013, 87 per cent of supporters stayed with us, a 1 per cent rise on the previous year. We attempt to talk to everyone who cancels their support, and feedback this year indicated that the main reasons were the economic climate and consequent financial hardship.

Shops

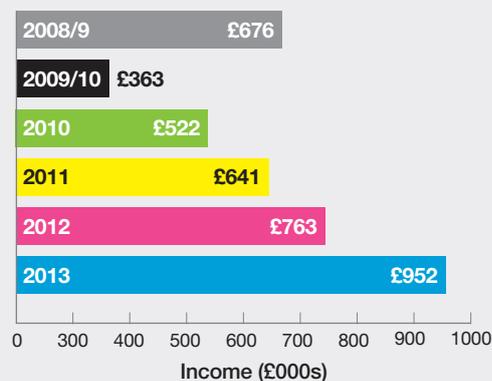
Our bookshops performed well in 2013, with income up by 4.4 per cent, which reflects the general growth trend in charity retail. It was the second year of trading for our York shop, whose income of £66,712 exceeded its target. Our total income from bookshops was £545,000. We are grateful to the 300 volunteers who help run our shops, and to all the people who generously donate books.

Income from our catalogue and webshop dropped by £30,000 to £132,000. In the main this reflected a change in the terms and conditions of our relationship with the New Internationalist, which runs this business for us.

WHERE OUR NEW SUPPORTERS CAME FROM IN 2013



INDIVIDUAL MAJOR DONOR INCOME



Trusts and foundations

Our annual income from charitable trusts trebled in 2013 to £653,000. Almost one-third of the increase came from our first Comic Relief grant (£150,000, the first instalment of a three-year grant of almost £400,000). The success comes from redirecting our focus to the larger funders. We intend to continue this approach in coming years, building on our experience with Comic Relief.

Corporate donations

Funding from corporate supporters increased by 30 per cent in 2013 to £272,000. Although most of this comes from the Co-op's Amnesty charity credit card, we also forged new partnerships with Waterstones, Ecotricity and Google. We hope to develop new corporate partnerships, which meet our ethical standards, in 2014.

Major donors

The total we received in gifts from major donors in 2013 was £952,000, a 25 per cent increase on 2012. Approximately half of the total came from three individuals.



Community fundraising

Many Amnesty supporters raise funds for us and in 2013 they raised a total of £569,000. The biggest amounts came from local groups and Team Amnesty (individuals who take part in major sponsored events such as the London and Edinburgh marathons). Youth groups also made an important contribution, with a range of imaginative fundraising events that raised almost £60,000.

After a dip in 2012, fundraising activity by Amnesty groups returned to 2011 levels. The trade union movement was particularly generous in its support in 2013, while a successful outreach programme led to a 43 per cent rise in the number of faith groups affiliated to Amnesty.

CORPORATE RELATIONSHIPS

Total number of corporate relationships: 70
Number of corporate entities donating over £5,000: 7

Corporation	Value	Type
Google	£50,000	Money
Pinsent Masons Foundation	£10,000	Money
Accenture	£5,000	Money
Industry Rockstars	£13,273	Money
GBR Trade and Technology Ltd	£20,000	Money
Triodos Bank	£8,257	Money
The Co-operative	£210,000	Money

All corporate giving above £5,000 is subject to screening by AIUK

Note: We are members of the Public Fundraising Regulatory Association. This is a charity-led regulatory body covering all types of face-to-face fundraising. We are also members of the Institute of Fundraising. As such, we are bound by the Face-to-Face Activity Code of Fundraising Practice, which sets out the regulatory requirements and best practice standards expected from all those parties involved in face-to-face campaigns. More information: www.pfra.org.uk or www.institute-of-fundraising.org.uk



AWARENESS RAISING

Raising awareness about human rights is a fundamental part of Amnesty's work. To generate support for specific campaigns, to encourage a better understanding of and respect for human rights, and to attract and retain members and financial supporters, we need to keep our profile high.

Our growth strategy highlights the importance of making us more visible to a broader – more mainstream – audience. This is a challenge given the increasingly intense competition for people's attention, the proliferation of media channels and the often negative presentation of human rights issues common in sections of the UK press.

We aim to maintain our profile through media coverage – in print and online – and through investing in our strong relationships in cultural and entertainment industries – from publishing to comedy, film to music – to help promote Amnesty more widely. We also seek to maximise the opportunities presented by fast-developing digital technology to interact directly with our supporters and the wider public.

Amnesty in the media

Generating media coverage is an essential part of our work. Coverage grew throughout the year and in the second half of 2013, we consistently reached 78 per cent of the UK adult population through our media work.

The Amnesty report on US drone strikes in Pakistan, for example, featured in 97 press articles. In Northern Ireland (see page 11) our position on justice for the victims of armed conflict was widely reported. Our campaigning for the abolition of the death penalty, for amendments to the UK Lobbying Bill and for the protection of refugees also received considerable coverage.

Amnesty's campaigning against human rights abuses on construction projects for the 2022 World Cup in Qatar benefited from significant media interest. Our report, *The Dark Side of Migration: Spotlight on Qatar's construction sector ahead of the World Cup*, was featured

extensively across the media, including in the *Guardian*, the *Financial Times* and the *Times*, and on the BBC and Sky News. Over a four-day period, 17-21 November, it had 3,936 mentions on Twitter, Facebook and blogs.

FIFA, world football's governing body, responded to the report on the day of the launch, saying it shared Amnesty's concerns and within four days the European Parliament passed an emergency resolution condemning the abuse of Qatar's migrant workers. The *Guardian* reported that a plan to build 'humane' homes for over 50,000 migrant construction workers had been accelerated because of the criticism from Amnesty and the International Trade Union Confederation. The Qatari government said it 'values' Amnesty's contribution and would include our findings in a review it has commissioned.

The Amnesty International Media Awards, an annual event that recognises the best in human rights journalism, attracted 176 entries in 2013. Among the winners were Anthony Loyd of the *Times* for his reporting on the conflict in Syria, and Shannon Jensen of the *Saturday Telegraph Magazine* for her photographs of South Sudan's refugee crisis.

'We're both incredibly chuffed to have won it. It was a great night, and I thought the standard of work was gobsmacking.'
Guardian journalist **Simon Hattenstone, Amnesty Media Awards 2013 winner**

'Amnesty International... [has] a better record than the foreign media in keeping track of arrests, imprisonment, torture and killings.'
Patrick Cockburn, the Independent

This image of a pair of shoes belonging to a South Sudanese refugee was part of photojournalist Shannon Jensen's Media Awards-winning series, *A Long Walk*
© Shannon Jensen



Working with artists

We also work with artists and performers to raise the profile of our campaigns. In July, more than 100 leading musicians – including Adele, Coldplay, Django Django and Ke\$ha – signed an open letter calling for the release of the jailed members of Russian feminist punk group Pussy Riot. The impetus for the letter came from Sting, who contacted us ahead of his concert in Russia looking for ways to support our Pussy Riot campaign. It was covered widely in the UK and international media, further increasing the pressure on the Russian authorities.

Digital

Digital technology enables Amnesty International UK to mobilise support for campaigns, encourage people to donate, and raise awareness of our work. In October 2013 we completed the redesign of our website. The new site is more secure and stable, emphasises our campaigning and activism work, and leads supporters directly to the most important actions



they can take on any given day. There are also sections to help people find their nearest local group and search for specific resources. We asked for and received helpful feedback from supporters after the launch and this will help inform the website's future development.

Our Secret Comedy podcasts at the Edinburgh Festivals helped to publicise Amnesty's human rights work
© Colin Hattersley/AI

AMNESTY ONLINE 2013

www.amnesty.org.uk

- 1.5 million unique visitors
- 5.5 million page views
- 65 campaign actions
- 300,000 appeals sent

Most popular actions

- Release Herman Wallace
- Stop the execution of Warren Hill
- Bring Shaker Aamer home from Guantánamo

Facebook

- 124,422 fans

Twitter

- 93,402 followers

Pocket Protest

- 39,000 members
- 18 SMS campaign actions
- 90,913 appeals sent

The number of people following us on Facebook and Twitter grew by 43 per cent in 2013, and membership of Pocket Protest, our SMS action network, more than doubled. Network members support our campaigns by adding their names to appeals or petitions via texts from their mobile phones.

Festivals

Arts festivals present a good opportunity to promote human rights campaigns and none more so than the world's biggest, which takes place in Edinburgh every year. Among our events in 2013 were a 'critics versus comics' football match and a lecture by award-winning author Jackie Kay, which featured poetry and clips of *Over the Wall*, a documentary about a British football team's trip to the West Bank during the 'Arab Spring'.

During the festival we also recorded a series of Secret Comedy podcasts featuring comedians such as Alan Davies, Jo Caulfield and Adam Hills. Altogether more than 80 comedians took part in the 15 live podcasts, which were

'It's appalling that the musicians from Pussy Riot could face prison sentences of up to seven years... Dissent is a legitimate and essential right in any democracy.'
Sting



an instant hit with the public. Available via the *Guardian's* website and a variety of online platforms, they were listened to over 220,000 times. They were an iTunes front-page 'Editor's pick' and featured in the podcast top-five list throughout the festivals and into September. The podcasts also led to a surge in subscribers on SoundCloud, an audio-sharing website: in 2013, we went from 1,000 subscribers to more than 300,000, and currently have more the BBC Radio 1 and 4 combined.

