

SUCCESS STORIES

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FOR
RIGHTS

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Moses Akatugba (Nigeria), sentenced to death for stealing three mobile phones when he was 16, was granted a full pardon by the governor of the Niger Delta and released in June 2015 after 10 years behind bars. *Write for Rights 2014.*

'Amnesty International members and activists are my heroes.'



Albert Woodfox (USA), who spent 44 years in solitary confinement, was freed on 19 February 2016, his 69th birthday. *Write for Rights 2015.*

'I'd like to thank our friends at Amnesty International for their remarkable support these last years.'



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Nadezhda Tolokonnikova and Maria Alekhina of art collective Pussy Riot (Russia), jailed for an anti-Putin protest, were released in December 2013. *Write for Rights 2012.*

'Those letters kept us alive ... thank you to all those bold enough to speak out against injustice'



Fred Bauma and Yves Makwambala (Democratic Republic of Congo), detained because of their pro-democracy work, were released in August 2016. *Write for Rights 2015.*

Fred: 'I thank Amnesty International and all those who fought in one way or another for my release.'



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Mikhail Kosenko, of the Bolotnaya Three protesters (Russia), sentenced to forcible psychiatric treatment after peacefully taking part in a demonstration, was released from hospital in June 2014. *Write for Rights 2013.*

'Your letters had influence on my release'



Yecenia Armenta (Mexico), jailed on the basis of a 'confession' extracted after 15 hours of torture, was released in June 2016. *Write for Rights 2015.*

'It's exciting to think that there are people who still care about the rights of other people.'



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Yorm Bopha (Cambodia), imprisoned on trumped-up charges for peacefully campaigning for her community's housing rights, was released in November 2013. *Write for Rights 2013.*

'We can achieve the most success when we all work together'



Phyo Phyo Aung (Burma), arrested after a protest against a new education law, was freed in April 2016. *Write for Rights 2015.*

'I am so grateful to Amnesty International and all of the people who participated in the campaign for my release.'



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Gao Zhisheng (China), who spent three years in prison because of his work as a human rights lawyer, was released in 2014, but placed under virtual house arrest. *Write for Rights 2012.*



Israa Al-Taweel (Egypt), shot in the lower back at a protest and then arrested, was released from prison and put under house arrest in December 2015. All security restrictions were lifted in early 2016 and she is now officially free. *Write for Rights 2015.*

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