

Insats, English Summary, #4 May 2022

Calendar

4 MAY - 11 SEPTEMBER - Act for human rights during the election!
9 - 15 MAY - Annual General Meeting
17 MAY - Amnesty A
18 MAY - Campaign meeting: War in Ukraine and freedom of speech in Russia
19 MAY - Kick off meeting election campaign
4 JUNE - Training session: Equality
8 JUNE - Amnesty B
27 JUNE - 1 JULY - Nordic Youth Conference
17 SEPTEMBER - Amnesty A English

Now the election campaign is up and running!

There are only a few months left until there is an election in Sweden. It is time we unitedly reminded politicians that human rights are a requirement, a must and a promise - not a choice.

Kickoff for the election campaign 19 May

Welcome to the start-up meeting for all registered groups! Together, we go through the layout of the platform, share ideas and support each other in the work before the election.

What? Digital start-up meeting

When? May 19 at 18.00-19.30

How? Sign up here: aktivism.amnesty.se/forms/anmalan-till-kick-off-for-valplattformen/

Digital activism

The election campaign is a communicative campaign and much of the activism will take place on Instagram and Facebook. We are now starting a Facebook group where we can tell each other about posts, discuss strategies, support each other and share material. Come to the start-up meeting and take part in more information!

Participate in demonstrations against street violence!

Kollektiv Sorg is an independent campaign with the aim of raising the issue of street violence and shootings in Sweden. On June 6, Kollektiv Sorg organize demonstrations against street violence. You will receive more information on how you can support and participate in this after you have registered for the election campaign.

Registration for the election platform

When registering, you will receive all the instructions and all the material you need. Sign up here: aktivism.amnesty.se/forms/anmalan-till-valplattformen-2022/

Marianne Gyllenpistol / marianne.gyllenpistol@amnesty.se

Act against the war in Ukraine and for Russian demonstrators!

Russia's invasion of Ukraine is an act of aggression that has unleashed the gravest human rights and refugee crisis in Europe since World War Two. Amnesty International is documenting serious violations of international humanitarian and human rights law, including the unlawful killing and injury of civilians, destruction of infrastructure, and blocking of desperately needed aid for civilians. Attacks on hospitals and schools, employing "surrender or starve" sieges on civilians, the use of banned weapons such as cluster munitions, and strikes on populated areas using inaccurate weapons may constitute war crimes.

Meanwhile, the Russian authorities have unleashed an unprecedented, nationwide crackdown on independent journalism, anti-war protests and dissenting voices following Russia's invasion of Ukraine. The Kremlin remains hellbent on hiding the human cost of its war and has blocked independent news sites and social media. Meanwhile, anyone caught spreading what it regards as "fake news" about the conflict faces a prison sentence of up to 15 years.

Campaign meeting

18 May we are inviting all activists to join a meeting where we will talk about the invasion of Ukraine, how Amnesty's work differs from other organizations, and how the freedom of speech is limited for journalists and human rights defenders in Russia. We will also talk about how groups and activists can act, and what to do to shed light on this during the coming months. The meeting will be held online 18 May, 18:00-20:00. Sign up here: aktivism.amnesty.se/forms/kampanjmote-kriget-i-ukraina/.

Fartun Andersson Ramnemo / fartun.andersson-ramnemo@amnesty.se

Julia Karlsson / julia.karlsson@amnesty.se

Stand up for the freedom of speech and the right to protest

We continue to prioritize the right to protest within the human rights area freedom of speech and freedom of assembly. Here comes an update!

Governments across the world keep on questioning the right to peaceful protests and gathering. Read more about this in the yearly report at amnesty.se.

What have we focused on this year?

During the first months of 2022, we have evaluated Write for Rights 2021, where Bernardo Caal Xol has been released and Imoleayo Michael has been assigned a new judge!

The campaign Ban the Scan has also made its way forward. View the progress at this website: [Ban the Scan!](#)

How can we contribute to change right now?

Now we will focus on the freedom of speech in Russia, as a result of the Russian invasion of Ukraine. The last two years, Write for Rights has been focusing on the right to protest and this will also be the theme this year!

Fartun Andersson Ramnemo / fartun.andersson-ramnemo@amnesty.se

Demand sex education in Paraguay!

We are now continuing the work for sexual and reproductive rights. In the spring, we will work against forced pregnancies among girls in Paraguay and for the Ministry of Education to lift the ban on sex education in schools.

What's happening in Paraguay?

Hundreds of girls aged 14 and under give birth in Paraguay every year. In the majority of cases, it is a matter of forced pregnancies after sexual abuse. Forcing girls to complete such a pregnancy not only endangers their lives and health, but can have devastating psychological, emotional and social consequences. The institutionalized violence is a result of decisions and negligence on the part of the authorities to protect the rights of these girls.