Films

We use films – many of them produced in-house – to raise awareness about our work. In February, weeks before crucial UN negotiations on the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT), thousands of members sent their local MPs a hard-hitting short film highlighting the arms trade's tragic human cost, urging them to support the treaty.

To mark Human Rights Day on 10 December, we launched two powerful films highlighting the plight of women in Afghanistan. The stories of a doctor (known as 'Dr D' for security reasons) and a head teacher ('Parween') in Afghanistan



are told by two of their counterparts in the UK. The two-minute films, which have been viewed more than 23,000 times on YouTube, received widespread coverage, including in the *New Statesman* and on the *Guardian's* Teachers' Network.

Together with Human Rights Watch, AIUK screened the Channel 4 documentary *No Fire Zone: Sri Lanka's Killing Fields* for UN Human Rights Council delegates in Geneva. The film shows the bloody final months of the country's armed conflict – making a powerful case for an international investigation of war crimes. It provoked a retaliation from the Sri Lankan government: the country's ambassador to the UN issued a public letter calling for Amnesty's consultative status at the UN to be withdrawn. (For more on our Sri Lanka campaign, see page 11.)

We also produced an animation, *Nolwandle's Story*, about the life and work of a Zimbabwean human rights activist, which has been viewed on YouTube more than 2,000 times.

Magazine

In 2013 we introduced a new, compact format for *Amnesty Magazine*, which is now published every quarter and goes to about 165,000 members. The shift from a bi-monthly publication was prompted largely by ever-rising postage costs, but we also took the need for change as an opportunity to tailor the new-look magazine more closely to what our readers told us they wanted. Most respondents to our readers' survey were in favour of a quarterly publication.

Left: A London-based teacher tells the story of an Afghan counterpart in a film highlighting the plight of women in the country (top), while an animation gives an insight into the life of a Zimbabwean activist



Amnesty Magazine is now published quarterly in a more compact format



HUMAN RIGHTS EDUCATION

By educating people about human rights we not only build their knowledge and understanding but also give them the skills to stand up for their own rights and those of others. Our Human Rights Education programme has worked with schools in the UK for more than 20 years. We also provide training and education for activists in the UK and overseas, building their capacity for effective campaigning.

Working with schools

We produce a wide range of teaching materials for schools. A recent survey found that 44 per cent of citizenship and personal, social and health education (PSHE) teachers across the UK had used Amnesty education resources in the past year, and that awareness of our resources was growing (see chart). New in 2013 was *The Power of the Pen* education pack, which uses Amnesty's time-honoured practice of writing letters to stop abuse of human rights to help students explore global issues and develop literacy skills. The packs help young people discover the impact their words can have as they write in support of real people in real danger. Different versions are available for secondary and older primary school students.

Schools also continue to use the educational resources we produced in earlier years. For example, in the 2012-13 school year, teachers ordered 6,872 copies of our booklet of lesson plans *Everyone Everywhere*, which introduces human rights into a range of different subjects,

from maths to Spanish. We received almost 20,000 orders for copies of our *My Rights Passport* – a summary in plain English of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

Our electronic newsletter, TeachRights, has more than 7,000 teachers and educationalists subscribing to it.

Our school speakers, trained volunteers who run free human rights workshops, assemblies, lessons, and events in primary and secondary schools, reached 26,525 young people in 2013.

Lobbying

AIUK is a leading member of the Democratic Life coalition, which promotes citizenship education in secondary schools in England, and of the national steering committee for the Association of Citizenship Teaching.

Following a curriculum review – and spirited campaigning from Democratic Life – the government decided early in 2013 to retain the teaching of citizenship in the English national curriculum. Human rights will be a required area of study in secondary schools. However, we remain concerned that citizenship is entirely absent from the primary school curriculum and that human rights hardly features in secondary education until Key Stage 4 (ages 14-16).

'We all look to Amnesty resources. You really know how to get the message across well and they are always very well researched and produced.'

Holocaust Education Trust



Our youth awards celebrate young people's talents for human rights reporting, photography, songwriting, campaigning and fundraising

© Katura Jensen

Increase in awareness of Amnesty teaching resources 2010-13

Primary 25%

Secondary 17%

Increase in use of Amnesty teaching materials 2010-13

Primary 15%

Secondary 18%

Source: Survey by DJS Research on behalf of British Red Cross, 2013



Youth awards

In the 2012-13 school year, we ran a competition for aspiring songwriters and performers, based on an education pack for secondary schools, *The Power of Our Voices*, which we published in 2012. Prizes were offered for the best lyrics and the best performances. We have organised competitions around education packs before, but this was our most successful yet, with nearly 400 entries representing 747 participants (many entries in the performance category came from groups). The participants came from 47 schools and three youth groups. For some the competition was the first time they had heard of Amnesty – indicating that we were reaching a new audience.

The awards for the songwriting contest were presented alongside those for the Young Human Rights Reporter of the Year – an annual competition for budding journalists that we have run since 2010 as a way to stimulate interest in human rights.

The Young Human Rights Reporter competition, which we run in collaboration with the *Guardian's* Teacher Network, *SecEd* magazine, charity PhotoVoice and school news service *The Day*, offers awards for journalism and photojournalism, for different age categories. 493 students from 160 schools entered in 2013, which compares with 459 entries in 2012. At least 1550 students took part in related classroom activities.

We are building on the success of these competitions by expanding it into a wider programme of youth awards, encompassing five categories: reporter, photographer, songwriter, campaigner and fundraiser. The aim is to recognise and celebrate the passion that young people have for defending human rights, and to develop new skills and confidence to engage creatively with human rights.

Teaching the teachers

The Amnesty Teacher programme provides continuing professional development (CPD) for teachers, giving them the expertise to bring human rights into the classroom. In 2012-13, we piloted a training course designed to enable teachers to run training sessions for their colleagues. We received positive feedback from participants. 'Taking part in the Amnesty Teacher training programme has allowed me to see the value of human rights education... the course has been an invaluable experience,' one said.

Fiction is a powerful means of engaging young people's interest in human rights. In August we partnered with the Edinburgh International Book Festival to run a session on 'Using fiction to teach about the death penalty', the best attended CPD event at the festival. The panel included Waterstones Prize-winning author Annabel Pitcher.

Active Learning

Our Active Learning Programme delivered training workshops to support key areas of our work in 2013. We have more than 40 volunteer trainers located across the UK, each one able to provide free workshops on a variety of subjects – from how to lobby MPs to fundraising for local Amnesty groups.

In 2013 we held an intensive two-day training session on campaign strategy and organisation for 16 activists from the Syrian Non Violence Movement (SNVM) (see page 11).

AIUK was also involved in human rights academic research in 2013. In May, in partnership with the Centre for Applied Human Rights at the University of York, and the Social Justice Research Institute at London Metropolitan University, we staged a three-day workshop on the protection of human rights defenders (HRDs). The session fed into a special issue of the *Journal of Human Rights Practice* on the protection of HRDs in November.

'It has not only influenced my state of mind but has provided me with new teaching strategies and ideas which I have been able to transfer into my day job.'

Amnesty Teacher course participant

'This [song] competition has influenced the majority of students within my department, changing their perspective on many human rights issues.'

Hannah Stephens, lecturer in performing arts



ACTIVISM

232

Local groups brought Amnesty's concerns and campaigns to their local media, politicians and public, and raised funds

