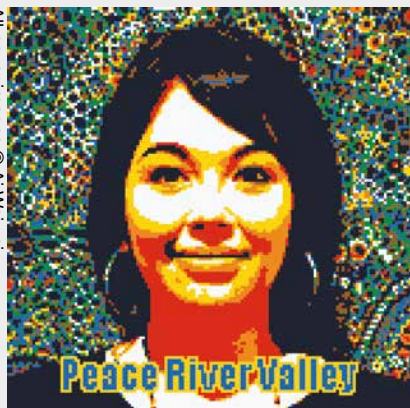


Greetings card and letter writing campaign 2016

WRITE FOR RIGHTS

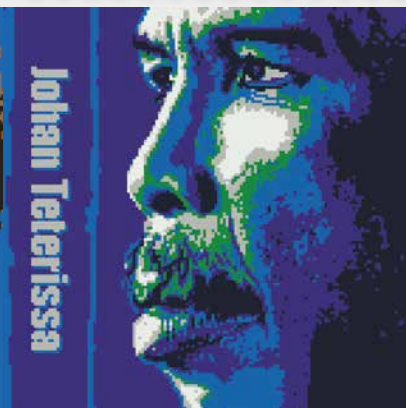
AMNESTY
INTERNATIONAL



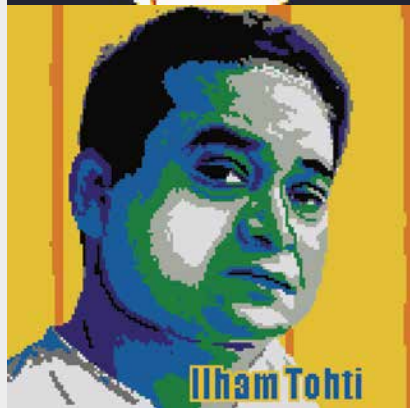
Peace River Valley



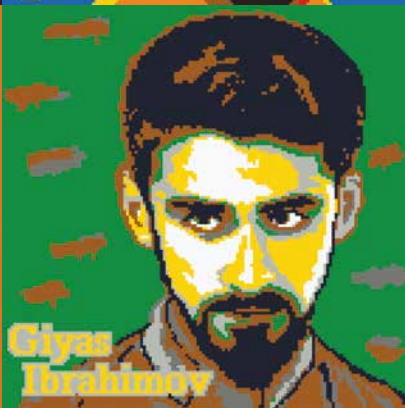
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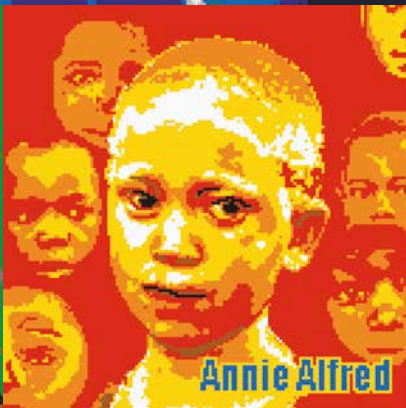
Johan Teterissa



Ilham Tohti



Giyas Ibrahimov



Annie Alfred



Fomusoh Ivo Feh



Máxima Acuña



Eren Keskin

Ai Weiwei brings art to Write for Rights

Ai Weiwei, China's most famous contemporary artist, knows only too well the risks of speaking out against injustice – and how much Amnesty campaigns mean to people suffering because of their political, religious or artistic activities and beliefs.

Ai Weiwei has first-hand experience of the heavy-handed tactics of the Chinese authorities. In 2009 he was briefly detained and severely beaten. He was due to testify at the trial of environmental activist Tan Zuoren who, with Ai Weiwei and others, documented the names of over 5,000 children who died when their shoddily-built schools collapsed in the 2008 Sichuan earthquake.

In 2011, Ai Weiwei was detained for 81 days without charge. 'I was like a pea dropped into a crevice,' he wrote in a letter to his son. 'They kept close watch over me 24 hours a day. I had to submit a formal request for every action – every need.' He later recreated a full-size replica of his cell, which was exhibited around the world.

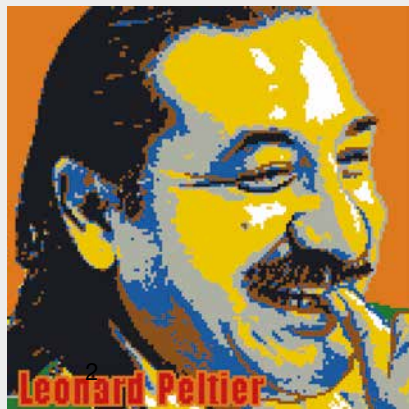
Ai Weiwei was released after a global campaign. Thousands of Amnesty supporters wrote letters and emails to the authorities in Beijing. Since then he has suffered continued harassment, threats and restrictions on his movements.

In support of this year's Write for Rights campaign, Ai Weiwei has contributed powerful, unique and vivid portraits of individuals featured in the cases.



Ai Weiwei visiting the Idomeni refugee camp on the Greek-Macedonian border, March 2016. ©AP

In 2015, while under constant surveillance and forbidden from leaving China, Ai Weiwei was joint recipient of Amnesty's Ambassador of Conscience Award. As an activist artist who has faced the consequences of speaking up for justice through his work, he has a great deal in common with the people whose rights we are writing for this year.



WRITE FOR RIGHTS

Together our words make a difference

This winter you can support someone whose rights are being abused. It only takes a few minutes to write a card or letter. But for someone jailed for exercising their freedom of speech, a family fighting to defend their land, or a child tortured because of their appearance, they are invaluable. A message of solidarity shows them that they are not alone.

Appeal letters from you and millions of other Amnesty supporters around the world force authorities to address human rights violations, cruelty and injustice. They show presidents, justice ministers, police chiefs and prison governors that the world is watching.

