

Insats, English Summary, #1 January 2021

Secretary General's corner

Interview with Acting Secretary General Anna Johansson.

What will be the focus for Amnesty Sweden 2021?

- Continue to develop our activism
- In our global work for Human Rights we will i.a. focus on strengthening the freedom of speech, freedom of assembly and freedom of association and improve accountability for actors violating human rights.
- In Sweden our focus will be on strengthening equality, counteracting discrimination and promoting and protecting the rights of refugees and migrants.
- Increasing the possibilities for members and activists to influence
- Securing that our work with recruitment, mobilization and organisation promotes equality, and continue our work to become a more including and safe organisation for all, regardless of social identity
- At the same time, Amnesty Sweden has a strained economy and we're planning a reorganization.

Anna Johansson / Acting Secretary General / 08-7290 274 / anna.johansson@amnesty.se

Take action for the protesters in Thailand!

The violence in Thailand has increased since October. 220 individuals, including 6 children, are facing punishment for participating in demonstrations. Among these are high school students Benjamaporn 'Ploy' Nivac, Free Youth and student union leader Panusaya 'Rung' Sittijirawattanakul; pro-democracy activist Tattep 'Ford' Ruangprapaikitseree, and legal expert and former prisoner of conscience Jatupat 'Pai' Boonpattaraksa.

We call on the Prime Minister of Thailand to immediately and unconditionally drop all criminal proceedings against them, and all other protesters, and that all other attempts to silence critical voices stop immediately. You can take action through letter writing or social media.

Please contact me for more information. Beatrice Schönning / Campaigner / beatrice.schonning@amnesty.se

Did you like Write for Rights? Keep taking action for individuals at risk

To work on an individual case in the long term means that you and your group are engaged in the continuous work for justice for a specific individual or group.

Out of the six cases in Write for Rights 2020 there is still a need for action in the Khaled Drareni and Gustavo Gatica cases. Please contact me if you are interested. Regarding Andrea Sahouri and Derrick "Dwreck" Ingram it's relevant to keep taking action in the beginning of 2021. If you want to do so - please follow the original instructions in Write for Rights.

For any further questions, or if you want to work for another of our 41 cases, please contact me. Beatrice Schönning / Campaigner / beatrice.schonning@amnesty.se

2021 - a year to pay attention to Swedes imprisoned abroad

This year the Swedish-Eritrean journalist Dawit Isaak has been held in prison for 20 years. The same goes for the Swedish-Bahraini Mohammad Habib al-Miqdad, but for 10 years. We're planning to shed light on this during 2021.

Please contact me if you or your group are interested in knowing more about this or participate in the planning of the campaign.

Beatrice Schönning / Campaigner / beatrice.schonning@amnesty.se

Human rights council for women's rights - New!

The council aims to organise and develop Amnesty's work on women's rights, and serve as a national network for the local groups. We're so far represented in Uppsala, Stockholm, Göteborg, Lund and Malmö and we're now looking for more activists from Uppsala and Stockholm.

You'll find more information at aktivism.amnesty.se/kvinnorsrattigheter and if you want to join us, send an email to amnesty.mrradet.krg@gmail.com.

8 March - Stand up for women's human rights and the right to protest!

Defenders of women's rights are facing challenging times. It's more difficult to organise and many organisations have been affected financially due the pandemic. Around the 8th of March we'll focus on women's human rights defenders and the right to protest. Trainings will be held in Swedish in February.

For more information, please check aktivism.amnesty.se/kvinnorsrattigheter and if you want to participate, please contact your local Campaigner.

Makda Tesfamichael / Campaigner Nordöst / makda.tesfamichael@amnesty.se

Annual General Meeting 2021 coming up!

The meeting will be held online. A full agenda will be provided at a later date.

Important dates:

- 25 January: The notice will be sent out and you can register for the meeting
- 31 January: Deadline for motions to the Drafting Committee (bk@amnesty.se)
- 5 February: Deadline for nominations and suggestions to the Election Committee (valberedningen@amnesty.se)
- 2 February: Deadline for motions (preferably already sent to the Drafting Committee)
- 18 April: Deadline for registration to the meeting if you're in need of an English interpreter or other support.

If you have any questions about the Annual General Meeting or thoughts regarding the plans, please contact me!

Karin Ledin da Rosa / Campaigner Nordväst / karin.darosa@amnesty.se

Engagement during the pandemic?

How may we reach out to new activists during the pandemic restrictions? One strategy could be to digitalise the recruitment activities and use specific channels. One example is Volontärbyrån (The Volunteer Bureau) where you can advertise for new activists.

Another tip is to carry out a digital seminar, both in order to educate and influence, but also to reach out to new individuals. Several student welcome fairs are now being held at universities so look out for them and see if you can be part of their agenda.

If you want to know more about how you can use Volontärbyrån or how to arrange a digital seminar, don't hesitate to contact us

Fartun Andersson Ramnemo / Activist Coordinator Syd /
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The Activism Strategy - what's in the pipeline?

Last autumn Amnesty Sweden adopted an Activism Strategy which guides us in building our movement in the best possible manner. So what have we done so far?

- Much effort has been put into mapping our activism to learn how we may improve our work in facilitating activists organisation.
- A new CRM system has been developed
- A new form of engagement has been created. We call it "Network". As a member of a Network you're subscribed to a newsletter in which you are offered to take action in a specific human rights issue. Active networks today are Women's Rights, LGBTI and Urgent Actions.
- Another form of engagement is our local organization commissions - activists who are taking lead in recruitments and campaigns.
- A first step in working more efficiently with active participation was taken during the development of the operational plans for 2021.

These were a few examples of what we have done so far. Now we're taking new steps towards our goals for 2027!

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