

Insats, English Summary, #3 March 2021

Calendar

- 8 March: The International Women's Day - A day to take action.
- 30 March: Amnesty A-education (will be held in Swedish).
- 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.
- 3-9 May: The Annual General Meeting.

Do you want to attend the Annual General Meeting and are in need of an interpreter?

We would like to remind you of the possibility to have an interpreter at the Annual General Meeting! The Annual General Meeting is Amnesty Sweden's largest and most important meeting of the year. It will be held between May 3-9 and it is free to participate for all members. You will find the invitation and registration on the following website: amnesty.se/årsmöte.

If you would like to attend the Annual General Meeting and are in need of an interpreter, please fill in the registration form as soon as possible.

If you have any questions, please contact Karin Ledin da Rosa / karin.darosa@amnesty.se / 070 987 04 65

Take action during Formula 1 in Bahrain

We are in need of more people who write letters and tweets concerning Formula 1 in Bahrain. If you want more information, please contact Arif Naqvi / arif.naqvi@outlook.com

New material for March 8!

The theme of this year's International Women's day is gender based violence and femicides. Karla Pontigo is one of many women who was killed because of her gender. This week the site for women's rights on Aktivistportalen has been updated with more information on how to take action, activity tips and campaign material related to March 8! Check it out on <https://aktivism.amnesty.se/delta-i-en-aktion/kvinnorsrattigheter/>, the website will also be updated continuously.

If you have any questions, please contact Makda Tesfamichael / makda.tesfamichael@amnesty.se / +46733101521

Khaled Drareni is finally free!

We have been many who demanded the release of the journalist Khaled Drareni during 2020's Write for Rights. In August 2020, Khaled was jailed for doing his job as an independent journalist and for covering the growing Algerian protest movement called Hirak. On February 19, we received the news that Khaled had been pardoned by the president and is now finally free!

However, Khaled's release is only a suspended sentence. We are therefore continuing to demand that Khaled shall be acquitted and that the Algerian government immediately shall release everyone who has been imprisoned for expressing their opinions.

Participate in a planning meeting for the upcoming World Cup in Qatar

On 18 December 2022, the same day as the International Migrants Day, the finale of the FIFA World Cup of 2022 will be played. The championship will take place in Qatar, a country in which Amnesty has documented serious violations of the rights of migrant workers.

Migrant workers are being exploited - when constructing the arenas and other infrastructure built in relation to the World Cup, but also in other parts of the society. They have difficulties changing jobs or leaving the country without their employer's permission, their payments are often delayed, low or non-existent, and they are banned from participating in trade-unions. Because of the critique from Amnesty and others, Qatar has implemented some reforms, which we welcome. Regardless, this is far from enough to protect the rights of the ones who make the whole event possible.

Amnesty will soon release a campaign which highlights the situation of the migrant workers in Qatar. We demand that FIFA uses its influence to ensure that Qatar really brings about an improvement, even after the World Cup is over. The campaign will be launched in relation to the start of the qualifiers in March 2021 and will end in the summer of 2023.

Do you or your group want to participate in the planning of the campaign? Welcome to participate in a meeting where the plans for the upcoming campaign will be discussed. The meeting will be held on March 10 at 6-8pm, on Zoom. You can find more information and the registration form here: aktivism.amnesty.se/vm

Ellinor Hagman / ellinor.hagman@amnesty.se
Karin Ledin da Rosa / karin.darosa@amnesty.se / +46709870465

The work on 'vulnerable EU citizens' - what happens now?

We have worked together for the rights of vulnerable EU citizens in Sweden since 2018, when Amnesty launched the report "Sweden: A Cold Welcome - Human rights of Roma and other 'vulnerable EU citizens' - at risk". The campaign itself is now over and will no longer be a prioritization, but the work still continues. Therefore, for those of you who want to continue to work with this - please do! If you need any support the secretariat will be happy to help.

Current issues regarding vulnerable EU citizens to work with:

- The right to medical care
- The work against a ban on begging

There are clear instructions on both of these issues. If you want these instructions - please fill in the registration form on aktivism.amnesty.se!

New issues that the HR-team will continue to work on:

- The right to adequate housing for everyone (not only vulnerable EU citizens)
- Expand the work on the rights of Indigenous peoples, including the rights of Sámi people
- Investigate the risk of discrimination, and possible racial profiling, when security guards encounter private individuals

If you have any questions, please contact Marianne Gyllenpistol / marianne.gyllenpistol@amnesty.se / +46707445793

Join the planning of the campaign for Dawit!

This year, Dawit Isaak has been imprisoned in Eritrea for 20 years without trial. The Swedish-Eritrean journalist is still alive, but we do not know where he is or how he is doing. On September 23 it has been 20 years since Dawit was arrested. We are now hoping that many of you will take action around this anniversary! Also, both the International World Press Freedom Day and Eritrea's Independence Day happen in May and it would be amazing if we emphasized Dawit during these days.

At the end of March, there will be a digital meeting to plan the campaign for all groups in Sweden who are interested in taking action for Dawit.

Do you want to participate in the meeting? Please contact Beatrice Schönning / Campaigner IAR / beatrice.schonning@amnesty.se

Nominate last year's groups and activists!

The Great Creativity Award. This award is given to 2020's most creative activity in relation to the section's Days of Action. The award aims to take notice of creative ideas that are worth sharing. The Great Creativity Award of 2019 was handed out to group 172 who fought for the right to adequate housing for vulnerable EU citizens.

The Great Activity Award. This award is handed out to the organisers of 2020's best activity in relation to the section's Days of Action. A good activity focuses on influence, dissemination and commitment. The Great Activity Award of 2019 was handed out to the student groups in Malmö, Gothenburg, Stockholm, Uppsala and Umeå who did a lecture tour together with the HR-defender Vitalina Koval.