Over 75,000 people in the UK took part in Write for Rights 2015 – and made a real difference

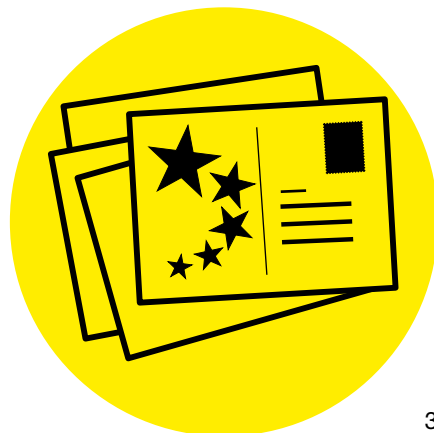
- **Albert Woodfox** was freed in February 2016 after more than 40 years in solitary confinement in the US.
- Egyptian student **Israa Al-Taweel** was released from prison in December 2015, and in February 2016 all security restrictions on her were lifted.
- **Yecenia Armenta**, who was tortured into 'confessing' to her husband's murder, was freed from jail in June 2016.
- In Burma student protestor **Phyoe Phyoe Aung** was released in April 2016.
- Pro-democracy campaigners **Fred Bauma** and **Yves Makwambala** were freed in August 2016 in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

INSIDE

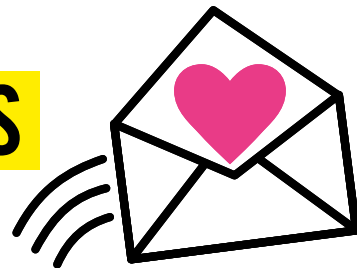
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Updates from last year	22

'Receiving letters gives me real inspiration.... I thank everyone for their support.'

Phyoe Phyoe Aung



LETTER WRITING WORKS



THIS YEAR'S CAMPAIGN

In this booklet there is information on 12 people or groups who are facing human rights abuses right now. We've suggested actions you can take for each one, including:

- Sending a solidarity message to let them know you're thinking of them
- Writing a letter appealing to those with the power to stop the abuse
- Using social media to show solidarity or contact the authorities

Along with the 12 cases in this booklet, we are also campaigning for five other people this November and December. If you'd like to support them too, email iar@amnesty.org.uk or visit www.amnesty.org.uk/morecases

Below: Catherine Ouedraogo with some of the solidarity messages sent by Amnesty UK supporters. She said the messages gave the women and girls of Burkina Faso strength and courage.



NEW TO WRITE FOR RIGHTS

Getting involved in our global letter-writing campaign couldn't be easier, but we know the first time may seem a bit daunting. Here are a few tips:

- Each page has all the information you need on a case and advice on how to take action.
- You don't have to take action on all 12 cases – anything you do to support one or two individuals can really make a difference.
- Try to personalise your message of support or solidarity – this has a real impact on recipients. If you're unsure, we've provided some suggested messages.
- Include your name and country when writing to the authorities. This shows the letter is genuine and personal. Depending on the advice for the case, you can also include your address. Write as one human to another, and keep requests clear and polite.
- Throughout the booklet we say whether you can include your name and address in a solidarity card or letter. Where we have said no, it is to ensure the individual does not feel overwhelmed at having to respond to everyone.
- Don't forget to check out our frequently asked questions section (page 21) if there's anything else you're unsure about.



STAY UP TO DATE

Our actions often need to change in response to new circumstances. For updates and new advice or actions on the cases in this booklet, visit www.amnesty.org.uk/write or contact:

Supporter Care Team
Amnesty International UK
Human Rights Action Centre
17-25 New Inn Yard
London EC2A 3EA
Tel: **020 7033 1777**
Email: iar@amnesty.org.uk

**1 NOV–
31 DEC**

DATES TO REMEMBER

The Write for Rights campaign runs from **1 November** to **31 December**. International Human Rights Day is **10 December**.

POSTAGE RATES

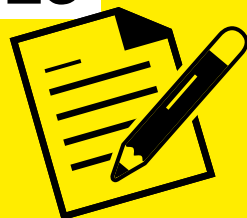
These rates were correct at the time of going to print. For the latest guidance on pricing and to buy postage online visit www.royalmail.com.



Weight not over	Europe	Rest of World
10g	£1.05	£1.05
20g	£1.05	£1.33
100g	£1.52	£2.25

This booklet is suitable for audiences aged 14+. For younger supporters please download our youth casesheets. Visit www.amnesty.org.uk/write and click on resources.

RESOURCES



PRINTED MATERIALS

Want to order more materials?
Please call us on **01788 545553**,
or order via the form online:
amnesty.org.uk/write

Booklet

WFR 021: Write for Rights Campaign Booklet 2016 with information on all cases

Posters

WFR 022: Write for Rights and Map (A2)
WFR 023: Case 1 (A3): Fomusoh Ivo Feh
WFR 024: Case 2 (A3): Nazanin Zaghari Ratcliffe
WFR 025: Case 3 (A3): Mahmoud Abu Zeid (Shawkan)
WFR 026: Case 4 (A3): Annie Alfred

Actions cards

WFR 027: Fomusoh Ivo Feh
WFR 028: Nazanin Zaghari Ratcliffe

Stickers

WFR 029: Sheet of 20 stickers

ONLINE

Go to www.amnesty.org.uk/write for the latest information on the Write for Rights campaign. You can download pdf versions of the printed materials and additional resources, including:

- Casesheets with solidarity and appeal actions (useful to print out for events and stalls)
- Translations of suggested solidarity messages
- Address labels for individuals or appeal targets
- Updates on cases
- Casesheets written specially for a younger audience
- Top tips for organising a Write for Rights event
- Good news from previous campaigns
- Photo gallery of cases

If you have any questions about the campaign, please contact our Supporter Care Team on **020 7033 1777**.

SOLIDARITY AROUND THE WORLD



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AZERBAIJAN

BAYRAM MAMMADOV + GIYAS IBRAHIMOV

Tortured for political graffiti

Students Bayram Mammadov and Giyas Ibrahimov were detained after spraying political graffiti on a statue of former president Heydar Aliyev. Their message, 'Happy Slave Day', was a play on the slogan 'Happy Flower Day', which is celebrated on 10 May in Azerbaijan. The current president is Heydar Aliyev's son.

Bayram and Giyas were arrested shortly after posting a photo of the graffiti on Facebook, and falsely accused of drug possession. The students, who were actually only questioned about the graffiti, were tortured after they refused to sign confessions and publicly apologise for their protest. Officers severely beat them and threatened them with rape.

Bayram and Giyas now face up to 12 years in prison on trumped-up drug possession charges.

