



Stop Torture Campaign: Adult HRE Training Pack

This guide is for Trainers to use when engaging with Local Groups, Student Groups or external organisations around the Stop Torture Campaign.

The script is written for delivery in a training/facilitation setting. You can add or delete slides as appropriate and adapt the script according to audience and time.

Please do get in touch if you have any queries to trainers@amnesty.org.uk

Suggested Resources

- Stop Torture Campaign Pack: Case Sheet x2
- Post-it notes
- Blue Tac
- UDHR poster/passport
- Flipchart paper and pens
- Electronic Speakers (for watching films)

Suggested content and activities

You may wish choose to use one or more of the following 4 activities.

- Campaign Overview
- Activity 1 – 5 Cases (SLIDE 10)
- Activity 2 – Electioneering (SLIDE 11)
- Activity 3 – Quotations (SLIDE 12)
- Activity 4 – Elevator Pitch (SLIDE 13)
- Close with Skills Share Information and Resources

Suggested A/V resources

- **Video:** Torture: Our Legacy, Our Future (approx. 4 minutes)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u1OrYp7C4Ew>
- **Video:** Claudia Medina Tortured by the Mexican Marines (approx. 4 minutes)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Leian4Rno9w>
- **Video:** Stop Torture: Statistics (approx. 2 minutes)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PBjrfazO8ag>

SLIDE 1



Introduction: Introduce the Stop Torture Campaign as our global campaign and go through the planned agenda, i.e. length of session, activities and what delegates can expect to find out from today's session.

NOTES:

SLIDE 2



Campaign Overview: The History

You may include

- For over 50 years Amnesty has worked to expose governments who torture; and to support the survivors and victims of torture.
- It is 30 years this year since we successfully campaigned to strengthen the global ban on torture, which resulted in the adoption of the UN Convention Against Torture in 1984. 155 countries have now signed up to this.
- We now have a robust international framework and it is absolutely clear that freedom from torture is a human right.
- Despite this, governments today continue to torture. Whether that is to extract information, to silence dissent or simply as an act of cruel punishment and they continue to deny it.

Notes:

SLIDE 3



141 countries in past 5 years

27 torture techniques in past year



Campaign Overview: Why this Campaign now?

You may include:

- Torture is not only still happening; it is increasing at an alarming rate.
- Our latest research shows that between 2009 - 2014 torture or ill-treatment has occurred in at least 141 countries. That is nearly three quarters of all countries in the world.
- Governments in every region have broken their promises and because of these broken promises, people continue to be tortured in their thousands.
- In the past year alone Amnesty International recorded 27 different types of torture being used, including electric shocks to the genitals, cigarette burns and sexual assault.
- The horror of torture has not gone away and this is why we have launched the new campaign.

Notes:

SLIDE 4



Campaign Overview: Global Survey

You may include:

- In Amnesty International's global survey, a total of 21,221 citizens across 21 countries were interviewed face-to-face or by telephone between December 2013 and April 2014.
- The results were very alarming: 44% of those asked believed they might be tortured in custody and 36% believed that torture can be justified in some cases. This figure was incredibly high in China and India where 74% believed torture can be justified.
- In addition, there are 32 member states who have not adopted the UN Convention against Torture but Amnesty International found that 79 states still use torture against people in 2014.

Notes:

SLIDE 5

STOP TORTURE



**WHEN STATES PUT EFFECTIVE
SAFEGUARDS IN PLACE,
PEOPLE ARE PROTECTED.**

STOP TORTURE

Campaign Overview: Our Focus is Safeguards

You may include:

- There is a global ban on torture and national laws against it in many countries, yet torture still happens.
- The majority of the torture and ill-treatment reported to Amnesty is inflicted on people detained on suspicion of committing a criminal offence.
- Our analysis shows that torture thrives where **safeguards are not in place**, or not put into practice. For example:
 - A woman who is being interrogated without the presence of a lawyer is in an environment that is conducive to torture
 - A detention center that refuses independent medical examinations is an environment that is conducive to torture
 - A Judge who accepts evidence of torture allows torture to continue with impunity.
 - A police force that fails to investigate allegations of torture is not held to account for abuses from within the ranks
- Our campaign is solutions focused, concentrating on the safeguards that are either missing or not applied in practice. And we are insisting that governments live up to their promises.

