

Insats, English Summary, #2 February 2021

Calendar

- 11 February: Training in Zoom
- 14 February: Amnesty B and C-training
- 14 February: The last day of reporting 2020.
- 18 February: Amnesty Talks on Guantánamo.
- 25 February: Meeting with the Leadership Network.
- 8 March: The International Women's Day.
- 18 April: Last day to register for the Annual General Meeting if you need an interpreter or any other aid.
- 26 April: The last day to register for the Annual General Meeting.
- 29 April: Introduction meeting and training before the Annual General Meeting
- 3-9 May: The Annual General Meeting.

Campaigning on the International Women's Day!

The 8th of March is quickly getting closer and even if we will not be able to unite on the streets this year, we will still stand up for women's rights and pay attention to the many violations women experience all over the world - and we will do this together!

Our actions and commitments are very important and will contribute to the fight for equality, which is facing major challenges all over the world today. For those of you who would like to take action on March 8, please fill out the form on aktivism.amnesty.se/kvinnorsrattigheter. This way we can keep up with all the amazing activism. Also, feel free to use the posters on aktivism.amnesty.se/kvinnorsrattigheter.

If you have any questions or need someone to brainstorm ideas with regarding March 8, please contact Makda Tesfamichael (Campaigner, North East) / 08-7290259 / makda.tesfamichael@amnesty.se or the Human Rights Council for Women's Rights / amnesty.mrradet.krg@gmail.com

Guantánamo

On January 11th, 2002, as an aftermath of September 11, the first prisoners were transported to the Naval Station Guantánamo Bay - an United States military base - in Cuba. Since that day, Guantánamo Bay has created headlines all over the world due to the serious human rights violations which it is associated with; arbitrary imprisonments, torture, cruel inhuman treatment, illegal transportation of prisoners, and non-fair trials. Today, there are 40 prisoners left at Guantánamo Bay.

Before being transferred and kept imprisoned at Guantánamo Bay, a number of prisoners had also been imprisoned within CIA's secret detention program. In 2003 and 2004 Guantánamo Bay was being used as a "black site" by the CIA. Forced disappearances along with other forms of torture and cruel, inhuman or humiliating treatment was a highly integrated part of the CIA-programme. The program still continues under impunity.

Barack Obama did not succeed with his promise to close the base during his time as president. The Obama-regime explained that the cause of the failure was due to the congress blocking them. Nevertheless, national legislation or politics are no legitimate excuses for a country's failure to meet its obligation on maintaining the public international law. It is highly unlikely that the United States would accept similar excuses if any other state was accountable for violating human rights. Therefore, the rest of the world cannot accept the United State's excuses. Obama's successor, former president Donald Trump, did explicitly say that he had no intentions of closing Guantánamo. Today, Joe Biden is the president and has previously made it clear that he wants to close the base.

On January 11, 2021, Amnesty released the following report: *USA: Right the wrong: Decision time on Guantánamo*. You can read it here:
<https://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/amr51/3474/2021/en/>

This month, the movie *The Mauritanian* is set to be released in the United States. The movie is based on Mohamedou Ould Slahi's experiences of being imprisoned in Guantánamo Bay for several years. During this time, Amnesty demanded his release. Amnesty is now showing its support for the movie. It is still unknown on the movie's release date in Sweden.

Do you want to take action in the fight for Guantánamo Bay's closure? Please contact Karin Ledin Da Rosa / Campaigner North West, karin.darosa@amnesty.se

Raise your voice at Amnesty's Annual General Meeting

Between the 3rd-9th of May it is once again time for Amnesty Sweden's largest and most important meeting of the year - the Annual General Meeting! The meeting will be held online and during the days of the meeting we will discuss and make decisions, participate in workshops and listen to inspiring speakers - everything in accordance with the Amnesty-spirit. Participating in the Annual General Meeting is free for all members. You will find the invitation and registration on the following website: amnesty.se/årsmöte.

If you need an interpreter or any other aid, the deadline to register is April 18. If this is not the case, the deadline is on April 26. If you have any questions, please contact Karin Ledin da Rosa / karin.darosa@amnesty.se / 070 987 04 65

The Leadership Network 2.1 - Welcome to the Network for Amnesty's Leaders!

All members with a leader-role within Amnesty are welcome to join the first meeting with the Leadership Network! **Date/time: February 25 at 5.45 PM, via Zoom**. The plan is to have a meeting once every third month.