SEND A SOLIDARITY CARD TO:

Bayram Mammadov/Giyas Ibrahimov
Baki Investigation Isolator
(Kurdakhany Detention Facility)
Sabunchu District
Zabrat 2 settlement
AZ1104
Azerbaijan

Although the cards may not reach Bayram and Giyas, they will still make the prison administration aware of the international attention the case is getting.

- **Language:** Azerbaijani, English, Russian or Turkish
- **Suggested messages:** Keep up Bayram and Giyas' spirits by sending them cards, letters and drawings. Please include the words 'Möhkəm ol' ('Stay strong') in your message.

GET CREATIVE

Draw your own graffiti on a card or take photos of graffiti in your area and send them with a message of support.

CAN I

- ✓ Send a religious card or message?
- ✓ Send an Amnesty card or mention Amnesty?
- ✓ Include my name and address?



Bayram Mammadov



Giyas Ibrahimov

SEND AN APPEAL LETTER:

Urge President Ilham Aliyev to ensure that Bayram Mammadov and Giyas Ibrahimov are released immediately.

Write to: President Ilham Aliyev
Office of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan
19 Istiqlaliyyat Street
Baku, AZ 1066
Azerbaijan

Fax: (0099412) 492 35 43 or 492 06 25
Email: office@pa.gov.az
Twitter: @presidentaz

The Azerbaijan authorities are sensitive about the country's image abroad, so please also send copies of your letter to the embassy in London.

Write to: His Excellency Mr Tahir Taghizadeh
Embassy of the Republic of Azerbaijan
4 Kensington Court
London
W8 5DL

Email: london@mission.mfa.gov.az
Salutation: Your Excellency

In your letter: Call for the immediate and unconditional release of Bayram Mammadov, Giyas Ibrahimov and other prisoners of conscience. Urge the authorities to protect the rights to freedom of expression, association and assembly.

CAMEROON

FOMUSOH IVO FEH

Charged over a satirical text

Fomusoh Ivo Feh was set to start university when he received a satirical text message from a friend: 'Boko Haram recruits young people from 14 years old and above. Conditions for recruitment: 4 subjects at GCE, including religion.'

The message was a joke about how difficult it is to find a job in Cameroon – so even an armed group like Boko Haram would want highly-qualified recruits. Ivo forwarded the message to another friend, who sent it on again. But after a teacher saw the text and showed it to the police, Ivo and his two friends were arrested in late 2014.

A draconian anti-terrorism law was used to charge them with several offences, including attempting to organise a rebellion. They face the prospect of a military trial and a 20-year sentence.

SEND AN APPEAL LETTER:

Urge President Paul Biya to drop the charges against Fomusoh Ivo Feh and his friends, and immediately release them.

Write to: President of the Republic of Cameroon
His Excellency Paul Biya
P.O. Box 95 Yaoundé
Cameroon

Email: cellcom@prc.cm or
contact@presidenceducameroun.com

Twitter: @PR_Paul_Biya. Use the hashtag
#freetheSMS3

Salutation: Your Excellency

In your letter: Urge him to release Ivo and his friends immediately and unconditionally, ensure they are not ill-treated, and have regular access to family, lawyer and necessities, pending their release.

SEND A SOLIDARITY CARD TO:

Fomusoh Ivo Feh
Délégation régionale de l'administration pénitentiaire
Prison principale de Yaoundé
s/c Prison centrale de Yaoundé
B.P. : 100, Yaoundé
Cameroon

■ **Language:** English

■ **Salutation:** Dear Ivo and friends

■ **Suggested message:** Let Ivo and his friends know they are not alone, that you are thinking of them and fighting for their release.

■ **Note:** Ivo's birthday is 5 December.

GET CREATIVE

Make an origami butterfly (a symbol of freedom) or flower (to represent our support). Ivo is a big football fan and his favourite player is former Cameroon striker Patrick Mboma. Use the team colours (green shirts, red shorts) in your message. His favourite song is Dolly Parton's 'Coat of Many Colours'. Why not share your favourite song?

CAN I

- ✓ Send a religious card or message?
- ✓ Send an Amnesty card or mention Amnesty?
- ✗ Include my name and address?

© Vincent Tremeau/Al



CANADA

INDIGENOUS PEOPLES IN THE PEACE RIVER VALLEY



© Al Canada

Dam threatens way of life

A century ago Helen Knott's great-great grandfather signed a treaty with the Canadian government to protect his people's way of life in the Peace River Valley, British Columbia. But instead of honouring that promise, the government has ignored it and authorised a massive hydro-electric dam that threatens the way of life of the indigenous communities in the region.

The Peace River Valley is home to numerous cultural and heritage sites with a history spanning 10,000 years. Now members of the West Moberly and Prophet River First Nations have gone to court, insisting the government honours the 100-year-old promise and stops work on the Site C dam. Even though the case has not been decided yet, the hydroelectric company has begun clearing the valley.

SEND A SOLIDARITY MESSAGE TO:

Owing to the number of communities affected, we're asking people to send messages online using Facebook, Twitter or Instagram using the hashtag #WithThePeaceRiver. These will be automatically added to our solidarity website, and shown at an Amnesty Canada event with the Peace River Valley communities in late 2016.

■ **Language:** Any

■ **Suggested message:** '#WithThePeaceRiver #NoSiteC #HonourTreaty8 We stand with you.' The more personalised the message, the better it demonstrates the global nature of the support.

GET CREATIVE

Upload a photo of your favourite place, say why it is important to you and that you stand with the communities in their struggle. You could use symbols of your own culture or refer to a nearby river. For example: 'From the banks of the Thames, we stand with the peoples of Peace River Valley.'

CAN I

- ✗ Send a religious card or message?
- ✓ Send an Amnesty card or mention Amnesty?
- ✗ Include my name and address?

SEND AN APPEAL LETTER:

Urge Prime Minister Justin Trudeau to halt the Site C dam, and honour Canada's obligation to protect the rights of indigenous peoples in the Peace River Valley.

Write to: The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau
Office of the Prime Minister
80 Wellington Street
Ottawa, ON
Canada
K1A 0A2

Fax: +1 (613) 941-6900

Email: pm@pm.gc.ca

Twitter: @JustinTrudeau

Salutation: Dear Prime Minister

In your letter: Urge him to halt the Site C dam. Highlight the dam's harmful impact on the lives and well-being of indigenous peoples, that fishing will be destroyed and cultural and sacred sites lost. Emphasise that flooding the valley will affect indigenous peoples' rights to health, culture and livelihood, which are protected by Canadian and international law. Urge the prime minister to ensure their rights are respected and the dam will not proceed against their wishes.