The Great Commitment Award. This award is handed out to an individual who has put their heart and soul into Amnesty. This award does not only include one's commitments during 2020 - it is rather a "lifetime award". The Great Commitment Award of 2019 was handed out to Bengt Törjas for his 48 years of commitment to Amnesty.

If you know any activist or activity which is worth taking notice of - please nominate them! Send your nomination to julia.karlsson@amnesty.se. The deadline is April 18 and your nomination shall include: The name of the activist/group who you want to nominate, a description of the activity and/or an individual's commitments, and a short motivation on why you believe this activity/activist should receive an award.

Julia Karlsson / Activist Coordinator North West / julia.karlsson@amnesty.se / +46709144681

We are looking for a Non-Discrimination Ombudsman for the Annual General Meeting!

The Annual General Meeting is quickly getting closer. For this reason we are now looking for a Non-Discrimination Ombudsman. The mission is to be on site and receive any complaints

from participants of the Annual General Meeting who feel that they have been discriminated against, harassed or violated in any other way. The Ombudsman's role is to promote a working environment which is free from discrimination and other violations at the Annual General Meeting. The District's Ombudsman will also have a contact person on site who will support the Non-Discrimination Ombudman during its mission.

If you want more information, please contact Julia Karlsson / Activist Coordinator North West / julia.karlsson@amnesty.se / +46709144 681

We are all fundraisers!

One of Amnesty's strengths is the amount of individuals who engage in the organisation. Although, our engagement in Amnesty is just the beginning. It is equally as important to contribute to the increased awareness of the fact that all of Amnesty's work depends on non-profit donations. The more money we collect, the more we can change. Therefore, it is important that we all work with fundraising. We are very restrictive with donations from businesses and governments, since we want to maintain full independence. Due to this, the donations from private individuals are crucial.

Here are a few examples on how you can contribute to our common fundraising:

- Recruit members. With every new member our influence increases. The best way is through this website: amnesty.se/blimedlem
- Encourage gifts. Show you support on amnesty.se or send a donation to this Swish number: 900 07 20. You can also create a QR-code on Swish, this facilitates your fundraising.
- You can start your own fundraising with your own goal. On amnesty.se/egeninsamling you will find more information and you can start your own fundraising on min-insamling.amnesty.se/.

If you want to know more, brainstorm or have any questions, please contact Nawras Naji / In charge of fundraising / nawras.naji@amnesty.se / +46729712462

Who will lead your district? Participate in a district meeting!

The spring term is the season of annual meetings and this time we would like to highlight the district's annual meetings. By participating in the annual meeting, you will have the possibility to express your opinions on how the district's common activities should look like and in which ways it shall include groups and members. By voting for the new board, you are also involved in deciding who will lead the work in the coming years. Maybe you would like to enter as a candidate yourself? The last day to have a district meeting is March 31. Please contact your district's board or the Activist Coordinator if you want more information on your district.

Karin Danelius / Activist Coordinator North East / karin.danelius@amnesty.se / +46701974477

The work on equality within the activist movement

Amnesty Sweden works actively on being an accessible and inclusive organization by making sure that everyone who wants to work for human rights can and will be able to do so. This kind of aim oblige and demand that the whole organisation actively works with it.

In the work of becoming an inclusive organisation it is important to observe the potential obstacles for people to become a part of Amnesty, but also how we can work to get rid of these obstacles. Educating people is crucial in this work. During 2020 we have continued to emphasize these perspectives in our leadership program and in our group secretary training, among others. The competence of our group and district leaders is very important in the work of becoming an inclusive organisation.

Another part which is central in the work on equality is our recruiters. By educating and having workshops for the ones working with recruitment, we will have the opportunity to get more people engaged in Amnesty. To supplement this work, a manual has also been produced.

We also have a new initiative - the Council for Equality - which you can read more about in a previous Insats. The council is a collection of activists who wants to join and push Amnesty's work on equality forward.

Gustaf Hedman / Acting Head of Department at Opinion and Influence

The internal work on equality at the secretariat

Amnesty wants to be a clear and distinct voice against racism and discrimination. Therefore, we also have high ambitions internally and invest great amounts of our resources to create a more equal workplace. We know that major challenges still remain, and that there have been previous matters which we have not handled well. Although, the organization is currently in a learning process and thanks to many of our colleagues we have come a long way. You can read more about the internal work on equality at the secretariat here:

<https://www.amnesty.se/om-amnesty/fragor-och-svar-om-amnesty/amnesty-sveriges-jamlihetsarbete/>

The General Secretary Informs

- Amnesty has launched a new well-being workbook for our youth activists: "Staying resilient while trying to save the world (volume 2): A well-being workbook for youth activists". The workbook is based on experiences from Amnesty International's youth activists across the globe, which they have shared through workshops and surveys in 2019 and 2020.
- A part of the workbook is based on experiences of being subjected to violations within Amnesty. One of the stories in the workbook is based on Xiona's experience from when she attended a workshop which was arranged by Amnesty - where she was faced with racism and other stereotypes.
- This workbook is part of a longer process to hold ourselves accountable as an organisation. We understand and recognize that each person's social identity (for example their race, age, gender, religion or sexual orientation) will also affect their prerequisites and living conditions. We understand and admit that the same structures which exist within our society, also exist within our organisation. Therefore, we must continue to work on keeping ourselves accountable and help each other to take responsibility, develop and be better.
- Download the workbook here [Staying Resilient While Trying to Save the World \(Volume 2\): A Well-Being Workbook for Youth Activists](#)