

Insats May Edition

Calendar

- 12 of May:** Digital training about refugees
- 13 of May:** Digital Regional gathering in Northwest - Also Human
- 20 of May:** Digital training - How to act on Social Media
- 26 of May:** Digital gathering for High school senior Youth Activists
- 30 of May:** Last day to sign up for LGBTQI- activities

Pride festivals are cancelled, LGBTQI - rights continues to be violated - WE need to ACT

All over the world people are persecuted, harassed, and discriminated against due to their sexual orientation or gender identity. LGBTQI - people are put in prison, tortured and murdered and activists are oppressed and their freedom of speech and assembly is limited. Every year we stand for LGBTQI -rights on the streets during the Pride season, however, this year many of the events have been canceled, BUT we continue our yearly tradition by advocating for anti-discrimination law in Japan and by standing up and acting for a Russian LGBTQI activist! Stand up with us during pride 2020!

The right to live by one's sexual orientation and one's gender identity without facing discrimination is a fundamental human right. There is no international human right declaration that solely focuses on LGBTQI- right however, human rights also apply LGBTQI people and many of the rights in the convention can be applied to counter violations experienced by LGBTQI people. Examples of these rights are right to life, freedom from torture and inhuman or degrading treatment, right to a fair trial, right to freedom of expression, right to health, right to assembly and association, right and protection from discrimination.

During spring and summer you will be able to act for LGBTQI from three different angles!

JAPAN - Take action for an of anti-discrimination legislation!

In Japan there is no law on the national level against discrimination against someone due to their sexual orientation or gender identity. Japan needs to end all discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation, gender identities and intersex status by swiftly introducing comprehensive and specific legislation at a national level in order to better respect, protect and fulfil the human rights of LGBTI people.

Now is a strategic time to act - there are two different proposals of legislation - one from the opposition and one from the government. While the opposition's proposal specifically concerns discrimination of LGBTQI - people, yet the government's proposition is more unclear. For a decision to be made in the Japanese parliament there needs to be a consensus. Therefore, it is most likely that a compromise of the two proposals will form the final

legislation. Amnesty's ambition is hence to influence the negotiations so that LGBTQI- people in Japan will have a good and strong law that protects them from discrimination.

What's our aim?

To influence Japanese MPs to negotiate and produce a solid and effect Japanese law that protects LGBTQI- people.

How?

By calling on Swedish MPs to contact their colleagues in the Japanese parliament and ask them to influence their colleagues to push for a solid, strong, and effective anti-discrimination law as possible!

We specifically turn to Swedish MPs that already have shown interest in LGBTQI - questions, and issues and that are specifically interested in Japan. We will call and/or email different MPs and call upon them to contact their colleagues in Japan. This is a remarkable occasion to show our elected representatives that we need them and that our actions can produce real change for a large group of people.

When and how?

The campaign continues to the end of the year, but we will mostly focus on doing most of the projects during the summer, and you can start today! There will be clear and specific instructions and support for calls that exemplifies what we can say to MPs and pep to make this project manageable for you. All that sign up to participate will be given on or multiple MPs to establish contact with and influence.

Sing up on aktivism.amnesty.se/hbtqi before 30:th of May in order to join the campaign, further instructions will be sent to groups who have signed up.

Russia - Director, Artist and activist is facing up to six years in prison.



Yulia Tsvetkova, an artist and stage director from Komsomolsk-on-Amur (Russian Far East), has been the target of an homophobic campaign since March 2019. She was detained on 20 November 2019 and put under house arrest two days later after being charged with "production and dissemination of pornographic materials" (Point B, Part 3, Article 242 of the Russian Criminal Code). The basis for these absurd charges were her drawings of the female body, including Body-positive pictures of female reproductive organs, which she posted on social media as part of her women empowerment campaign.

She is being investigated under charges of “production and dissemination of pornography”, a crime that carries a penalty of up to six years in prison. The grounds for the criminal proceedings against her are her body-positivity drawings of the female body.

As an LGBTI-activist she has been targeted for so called “propaganda of non-traditional sexual relations among minors” on account of being the administrator of two LGBTI-themed online communities.

The only true reason Yulia is facing prosecution is her activism.

What is our aim?

To pressure the local prosecutor's office by sending them emails to show that we are watching the case closely.

Amnesty demands that:

- . The authorities immediately terminate all criminal and administrative proceedings against Yulia Tsvetkova;
- The authorities stop all harassment and their overtly homophobic campaign against Yulia and allow her to exercise her right to freedom of expression.

Strategy:

- We write emails to the local prosecutor in Komsomolsk-Na-Amure. We believe that the local prosecutor's office is sensitive to pressure, especially in the early stages of the legal process.
- We post famous paintings of nude women Instagram and tag the regional prosecutor's office, the ones responsible for the local prosecutor, who is our main target.