CHINA

ILHAM TOHTI

Life sentence for Uighur activist

Uighur academic Ilham Tohti is a prominent critic of the Chinese government's policies in the Xinjiang Uighur Autonomous Region. Uighurs, members of an ethnic minority that practices Islam, face widespread discrimination in their employment, education and housing, curtailed religious freedom, and political marginalisation.

Ilham has spoken out about his community's plight for many years. His 'Uighur Online' website reported human rights violations, but has been repeatedly shut down. He has consistently opposed violence and worked peacefully to build bridges between communities.

Nevertheless, he has been put under surveillance, and was interrogated after travelling to France in 2009 and giving media interviews critical of China's policies on ethnic minorities. After being charged with 'separatism', an 'offence' often used against Uighurs who speak out, Ilham was sentenced to life imprisonment in 2014.

SEND AN APPEAL LETTER:

Urge the Chinese authorities to release Ilham Tohti immediately and unconditionally.

Write to: Fan Jun
Prison Administration Bureau of Xinjiang
Uighur Autonomous Region
No. 626 Xinquanjie, Tianshanqu
Urumqi,
Xinjiang Uighur Autonomous Region
People's Republic of China
Postal code: 830002

Salutation: Dear Director

In your letter: Call on the authorities to release Ilham Tohti immediately and unconditionally. Pending his release, urge them to ensure he is not tortured or ill-treated, has access to lawyers and medical treatment, and move him closer to his family.

SEND A SOLIDARITY CARD TO:

Ilham Tohti
Xinjiang Uighur Autonomous Region No. 1 Prison
No. 215 Hebei Donglu
Urumqi, Xinjiang Uighur Autonomous Region
People's Republic of China
Postal code: 830013

Sending messages to Ilham puts pressure on the authorities and could lead to an improvement in his treatment, even if he does not actually receive them.

■ **Language:** Chinese

■ **Suggested message:** We stand with you even when they all think you are defeated! Courage! Although you are in prison, you have inspired many others to defend human rights! We are thinking about you. Versions of these messages in Chinese are available at www.amnesty.org.uk/write

CAN I

- ✗ Send a religious card or message?
- ✓ Send an Amnesty card or mention Amnesty?
- ✓ Include my name and address?

'I have relied only on pen and paper to diplomatically request the human rights, legal rights, and autonomous regional rights for the Uighurs.'

Ilham Tohti



EGYPT

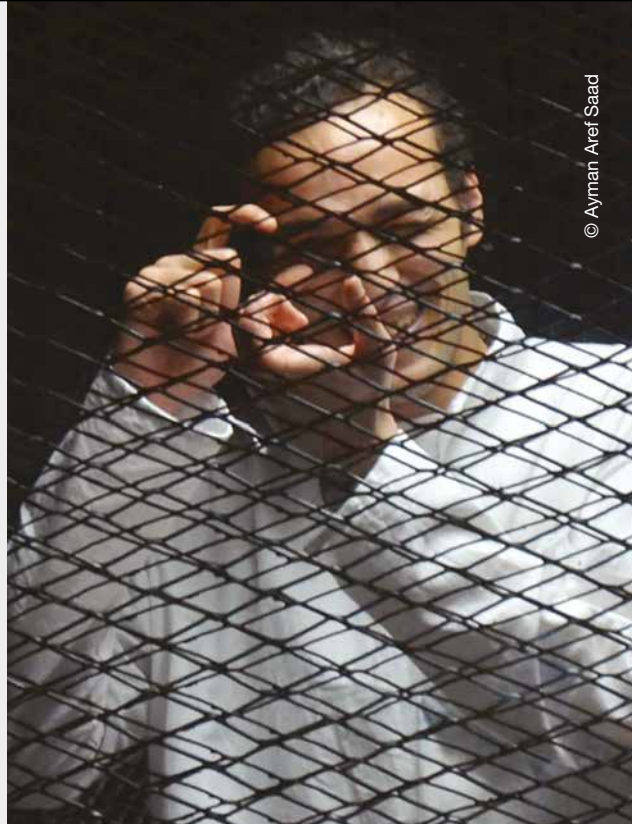
MAHMOUD ABU ZEID (SHAWKAN)

At risk of death penalty for taking photos

Photojournalist Mahmoud Abu Zeid, known as Shawkan, was covering a sit-in on 14 August 2013 in Cairo when security forces, police and tanks swept in. As bullets and tear gas went flying, he photographed the mayhem around him.

When the police found out Shawkan was a journalist, they arrested him, tied his hands together with plastic cables that cut through his skin, and beat him. Up to a thousand people were killed on that day across Egypt, and Shawkan was among hundreds arrested. He has now been detained without charge for over three years, in contravention of Egyptian law. He has hepatitis C, but has been denied adequate medication. His health is deteriorating.

Shawkan faces nine trumped-up charges, including 'joining a criminal gang' and 'murder'. If convicted, he could face the death penalty.



© Ayman Aref Saad

'Taking pictures isn't a crime.'

Shawkan

SEND A SOLIDARITY CARD TO:

Free Shawkan
Ahmed Abu Seif
211 E. Ohio St. Apt #2523
Chicago, Illinois
60611, USA

- **Language:** English
- **Suggested message:** Tell Shawkan he is not alone and that you are fighting for him. Try to include the message 'Free Shawkan'.
- **Twitter:** @ShawkanZeid. Use the hashtag #FreeShawkan.

CAN I

- ✓ Send a religious card or message?
- ✓ Send an Amnesty card or mention Amnesty?
- ✓ Include my name and address?

SEND AN APPEAL LETTER:

Urge Public Prosecutor Nabil Sadek to drop all charges against Mahmoud Abu Zeid and release him immediately.

Write to: Nabil Sadek
Office of the Public Prosecutor
Madinat Al-Rihab
New Cairo, Egypt

Salutation: Dear Counsellor

In your letter: Urge him to drop all charges against Mahmoud Abu Zeid and release him immediately and unconditionally. Emphasise that he is a prisoner of conscience. Call for him to be provided with any medical treatment he needs. Demand the release of other journalists detained solely for exercising their right to freedom of expression.