114

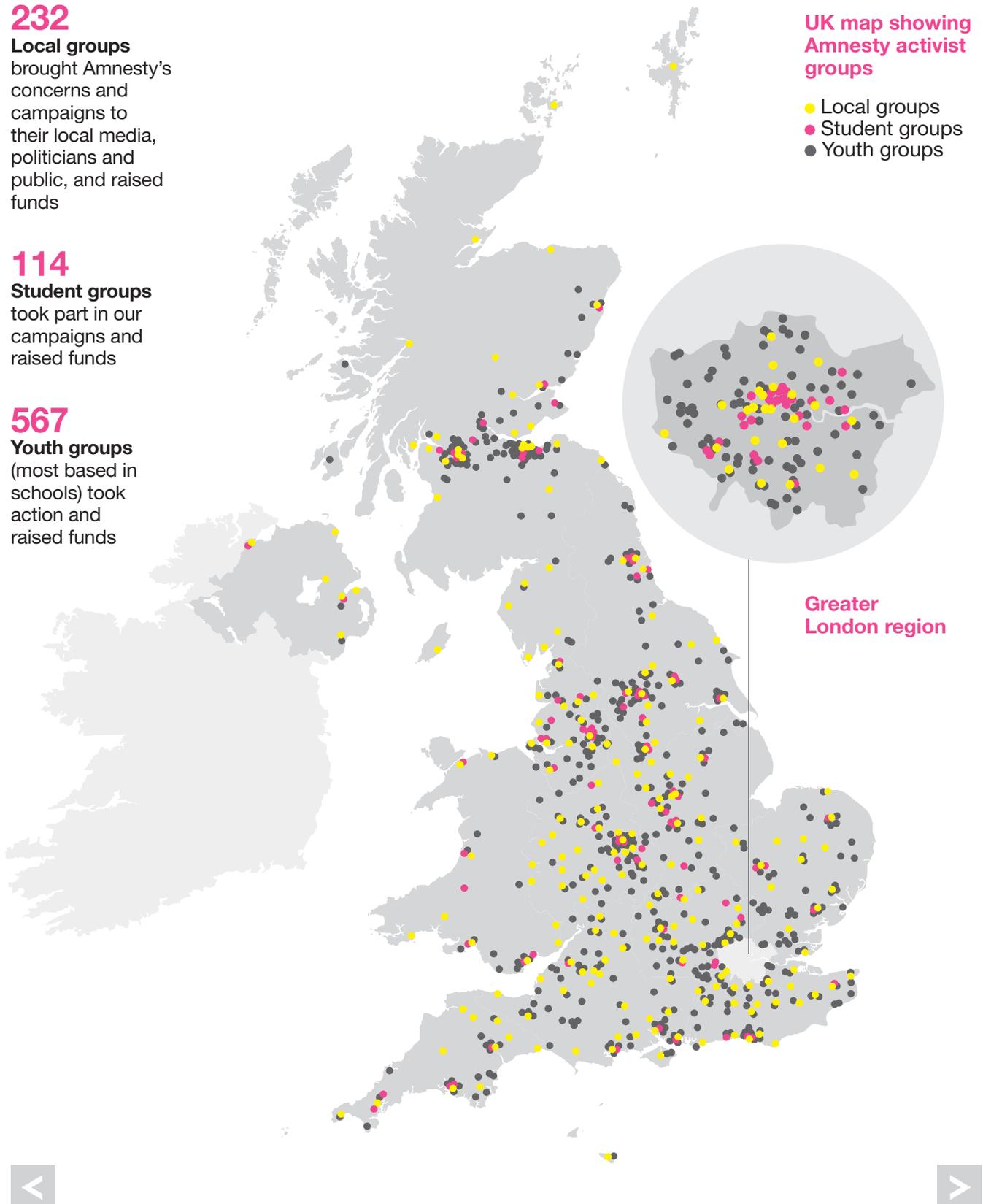
Student groups took part in our campaigns and raised funds

567

Youth groups (most based in schools) took action and raised funds

UK map showing Amnesty activist groups

- Local groups
- Student groups
- Youth groups



Greater London region

Amnesty International was founded as a movement of ordinary people, and activists are the backbone of our organisation. Thousands of people all over the UK contribute to our work either individually or through groups and networks. They are the face of Amnesty in their local communities, whether they are campaigning, fundraising or raising awareness about human rights.

Mobilising public support

The creative and energetic activities of Amnesty's individual activists, local, student and youth groups, and networks bring our campaigns to life. By raising issues in innovative ways they engage and educate a wider public about human rights issues.

In 2013 our activist groups organised a range of public events highlighting, for example, discrimination against Roma people in Europe, brutality in North Korea's prison camps, and the detainees still held without charge or trial at Guantánamo Bay. They collected thousands of signatures on petitions for Afghan women's rights (see page 26) and violence-free elections in Zimbabwe (see page 30). By participating in local Pride and Refugee Week celebrations, they helped raised awareness of human rights

issues that directly affect people in their own communities.

Individuals and groups also take action in solidarity with people whose rights are denied, giving them hope and reassurance that there are people who know and care what is happening to them. This is the theme of our annual Write for Rights campaign (see page 16), which in 2013 saw tens of thousands of appeals and greetings cards and text messages sent in support of individuals and community groups around the world.

Lobbying

Our activists also bring their campaigning zeal to bear on the people who have the power to get things changed: UK MPs and ministers, overseas presidents, police chiefs and prison governors, global corporations. In 2013, our lobbying reminded UK politicians of the importance of women's rights in Afghanistan, and the essential role women must play in the peace-building process. Activists also lobbied their MPs to support an Arms Trade Treaty (see page 22) and to encourage the government to take in Syrian refugees.

124
local Amnesty
groups have their
own website

169
talks given by
our country
coordinators in
2013



Amnesty activists got behind our women's rights in Afghanistan campaign in 2013, including at the AGM © Katura Jensen/AI



Raising funds for human rights work

From the very beginning members and supporters have provided most of Amnesty's funding and continue to do so. This is vital for our campaigning in the UK but also increasingly to support the growth of the international movement. All our local, youth and student groups put huge effort into thinking up new ways to generate more income. Comedy nights, quizzes, art exhibitions and fashion shows all made a contribution. Fundraising by Amnesty activists raised a total of £569,000 in 2013.

Country coordinators

Our volunteer country coordinators use their in-depth knowledge of particular areas of the world to boost our campaigning on human rights issues and on behalf of individuals at risk. They advise Amnesty groups, give talks and presentations, help to draft case files, lobby the UK government and foreign embassies, and produce information materials. They also organise events, which in 2013 included a conference, an exhibition, demonstrations and film screenings.

The 45 coordinators, organised in regional teams, can bring to bear a total of 284 years of experience in their role. In 2013 they contributed an estimated total of 13,500 hours of work to Amnesty – equivalent to about eight full-time posts. Between them, they gave 169 talks reaching an estimated 3,160 people.

The trade union network

In 2013 our trade union network campaigned for the release of Bahraini teachers' leader Mahdi Abu Dheeb and insisted on human rights for the migrant workers building facilities for the football World Cup in Qatar in 2022. Both campaigns continue to count on the strong support of UK and global unions.

The Student Action Network Committee

The Student Action Network (STAN) Committee supports Amnesty student groups at universities throughout the UK, and advises Amnesty staff on the work and needs of student groups.

The Youth Advisory Group

This voluntary group of young activists gives advice on projects and campaigns from a youth perspective. In 2013 they influenced our approach to the Amnesty Youth Awards, gave input to our guide for local groups working with young people, and wrote a set of guidelines for our school speakers.

ACTIVISM IN NUMBERS

39,716

people in our Pocket Protest network send texts to defend individuals at risk

15,329

people defend women's rights through our Women's Action Network

13,891

members of our Urgent Action Network provide a rapid response to protect people in imminent danger of abuse

13,784

people stand up for children's rights through our Children's Rights Network

13,577

individuals support Amnesty campaigns and defend workers' rights through our Trade Union Network

8,708

people take action in response to human rights emergencies through our Crisis Action Network

4,102

people stand up for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex (LGBTI) rights through our LGBTI network

391,000

appeals were sent in 2013 by email and text message



ACTIVIST SNAPSHOT

A small selection of the wide range of activities our student, local and youth groups got involved with in 2013 to fundraise, raise awareness and campaign.



Amnesty students stage a 'die in' on the streets of London to illustrate the need for a strong Arms Trade Treaty



Gryphon School group at the Tanzanian Embassy, calling for action from Zimbabwe's neighbours to prevent electoral violence



Belfast and Downpatrick local groups demand the closure of Guantánamo Bay



Schoolchildren at a human rights campaigning workshop organised by the Lewes local group



Youth activists deliver a petition to Foreign Office Minister Baroness Warsi, calling on the UK government to support rights for women in Afghanistan



The York group's snakes and ladders game on show at the York Human Rights Project



Leeds University students take action for Pussy Riot during freshers' week



Amnesty activists at the Zimbabwean embassy to mark the 10th anniversary of campaign group Women of Zimbabwe Arise



The Manchester local group celebrates the new Arms Trade Treaty



Activists come out in support of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender Pride



130 cyclists line up for the Jersey local group's annual Freedom Cycle, which raised more than £1,000 for our human rights work



The Salisbury local group raises awareness of North Korea's brutal prison camps





OUR ORGANISATION

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We are a democratic membership organisation with more than 3 million members and supporters in 150 countries. Members play a vital role in our campaigns, provide the major part of our income and take the leading role in the running of the organisation. Our structure, constitution and systems of governance are designed to ensure collaborative and participatory decision-making.



Amnesty International UK is one of the largest of 69 national entities that make up the global Amnesty movement. Our combined strength lies in the unity that comes from a shared vision, mission and values, and from abiding by the statute of Amnesty International. We work with the rest of the global movement in a concerted and coordinated manner.

The global movement

Amnesty International is committed to deepening our work in the global south and east to help fulfil the vision of a movement that is bigger and more influential in global terms.

The International Council Meeting (ICM), which takes place every two years, is the movement's highest decision-making body. It elects the International Board (formerly known as the International Executive Committee) to continue its work between meetings, setting movement-wide policy and defining the global governance rules for all Amnesty organisations.

Authority for conducting the daily affairs of the global movement is delegated to the International Secretariat. AIUK, like other national sections, can influence the development of policy by participating in ICMs and the deliberations of the International Board.

For more on the structures and governance of the international movement, see www.amnesty.org/en/who-we-are/accountability.

