

Insats #6 June Edition

No vacation for Human Rights!

No one believed human rights violations took a break during the summer. The same miserable human rights violations are continuing and at the moment we are facing alarming developments in Hong Kong, Hungary and not least in the US where the situation at the time of writing is alarming. Amnesty has an important role to play. But as activists we also need to find the strength to continue our commitment through rest and vacation. In this edition of Insats you will find suggestions for activism that can be done despite, or thanks to holidays - from small actions that take a little while to larger activities that require organization and collaboration.

I hope we can find a good balance between recovery and struggle - between the hammock and the megaphone.

/ Karolina Pontén, editor

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We want to make our organisation visible and make people in our surrounding to act, even under the current pandemic and all that comes with it. Nonetheless, Amnesty follows the Public Health Agency guidelines.

Guidelines:

- Protect risk groups, both yourself and others. Keep in mind that it is impossible to see if someone is in a risk group. Thus, keep social distance and do not approach others instead let them approach you.
- When you engage in external activities keep social distance - 2 meters!
- No gatherings with more than 50 people.
- Do not travel further than 2 hours.

Amnesty supports the protests against racism in the United States

Yet another person has fallen victim to institutional racism in the United States. Another unarmed black man is dead as a result of police violence. "Please, I can't breathe. I will die!". These were George Floyd's last words when a policeman stood with his knee to his neck for seven minutes. George's death is the last in a series of recurring cases of racist violence

against black Americans illustrating an astonishing level of discrimination in the United States. Police are committing human rights violations with a shocking frequency, especially against minorities, and especially against black Americans.

Take action!

The struggle against deadly racist violence is now going on all over the world and of course Amnesty is in the fight.

1. Share the amnesty petition found at amnesty.se and other information and urge your followers to take action!
2. Keep informed and disseminate knowledge - we have continuous contact with the US Secretariat and frequently update our social channels. Please use your Amnesty account to disseminate Amnesty's information!
3. Take part in the events organized (digital or local) by others. Amnesty supports demonstrations with messages to stop racism in the United States and justice for George. We are happy to contribute and give our support to the activities arranged by others, as long as they are in line with Amnesty's principles. We are a party unbounded organization, which means that we do not participate in demonstrations organized by only one political "side" (if more are invited but choose not to participate, it's ok!). Of course, we never participate in events that in any way encourage violence. If in doubt, contact your regional team or me!
4. Keep track of what is happening locally on the issue and please let me know so we can coordinate and spread our work together!

Hilda Forssell
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LGBTI - This Summer's Human Rights Campaign.

Russian Yulia Tsvetkova was taken into custody for her activism for women and LGBTI- peoples rights during a homophobic campaign run by the authorities. On the border to the United States of America, Kelly Gonzalez is in custody after fleeing from Honduras due to her gender identity. Japan does not have national legislation against discrimination of LGBTI people and Hungary just voted to ban the previous option of changing your legal gender. This summer we are advocating against this madness!

Online PRIDE

Our goal is that as many as possible will participate in our LGBTI-work by offering activism, engagement, inspiration, and knowledge on our pride-webpage, amnesty.se/pride. The page will be up during the whole summer and is open for everyone. Instructions will, as usual, be found on aktivism.amnesty.se/hbtqi

Amnesty's PRIDE Week 22-27 of June.

For one week at the end of June, we channel all our energy to stand up and highlight LGBTI-peoples rights. The celebration kicks off on the 22 of June and ends with Global Pride on the 27 of June. This does not mean that you and your group cannot act during the whole summer!

Take action!

Contact people in power:

Write letters to the responsible prosecutor of Yulias case.

Contact Swedish MPs and influence them to contact their colleagues in Japan.

Make Amnestys pride-work visible locally and get others to do the same:

Organize together and with others and decorate the town with our poster!

You can either print them at home or order them on aktivistportalen.

- **Paint/spray paint the streets** and sidewalks in rainbow colours or use stencils and let your creativity flow! (Why not choose an environmentally friendly paint that rains away)
- **Write a letter to the editor** with a local focus ("now when Kalmar Pride is cancelled...")
- Use your arts and crafts skills to **make a pride train out of lego**, dollhouse figures, or whatever kind of toy figures you have and post it on social media and direct viewers to our pride page!