INDONESIA

JOHAN TETERISSA

Jailed for raising banned flag

Teacher Johan Teterissa is serving a 15-year jail sentence for raising a flag banned by the Indonesian government.

In 2007 he led a group of people, mainly teachers and farmers, in a peaceful protest in front of the president. They performed a traditional war dance, before unfurling a 'rainbow' flag, a historical symbol of independence for the eastern province of Maluku.

Police officers removed Johan and the others, punching and beating them. They forced them to crawl on their stomachs on hot asphalt, whipped them with electric cables, and beat their ears with rifle butts until they bled.

After an unfair trial, the protestors were convicted of 'rebellion' and Johan was sentenced to life, later reduced to 15 years. He is in prison thousands of kilometres away from his family and friends.



'I urge Amnesty International to continue campaigning for the freedom of all political prisoners from Maluku... we should not have been charged in the first place.'

Johan Teterissa

SEND AN APPEAL LETTER:

Urge President Joko Widodo to immediately and unconditionally release Johan and the other protesters.

Write to: President of the Republic of Indonesia
H.E Joko Widodo
c/o Presidential Staff Office (KSP)
Gedung Bina Graha
Jalan Veteran No. 16
Jakarta Pusat 10110, Indonesia

Fax: +62 21 354 0009

Email: webmaster@ksp.go.id

Twitter: @jokowi

Language: Bahasa Indonesia, English or your own language

Salutation: Your Excellency

In your letter: Urge the President to immediately and unconditionally release Johan and the others. Pending their release, they should be urgently transferred to a prison closer to their families. Call on him to ensure Johan is not tortured or ill-treated, and has access to medical treatment, lawyers of his choosing, and family visits.

SEND A SOLIDARITY CARD TO:

Johan Teterissa
Lembaga Pemasyarakatan (Lapas)
Klas 1 Batu
Nusa Lambangan
Tambakreja
Cilacap Selatan
53213, Cilacap
Central Java, Indonesia

■ **Language:** Bahasa Indonesia, English or your own language

■ **Suggested message:** Saya mengerti bahwa anda ditahan atas akifitas yang damai oleh karenanya saya sedang mengkampanyekan agar anda dibebaskan. *(I know that you have been imprisoned for peaceful activities and I am campaigning for you to be released.)*

■ **Note:** Johan's birthday is 31 December.

CAN I

- ✗ Send a religious card or message?
- ✓ Send an Amnesty card or mention Amnesty?
- ✓ Include my name and address?

NAZANIN ZAGHARI-RATCLIFFE

Charity worker detained after family visit

British-Iranian charity worker Nazanin Zaghari-Ratcliffe was arrested in April at Tehran's Imam Khomeini Airport. She was about to fly home to the UK with her two-year-old daughter, Gabriella, following a family visit. Nazanin was allowed to leave Gabriella with her parents, but the toddler's British passport was confiscated.

Since then Nazanin has been allowed only very restricted visits from her family, subjected to solitary confinement, and accused of plotting the 'soft overthrow of the Islamic Republic'. She may have been coerced into making a 'confession'.

Nazanin's family said she was sentenced to five years in prison on unspecified 'national security-related charges' on 6 September. Amnesty does not believe she received a fair trial.

SEND A SOLIDARITY CARD TO:

Nazanin Zaghari-Ratcliffe
Evin Prison
District 2
Behesht St
Tehran
Iran

We do not know if Nazanin will be allowed to receive cards, but her family has asked us to send them.

- **Language:** English
- **Salutation:** Dear Nazanin
- **Suggested messages:** You are not alone in your struggle. I am thinking of you and fighting for your release.

GET CREATIVE

Nazanin misses her home in London. You could send a postcard of where you live. She also likes sewing and travel photography – why not include these elements in your card?

CAN I

- ✓ Send a religious card or message?
- ✓ Send an Amnesty card or mention Amnesty?
- ✓ Include my name and address?

SEND AN APPEAL LETTER:

Urge Ayatollah Sayed 'Ali Khamenei to release Nazanin immediately and unconditionally and quash her conviction if she was jailed solely for exercising her rights to freedom of expression and association.

Write to: Office of the Supreme Leader
Ayatollah Sayed 'Ali Khamenei
c/o His Excellency Hamid Baeidinejad
Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran
16 Prince's Gate
London
SW7 1PT

Salutation: Your Excellency

In your letter: Urge him to allow Nazanin regular contact with her family, an independent lawyer of her choosing, and British consular officials. Urge him to release her immediately and unconditionally and quash her conviction if she was jailed solely for exercising her rights to freedom of expression and association.

© Private



MALAWI

ANNIE ALFRED

Violence rises against people with albinism

When 11-year-old Annie Alfred grows up she wants to be a nurse. She lives with her parents and loves playing with friends. But her life is in constant danger because she has a genetic condition: albinism.

Some 7,000-10,000 Malawians live with albinism, which results in the absence of pigmentation in the eyes, skin and hair. They are in danger of being abducted, mutilated or killed because of erroneous beliefs and superstitions, with children like Annie at particular risk. Even after death, their bones are often stolen for use in witchcraft rituals.

Attacks against Malawians with albinism are rising: there have been six reported killings in 2016. The few perpetrators who have been arrested have been acquitted or given light sentences. The president says he supports greater protection for people with albinism, but not much progress has been made.



SEND A SOLIDARITY CARD TO:

Association of People with Albinism in Malawi (APAM)
c/o FEDOMA
Private Bag 797
Limbe, Blantyre
Malawi

APAM will distribute the cards to people with albinism and families who have lost loved ones.

- **Language:** English
- **Salutation:** Dear friend
- **Suggested messages:** People with albinism have rights. I support your fight for a dignified life for people with albinism.

GET CREATIVE

Blue denim and mint green ribbons are being used to raise awareness of rare diseases such as albinism. You could send coloured ribbons, or photos of cards of these colours.

CAN I

- ✓ Send a religious card or message?
- ✓ Send an Amnesty card or mention Amnesty?
- ✓ Include my name and address?

SEND AN APPEAL LETTER:

Urge President Peter Mutharika to protect people with albinism and show that crimes against people like Annie will be met with the full weight of the law.