Our contribution to the global movement

AIUK plays a full part in supporting the global movement, including financially. We participate in international Amnesty management and coordination bodies, taking forward global campaigns and contributing skills and knowledge to a range of projects.

The AIUK section makes one of the largest financial contributions to the international movement. In 2013, we contributed £6.9 million, compared to £7.84 million in 2012. Owing to the movement's decision to increase the proportion of the resources going to the international budget from 30 to 40 per cent over 12 years to fund the planned growth in the global south, by 2017 we expect our contribution to rise to more than £9 million.

To ensure the sustainability of these growth plans, the 2013 ICM agreed to review the arrangements for funding the international movement at its next meeting in 2015. This will include considering the effects on contributing sections of their increased financial commitments. The ICM also resolved to strengthen Amnesty's work on a range of human rights issues and introduced a set of core standards of good governance for all Amnesty entities.

Our legal structures

Amnesty International UK comprises two separate legal entities, the UK section and the charitable trust, which are autonomous but work to a common vision.

The UK section is owned and controlled by its members and undertakes our human rights campaigning. This is because some campaigns – for example, to achieve legislative change abroad – may not be considered 'charitable activity' under UK charity law. The UK section also undertakes fundraising and trading activities.

The Amnesty International UK Charitable Trust is a registered charity. It funds global activity concerned with human rights research, monitoring and education, and promoting public support for human rights.

In addition, AIUK has a subsidiary events company, Amnesty Freestyle Limited, whose operations are included in the consolidated financial statements (see page 60).

£6.9m

AIUK's grant to the international movement in 2013

28%

AIUK's grant to the international movement as a percentage of its income in 2013

£9m

AIUK's expected contribution to the international movement by 2017

183,542

individuals pay an AIUK membership fee

AIUK has offices in London, Belfast and Edinburgh

Number of paid employees as of December 2013

London:	144
Belfast:	2
Edinburgh:	4



Board of directors

The board of directors consists of elected volunteers responsible for the overall performance of Amnesty International UK section and for providing strategic direction, effective governance and leadership on behalf of our members.

The board is accountable to the Amnesty International UK membership through the annual general meeting (AGM), the primary decision-making forum for AIUK.

The board maintains policies, including a code of conduct, conflicts of interest and treasury policy. A formal finance report is made at each board meeting.

Special board sub-committees (composed of board members, non-board members and specialist staff) provide updates, advice and guidance on aspects of AIUK's performance.

These sub-committees are:

- Active Membership
- Finance (which also acts as our Audit Committee)
- International Issues
- Joint Consultative Committee
- Human Resources

For more about the sub-committees, see www.amnesty.org.uk/subcommittees

All board members are non-executives. Under the Amnesty International UK constitution no staff members or office-based volunteers may serve on the board. The board periodically carries out a skills audit and may decide to supplement its skills and expertise by co-opting up to three additional members.

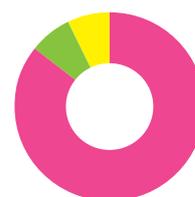
In August 2013 Ciarnan Helferty resigned as chair and board member of AIUK Section and as a Trustee of AIUK Charitable Trust. Following criticism of tweets he had sent that included jokes about mental health, he immediately apologised and referred himself for investigation under the Board Code of Conduct. He was replaced by the former vice-chair, Sarah O'Grady. She said that in resigning, Ciarnan Helferty had shown personal integrity and responsibility, and his actions emphasised that the tweets were inappropriate for someone leading a human rights organisation.

AIUK board by gender



- Male: 5
- Female: 7

AIUK board by ethnicity



- 85.7% white
- 7.1% mixed
- 7.1% not reported

Amnesty International UK Section board members as of 31 December 2013



Sarah O'Grady (Chair)



Hannah Perry (vice Chair)



Cris Burson-Thomas (Treasurer)



Ruth Breddal



Louise Ewington



Brian Gilda



Tom Hedley



Rona Keen



Harrison Littler



Katie McSherry (nee Boothby)



Sarah Ward



Hugh Whitby

Board of Trustees as of 31 December 2013

- David Norgrove (Chair)
- Angela Crack
- Stuart Hathaway
- Brian Landers
- Harrison Littler
- Sarah O'Grady



Stakeholders

Amnesty International UK has a wide range of stakeholders including: people whose rights we seek to protect; members; supporters; activists; campaign and coalition partners; suppliers; staff; volunteers; the media; government and regulatory bodies; the UK general public.

We work to engage rights-holders in each campaign area. We are a membership organisation, so ultimately it is our members who make the difference. We encourage members and supporters to take an active role in the work of Amnesty International both in the UK and worldwide.

Extraordinary General Meeting and Annual General Meeting 2013

On 12 January, more than 450 AIUK members attended an extraordinary general meeting (EGM). Under the terms of AIUK's constitution, EGMs are held if at least 100 members make the call for one.

This EGM discussed how AIUK could meet its financial commitments to the international movement while maintaining an effective campaigning and activist base in the UK. All sides were committed to the vision of expanding Amnesty in the global south, despite diverging opinions as to the process and pace of change. Debate focused on AIUK's restructuring (see Costs and Priorities Programme, page 51) and the level of our contribution to the international movement, but also took in broader issues of transparency, accountability and governance.

These discussions resumed in April at the AGM, which resolved to establish a Governance Task Force with a wide-ranging remit: to review AIUK's constitution, our governance structure and how it consults and communicates with the membership, and how our section relates to the international movement. The task force will report to the 2014 AGM.



Top: The board is accountable to the Amnesty International UK membership through the AGM © Katura Jensen/AI

Above: An extraordinary general meeting was held in January 2013 © AI



PEOPLE AND POLICIES

OUR STAFF

As of 31 December 2013 Amnesty International UK had 154 paid employees (136.9 full-time equivalent), 150 of them based in three offices (London, Belfast, and Edinburgh) and the rest at four of our six bookshops. We believe that engaging and developing these people is crucial to our success.

In 2013 our human resources objectives centred on six key areas:

- Organisational development
- Human resources service delivery
- Learning and development
- Equality and diversity
- Well-being
- Partnership

Due to the Cost and Priorities Programme (CAPP), the main focus was on organisational development.

Cost and Priorities Programme (CAPP)

In 2013 we undertook a significant restructure of the staff of AIUK, reducing our staffing establishment by 12 per cent to 151.5 full-time equivalent posts. It was a difficult year for the organisation.

Members and many other stakeholders were concerned both for the wellbeing of staff and for the future work of AIUK. For staff themselves it was undoubtedly a challenging and anxious year.

The decision to restructure was made in 2012, when the Board of AIUK determined that AIUK needed to reduce annual running costs by £2.5 million in order to protect the medium term financial health of the organisation. The key reason for this was that the Amnesty International movement had decided in 2009 that Amnesty sections should increase their financial contributions to the international budget in order to support Amnesty's growth in the global south and east and thereby increase our impact for human rights there. AIUK had planned to meet the cost of these increasing contributions by increasing income, but it became clear in the first half of 2012 that this would not be possible and therefore expenditure cuts would be required.

The work to cut costs began in 2012. Our guiding principles in identifying savings were to minimise compulsory

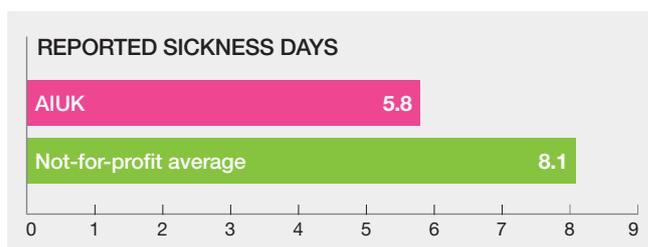
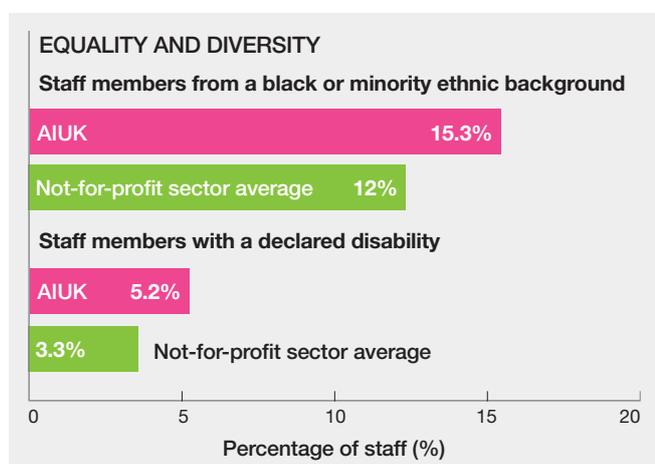
redundancies and to maintain a strong campaigning and activist base. Our first course of action was to identify potential non-staff savings. £1.23million was found, leaving £1.28 million to be found by reducing staff costs. As part of the savings staff offered and agreed to take a two-year pay freeze in order to reduce the number of posts that were to be cut and mitigate redundancies.

During 2012 the rationale for the expenditure cuts, and particularly the cuts to staffing levels, was disputed, both by some AIUK members and Unite the trade union of which the majority of AIUK staff are members. There were three one-day strikes and at the end of 2012 an Emergency General Meeting was also called by 100 of our members.