Notes:

SLIDE 6

FIVE KEY COUNTRIES



- MEXICO
- MOROCCO
- NIGERIA
- PHILIPPINES
- UZBEKISTAN

STOP TORTURE

Campaign Overview: 5 Countries

You may include:

- This is a two year campaign, which will shine a light on torturers across the world.
- The campaign will concentrate on where Amnesty International can have most impact, so we are focusing on five key countries.
- These are not necessarily the worst offenders. They are repeat offenders and we believe global pressure can have a positive impact.

Notes:

SLIDE 7

SAFEGUARDS: 5 Focus Countries



- MEXICO – medical examinations
- MOROCCO – lawyers present during interrogations
- NIGERIA – access to detainees
- PHILIPPINES – police accountability
- UZBEKISTAN – international oversight

STOP TORTURE

Campaign Overview: Safeguards in the 5 Countries

You may include:

- Whilst there are overlaps of concern across these countries; Amnesty International will primarily focus on the following safeguards:
- MEXICO – calling for independent medical examinations of detainees who make accusations of torture
- MOROCCO – calling for interrogations to be filmed and there to be lawyers in the room, so that ultimately courts don't rely on torture evidence for convictions.
- NIGERIA – we are calling for independent access to detainees for example for lawyers and family member
- PHILIPPINES – we will hold the police to account for their abuses. There will be more on Philippines in a minute
- UZBEKISTAN – there is a need for international oversight. Despite repeated requests Uzbekistan has refused to allow the UN Special rapporteur to monitor torture within its borders for more than 10 years
- This is a highly coordinated campaign, where Amnesty supporters across the world will be pressuring the same targets, in the same countries, at the same time, with the same message.

Notes:

SLIDE 8



Campaign Overview: Philippines 'Torture Wheel'

You may include:

- This is the 'torture wheel' discovered in a Philippine Police interrogation centre in January 2014.
- Police officers had a list of different torture positions, which were selected by the officers spinning the wheel.
- For example, a "30-second bat position" meant that a detainee would be hung upside down like a bat for 30 seconds, while a "20-second Manny Pacquiao" (For those that don't know Manny Pacquiao is a world champion boxer and national hero from the Philippines) meant that a detainee would be punched non-stop for 20 seconds.
- This happened in spite of the Philippines having a robust legal framework, i.e. the constitution prohibits the use of torture and all acts of torture are criminalised.
- Torture of this kind really shouldn't occur, which is why we are calling for greater oversight of the police in the Philippines.

Notes:

SLIDE 9



STOP TORTURE

Campaign Overview: Stop Torture in the UK

You may include:

- Although the global campaign objectives are focused on bringing about change in those five priority countries there is also an important UK context for us to consider.
- The UK government record on torture has been widely criticised, including at home in the context of Northern Ireland and allegations of UK complicity in torture of detainees held overseas.
- This includes criticism from the UN Committee against Torture, who in a report published in 2013, urged the government to take a number of measures to meet its obligations under international law.
- This campaign will be calling on the UK Government to respect and abide by the absolute prohibition of torture and ensure accountability for UK involvement in torture.
- In addition, the global survey conducted by Amnesty showed that 29% of the UK population think that torture can be justified.
- There is clearly important work to do here around public perceptions of torture and we will be addressing this in activities we do later.

Notes:

SLIDE 10



The graphic features a yellow background with the text "STOP TORTURE" in bold black letters, where the "O" in "TORTURE" is crossed out with a yellow diagonal line. To the right is a black icon of a lit candle. Below this are five columns, each representing a country and a case:

NIGERIA	MEXICO	MOROCCO / WESTERN SAHARA	UZBEKISTAN	PHILIPPINES
				
WIDES AMDISA "The pain of torture is unbearable. I never thought I would be alive till this day."	CLAUDIA MEDINA TAMBARIZ "Pressured into signing a confession she had not even read."	ALI AMRASSI "It is devastating to be abandoned, forgotten... by those we rely on to fight for justice"	SULKHON ABDUQADRIEVA "Caught up in the panicking crowd, Sulxon fled. Confused and scared, she crossed the border."	ALFRED A DISARORO "Punched, slapped and poked in the eye to force a confession."
TAKE ACTION >	TAKE ACTION >	TAKE ACTION >	TAKE ACTION >	TAKE ACTION >

Below the table is a small "STOP TORTURE" logo.

