

Insats April 2020

Calendar

3rd & 7th of April - Lunch Seminar about abortion in El Salvador

15th of April - Webinar on the death penalty and Ahmadreza Djalali (swedish)

20th of April - Digital meeting: Also Human focus the right to health and begging bans, **ENGLISH**

23rd of April - Digital meeting Also human, south and northeast regions (swedish)

21th -26th of April - Week of Action against death penalty

13th of may Digital meeting Also human, north west region

The Secretary General: Human Rights are not put in quarantine - we continue the fight in new ways!

Lately, Covid-19 has been talking up a lot of the attention span all over the world. It's the conversation topic at work, in media and association meetings. This feels uneasy and challenging for both ourselves and society in general. Nevertheless, it pushes us to be innovative and try new ways: to cooperate, to meet and to highlight other perspectives than the ones covered in the media. Therefore, this number of Instas is focusing on how we can continue the fight for Human Rights in new ways and different perspectives!

To not contribute to the spreading of Covid-19, we at the secretariat have made some changes; everyone that can work from home is now doing so and all the trainings and larger meetings for activists and members at our offices have been cancelled and offered digitally instead. But, you can still reach all of the employees through phone, email or other digital communication channels. Additionally, due to that we can't plan or go through with larger actions in public spaces, we are exploring new kinds of activism and are challenging our traditional way of campaigning. The Board has also decided to postpone the section's Annual Meeting to sometime this autumn.

More importantly, Covid-19 has contributed to the fact that our human rights work in parts are changing focus. We highlight and act on the negative consequences of Covid-19 from a human rights perspective. We all have an important role to play! We can stop with everything, except our work for all humans equal worth and equal rights!

Take care!

Anna Lindenfors, Secretary-General

Take action for Ahmadreza Djalali!

On the 26th of April, Ahmadreza Djalali has been imprisoned for exactly four years and since 2017 he has been sentenced to death. We have long been fighting for Ahmadreza to be released. We are now especially worried for his health, which has degraded after years in prison. The spreading of Covid-19 makes the situation even more acute. Hence, in April we are putting extra pressure on Iran to release Ahmadreza, in line with our campaigning to abolish death penalty all over the world.

Abolish the death penalty

All around the world thousands of people are in prison waiting for their time to be executed. Regardless of what a person is guilty of the right to life cannot be violated. Amnesty has been working against the death penalty since 1977 through research (reports) and advocacy. Since then 90 countries has abolished the death penalty!

Amnesty is releasing a annual report in which we examined how the death penalty is used around the world. This year's report will be released on the 21 of April. Our message is clear: *"The death penalty is not a punishment it is a crime in itself!"*

Why should the death penalty be abolished:

1. It violates the Right to life
2. It does not combat crime
3. Innocent people is sentenced
4. The uttermost type of torture
5. It is used discriminatory

Ahmadreza Djalali

Iran is one of the countries that executed the largest number of people in 2018. It's not unusual that death penalties are results of doubtful judicial processes and can be used to silence people critical of the government.

The Swedish-Iranian doctor and scientist Ahmadreza Djalali was arrested on the 26th of April 2016. The judicial process around his case was extremely flawed. The defense was not allowed to take part of any papers or evidence during the trial. He was forced to plegde guilty on video, that was later broadcasted on Iranian TV in 2018. In June 2019 he was transported to a secret location, blindfolded, and then interrogated and pressured for 10 days to until the pledged guilty to new allegations.

Djalali and Covid-19

Ahmadrezas health conditions are sagging and the current situation, Covid-19 and the high risk of spreading and contamination, could be life threatening for Ahmadreza. Thus, it becomes more acute to get him out of prison, which means that we need to put more pressure on the Swedish and Iranian authorities.

Campaign week 21-26 of April

The death penalty report is releasing the 21th of April and Ahmadreza has been in prison for four years on the 26th of April and we are going BIG during this week! Both against the death penalty and for Ahmadrezas to be released immediately. Sign up now!

Our Demands:

Ahmadreza Djalali will be released immediately and his death sentence will be withdrawn!

How will we act?

We already have 220 000 signatures in our petition to release Admadreza. So tha campaign's next step is to raise our voices even louder to create a new wave of attention. We will succeed by writing letters (mailbox/post letter) and creating public opinion.