An important factor in preventing and detecting sexual abuse early on is comprehensive sex education. Sex education gives children and young people better opportunities to recognize and alert about abuse. Sex education also helps to change stereotypical gender norms and beliefs that pave the way for sexual violence. But the Paraguayan Ministry of Education has banned comprehensive sex education in schools and eliminated all references to "gender" in public education materials.

What do we want to achieve?

To change the situation of girls in Paraguay, the authorities must lift the ban on comprehensive sex education and ensure that girls who are subjected to sexual violence receive the care and support they need.

Sign up for the campaign!

We create change best together! Sign up for the campaign and get more information about how you can act during the campaign and get access to the campaign material. Link to registration can be found here: aktivism.amnesty.se/forms/anmalan-paraguay/

Ida Larsson / ida.larsson@amnesty.se

Julia Karlsson / julia.karlsson@amnesty.se

The board informs

A feminist, anti-racist and inclusive leadership for Amnesty

This year's Regional Forum was held on April 9-10 and had about 80 participants both days. The days were inspiring and inclusive, on Saturday we were visited by Professor Philippe Sands who talked about the situation in Ukraine and Rendari Baumgartner from Johannesburg who talked about anti-racism, our own prejudices, and that we need to change ourselves in order to change the world. During the meeting, the motions for the international annual meeting - Global Assembly Meeting - were also discussed.

One of the motions is about feminist leadership. The motion has been preceded by a broad consultation process and during the regional forum the proposal was further processed.

When we discussed what the meaning of a feminist leadership should be, it was emphasized, among other things, that it is important to include questions about gender linked to feminist leadership. Many argued that anti-racist work, linked to leadership, should go hand in hand with the movement for feminist leadership. It was also suggested that, instead of a feminist leadership, talk about an ethical and good leadership, which many were positive about.

Regardless of the heading used for Amnesty's leadership, the dismantling of prejudices is a must. We need to challenge discrimination, both within the international movement and within the Swedish organization. We all need to be aware of how our own privileges can make others feel powerless and we need to think about how we react to the privileges of others.

We also discussed that many boards work voluntarily, which reinforces the need for leadership that understands the importance of self-care and concern for others. Many emphasized the importance of a flexible and supportive work environment and a leadership characterized by empathy and open minds.

Inclusion was considered by everyone to be important, but difficult in practice. We agreed that we need to build inclusive teams where we listen in and respect each other and make visible obstacles to participation.

Our International Secretary-General concluded the meeting by emphasizing the importance of Amnesty being united and not fragmented. A united Amnesty is possible with strong ethical leadership, a quality that can definitely be attributed to our International Secretary General Agnès Callamard.

/Parul Sharma, Chairman

Training session: Equality!

The equal value of all human beings is the basis of Amnesty's work. In order to work for a more equal society for real, we also need to look at our own organization. In 2019, a new equality strategy was adopted that permeates all parts of the organization. The goal is for everyone to have the same rights, opportunities and conditions to participate.

On June 4, we will therefore arrange a digital equality education that is held by Armina Etminan, equality strategist at the secretariat, together with the equality council. After the training, you will have learned more about intersectionality, inclusion and norm-critical thinking as well as how you can pursue more equal activism.

What: Digital education

When: June 4, 10.00-15.00

How: Sign up here: aktivism.amnesty.se/forms/anmalan-till-jamlikhetsutbildning/

Marianne Gyllenpistol / marianne.gyllenpistol@amnesty.se

National youth meeting

During 23-24 April, the national youth meeting took place in Stockholm. It was a fantastic weekend where participants from all corners of the country came and met each other. Participants were invited to exciting lectures, games and workshops. Chairman Parul Sharma was there, Kollektiv Sorg held a workshop and it was planned for the election campaign. More photos and videos from the meeting can be found on the youth council's instagram, @amnestyung!

Diana Ablatova / diana.ablatova@amnesty.se

Amnesty A

Our introductory training Amnesty A is primarily for new activists within Amnesty, or for those who just want to know more about Amnesty International Sweden and how to get involved. Amnesty A is the first part of our introductory training series Amnesty A & B and focuses on the basics of Amnesty as an organization and what you can do as an activist.

Does your group have new members who have not yet completed the training? Or do you know someone who you think would be interested in becoming an activist? Tell them to sign up! Next Amnesty A in English will be held on 7 September 18:00-20:00, online through Zoom. Sign up [here](#).

Karin Danelius, karin.danelius@amnesty.se