Write to: President of the Republic of Malawi
His Excellency Professor Arthur Peter Mutharika
Office of the President and Cabinet
Private Bag 301 Capital City
Lilongwe 3
Malawi

Fax: +265 1 773 954/ 789 273

Twitter: @APMutharika

Salutation: Your Excellency

In your letter: Urge the President to protect people with albinism. Ask him to fully resource the Special Counsel office to enable it to support police investigations and prosecutions of crimes against people with albinism. Call on him to allocate resources to the National Task Force so it can fully implement the National Response Plan of Action on Addressing the Situation of Persons with Albinism in Malawi. Ask him to create a conducive learning environment for people with albinism and other disabilities.

PERU

MÁXIMA ACUÑA

Family at risk of forced eviction

Máxima Acuña, a subsistence farmer, is standing up against one of the world's biggest gold and copper mines. The Yanacocha mining company wants to throw Máxima off the land she has owned and lived on for over 20 years.

Máxima and her family have been repeatedly harassed and physically attacked by Yanacocha security personnel and the police. Her daughter was beaten unconscious and their dog stabbed. Their crops have been destroyed, and their movements restricted.

In 2011 Yanacocha claimed Máxima was squatting and a lengthy legal battle ensued. She was initially stripped of the land, but it was later returned. The company has challenged the court's decision, and forced eviction remains a serious risk.

Despite these traumas, Máxima refuses to give up, and her bravery earned her the 2016 Goldman Prize, the world's most respected environmental award.



© Raúl García Pereira /
Amnistía Internacional

'I will never kneel before Yanacocha.'

Máxima Acuña

SEND A SOLIDARITY CARD TO:

Máxima Acuña
c/o Amnistía Internacional Peru
Calle Manuel A. Fuentes N° 894
San Isidro
Lima 27
Peru

- **Language:** Spanish
- **Salutation:** Sra. Máxima
- **Suggested message:** Sra. Máxima, Usted no está sola. Desde Reino Unido yo apoyo su lucha para proteger a su familia y defender los derechos humanos. En solidaridad.
(Sra. Máxima, You are not alone. From the UK I support your struggle to protect your family and defend human rights. In solidarity.)

GET CREATIVE

Máxima likes to sing. You could record yourself singing or playing music and send it to iar@amnesty.org.uk.

CAN I

- ✓ Send a religious card or message?
- ✓ Send an Amnesty card or mention Amnesty?
- ✓ Include my name and address?

SEND AN APPEAL LETTER:

Urge Minister of Interior Carlos Basombrío to protect Máxima Acuña and her family from forced eviction, harassment and intimidation.

Write to: Minister of Interior Carlos Basombrío
Ministro del Interior
Plaza 30 de Agosto s/n Urb.
Corpac – San Isidro
Lima
Peru

Fax: +511 418 4030
Email: dm@mininter.gob.pe
sg@mininter.gob.pe

Twitter: @CarlosBasombrio @MininterPeru
Salutation: Dear Minister

In your letter: Tell him to protect Máxima Acuña and her family from forced eviction, harassment and intimidation. Urge him to guarantee their freedom of movement and access to the land where they live. Order a prompt, thorough and impartial investigation into the attacks, make the results public, and bring those responsible to justice.



TURKEY

EREN KESKIN

Lawyer faces life sentence

An outspoken defender of human rights for over 30 years, lawyer Eren Keskin has been subjected to death threats, physical attacks and sustained judicial harassment.

She has been hauled before the courts more than a hundred times, and convicted on numerous occasions, largely because of her work defending Kurdish rights. In 1995 she served six months in prison for referring to 'Kurdistan' in an article, and has also received fines and suspended sentences.

Eren's most recent conviction is for 'Denigrating the Turkish nation'. It relates to a speech accusing the authorities of 'slaughtering a 12-year-old' after a father and son were killed in an army operation. In December 2014 she was sentenced to a year in prison, later reduced to 10 months.

After July's attempted coup – which Amnesty condemns – Eren was accused of offences linked to her work with Kurdish newspaper Özgür Gündem, including 'membership of a terrorist organisation'. If convicted, she could receive a life sentence.

SEND AN APPEAL LETTER:

Tell Minister of Justice Bekir Bozdağ that Eren must not be jailed for her human rights work, and to repeal laws that curtail freedom of expression.

Write to: Bekir Bozdağ
Ministry of Justice
Adalet Bakanlığı
06659 Ankara
Turkey

Fax: +90 312 417 71 13
+90 312 419 33 70

Email: ozelkalem@adalet.gov.tr

Twitter: @bybekirbozdag

Salutation: Dear Minister

In your letter: Tell the minister that Eren Keskin must not be jailed for her human rights work. Let him know that if convicted under Article 301, Eren would be a prisoner of conscience. Emphasise that Amnesty is an impartial movement campaigning against human rights violations around the world. Condemn July's coup and call for those responsible to be brought to justice under the rule of law.

SEND A SOLIDARITY CARD TO:

Eren Keskin
c/o Turkey Team
Amnesty International
1 Easton Street
London WC1X 0DW

■ **Language:** Turkish

■ **Salutation:** Sevgili Eren Keskin (Dear Eren Keskin)

■ **Suggested message:** İfade özgürlüğünüzün defalarca adil olmayan yargılamalarla ihlal edilmesini kınıyor, size olan desteğimi belirtmek istiyorum. Sonsuz desteğimle (I/we wish to express our solidarity with you in defence of your right to freedom of expression, which has been violated in numerous and repeated prosecutions. Yours in solidarity.)

■ **Twitter:** @KeskinEren1

CAN I

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- ✓ Send an Amnesty card or mention Amnesty?
- ✗ Include my name and address?



UNITED KINGDOM

REFUGEES WELCOME

Failure to show leadership and responsibility

The number of people fleeing their homes because of conflict or persecution reached record levels in 2015. By the end of the year more than 65 million men, women and children had been forcibly displaced – with over 21 million of them forced to leave their home country, so becoming refugees.

The UK government's response to the crisis has been grossly inadequate. It has not demonstrated adequate leadership on the international stage nor shared responsibility by hosting its fair share of refugees. Ministers have also failed to show the refugees and asylum seekers who have reached the UK that they are welcome here.

SEND AN APPEAL LETTER:

Urge Home Secretary Amber Rudd to show international leadership and share responsibility for the global refugee crisis.