Make Amnestys pride-work visible digitally och influence others to act:

- **Sign and spread** our petitions on amnesty.se/pride and spread our page.
- Affect the prosecutor that is handling Yulias case by **acting on Instagram**.
- **Create your own mini-pride parade** of lego and other toys. Take a photo and post it on social media and refer to our pride page

Material

Not a lot is needed to act! Are you in need of posters, spray paint for the streets or other material? Apply for an activity grant. Posters of the different cases are available to order. You can either print them yourself or order them printed on aktivistportalen (aktivism.amnesty.se/hbtqi) Instead of collecting signatures, in the traditional matter, we urge you to put up as many posters as possible where people can see the information about our page and signs petitions online instead.



Take a photo or make a video

We would like to show how great you are, so please take a photo or make a videorecording when you create a pride train, put up posters or act for LGBTI right through one of our campaigns.

Sign up and order posters on aktivistportalen: aktivism.amnesty.se/hbtqi

Marianne Gyllenpistol

They fought for women's rights in Iran - Now we fight for them!

Yasaman Aryani, Nasrin Sotoudeh and Narges Mohammadi are imprisoned for peacefully acting for women's rights. They have not committed any criminal actions, and should be released from prison.! Iranian authorities must stop harassing, arrest and imprison women rights defenders for peacefully protesting against the harassing and discriminating Iranian laws.

Take action!

Inside - write letters, Instagram-activism and spread the word on Facebook

Outside - put up or petitions on bulletin boards, in cafes, book tables, the library, and collect it after a few days.

More information and specific instructions are found on aktivistportalen: aktivism.amnesty.se/kvinnorsrattigheter. Petitions and posters to print, pictures to post on Instagram and a letter template can also be found here!

Sanna Blomgren

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Three ways to take action against the death penalty

Ali was 17 years when he protested against the Saudi regime. Today he is 25 years old and sentenced to death after a confession while being tortured. Ahmadreza Djalali, the Swedish-Irani scientist, was sentenced to death after an unlawful trial. The death penalty is not a penalty it is a crime - act now!

Take action!

A kit with three creative ways to act against the death penalty is prepared for the current situation. The instructions include on call to action for Ali al-Nimr in Saudiarabia and one for Ahmadreza Djalali, the Swedish-Irani doctor. Different suggestions of methods for activism is provided to inspire the creativity in your group. Maybe you will try something you never have done before?

Instructions can be found on aktivism.amnesty.se/dodsstraff.

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URGENT ACTION - VIETNAMESE PUBLISHERS TORTURED

Two members at the Vietnamese independent publisher "Liberal Publishing House" has been arrested and tortured by the police in Ho Chi Minh-city. Thủy Tuất was arrested on the 8th of May when he delivered books to a client. He was held in custody for 18 hours and during these hours he was brutally tortured. Thủy Tuất went incognito as soon as he was released, scared to be arrested and tortured again. When the police could not find him they arrested his 24-year-old daughter and refused to let her go until Thủy returned to the police station.

The police have been harassing and threaten numerous people affiliated with Liberal Publishing House. Those who have been targeted have either work at, bought or read books printed by publishing house.

We demand that the police stops harassing Thủy Tuất and his family and that Liberal Publishing House gets to continue their important work for freedom of speech and press in Vietnam!

Take action!

You can find more information and contact details to write letters to Vietnamns Priminister at aktivism.amnesty.se/aktioner. Act as soon as possible for Thủy and his daughter!

Email me when you have sent a letter!

Beatrice Schönning
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Campaign leader IAR

This year's Activist Seminar 2020 - has been postponed!

This years activist seminar is being postponed until early spring 2021, due to that the COVID-19 situation and guidelines are impossible to predict and that many meetings need to be held in a very short amount of time. But do not despair, there is always knowledge, support, inspiration and activist joy to indulge in other ways - contact your regional team if abstinence of the activist seminar becomes too hard to handle!

The Date for the Annual Meeting is set!

At the latest meeting, the National Board of Amnesty Sweden decided that the Annual Meeting 2020 will be hosted online, **Saturday the 3th of October at 10 am**. The bills will revise two weeks

before the meeting, to make the digital meeting as effective as possible enough time to read the revision report before the Annual Meeting.