The Emergency General Meeting took place in London on 12 January 2013. Over 500 people attended and, including proxy votes, over 2,000 people voted. The meeting demonstrated the strength of feeling from members and staff: all agreed that AIUK should strive for the greatest human rights impact globally but views

150,000

Hours given by AIUK office and bookshop volunteers in 2013



diverged on how best to achieve that. The key decision of the meeting was that any material reorganisation of AIUK must be decided by the AGM. Therefore plans to implement the staff restructure were put on hold. The AGM took place in April. Again there were heartfelt and divergent views about the distribution of AIUK's resources, and a clear concern throughout that AIUK should preserve its campaigning and activist strength. The AGM decided to approve the staffing restructure but asked that its implementation be delayed until after the International Council Meeting (ICM) in case any immediate and significant changes to AIUK's financial obligations to the international movement were made there.

The ICM, Amnesty's highest decision-making body, called for a review of the international funding mechanism in recognition of its impact on several Amnesty sections. AIUK welcomed this. However, as it was not due to report until 2015 the Board of AIUK decided, reluctantly, to reduce the staff base.

The implementation of the restructure began at the end of August 2013. All the staff of the organisation were affected in some way. The management and union

of AIUK worked together to develop and implement a fair process for staff, adhering to AIUK's Job Security and Redundancy Agreement and to support staff through the changes. With more than 70 staff at risk of redundancy, this was a significant task and took its toll on staff, management and particularly the Human Resources Team and the Union Representatives who worked hard to support staff during this time.

Twenty staff left through our voluntary redundancy scheme at the end of 2013, but no member of staff left under enforced compulsory redundancy terms. This still leaves AIUK as the largest staff body of any Amnesty Section.

The staff of AIUK remained dedicated to their human rights work through two difficult years, and despite the challenges they faced, made a significant impact for human rights over this time.

Human resources service delivery

Staff turnover increased (to 29.6 per cent in 2013, compared with 25.1 per cent in 2012 and 11.3 per cent in 2011), although this includes the ending of fixed-term contracts as well as a reduction in staff of 12 per cent. The

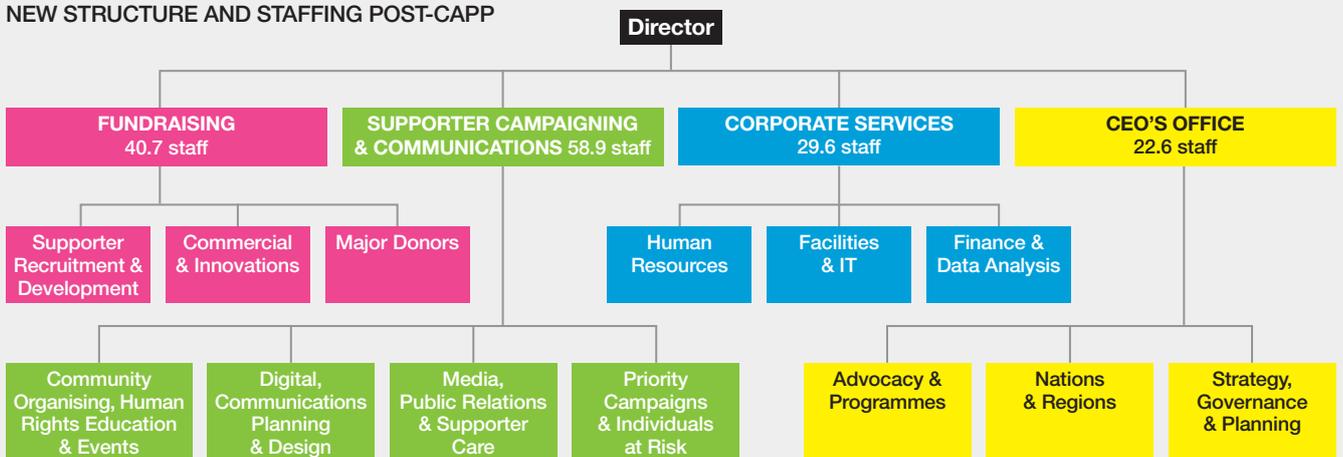
rise is in line with an overall increase in charity sector turnover, but was in part due to CAPP. The average length of service of an employee is high: six years and eight months compared to an average of four years in the not-for-profit sector as a whole.

To increase the range of options for staff, we closed the existing Pensions Trust scheme to new entrants in 2013 and opened a new group personal pension scheme with Scottish Widows. This offers more flexibility to staff leaving our employment and a wider choice of investment funds.

Learning and development

In 2013, Amnesty UK spent an average of £261 per employee on formal learning and development activities, compared to £334 in the previous year. The UK average for 2013 was £303 and the average in the not-for-profit sector was £324. Our investment in 2013 was lower because of a focus on the re-organisation. The average number of hours for formal learning and development was therefore also lower: 4.9 hours per employee, compared to 6.7 in 2012. This excludes the careers advice and support provided to employees leaving due to redundancy.

NEW STRUCTURE AND STAFFING POST-CAPP



Equality and diversity

We value diversity in our staff, volunteers and board, and strive to be a fair employer. As of 31 December 2013, 15.3 per cent of staff were from a black or minority ethnic (BME) background (compared to 13.5 in 2012). This compares with 12 per cent for the UK charity sector (People Count Third Sector 2013). However, our aim remains to increase the proportion of BME staff to better reflect the population of Greater London and the South East.

The number of staff who declare a disability remained at a similar level to that in the previous year (5.2 per cent in 2013 compared to 5.3 per cent in 2012 and 5 per cent in 2011). This is higher than the sector average of 3.3 per cent (People Count Third Sector 2013). Although we operate the national 'Two Ticks' scheme (which ensures all disabled applicants who match essential criteria for a post are guaranteed an interview), only 0.6 per cent of applicants in 2013 declared themselves as having a disability. We believe this was because we advertised only four posts externally during the year, because of an agreement with the union to find alternative employment for staff at risk of redundancy. The remaining 29 vacant positions were only advertised internally.

Wellbeing

Reported sickness absence was 891 days in 2013, an average of 5.8 days per employee. The UK average is 7.6 days per year, rising to 8.1 in the not-for-profit sector (CIPD, 2013).

Reported sickness absence due to stress, depression or other mental illness was much higher than in the previous year, accounting for 43.6 per cent of all working days lost, compared to 19.9 per cent in 2012. This was not surprising at a time of major organisational change with

many individuals facing uncertainty about their own future. We work to support our staff and volunteers with an employee assistance programme (EAP) as well as referrals to our occupational health service. Given the organisational change programme, we improved support available to staff in various ways, for example, by running workshops on stress reduction, ensuring that staff knew what support was available from our EAP provider, and arranging a week of activities around national Stress Awareness Day.

Partnership

AIUK has a long history of working in partnership with trade unions, both internally and in our campaigning work. While not all staff members are union members, all are covered by terms and conditions negotiated through a collective bargaining agreement with the Unite trade union, and any significant operational changes are implemented in consultation with union representatives.

In 2013, this partnership continued to be tested by CAPP, but AIUK and our shop stewards remained in dialogue and agreed on ways to mitigate the impact of redundancies.

Organisational development

In 2013, we revised our policies on loans and advances, recruitment and parental leave. All were subject to consultation with the union.

When staff leave the organisation they are asked to fill in an anonymous exit questionnaire. In 2013, the main reasons for leaving were 'low morale' (52 per cent) and 'poor communication by senior management' (52 per cent). The questionnaire responses indicated that departing employees highly valued our office facilities and working environment, the recruitment process, accurate

advertising or description of roles during recruitment, and level of pay.

Our volunteers

Volunteers are hugely important to AIUK, from working in our bookshops to supporting staff with projects and administration in our offices. AIUK staff and volunteers work side by side towards our common goal. At the end of 2013, we had 45 office volunteers (compared to 84 in 2012) and approximately 300 bookshop volunteers. We estimate that these volunteers gave more than 150,000 hours of their time in 2013, which, at the London living wage of £8.80, is equivalent to more than £1.32million.

OUR POLICIES AND PRACTICES

Our policies and practices are designed to maintain our effectiveness and efficiency while being mindful of the social and economic impact of our activities.

Feedback

Amnesty International UK values the views of its stakeholders and has operated a policy of inviting and recording feedback since 2009. Complaints are reviewed and assessed by our Feedback Oversight Panel (which comprises the director, director of marketing, director of corporate services, manager of transparency and accountability, and a board member). The panel identifies and recommends actions to the senior management team where appropriate.

Feedback is collated monthly and reviewed regularly on behalf of the board by the Finance Sub Committee.

In 2013 Amnesty International UK received 2,376 recorded pieces of feedback, an increase of 10 per cent on 2012.



Positive comments

We received 333 favourable comments, predominantly about:

- our campaigns, especially on the Arms Trade Treaty (see page 22), Write for Rights (see page 16), Afghan women (see page 26), and in support of the Angola Three (prisoners held in long-term solitary confinement in the USA)
- the content of our materials, mainly our resources
- our street fundraisers and telemarketing staff
- events such as the London to Brighton Cycle Ride and AmnesTeas.