Sing up on aktivism.amnesty.se/hbtqi before 30:th of May in order to join the campaign, further instructions will be sent to groups who have signed up.

PRIDE 2020!

We are currently investigating how we can participate in this year's Pride events in Sweden and around the world. Many events have been postponed and others canceled or uncertain. Information on how this year's Pride season will look and how it will be carried out will be sent out to those signed up to the LGBTQI - network on (aktivism.amnesty.se/hbtqi). The last day to sign up is the 30th of May.

Sign up for Pride and LGBTQI - events during the summer!

The registration for these events can be found on; aktivism.amnesty.se/hbtqi. Everyone that has registered or signed up will receive a cheat sheet with information and instructions about both Japan and Russia. The last day to sign up is the 30th of May!

Marianne Gyllenpistol
Regional Campaign Leader, South
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As I see it

I have been an activist during my whole adult life. It started with the protests against the Vietnam war. In 1975 I came in contact with Amnesty and joined a group that was working against the death penalty in Spain. Henceforth, I have been a member of multiple organizations that worked with issues such as addiction treatment, homelessness, and human rights.

As an LGBTQI-person the fight for LGBTQI -rights has been close to my heart. I have been active in RFSL Malmö and now in an LGBTQI-group in Amnesty.

The fight for LGBTQI- rights has contributed to a lot of progress during the last couple of years, especially here in Sweden. However, during the same time the situation in other countries has regressed. Amnesty has an important role to play and an influential position to produce change. So when I was asked to join one of Amnesty LGBTQI groups I saw this as a good step forward.

In our organization's name, International is included, thus we exist in all continents and no one owns us. This is our strength!

Today, we see many LGBTQI- individuals and activists, who are violated and murdered. We fight for justice for individuals suchlike Xulhaz in Bangladesh, Zak in Grekland och Marielle in Brasilien. All of them have been murdered for who they are. We continue to fight for their justice.

We must focus on countries where nationalism is rising. Countries where xenophobia, misogyny, and homophobia go hand in hand.

Many of these countries order their police force and military to attack people during Pride. This year, due to Covid-19, they can hide behind social distancing and ban Pride. BUT, we at Amnesty, with our 7 million members, will not allow this situation to go by unnoticed.

I would also like to ask you to focus on Poland, an EU- country, where they want to make part of the country into "gay free" areas. Teachers are imprisoned if they teach sex education and are accused of recruiting gays.

There is a lot to be worried about. For me, our biggest task is to enlighten people about trans-people's situation. Every year hundreds of transgender people around the world are murdered due to their identity.

Amnesty has the resources and possibility to push and influence the government in western countries to bring these individuals justice and produce change.

Steve Krauss

Secretary of Group 142 (lgbtqi grupp) Malmö

LIGHT: World Pride is coming to Malmö

Barbed wire: Nationalism

URGENT ACTION: 15 ACTIVISTS IN HONG KONG ARRESTED FOR PARTICIPATING IN PEACEFUL DEMONSTRATIONS

Many of us followed the news about the police brutality during the demonstrations in Hong Kong in 2019. On the 18th of April 15 leaders and activists were accused of participating and to some extent organizing these protests.

The arrest is the latest example of how the police use the vague general ordinance on public order to stop peaceful protests and punish those in favor of democracy. f

We need to act now! Go to <http://aktivism.amnesty.se/aktioner> and read more about how you and your group can stand up for human rights activists in Hong Kong. A perfect task to discuss in your next video meeting!

Email me when you have acted! Do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

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Contact pages are closing down!

Kontakt.amnesty.se has during a couple of years been a channel where groups and the secretariat could show their activity. Since the official webpage for Amnesty in Sweden has been updated, one can no longer access kontakt.amnesty.se via amnesty.se.

The information on kontakt.amnesty.se has not been updated frequently, which means that it has not demonstrated an actual picture of the activities and work the groups and district runs. This has to lead to that groups instead has presented their work on other platforms, such as social media or individual webpages.

After last year's review of kontakt.amnesty.se we decided that it would be best to close this page as it is not used or updated often enough. Therefore, the page will shortly be closed down.

Instead of kontakt.amnesty.se we have created a map under the tab " [Bli aktiv i Amnesty](#)," was activities and work done by Amnesty will be presented. The map is supposed to give a brief view of where different groups and activities happen and activists meet. On this page you can also find videos of interviewed activists to create a broader understanding of how one can engage and how you work.

Do you want to get tips and tricks on how your group can make your work visible, don't hesitate to contact your regional team.