Write to: Home Secretary Amber Rudd
Home Office
2 Marsham Street
London
SW1P 4DF

Salutation: Dear Home Secretary

In your letter: Urge her to share responsibility for the global refugee crisis, by expanding opportunities for more refugees to come to the UK through safe and legal routes. Call on her to maintain and improve the standards of protection provided to people seeking asylum in the UK. Urge her to create a welcoming culture in the UK for those fleeing conflict and persecution.

SEND A SOLIDARITY CARD TO:

Amnesty International UK
17-25 New Inn Yard
London
EC2A 3EA

■ **Language:** English

■ **Suggested message:** Write a solidarity message to a refugee or asylum seeker in the UK, and we will distribute it for you. You could send a postcard, drawing or photo of somewhere you love in the UK, with a message about why it is a special place and why you welcome refugees. Your messages will help us all create a more welcoming UK. Please do not include your full name or address.

CAN I

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- ✓ Send an Amnesty card or mention Amnesty?
- ✗ Include my name and address?



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USA

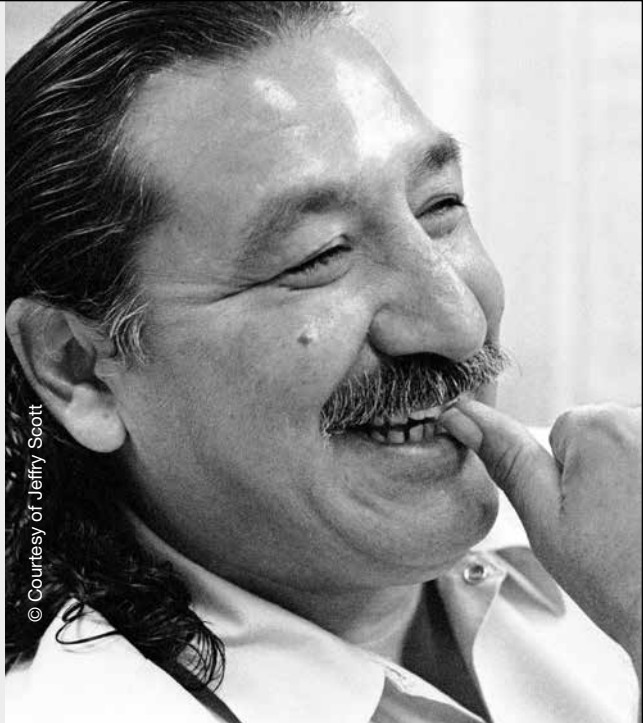
LEONARD PELTIER

40 years in jail after unfair trial

Native American activist Leonard Peltier has been in jail for more than four decades.

At the time of his arrest, Leonard was a leading member of the American Indian Movement (AIM), which campaigned for Native American rights. In 1975 two FBI agents were killed during a confrontation with AIM members on the Pine Ridge reservation. Leonard was eventually convicted of their murders, although it later emerged that the FBI coerced eyewitnesses and withheld evidence.

Leonard, 71, is currently in prison in Florida, 2,000 miles from his family in North Dakota. Because of the distance and expense, visits are almost impossible. He has exhausted his appeals, his health is failing, and he is not up for parole until 2024. His lawyers have just filed a new petition for clemency: if President Obama does not act now, Leonard is likely to die in prison.



© Courtesy of Jeffry Scott

'Please continue to work against injustice everywhere. As for me, I will do the same, but I am tired and I want to go home to my family.'

Leonard Peltier

SEND A SOLIDARITY CARD TO:

Leonard Peltier #89637-132
USP Coleman 1 US Penitentiary
PO Box 1033
Coleman, FL 33521
USA

■ **Language:** English

■ **Suggested messages:** We are thinking of you and campaigning for your human rights. Don't give up hope.

CAN I

- ✓ Send a religious card or message?
- ✓ Send an Amnesty card or mention Amnesty?
- ✓ Include my name and address?

SEND AN APPEAL LETTER:

Urge President Barack Obama to grant Leonard Peltier clemency before he leaves office.

Write to: President Barack Obama
The White House,
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington DC 20500, USA

Fax: +1 202 456 2461

Email: Please use contact form at
whitehouse.gov/contact

Twitter: @POTUS/@WhiteHouse

Salutation: Dear President

In your letter: Urge the President to grant Leonard Peltier clemency. Acknowledge that Leonard Peltier was convicted of a serious crime and express sympathy for the families of Ronald Williams and Jack Coler. Voice concerns about the fairness of the trial, and the evidence on which the conviction was based. Emphasise that justice would be best served by releasing Leonard.

WRITE FOR RIGHTS EVENTS

Every year Amnesty groups across the UK host Write for Rights events. Here are some creative ideas...

- Write for Rights is an easy way for people new to human rights activism to get involved. You could hold an event at work at lunchtime and ask people to sign action cards or write letters.

10
DEC

- Human Rights Day is on 10 December, and can be used as a hook to get people involved in the campaign.

- Amnesty has made short films about some of the cases – email iar@amnesty.org.uk for more information. You could host a screening at a local cinema and ask audience members to sign a petition.



- Why not host a festive celebration with mulled wine and mince pies and invite your local community to sign cards?



- Are there any local events you could get involved in? The Bognor and Chichester group joins in with a Christmas tree event, while the Canterbury group takes part in the Canterbury Whole World Fair. Piggy-backing on another event can help you to collect signatures without having to organise one yourself.

- Fomusoh Ivo Feh was jailed for sending a sarcastic text message. Why not put on a comedy night or ask your local comedy club to host one for you? You could tell Ivo's story and ask audience members to sign action cards.



- Bayram Mammadov and Giyas Ibrahimov were arrested for their political graffiti. Why not ask local graffiti artists to paint something in solidarity and stage an exhibition?

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Why can't I send religious cards and/or mention Amnesty in certain cases? It is for the safety of the recipient. Association with a particular faith or our human rights work could put them at greater risk.

What counts as a non-religious card? Cards illustrated with things like snowy scenes, fir trees or robins. The message 'season's greetings' is non-religious.

Can I send cards produced by another organisation? Yes, as long as their work cannot be considered 'political' and the card follows the general guidance on the case.

Why are there only 12 cases? The 12 cases were carefully chosen to have maximum impact, so please focus on them in the first instance. However, we have five extra cases if you want to do more. For more information go to www.amnesty.org.uk/morecases

Why has Amnesty used these artistic images? The representations on the cover were created by Chinese activist and artist Ai Weiwei, with the consent of the individuals or their families.