Negative comments

We received 699 items of negative feedback, predominantly about:

- our campaigns, largely our criticism of the UK government's reluctance to take in Syrian refugees
- our alleged failure to support Chelsea (Bradley) Manning
- the widening of Amnesty's remit
- the increase in the price of raffle tickets and the fact that overseas supporters cannot participate
- errors on our website and difficulties in using it
- our handling of financial and other administrative transactions, including direct-debit arrangements
- communication methods, including door-to-door fundraising and telemarketing, and sending too many mailings.

Complaints

In 2013 we received 626 complaints, predominantly about:

- our campaigns, including our support for LGBTI rights and same-sex marriage
- our support for sexual and reproductive rights, and the widening of Amnesty's remit
- materials sent to members, in particular a leaflet (from an external organisation) advertising Dignity in Dying that was enclosed with Amnesty Magazine
- communication methods, particularly telemarketing, door-to-door and street fundraising
- introducing the Amnesty lottery and SMS text messages as fundraising methods.

General comments/suggestions

We received 718 general comments and suggestions, predominantly:

- responses from MPs in our campaigns on Afghan women's rights (see page 26), the Justice and Security Bill and the Arms Trade Treaty (see page 22)
- replies from the governor of Louisiana regarding Albert Woodfox, one of the Angola Three
- requests for us to take action over the rocket attacks on Camp Liberty in Iraq (the camp houses Iranian refugees)
- the content of our materials, mainly our resources and actions
- general comments and suggestions about the magazine.

Learning from feedback

As well as responding to comments, suggestions and complaints, Amnesty International UK is committed to learning from them. The Feedback Oversight Panel and the Finance Sub Committee analyse feedback patterns, and where appropriate recommend changes to how we operate.

Gender mainstreaming

A gender mainstreaming manager was appointed in June 2011 to help promote greater gender equality in AIUK and look at ways to make our campaigning for women's human rights more effective. In May 2013, she produced an evaluation report, which assessed the AIUK's strengths and weaknesses, and examined the effectiveness of our equality policies. The report recommended improvements to our policies and practices which we will seek to implement in 2014.

Environmental impact

Our gas and electricity consumption both dropped in 2013, although water use rose. We also produced less waste than in 2012, and – thanks in part to a change of waste contractor – we recycled 100 per cent of it (compared to 58 per cent in 2012). We were unable to collect data on our staff commuting and business travel.

ENERGY CONSUMPTION



-9%

GAS
77.9 tonnes
of CO2 equivalent
emissions in 2013

85.9 tonnes
of CO2 equivalent
emissions in 2012



-13%

ELECTRICITY
235 tonnes
of CO2 equivalent
emissions in 2013

269 tonnes
of CO2 equivalent
emissions in 2012



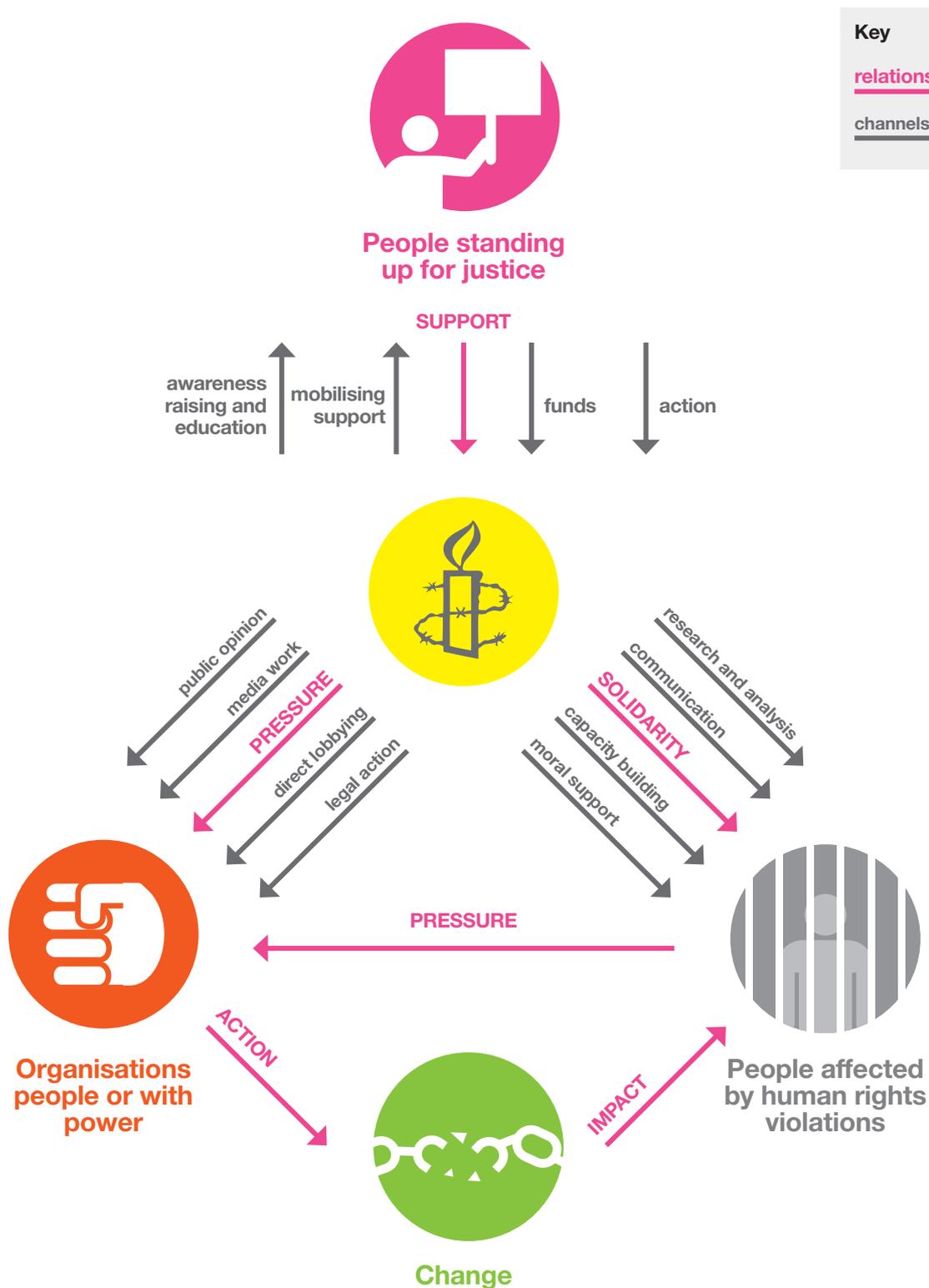
+46%

WATER
2392 m³
in 2013

1636 m³
in 2012



HOW WE WORK



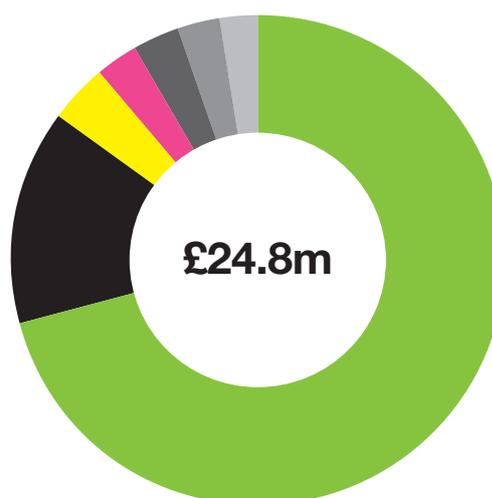
FINANCE

WHERE OUR MONEY COMES FROM – AND WHERE IT GOES

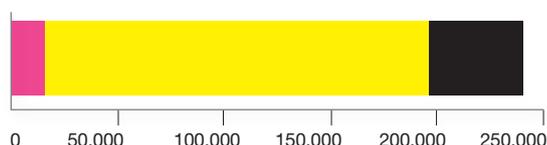
In the year to December 2013 AIUK spent £24.3m in carrying out its work. None of the income raised to support the work and campaigns that are outlined in this report was received from government or political parties.

Most of our expenditure (two thirds) continues to be allocated to campaigning and research that sustains our campaigning work.

Where our money comes from



The importance of retaining our supporter base



Supporter base movement this year

● New supporters making a financial payment	13,456
● Supporters who will stay with us	190,417
● Supporters who left	28,379
Total	232,252

Our supporters not only provide AIUK with the vast majority of the financial resources utilised, but also, as this report shows, undertake campaigning and other actions which ensure that our work on human rights maintains a strong voice.