Campaign Overview: Individual Cases

You may include:

- At the heart of this campaign are the individual people who have been tortured at the hands of each of these governments.
- Amnesty International is focusing on one key case for each country. It aims to:
 - Seek progress on their case
 - Stand in solidarity with these individuals and their families, to show that they are not alone and that people across the world are concerned about what happens to them
 - Highlight the systemic failures in those countries that allow torture to occur and the safeguards that need to be put in place.

Notes:

You may wish to run the following activity:

ACTIVITY 1: 5 Cases – An activity to explore the human rights abuses in each individual case and engage with the experiences of each case.

Time: 45-50 minutes

Resources needed:

- Stop Torture Campaign Pack Case Sheet x2
- Post-it notes
- Pens - Blue Tac
- UDHR poster/passport
- Flipchart

Explain the objectives of the task

- To understand the content of the 5 Campaign Cases;
- To engage with the broader human rights setting for this campaign;
- To address the challenges and opportunities in each case.

Assign country to each group [you may choose to do one of the following activities]

Tasks:

- Task 1: You have 10 minutes to put together a ONE MINUTE brief about your case, using the case sheets. Present back to the rest of the group.
- Task 2: You have 10 minutes to discuss what other human rights abuses have taken place in your assigned case, other than torture? (Use the UDHR as a guide, if needed.)
- Write two human rights violations on the post-it and stick it on the wall.
- Ask participant to look at the different rights selected and discuss the similarities, differences and surprises they noticed.
- Task 3: Take 10 minutes and use the paper provided to identify the CHALLENGES, CONTROVERSIES and OPPORTUNITIES that arise in the case?
- Ask each group to feedback in 1 minute

Notes:

SLIDE 11

ACTIVITY: Electioneering



STOP TORTURE

ACTIVITY 2: Electioneering – An activity for delegates to personally reflect on the issues around the campaign and explore how our values and attitudes are shaped.

Time: 45 minutes

Resources Needed: None

Explain the objectives of the task

- To explore the human rights issues inherent within the campaign;
- To evaluate arguments relevant to the campaign;
- To question and assess their own values and attitudes;
- And to experience an experiential tool you can use in your own training

Activity Instructions

1. Ask participants to stand in a line depending on how far they agree with 5 statements. (left = strongly agree right = strongly disagree)
 - *'I would promote this campaign even if Ian Brady was a priority case in the campaign';*
 - *'My own actions will have an impact in this campaign';*
 - *'It would be pointless for Amnesty to campaign to Stop Torture in some countries';*
 - *'Amnesty should not promote this campaign to people that will find it too upsetting';*
 - *'Punishment is an acceptable part of a justice system'*
2. The statement that causes the biggest split is chosen and participants split down the middle of the line into two teams. The two groups have ten minutes to discuss their arguments. Then one representative from each team has 1 min and 30 secs to present the team argument. Everyone on the two teams now has the option to swap teams.
3. The new teams repeat the exercise with the same timings, and again people have the chance to swap sides depending on their opinion.

SLIDE 12



ACTIVITY 3: Quotations – An activity to get delegates to think about the responses they may get from the public when campaigning.

Time: 45 minutes

Resources needed: Quotes below on flipchart or printed out in large print and displayed around a room.

Flipchart paper and pens

Explain the objectives of the task


- To consider a range of personal responses to the campaign;
- To explore the reasons for a range of personal responses to torture;
- To consider how to engage different people with the campaign;
- To reflect on their own values and attitudes to the human rights issues.