Fartun Andersson
Regional Activism Coordinator Activism, South
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Digital training in how to use social media for digital activism

In May the social media team at Amnesty Sweden will host a digital workshop, in Swedish, where you can learn more about how you can participate, influence, and spread messages about human rights on Facebook, Instagram och Twitter.

The workshop will be held on the 20th of May from 5 pm to 8 pm

To sign up or if you have questions email us on socialamedier@amnesty.se

Dusan Djuric

Communications and press

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Gettogether for graduates of high school!

Are you graduating this spring and therefore leaving your Amnesty group? Do you want to know how you can continue being active within Amnesty after your graduation?

We want to invite you to our video gathering with other activists that are graduating this spring. We will hangout and celebrate by looking back at old memories from your time as a youth activist.

You will get information about how you can continue being active after your graduation by meeting other representatives from other Amnesty groups!

Come and celebrate!

Sign up!

Sign up by sending me an email or text or why not through the Facebook event "Studentfirande med Amnesty".

Ida Lindberg

Intern youth activism, Gothenburg

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The Secretary-General has the talking stick!

It is rare to experience a pandemic on the scale that we are now. The prerequisites to be able to handle the pandemic and its consequences are different depending on where you live and who you are. The cracks in our societies and inequalities become even clearer. It is not easy to keep social distance or wash your hands if you live in the slums in South Africa or to have food on the table if you are unemployed and in lockdown in the Philippines, where President Duterte threatens to shoot those who leave their homes. It is also hard if you are an Amnesty employee in Nigeria that works from home during a power cut and poor internet connection.

Our global Amnesty movement has in a short amount of time decided to move our international annual meeting, Global Assembly, and put the work of the next strategic period on hold. They made this decision to be able to redirect and discuss how Covid-19 will effect the next strategic period. We will get back to you with more information as soon as we receive it!

Additionally, we have decided what issues we, together, will prioritize during the pandemic. As usual, we consider that human rights should be at the center of all operations states undertake, both to safeguard public health and to provide the best protection for the groups and humans that run the greatest risk of contamination, such as those in custody (refugees and inmates), those living in poverty and homelessness, and the elderly. We are specifically looking at the right to housing, health, and an adequate standard of living. For instance, in Sweden we have during a short amount of time collecting a little over 10 000 signatures to show the National Board of Health and Welfare that we a many that consider an emergency plan for those living in homelessness.

We, Amnesty, act when we find out that states as Hungary, use the pandemic to limit civil and political rights, more than needed by legislation, surveillance, police brutality, and limited internet access.

To be able to do our work we need capital and are therefore watching how we as an organization are affected by this pandemic. Our tentative calculations show that son sections will earn less than anticipated, which will affect the already pared down AIS.

We see no visible effect on our earnings In the Swedish section, but this year has created an unusual situation in the world and Sweden. This makes it hard to assess how we will be affected. It is a high risk that we will not meet our financial goals. Hence we will spend our money carefully, but also be more creative in how to engage people to contribute with their time and money to human rights. Our work is more important than ever and maybe this will make more people active in different ways?

You, who is reading this is enormously important in our work. So take care of yourself and each other!
Together we create the world we want.

Warmest regards,
Anna Lindenfors
Secretary-General
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You will soon receive more info about the Annual Meeting - Hang in there

A couple of weeks ago, the Board of Amnesty Sweden secretariate decided that the Annual Meeting is postponed to this fall, due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Information about the decision can be found on [amnesty.se/arsmote](https://www.amnesty.se/arsmote). The Board will decide when and how the Annual Meeting will be held on their board meeting in May. Information about when and how the meeting will be held will for instance be in the next edition of Instats.

For more information or questions contact me

KARIN LEDIN DA ROSA

PROJECT LEADER OF THE ANNUAL MEETING 2020

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Urgent Action

When Domina Ranabosoa and her girlfriend decided to move in together, Domina was reported to the police. She is charged with 'corruption of minors under the age of 21', accused of having a same-sex relationship with her girlfriend, a 19-year old woman. She is facing five years in prison. Stand up for Domina on [amnesty.se/agerahub](https://www.amnesty.se/agerahub)

Don't miss out on Amnesty Press no. 2

It is very uncertain if Amnesty Press number no. 2. will be able to be published around midsummer. 2

The last day to order the amazing news magazine is on the 4th of June at 6 pm. Label the email "AP-extra tidningar". All groups are welcome to order the magazine without charge. Do not forget to write your postal address and your mobile number, because the post office will probably send you a letter of a text when you can pick up your magazine at the local post office.

NOTE: The magazines are shipped direct from the printery, so its name will be stated as the sender.

Ulf B Andersson

Editor, Amnesty Press

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