Chain letter for Djalali

We make it clear to the world that we are following Ahmadrezas case and requiring his release by sending an immense amount of physical letters to the Attorney General of Iran. We want to send as many letters as possible and because we cannot meet up in large groups physically are we urging you to start a chain letter.

1. Write your letter
2. Post the letter (and take a photo of yourself, please!

3. Send the challenge to another 5 persons, so that they also will start a chain letter. You can start the chain letter and challenge others to do the same through social media, a phone call (or 5) or via email

If we all send one letter and encourage five others to write letters, and those five ask five others and so on, the pile of letters is difficult to ignore by the Attorney General. This is also great self-quarantine activism.

Learn more!

Wednesday the 15th of April, we will arrange a webinar about the death penalty and about Ahmadrezas case in Swedish. This is a great opportunity to ask questions about the chain letters. To participate, click on a link that will be emailed to all of you that has registered for the campaign.

Registrate for the campaign!

To find more information or to registrate to participate in the campaign through aktivistportalen aktivism.amnesty.se/dodsstraff

Olivia Linander,
Campaign leader North-west
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THE CAMPAIGN TAKE ACTION (VISA HANDLINGSKRAFT) IS PUT ON HOLD

Due to the situation that has occurred in line with the development of covid-19, the campaign is now postponed. The possibility to influence and collect signatures is today limited. Thus we are pausing the launch until it's more strategically appropriate. We will let you know as soon as we have decided a new launching date. Those of you that are registered to the campaign will then also get more information. So, **sign up for the campaign!** To do so is also the best way to keep up with the latest info.

Registrate at: aktivism.amnesty.se/foretagsansvar

Olivia Linander
Campaign leader North-west
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The Campaign Also Human - is so up-to-date in corona times!

The most vulnerable in our society and those without social or economic security-net are always part of some of the most vulnerable in society, but during this Covid-19 situation they are part of the ones that are most negatively affected by this virus. This has resulted in our campaign for vulnerable EU- citizens now working at full speed. At the moment we have launched a Urgent Action concerning the Right to housing, that is pushing Swedish municipalities and regional authorities to create a long-term plan for homelessness, this is of course for everyone that does not have a home, not only the ones that are vulnerable EU-citizens. We are also highlighting the positive decision made by Stockholms regional authorities: give EVERYONE the right to healthcare and testing of Covid-19 and calling for the 20 other regional authorities to do the same!

Begging bans

Our work against local begging bans continues, mainly through reactive work, such as when municipalities start to discuss bans of begging, when a proposal is presented to the town council or when it's time for a decision to be made. This is when we act. This working process relies heavily on local activists and unfortunately the proposals of begging bans are popping up everywhere. There is an activist kit with material and tips! .

We need to strengthen our forces!

In this campaign, Also Human the rights of vulnerable EU - citizens are at the core. For humans that are located in Sweden for both a longer or shorter period are often living under hard and difficult relations and their rights are violated constantly. We are relatively few activist working with this question at the moment and we need you! Hopefully reading this made you inspired and peep to act, so don't hesitate to register! You will find my contact details further down.

Webinars about the campaign

Do you want to know more about the campaign and how you can get into action? Do you have questions about why we work with this question? GREAT! We are right now arranging video meetings with the secretariats team for vulnerable EU- citizens. In these meetings we will discuss, together, about how we as activists can continue working with these questions from home.

Digital meetings

20th of April - The right to health and local bans on begging at 18-30-20.00 in English

23th of April - Regional meetings for activists in North east at 18.00-20.00

23th of April - Regional meetings for activists in South at 18.30-20.00

13th of May - Regional meeting for activists in Northwest at 18.00-19.30

Sign up on aktivism.amnesty.se/eumedborgare

See you on the screen!

Marianne Gyllenpistol

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Urgent Action: Stop punishing Evelyn for miscarriage

In April 2016 Evelyn Hernández Cruz experienced complications during her pregnancy , she later needed to go through a stillbirth in her home. Evelyn was taken to a hospital, where she got arrested after the staff had called the police. She was later sentenced to 30 years in prison for murder.

After the trial it's been many ups and down for Evelyn and that women rights organisations that have been supporting and fighting for her- In the end of august 2019, she was released, but the happy feeling fastly faded away when the Attorney- General lodged an appeal of the freeing verdict. The court in charge of processing the appeal has not made their decision yet. Thus, this is our chance to ACT for Evelyn's continued freedom!