Those signed up for the meeting will get the help and support they need to be able to participate in the meeting, in the best possible manner. We will organise a couple of training sessions before the meeting to provide you with clear instructions regarding how to connect and use the different functions that will be needed during the meeting.

Meeting invitations will be sent to all members of Amnesty International Sweden by latest the 26th of June. The participation form and program will be found on [amnesty.se/årsmöte](https://www.amnesty.se/arsmote) as soon as the invitation is sent out. If questions appear, do not hesitate to contact me!

INFORMATION FROM THE BOARD

The National Board of Amnesty Sweden is proud to present that our Secretary-General Anna Lindenfors has been asked to be part of Amnesty's International Coalition Leadership Team, CLT. Her duties will start on the 1st of June and for 12 consecutive months.

This is not the first time Amnesty International has asked for Sweden and Anna to take part in the global movement. Before Anna accepted the offer, she and the National Board made sure that this opportunity would not affect the Swedish Section negatively by putting too much focus on the global movement.

Anna was chosen due to her experience as Secretary-General (S-G) and for her many years with international positions, eg. with Save the Children.

This is not only a compliment to us it is also an opportunity to bring up issues that we at the Swedish Section consider important. This gives us valuable insights and knowledge of how the global movement works.

The CLT. includes two representatives from different sections. One from sections that contribute financially to the global organisation - today these are Manon Schick, S-G in AI Switzerland. And one from sections that are financed by the money that we contribute with, Mariella Belski, S-G in AI Argentina. Now Anna is going to take over after Manon Schick, who is stepping down from his position in CLT.

This position will include a general responsibility and being a full member of the Coalition Leadership Team, and to represent the sections perspective and viewpoint.

Mårten Rosander, Treasurer of the National Board, speaks for the National Board.

Collective Grief - digital disruptors

At the end of 2019, information about our project “Digital disruptors” was posted on our Amnesty's webpage and mentioned in Insats. The project aims to support and empower youths that are fighting for human rights in creative and modern ways. Amnesty International provides support for youngsters to develop, shape and carry out a digital campaign to bring about the positive change they want to see. By offering training and knowledge of how to carry out a digital campaign and support and coaching from start to finish. The project included an application procedure.

Around six months later a lot has happened. We received a lot of great and inspiring campaign ideas and finally decided to move forward with two creative and ambitious HR-activists from Järva in Stockholm, Josef Farhan, 21 years old and Sakariya Hirsi, 22 years old.

Digital disruptures campaign - “Collective Grief” will be launched on the 6th of June, Swedens National Day. It highlights and focus on the effects of street violence and shootings, such as the tragic loss of so many youngsters, and aspire to humanise the individuals behind the headlines and show the tragedy of through art, poems and personal narratives. The aim is to reach out and emotionally touch a broader crowd, and mobilise a stronger movement that can advocate for the issue. This issue must be taken seriously and not just be talked about as “a problem in vulnerable areas”. It is a human right to not be abused and to live a life in security.

Do you want to be part of this movement and support our campaign about street violence? Open letters of our “Collective Grief” campaign can be found on Amenstys webpage for you to sign and pass on. Sharing is caring!

Do you want to know more about what you and your group can do?

E-mail: Sara Bessa, National Youth Activist Coordinator & Project leader for digital disruptors: sara.bessa@amnesty.se

For more info about the campaign: Follow @kollektivsorg on Instagram

Don't forget to order Amnesty press no.2!

The second issue of this year Amnesty Press will be released around midsummer. Last day to order: Friday, 4th of June at 6 pm. Subject the email: "AP-extra tidningar". All groups are more than welcome to order more magazines without additional fees. Do not forget to write your postal address and phone number. The package will probably arrive at a postal office and who will send you a text message when your package has arrived.

Note: The magazine will be sent straight from the printing office V-tab, hence they will be stated as the sender on the package.

Ulf B Andersson
Editor
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Go group 256 in Ljungskile!

Your hard work has led to that ALL in Västra Götaland Region has the right to get treatment and care related to COVID-19. GO YOU!

Amazing work from group U4 in Tranås!

Not less than THREE letters to the editor about the death penalty and for Djalali was published in April: Jönköpingsposten, Smålands dagblad och Tranåstidning! I