The network will mainly function as a place where its members can discuss different topics, how they can work together in the future and various common experiences that they have gained as district members or as leaders within Amnesty. The meetings will also discuss both the practical aspects - planning, group affinity and structures of a meeting - of chairmanship or leadership, as well as the more abstract aspects of leadership, personal responsibility and cooperation. If you want to join the Leadership Network, please send an

email with your name and your role within the organization to elisabeth.anna.hasselstrom@gmail.com

Best regards,

Elisabeth Hasselström / Chairman of the district Västerbotten
and

Johannes Larsson / Chairman of the districts Kalmar and Kronoberg

The council for Individual Cases

The council for Individual Cases is a newly started human rights council created with the aim of supporting and developing the ways Amnesty work with specific cases. The council's goal is to create opportunities for more groups to work on one case, create prerequisites for groups to cooperate on one case and to be a source of inspiration to create visibility for the work with individual cases.

If you or your group would like to start working with individual cases, need inspiration on how to continue working on a case or if you need support from more activists - the council will be happy to help!

Contact information:

Stockholm - Karoline Hermansson and Sofie Ekman / individfall.stockholm@amnesty.se

Göteborg - Malin Alfredsson, Clara Höglund and Ellen Thorell /
individfall.goteborg@amnesty.se

Malmö - Joel Bergenfalk and Morgan Björö / individfall.malmo@amnesty.se

Information from the board

During its October-meeting, the national board decided that the secretariat shall carry through cost savings between 2021-2022. For this reason, the secretariat began working on a reorganisation of the secretariat which is planned to begin in 2021. In December 2020, the board appointed Anna Johansson as acting Secretary General due to the former Secretary General, Anna Lindenfors, terminating her employment contract. The board will start the recruitment process of the new Secretary General in 2021.

During its December-meeting, the board discussed the inquiry which had been implemented due to a motion from the Annual General Meeting of 2019. This motion had given the board the task of examining the possibilities of making Amnesty Sweden's website available in both Swedish and English. You can find the report, which was produced on behalf of the motion, among the documents from the Annual General Meeting. The report stated that creating a website in English and later operating two websites - one in Swedish and one in English - at the same time, would require too much resources. Therefore, the board made the decision of recommending the Annual Meeting to not create a full English version of www.amnesty.se. Instead, the board is suggesting to only translate prioritised parts of the website. Furthermore, the board also decided to continue the dialogue on members' influence during the Annual General Meeting of 2021.

The spring's new faces of activism - get in touch!

Within the Swedish Section of Amnesty there are three regional teams and two co-workers who work with youth activism. Sweden is divided into three regions and each one has between 5-7 districts. Every region has two staff members - one Activist Coordinator and one Campaigner - who work with developing and supporting the activism within the area. In other words, there is plenty of support for our activists. Please do not hesitate to contact us!

The Activist Coordinator's main task is to develop and support the districts and activist-groups. Please turn to the Activist Coordinator if you have questions regarding courses, recruitment, district meetings, funding, reporting, leadership and association formalities.

The Campaigner's main task is to encourage and organise activities in line with the sections campaign work within the region she/he/they is in charge of. Please contact the Campaigner if you have questions regarding current campaigns, activism funding and courses on campaigning.

There is also one national Activist Coordinator who works with and has the main responsibility for all of Amnesty's youth activists.

Who are we?

Marianne Gyllenpistol (Campaigner, and works with questions regarding discrimination and corporate accountability) and Christoffer Wisberg (Activist Coordinator) work within the regional team South. Region South includes Skåne-Blekinge, Kalmar-Kronoberg, Halland, Jönköping and Gotland. Marianne and Christoffer work at Amnesty's office in Malmö.

Contact information:

Marianne Gyllenpistol / marianne.gyllenpistol@amnesty.se / +46707445793

Christoffer Wisberg / christoffer.wisberg@amnesty.se / +46735200084

Karin Ledin da Rosa (Campaigner and project manager for the national Annual General Meeting) and Julia Karlsson (Activist Coordinator) work within the regional team North West. Region North West includes Gothenburg, Älvsborg-Bohuslän, Skaraborg, Värmland-Dalsland, Örebro and Norrbotten. Karin and Julia work at Amnesty's office in Gothenburg.

Contact information:

Karin Ledin da Rosa / karin.darosa@amnesty.se / +46709870465

Julia Karlsson / julia.karlsson@amnesty.se / +46709144 681

Makda Tesfamichael (Campaigner, and works with questions regarding women's rights and LGBTQI+ rights) and Karin Danelius (Activist Coordinator) work within the regional team North East. Region North East includes Stockholm, Uppsala, Gästrikland-Dalarna, Södra Norrland, Västerbotten, Mälardalen and Östergötland-Södra Sörmland. Makda and Karin work at Amnesty's secretariat in Stockholm.

Contact information:

Makda Tesfamichael / makda.tesfamichael@amnesty.se / +46733101521

Karin Danelius / karin.danelius@amnesty.se / +46701974477

The names of our Activist Coordinators for youth activism are Christoffer Wisberg and Sara Bessa. Please contact Christoffer Wisberg, at first hand, if you have questions regarding youth activism.

Contact information:

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Sara Bessa / sara.bessa@amnesty.se / +46723077031