Notes:


Activity Instructions


1. Display the following quotes around the room (on flipchart paper or in large print) that reflect the types of quotes received in the global survey, e.g.:
 - *'I find torture too upsetting to think about'*
 - *'The problem is that some countries are just so corrupt there is nothing we can do about it'*
 - *'Torture happens, it happens all the time, but the police have a job to do and they need to get information. There's not much we can do about it.'*
 - *'I'm worried that I might be tortured if I had any run-ins with the police'*
 - *'I'm interested in finding out what the latest torture technique is? What stuff do they do now?'*
 - *'Police need to be able to do things like this to get information.'*
 - *'The thing is that torture works. If the police need to find something out then this actually works.'*
 - *'If someone did something awful to someone in my family I would want them to be tortured'*
2. Ask participants to walk around the room and read the quotes. They need to choose two quotes – one that they relate to the least and find the most difficult to understand – one that they relate to the most and can understand easily.
3. Ask participants to stand under the quote they relate to the least.
4. Now ask participants to stand under the quote they relate to the most but also allocate a neutral space, for participants to stand if they don't relate to any. Facilitate a 5 – 10 minute discussion between participants about the reasons why they do / don't relate to the quotes.
5. Divide the group into small groups of three and ask each trio to take a quotation from the wall. Each group has three minutes to consider why a person might have said this quotation.
6. Distribute flip-chart paper and pens to groups and give 5 minutes for groups to gather ideas for how they would engage with this particular person if they received this response when they asked someone to sign a petition. Do they think they would sign after the discussion?
7. Group feedback. 10 -15 mins. In discussion bring out the value of a signature? Is it the most important part of the interaction?


SLIDE 13

ACTIVITY: Elevator Pitch 


MP


Radio


Local Group


Controversial Member of the public

STOP TORTURE

ACTIVITY 4: Elevator Pitch – An activity for delegates to create a clear, focused and structured campaign pitch.

Time: 20 minutes

Resources Needed: Pen and Paper

Explain the objectives of the task

- To use the skills you've gained from the other parts of today's session;
- To deliver a focused campaign pitch to your target audience;
- To feel confident in your ability to campaign against torture to the wider public.

Activity Background

To use any opportunity with a member of the public or influential person to the best avail, we suggest that you practice your skills in delivering your message. This activity gives a useful safe space for delegates to do this.

Notes:

Activity Instructions

Split the group into 4 small groups, if numbers are limited you may use 2 or 3 groups.

Each group is assigned the following target audience.

Group 1: MP;

Group 2: Radio;

Group 3: A Local Group who is less engaged with this campaign;

Group 4: A Controversial member of public who would say the following

"The thing is that torture works. If the police need to find something out then this actually works"

Give the groups 10 minutes to put together a **two minute** 'elevator pitch' to deliver back to the rest of the groups.

Ask them to nominate one or two people to deliver their pitch. If they wish to do it as a whole group, be mindful of timings.

Feel free to use a timer, at your discretion.

Notes:

SLIDE 14

RESOURCES:



GENERAL CAMPAIGN INFO

<http://www.amnesty.org/en/stoptorture>

<http://www.amnesty.org.uk/issues/stop-torture>

STOP TORTURE RESOURCES

http://www.amnesty.org.uk/resources/1629/all/0/1608/Stop/0#_U7aqwJRdVVM

AUDIO VISUAL RESOURCES

AIUK YouTube Page: <http://www.youtube.com/user/HumanTV>

STOP TORTURE

RESOURCES

You may include information on where groups or individuals can go to get more information. Use the “**STOP TORTURE: RESOURCES LINKS**” sheet to give further information.

- General Campaign Info has links to both the International Secretariat’s web links and Amnesty International UK’s web page.
- Stop Torture Resources link has resources for local and student groups, including the campaign pack.
- For Audio Visual Resources, the AIUK YouTube page has the most recent campaign videos.

Notes:

SLIDE 15 (FINAL)

STOP Torture: What next?



SKILLS SHARE DAY

Saturday 4th October 2012

- Find out about the campaign
- Get creative
- Share your ideas on effective activism



STOP TORTURE

STOP TORTURE SKILLS SHARE DAY

Inform local groups about the upcoming Skills Share Day on 4th October at the HRAC, London, which will be focusing on the Stop Torture Campaign.

Notes: