

Amnesty International



Autumn term 2015

A guide for Amnesty youth groups



ENTER THE AMNESTY YOUTH AWARDS



FUNDRAISE



APPLY FOR THE YOUTH ADVISORY GROUP



CAMPAIGN



How to use this guide

This guide is designed to help your youth group to plan for the autumn term.

This information is meant to be shared. If you can, please photocopy it and pass to other key members of your group or simply pass it around for all to see. You can also find the guide at www.amnesty.org.uk/youth

Contents

	PAGE
Autumn 2015 Calendar	2
Autumn term overview	3-5
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Campaigns• Amnesty Youth Awards• Fundraising: Give it Up for Human Rights• Youth Advisory group – apply now• School Speakers	
Resources	5-6



Amnesty International

Youth Group Calendar Autumn 2015



September

CAMPAIGN ACTION (1)
CAMPAIGN ACTION (2)
YOUTH ADVISORY GROUP
YOUTH AWARDS

Stand in solidarity with the women of El Salvador (**Deadline: 20th October**)
Stop the trade in torture equipment (**Deadline: End of autumn term**)
Recruitment for this year's group starts
Launch of Amnesty Youth Awards 2016 (**Deadline: 24th Feb 2016**)

October

CAMPAIGN ACTION
YOUTH ADVISORY GROUP

Save the Human Rights Act
Deadline for applications: **23rd October**

Don't forget to enter your youth group in this year's Youth awards 2016. More details on page 4.

November

CAMPAIGN ACTION

Write for Rights

December

CAMPAIGN ACTION

Write for Rights ctd. & Campaign Action tbc.

KEY DATES AUTUMN 2015

10th October	World day against the Death Penalty
24th October	Deadline for applications for Amnesty's Youth Advisory Group
20th November	Universal Children's Day
25th November	International Day for the Elimination of violence against Women
10th December	Human Rights Day

Autumn term overview

Campaigns:

Stand in solidarity with the women of El Salvador



In El Salvador abortion is a crime even if the women's health is at risk or she has been raped. Many women face being put in prison for up to 40 years if they seek an abortion or even if they've just been accused of having one.

We are asking youth groups to create 'keys of freedom' containing messages of support for women currently in prison as a result of the abortion ban. This part of our My Body My Rights campaign.

For action: From September

Stop the trade in torture equipment

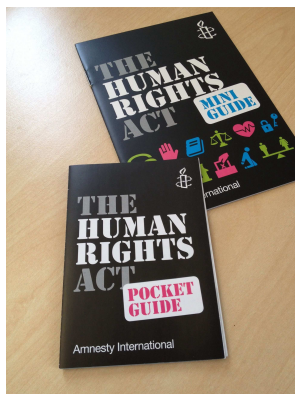


As a result of concerns raised by Amnesty International and others, the European Union (EU) introduced specific laws to restrict the trade in torture equipment in 2005. But there are loopholes (gaps in the law) that mean certain types of trade or certain categories of torture equipment continue to be traded. The EU is currently reviewing the law banning

the trade in equipment used for torture and the death penalty and we have a unique opportunity to close these loopholes.

For action: From September

Save the Human Rights Act



The Human Rights Act protects the fundamental rights we all have as human beings, and allows us to challenge authorities if they violate them. You might not have used it, but it's there if you need it. Our new government wants to scrap the Act, and bring an end to universal human rights in the UK.

In October we'll be asking groups to take part in a challenge – who can come up with the most creative way of celebrating the Human Rights Act?

For Action: From October

Write for Rights 2015



Amnesty International is particularly famous for helping individuals who have suffered human rights abuses. This work cuts across all our campaigns and lies at the heart of what we do. We campaign to release prisoners of conscience (those imprisoned for their beliefs or identity), to stop people being tortured or to help protect people working to defend human rights in dangerous conditions.

The annual Write for Rights campaign will run from **November 1st to December 31st**. This is the time when we ask supporters to write directly to people who have suffered from human rights abuse and those who defend them. The cards offer hope and encouragement to the people who receive them, and also make a big impression on police, prison staff and political authorities, which can help to keep the recipients safe.

For action: From November - December

Youth Awards 2016

The Amnesty Youth Awards celebrate young people standing up for human rights. Thousands of young people who have taken part in previous years have developed new skills and confidence to engage creatively with human rights. There are six categories:

REPORTING
PERFORMING
PHOTOGRAPHY
CAMPAIGNING
FUNDRAISING
POETRY

Youth Groups may be particularly interested in entering the Campaigning and Fundraising strands for their group activities.

Go to the website for more details: **www.amnesty.org.uk/youthawards**
Entry deadline for all awards: **24th February 2016**



Fundraising: Give it Up for Human Rights



Inspired by the efforts of Ashford School, winners of the Most Creative Fundraiser category in 2014's youth awards, we're asking all of our groups to organise a **Give it Up** day. The concept of **Give it Up** is simple: take creative actions to symbolically 'give up' one of your rights guaranteed by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and get sponsored

to do it! This will help introduce the concept of human rights to your school or college in a creative way and raise money to support human rights in the process.

We've produced a **Give it Up** kit which contains everything you need to organise your own **Give it Up** day. The kits contain passport style booklets with all suggested actions, **Give it Up** stickers, sponsorship forms, placards to wear explaining what you're doing and a leaflet with tips on how to make the day a success. We've also included a copy of our Everyone Everywhere pack if you want to include a human rights themed lesson as part of the day. You can also find more information and order the kit by going to www.amnesty.org.uk/youthgiveitup.

Youth Advisory Group – Recruiting now!



Each year we recruit a small group of youth group members to give us their views on our work such as our campaigns, mailings, website and how we can get more young people involved in Amnesty. See the enclosed application form or download from:

www.amnesty.org.uk/youth

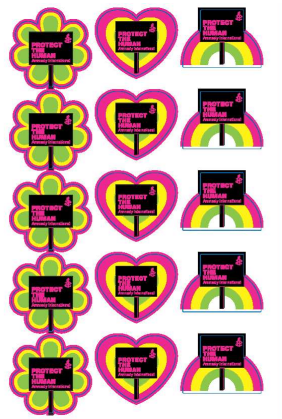
Deadline: 23rd October

Would you like a speaker to visit your school?

Over 120 volunteers represent Amnesty by introducing young people in schools and universities across the UK to human rights and our work. These enthusiastic and knowledgeable speakers inspire young people, leading them to set up Amnesty youth groups, and introducing teachers to human rights education. Contact us on +44 (0)20 7033 1777 or speakers@amnesty.org.uk to request a list of speakers near you and their areas of expertise.

RESOURCES

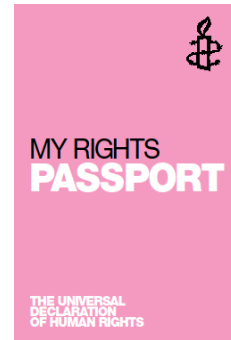
These are just a few of our resources. To order, contact our mailing house directly on 01788 545553. You will need to quote the product code when you call.



Rainbow stickers:
(free) YA863



Freedom stickers:
(free) YA862



My Rights Passport (free)
ED112
Pocket-sized leaflet listing all the articles in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.



Small Placard: (free) YA861



Large Black and white Amnesty banner for Youth Groups
(160x50cm) (free) YA838

Banners & Dragons book (£12.99 plus £2 postage) PB311

Complete guide to fun and creative campaigning such as making t-shirts, banners, drama, food, cages, puppets, kites, murals etc.

'I talk out loud': Youth group film



Don't forget to use our film, '*I talk out loud*' to recruit new members to your group. We followed the fabulous Eastlea Amnesty youth group from east London as they took action to stop the execution method of stoning in Iran. We hope that you will be able to use this film to inspire new people to join your group. Watch it at <https://vimeo.com/29140974>.

FUNDRAISING

In addition to our **Give it Up** kit we also have:

AmnesTEA party kit (free): CFR180

Contains advice, sponsor forms, collection box, invites and an A3 poster.

Fundraising for Amnesty: Your Guide (free): CFR177

Badges (free) CFR134/1: bags of 10, yellow
CFR134/2: bags of 10, green
CFR134/3 bags of 10, pink

Balloons (free) CFR048 - Amnesty Balloons (Bags) (green/pink/yellow)

Collection Tin Set (free) CFR065/3