Help us pressure and influence the Attorney-General - send him an email TODAY!

Also, you can share our web action and make sure that our friends act for Evelyn!

More information can be found on: aktivism.amnesty.se/kvinnorsrattigheter

EXTRA EXTRA, LUNCH SEMINARS!

Do you want more information about Evelyn's case and the right to abortion in El Salvador? Sign up for a lunch seminar with Katarina Berglund, our expert of women's rights! The seminar will be available at two different occasions; Friday the 3rd of April or Tuesday the 7th of April between 12.15 and 13:15.

Sign up on: aktivism.amnesty.se/kvinnorsrattigheter

Sanna Blomgren

Campaign leader

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Help us get more signatures for Gui Minhái!



The Swedish-Chinese publisher has been imprisoned on weak and unlawful ground!

On 25th of February a Swedish-Chinese publisher Gui Minhái was sentenced to 10 years in prison. His whole court process seems to have happened in secrecy. His accusations are totally unreliable and he has not got a chance of a fair trial.

We have, since Gui was prosecuted, had a petition for him on our website and some of you have also collected signatures on the streets. We need your help to collect the last signatures! This will happen through a digital manifestation where we call upon others to sign our action.

To participate you will need:

- A pen
- Something to write on
- A camera

Follow these instructions:

- Write "Free Gui Minhái" on a poster (cardboard) - keep in mind, to write clearly
- Take a selfie or ask someone to take a photo of you while standing up. If you don't want to include your face in the picture just take a photo of you holding up your sign.
- Post the picture on one of your own or the groups social media, link to our action at amnesty.se and call for others to sign our petition.
- Use #freguiminhai och tag @amnestysverige
- E-mail the picture to sanna.blomgren@amnesty.se so we know that you have acted!



Sanna Blomgren

Campaign leader

sanna.blomgren@amnesty.se

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Attention! - Groups with FB-pages and Instagram accounts!

The key to a good account on social media is to keep it relevant and have to give continuous updates to your followers. Do you want more spread and post-friendly Amnesty material?

Then it's the perfect time for you that are in charge of your groups or districts social media to sign up to an email list. This list will provide you with information about our current web actions as soon as they appear and make sure that you with two easy clicks can share this in your feed. By doing this we will give Amnesty a voice in the public opinion and mobilise urgent actions and current campaigns widely. Together we will boost digital activism!

Do you want to be part of this email-list? E-mail: beatrice.schonning@amnesty.se

Influence with social media, join a workshop!

This May the social media team at Amnesty Sweden will be holding a digital workshop where you as an activist can learn more about how you can influence and spread messages in issue areas of Human Rights on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter. You will get the opportunity to learn all the basics to start your own account and how you together with Amnesty Sweden can spread our work and beliefs..

The Workshop is held digitally on the **20th of Maj 17.00-20.00**

To sign up or ask questions about the workshop, email: socialamedier@amnesty.se

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Solidarity in Corona times

Hello ABC* in Lund! You made an innovative decision to start solidarity activism for people in the risk groups - tell us more!

The initiative came from a thought to help and support people that for different reasons cannot undertake their daily tasks. These tasks could be grocery shopping, walking your dog and picking up packages at the post office. At the moment we are in the start-up process, we have contacted activists in Lund to see if someone needs help or wants to help.

Why are you doing this?

We thought it's natural to do this as Amnesty activists, and lastly it's a question of human rights. This crisis changes everything and it's easy to focus on your own situation, but in these times it is even more important to think of others that are more vulnerable - both in our local community and globally of course. The worry for people that are in refugee camps or other vulnerable situations are very present for us that are engaged internationally. By helping our local community we can be of use in a global crisis.

Tips for other activists that want to do something similar?

Continue to be and show solidarity to each other and don't hesitate to help one another.

***amnesty business group**

BOOK A VIDEO CALL WITH YOUR REGIONAL TEAM!

Email and phone calls are great, but it would be fun to talk to you through a video call.

Do you want to talk through some ideas with you, hear what's going on in our different campaigns, get a tip about how to strengthen your district or group or just talk about what your group is planning - don't hesitate to contact your regional team through a video call.

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