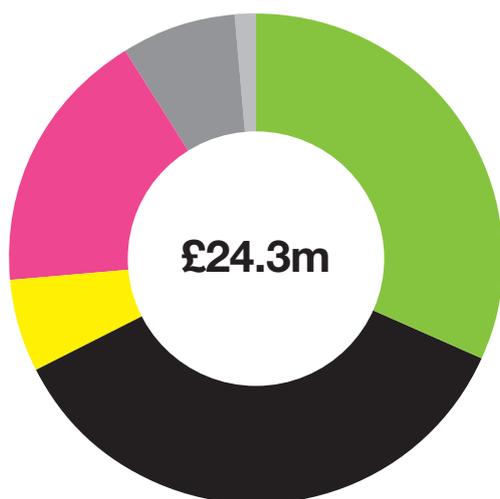
However, as the chart above shows, to maintain this relevance considerable investment is required to recruit new members to replace those who, for a variety of reasons, though predominantly personal financial pressures at present, leave AIUK.

	Actual 2013 £m	%	Actual 2012 £m	%
● Members and supporters	17.6	71%	18.9	73%
● Legacies	3.5	14%	2.9	11%
● Appeals and raffles	1.0	4%	1.0	4%
● Grants	0.7	3%	0.2	1%
● Other	0.7	3%	0.6	2%
● Shops and catalogue	0.7	3%	0.7	3%
● Community fundraising	0.6	2%	0.7	3%
● Secret Policeman's Ball	-		0.8	3%
Total	24.8	100%	25.8	100%

Our 2012 income was skewed by the one off event of the Secret Policeman's Ball. Excluding this, our 2013 income was £200k lower than in 2012 when a windfall donation of £679,000 boosted our income. At present we are not able to replace all the supporters who leave us each year and this is reflected in the lower income from members and supporters. This reduction is offset by increased legacy and grant income.



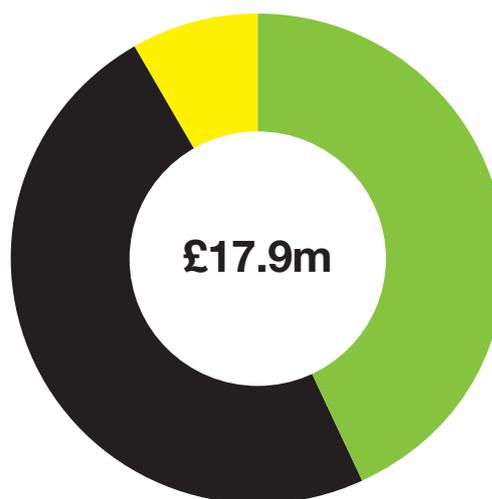
How we spent our money – the top line



	Actual 2013 £000s	%	Actual 2012 £000s	%
● Campaigning, raising awareness and educating	7,755	32%	7,806	30%
● Research	8,700	36%	7,817	30%
● Encouraging more people to become activists	1,453	6%	1,635	7%
● Recruiting, retaining and communicating with our supporters	4,271	18%	4,730	18%
● Raising additional funds	1,825	7%	3,328	13%
● Sustaining our systems of governance	320	1%	524	2%
Total	24,324		25,840	

During 2013 we maintained our campaigning expenditure at 2012 levels. We spent an increased amount on research although this includes £1.5m paid in advance of our planned 2014 research expenditure. We will reduce our actual 2014 research expenditure by the corresponding amount. We were not able to make all our planned investments in recruiting new supporters during 2013 because we were not satisfied that these investments would bring in a satisfactory financial return. The expenditure in raising additional funds was higher in 2012 because of the investment we made in the Secret Policeman's Ball.

Growth in human rights work



	2013 £000s	2012 £000s	2011 £000s	2011 £000s
● Human rights campaigning	7,755	7,806	8,565	8,200
● Research: human rights violations	8,700	7,817	6,984	6,825
● Investment in activist recruitment	1,453	1,635	2,258	1,637
Total	17,908	17,258	17,807	16,662

Our expenditure on human rights work has remained at historically high levels in recent years and we plan to grow this expenditure through the development of our income generating activities and careful control of our operating costs.



FINANCIAL COMMENTARY

What we planned for the year ended 31 December 2013

At the beginning of the year the Board of AIUK agreed a budget deficit for 2013 of £220k which was to be funded from our surplus free reserves of £1.5m. We forecast income to fall in 2013; we were fortunate to receive several large legacy amounts towards the end of 2012 and did not feel it prudent to budget for similar amounts in 2013. We also anticipated a drop in income from existing supporters as we recognised it would be difficult in the current economic climate to recruit sufficient supporters, in a cost effective manner, to replace those who would leave us during the year.

Performance during the period

During the year we began publishing quarterly reports on AIUK's website to keep members up to date on our financial performance. In addition, a draft and unaudited summary of our projected 2013 financial outturn was included in the Treasurer's report sent to members in the papers circulated in advance of the AGM to be held in April. At that time, taking into account an interim £1.5m part-payment of our 2014 grant towards Amnesty's global human rights work, we were projecting a surplus in the region of £800k for the year.

We can now confirm our outturn for the year will show a surplus of £457k. Some legacy income, anticipated in 2013, will now be recognised in our 2014 financial year. This surplus is significantly better than we budgeted due to three main factors:

- a one-off savings exercise undertaken in the second quarter of the year in response to lower income forecasts early in the year and the additional cost due to the delay in the implementation of the Cost and Priorities Programme (CAPP) (see page 51)

- better than expected legacy income between May and September
- underspends on some planned fundraising initiatives where we did not feel there would be sufficient financial returns.

While this surplus is welcome and helps our financial stability in the short term, we cannot base our future plans on unpredictable factors such as legacies. This is why the difficult decision to implement CAPP was considered necessary.

Comparing our financial performance to the previous year, our income fell by 4 per cent compared to 2012 when a windfall donation of £679,000 boosted our income. Excluding the effect of the Secret Policeman's Ball (we held one in 2012 but none in the current year) our income fell by 0.6 per cent and was 1.6 per cent higher than we had budgeted. Our voluntary income decreased slightly during the year despite improved performance on grants and legacy income. However, this was offset by the reduction in regular income from members and supporters.

Excluding the investment in the Ball in 2012, our fundraising expenditure was around 10 per cent lower than the previous year mainly due to lower spend on recruiting new supporters. The Board's Finance Sub Committee monitors the financial returns on all of our fundraising activities and members can also refer to the Income Monitoring section in our quarterly members' report. During 2013 where fundraising activities were not providing a sufficient financial return we did not make the planned investment.

The total amount we spent on human rights campaigning, activism and research increased by 3.8 per cent during 2013 to almost £18m. As

discussed above, this includes an interim payment of £1.5m towards our undertaking to the international Amnesty movement for 2014. This is not an extra or higher payment; we will reduce our 2014 grant by the corresponding amount.

Cost and priorities programme

In 2012 AIUK contributed 30 per cent of our income to the global movement, and in 2013 this increased to 34 per cent. Between 2014 and 2021 this will gradually increase to 40 per cent. The Board considered how to meet its increasing undertakings to the international movement while maintaining a strong human rights campaigning presence in the UK. In order to address these challenges, while maintaining financial stability, the Board agreed in 2012 to a cost and priorities programme to remove £2.51m from our cost base. The programme comprised two phases. Phase 1 involved identifying around £1.23m of savings mostly from operational costs and included a cost of living freeze for 2013. Phase 2 looked at a further £1.28m of savings primarily from a reduction in staff headcount, and a further cost of living freeze in 2014.

The Board were under no illusions that it was a difficult decision and that it would be a painful process to implement the proposals. Membership concerns led to an EGM held in January which decided that the proposals required further scrutiny and discussion at the AGM in April (see page 50). During the final quarter of the year the programme was implemented, and the Board was pleased to see all staff redundancies being by voluntary means.

The total cost of implementing the CAPP was £959k; £136k was incurred in 2012 and £823k in 2013. Of the overall total, £706k were redundancy



costs and £122k were consultant's costs. Before the cost savings programme we were projecting 2014 salary costs of £8.2m. The projection for 2014 is now £7.6m and we expect similar levels of savings in future years. The implementation of the CAPP, with lower staff costs and operating costs, means that we have enhanced the financial projections of AIUK through to 2018/19.

Budget 2014 and beyond

The Board approved the 2014 budget in December. The approved deficit of £0.7m is largely driven by the need to gradually increase funds for the global movement between now and 2021.

However, we must take a conservative approach as some key sources of fundraising income are still lagging behind and overall we are losing more members than we recruit. Although we have recently had two good years for legacy income, we cannot assume that this will continue forever and we must continue to find new and profitable ways to fundraise. We have created a separate fundraising directorate focusing solely on our income and added a post to our Senior Management Team to give greater emphasis to fundraising in a difficult economic climate. Just as importantly we need to ensure that the painful cost savings we have made are maintained.

The Board will work with the Senior Management Team to maintain our current level of financial investment in human rights campaigning and activism in the UK by carefully scrutinising income and expenditure to make best use of our funds, and continue to contribute to the international movement.

Reserves policy

The Boards' reserves policy is to hold a minimum level of unrestricted free reserves sufficient to cover the risks on the risk register.

The minimum free reserves are calculated on the basis of the financial impact and probability of the significant risks identified in the risk assessment, and amount to £3.7 million, equivalent to eight weeks of our current expenditures.

As at 31 December 2013 the unrestricted free reserves (net current assets less the total of restricted funds, cash endowment funds and deferred grant payments) stood at £5.7 million. The surplus of free reserves stood at £2 million. This includes legacy income of £1.1 million which had not been received at the year end.