What if the fax number or email address doesn't work? Please send a letter instead. The fax/email may have been switched off or blocked because the recipient was overwhelmed by appeals.

What if I receive a reply? Please send a copy to the Individuals at Risk programme. It will help us to assess the impact of the campaign.

■ iar@amnesty.org.uk

■ IAR Programme, Amnesty International UK, 17-25 New Inn Yard, London EC2A 3EA

Why is feedback important? Finding out how many people took part and on which case(s) shows us whether our tactics are working. It also enables us to provide updates. Please use the enclosed feedback form or feed back online at www.amnesty.org.uk/writefeedback

Can I work on these cases after Write for Rights finishes? Most cases can be worked on after Write for Rights has finished. If you want to work on a case long-term, it is important to let us know so we can ensure you have the most up-to-date information: iar@amnesty.org.uk

What else can I do for individuals at risk? Join Amnesty's Urgent Action Network, which year-round protects people from torture, helps free those who have been wrongly detained, and secures access to medical treatment or legal counsel for prisoners. As a member of the network, you will be sent requests – how many is up to you – to take action urgently for individuals at risk. Find out more at www.amnesty.org.uk/urgent

Do our letters really make a difference? Yes, solidarity is effective. Thousands of letters arriving for an individual tells the prison authorities that the world is watching. And victims of human rights abuses say messages of support have a huge impact. As Costas, who featured in Write for Rights 2015, said: 'This mobilisation of people from all over the world is very moving... Your letters remind us we are not alone.'

Can our group send all the cards to an individual in one envelope to save costs? Sending cards and letters can be expensive. If it is easier to send them in one envelope, please do so.

Is it risky to give my full name and address? Will that country refuse to let me visit it? We have no record of this happening. Thousands of Amnesty supporters sign their letters without experiencing problems. But, if you have close links to a country and/or concerns, you could take action on a different case. Also, you don't need to give your full name and address: for example, you could sign as 'Jane, Manchester'.

UPDATES

Last year hundreds of thousands of people around the world took part in our global Write for Rights campaign, resulting in over 3.7 million actions. Here are updates on the 12 cases featured in 2015.

BURKINA FASO

Girls forced into marriage

Earlier this year the new government publicly committed itself to ending child marriage and raising the legal age for girls to marry to 18. Its statement mentioned the tens of thousands of letters the government had received from Amnesty supporters.

BURMA

Phyoe Phyoe Aung

Phyoe Phyoe and the other students arrested after a peaceful protest were released in April. 'I am so grateful to Amnesty International and all of the people who participated in the campaign for my release. International movements like yours create pressure on governments for our physical freedom, but knowing we have your solidarity also supports us,' she said.

'Receiving letters gives me real inspiration... I thank everyone very much for their support for me and our movement... Your letters are not just letters, they are also big presents and great strength not only for the students but also for Burma's future.'

Phyoe Phyoe Aung

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO

Fred and Yves

Pro-democracy campaigners Fred Bauma and Yves Makwambala were released in August. 'I thank Amnesty International and all those who fought in one way or another for my release,' said Fred.

EL SALVADOR

Teodora del Carmen Vásquez

In May Amnesty visited Teodora in prison – she is well. We also met with the new Minister of Justice to hand over the petition and letters. However, a new proposal has since been put forward by a group of opposition MPs to increase jail terms for women accused of having an abortion to up to 50 years.

EGYPT

Israa Al-Taweel

After being shot in the lower back at a protest and then arrested, Israa was released from prison and put under house arrest on health grounds just before Christmas 2015. In early February, all security restrictions were lifted and she is now officially free.

GREECE

Costas

Costas and his partner, a refugee, were badly beaten in a homophobic and racist attack in Athens in 2014. Some 150,000 people took action on his behalf during Write for Rights 2015.

'This mobilisation of people from all over the world is very moving, after what happened to me. This is what I think the letters from all over the world stand for: that all love is equal, and it must be seen as nothing else under any circumstances. Your letters remind us we are not alone in this... Thank you for being virtuous.'

Costas





'I am immensely grateful and think [people writing letters] are doing the nicest thing you can do, which is helping people who are facing such unjust situations. It fills me with pride and I truly feel that it's a wonderful thing.'

Yecenia Armenta

IRAN

Saman Naseem

Saman Naseem was 17 when he was arrested for allegedly taking part in armed activities against the state. He says he was tortured and forced to 'confess' on state television. His new trial is set to begin this autumn.

MALAYSIA

Zunar

Zunar is currently being tried for sedition for cartoons he tweeted in February 2015. He has applied to the Kuala Lumpur Sessions Court to challenge the constitutionality of his charges. A decision will be made on 22 November.

MEXICO

Yecenia Armenta

Yecenia was released from prison in June, after being jailed on the basis of a 'confession' extracted after 15 hours of torture. 'When I receive all these letters saying that I'm not alone, it makes me feel great. And I think, yes, it's true, I'm not alone. They really are supporting me. It makes me happy. It's exciting to think that there are people who still care about the rights of other people... and they don't even know me,' she said before her release.



'I'd like to thank our friends at Amnesty International for their remarkable support these last years, culminating in the Write for Rights campaign... These messages from beyond the prison walls have become an enormous source of strength for me as I continue my fight for freedom.'

Albert Woodfox

SAUDI ARABIA

Waleed Abu al-Khair

Waleed is still serving a 15-year prison sentence for his human rights work.

SYRIA

Rania Alabassi and her six children

The authorities are still refusing to give Rania's relatives any information about what happened to her and her children or where they are now.

USA

Albert Woodfox

Over 200,000 people across the world took action for Albert during Write for Rights 2015. And on 19 February, his 69th birthday, he walked free – 44 years after he was first put into solitary confinement.

**Join Amnesty International
today to defend human rights**

020 7033 1777

www.amnesty.org.uk/join

 **@amnestyuk**

 **/amnestyuk**



If you require this document in an
alternative format please contact:

Telephone 020 7033 1777

Textphone 020 7033 1664

Email sct@amnesty.org.uk

Amnesty International UK, The Human Rights Action Centre,
17-25 New Inn Yard, London EC2A 3EA
T: 020 7033 1500 **E:** sct@amnesty.org.uk



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