Risk management

The Boards are aware of the need to assess the risks faced by Amnesty International UK and to manage those risks appropriately. Following a comprehensive risk identification, assessment and management analysis, we have compiled a register of risks, scored the risks for likelihood and impact, and established risk management strategies and timescales. Individual senior managers take responsibility for each significant risk area.

The Boards are currently reviewing how risk is managed within the organisation and the level of reserves that should be held in relation to the principal risks that we face. This work is due to be completed in the first half of 2014 and we will incorporate the outcome in our 2014 strategic report.

The organisation concerns itself with human rights in an ever-changing environment and the Boards are very much aware that the risks facing the organisation are not constant. Consequently, the monitoring of risk will continue to be a high priority for the Boards.



FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Independent Auditors' statement to the Boards of Amnesty International United Kingdom

We have examined the summarised pro forma combined financial statements of the following entities for the year ended 31 December 2013:

- Amnesty International United Kingdom Section
- Amnesty International (United Kingdom Section) Charitable Trust
- Amnesty Freestyle Limited.

This report is made solely to the Boards of Amnesty International United Kingdom. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Boards as a body, for this report.

The Boards' statement on the summarised pro forma combined financial statements

The Boards are pleased to present a summary of the audited 2013 financial statements containing the following information:

- The summary accounts are not statutory accounts, but a summary of information relating to both the SOFA, balance sheet and cash flow statements.
- The full Annual Report and Accounts 2013 is available online: www.amnesty.org.uk/finances
- The accounts were approved by the Boards on 27 March 2014 and signed by the auditors on 31 March 2014.
- The accounts from which the summary has been extracted have been subject to audit and the audit opinion was unqualified.

Respective responsibilities of the Boards and auditors

The Boards are responsible for preparing the summarised combined annual report in accordance with the basis of accounting and the accounting policies included in the full pro forma combined financial statements.

Our responsibility is to report to you our opinion on the consistency of the summarised pro forma combined financial statements within the summarised annual report with the full pro forma combined financial statements and Boards report. We also read the other information contained in the summarised annual report and consider the implications for our report if we become aware of any apparent misstatements or material inconsistencies with the summarised pro forma combined financial statements.

Our responsibility is to audit and express an opinion on the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland). Those standards require us to comply with the Financial Reporting Council's (FRC's) Ethical Standards for Auditors.

Our report has been prepared in accordance with the terms of our engagement letter and for no other purpose.

Basis of opinion

We conducted our work in accordance with Bulletin 2008/3 'The auditors' statement on summary financial statement in the United Kingdom' issued by the Auditing Practices Board. Our report on the organisation's full pro forma combined financial statements describes the basis of our opinion on those financial statements and combined Boards Report.

Opinion

In our opinion the summarised pro forma combined financial statements are consistent with the full combined pro forma financial statements and combined Boards report of the entities as listed above for the year ended 31 December 2013.



BDO LLP
Gatwick
United Kingdom
31 March 2014

BDO LLP is a limited liability partnership registered in England and Wales (with registered number OC305127).



**Combined statement of financial activities
for the year ended 31 December 2013**

	Unrestricted Funds Dec-13 £000s	Restricted Funds Dec-13 £000s	Endowment Funds Dec-13 £000s	Total Funds Dec-13 £000s	Total Funds Dec-12 £000s
Incoming resources from generated funds					
Voluntary income					
Subscriptions and donations from members and supporters	16,069	144	-	16,213	17,486
Legacies	3,538	-	-	3,538	2,913
Gift Aid	1,399	-	-	1,399	1,396
Grants	-	653	-	653	190
Total voluntary income	21,006	797	-	21,803	21,985
Activities for generating funds	2,775	-	-	2,775	3,566
Income from pursuit of objectives	164	-	-	164	202
Investment and other income	30	-	9	39	37
Total incoming resources	23,975	797	9	24,781	25,790
Expenditure					
Cost of generating voluntary income	4,271	-	-	4,271	4,730
Activities for generating funds	1,825	-	-	1,825	3,328
Total cost of generating funds	6,096	-	-	6,096	8,058
Expenditure in pursuit of objectives					
Human rights campaigning	7,450	305	-	7,755	7,806
Research: human rights violations	8,273	427	-	8,700	7,817
Investment in activist recruitment	1,453	-	-	1,453	1,635
Total expenditure in pursuit of objectives	17,176	732	-	17,908	17,258
Governance costs	320	-	-	320	524
Total resources expended	23,592	732	-	24,324	25,840
Net (deficit)/surplus for the year before revaluation	383	65	9	457	(50)
Unrealised gain on revaluation of investment asset	-	-	(30)	(30)	2
Net movement on funds	383	65	(21)	427	(48)
Total funds brought forward	13,182	179	457	13,818	13,866
Total funds carried forward	13,565	244	436	14,245	13,818



Combined balance sheet at 31 December 2013

	Dec-13 £000s	Dec-13 £000s	Dec-12 £000s	Dec-12 £000s
Fixed assets				
Tangible fixed assets	9,903		10,214	
Investments	239		264	
		10,142		10,478
Current assets				
Debtors	2,327		2,841	
Cash at bank and in hand	5,041		4,318	
	7,368		7,159	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	(1,214)		(921)	
Net current assets		6,154		6,238
Creditors: amounts falling due after		(2,051)		(2,898)
Total net assets		14,245		13,818
Reserves				
Restricted				
Endowment	436		457	
Grants	244		179	
		680		636
Unrestricted				
Undesignated	5,713		5,161	
Designated	7,852		8,021	
		13,565		13,182
Total reserves		14,245		13,818

These financial statements are now approved by the Board and authorised for issue on

27 March 2014



Cris Burson-Thomas, Treasurer



Combined cash flow statement for the year ended 31 December 2013

	Dec-13 £000s	Dec-13 £000s	Dec-12 £000s	Dec-12 £000s
Net cash inflow/(outflow) from operating activities		1,743		(274)
Returns on investment and servicing of finance				
Interest received	39		37	
Interest paid	(111)		(116)	
Net cash outflow from return on investments and servicing of finance		(72)		(79)
Taxation				
Corporation tax paid		-		-
Capital expenditure and financial investment				
Gift of fixed asset investments	-		(231)	
Payments to acquire tangible fixed assets	(101)		(195)	
Net cash outflow from capital expenditure and financial investment		(101)		(426)
Financing				
(Decrease)/increase in long term debt		(847)		540
Increase/(decrease) in cash		723		(239)



MORE ABOUT THIS REPORT

INGO Accountability Charter

Amnesty International UK is a signatory of the International NGO Accountability Charter, which outlines a common commitment to enhance transparency and accountability among various non-governmental organisations. For more information on the charter see www.ingoaccountabilitycharter.org

Global Reporting Initiative (GRI)

Our report seeks to meet the terms of the INGO Accountability Charter, and to comply with the principles of the Global Reporting Initiative, and the G3 guidelines. We have used these guidelines as they provide a framework for reporting on social, environmental and governance matters, and help

organisations to compare themselves with peers and track progression and improvement. This report has been assessed against the GRI application levels and assessed as meeting Application Level B.

The detailed GRI Content Index supporting our Report Application Level B is included as an Annex to our Online Annual Report, see www.amnesty.org.uk/annualreport2013

AIUK's policy is to apply the GRI indicators and protocols as specified. Other than the external assurance provided by our auditors in respect of the financial statements and the Application Level check conducted by GRI, AIUK has not sought additional external assurance in respect of the

GRI framework.

The report's content and structure have been defined by an Editorial Board drawn from Amnesty International UK staff. For further information about this report please contact sct@amnesty.org.uk

Production of this Report

This report was written, designed and produced internally by staff and volunteers at Amnesty International UK Section. It is available online only, but individual hard copies can be supplied according to need.

Statement GRI Application Level Check



GRI hereby states that **Amnesty International UK** has presented its report "Annual Report 2013" to GRI's Report Services which have concluded that the report fulfills the requirement of Application Level B.

GRI Application Levels communicate the extent to which the content of the G3 Guidelines has been used in the submitted sustainability reporting. The Check confirms that the required set and number of disclosures for that Application Level have been addressed in the reporting and that the GRI Content Index demonstrates a valid representation of the required disclosures, as described in the GRI G3 Guidelines. For methodology, see www.globalreporting.org/SiteCollectionDocuments/ALC-Methodology.pdf

Application Levels do not provide an opinion on the sustainability performance of the reporter nor the quality of the information in the report.

Amsterdam, 4 April 2014

Ásthildur Hjaltadóttir, Director Services, Global Reporting Initiative

The Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) is a network-based organization that has pioneered the development of the world's most widely used sustainability reporting framework and is committed to its continuous improvement and application worldwide. The GRI Guidelines set out the principles and indicators that organizations can use to measure and report their economic, environmental, and social performance. www.globalreporting.org

Disclaimer: Where the relevant sustainability reporting includes external links, including to audio visual material, this statement only concerns material submitted to GRI at the time of the Check on 28 March 2014. GRI explicitly excludes the statement being applied to any later changes to such material.

