



INSATS November (NR.7) ENGLISH SUMMARY



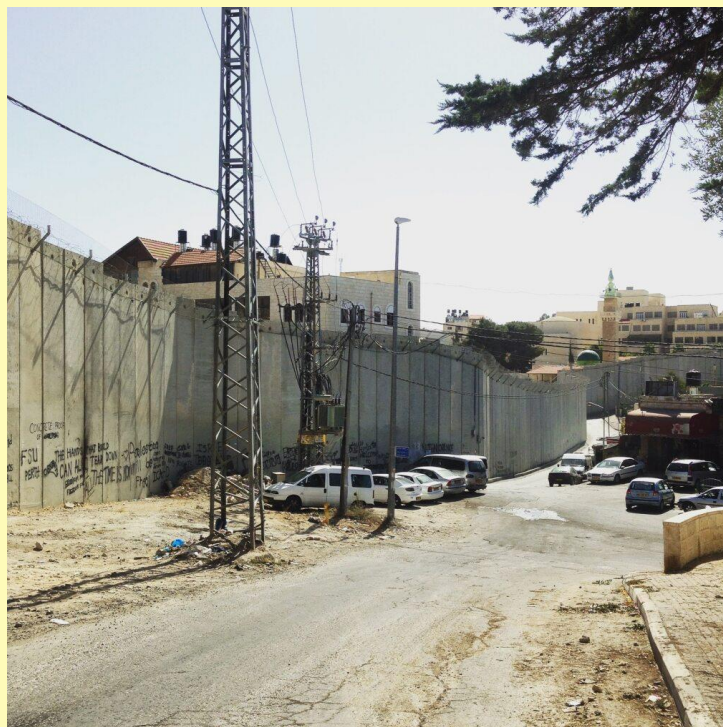
Picture from a demonstration in Malmö, September this year, against a policy inquiry that would compel public servants to report undocumented people. Group 149 (The Afghanistan group in Malmö) is at the front.

Foto: Amnesty International

CALENDAR

- **October 23-29: Justyna Wydrzyńska visits Sweden**
- **October 28: Digital group secretary course**
- **November 6: Write for Rights Campaign start**
- **November 8: Open house in Stockholm: theme Write for Rights**
- **November 11 - 12: Activist Seminar 2023**
- **November 25: Open house in Gothenburg: theme Write for Rights**
- **November 30: Open house in Malmö: theme Write for Rights**
- **December 10: International Human Rights Day**

THE GENERAL SECRETARY'S CORNER



The Israeli wall is visible as it cuts through the occupied East Jerusalem.
Foto: Jacob Burns/Amnesty International

In October 2022, almost exactly one year ago, I was travelling in Palestine and Israel. It is therefore with a heavy heart that I follow the latest developments in Israel and Palestine, where a lasting peace now seems further away than ever.

It is not possible to understand recent developments without taking into account both the historical and current context: Israel occupied the West Bank, Gaza and East Jerusalem back in 1967. And since 2007, Israel has maintained a blockade on the Gaza Strip, one of the most densely populated places in the world. Amnesty says the Israeli authorities maintain a system of apartheid, where laws, rules and practices are designed to systematically oppress and dominate Palestinians.

But Israel's history of war crimes against Palestinians in no way justifies Hamas' horrific actions. Hamas has demonstrated an appalling disregard for human life by committing cruel and brutal crimes. Under international law, Hamas must also protect civilians and Amnesty is now calling for those responsible to be held accountable.

Similarly, Hamas' brutal attacks do not justify Israeli forces subjecting the civilian population in Gaza to revenge attacks or forced displacement. Palestinian civilians are not responsible for Hamas's crimes and Israel must not allow them to suffer for actions they have no role in and cannot control. The intensified blockade of Gaza, cutting off electricity supplies and impeding access to water, food and medical supplies, constitutes collective punishment of civilians, which is prohibited under international law.

Amnesty will continue to monitor the situation. It is our role to ensure that all parties to an armed conflict comply with international humanitarian law and respect human rights.

Finally, take care of each other! Many of us (staff, members, activists and elected representatives) have roots in Israel and Palestine, some of us may also have loved ones who have been affected. I would therefore like to express my warmest thoughts and deep solidarity with all of us who are affected on a personal level.

Anna Johansson
General Secretary at Amnesty Sweden
anna.johansson@amnesty.se

WRITE FOR RIGHTS 2023



Ahmed Mansoor

Justyna Wydrzyńska

Maung Sawyeddollah

Uncle Paul och Uncle Pabai

Now it is really time to register, order material and start planning for Write for Rights – the world's biggest human rights campaign!

Write for Rights is a part of the global campaign where Amnestys sections and activists from the whole world focus on 10 individuals with a goal to create positive human rights change with and for them. Here in Sweden, we have chosen 4 out of the 10 individuals. They are, Ahmed Mansoor from United Arab emirate, Justyna Wydrzyńska from Poland, Maung Sawyeddollah from Myanmar and Uncle Pabai and Uncle Paul from Australia (see the picture above). The campaign is launched November 6 and will continue for the rest of the year.

DIFFERENT METHODS FOR IMPACT

The cases are unique, have different starting points and find themselves in different contexts. Therefore, we carefully design different change strategies according to the needs and limitations that exist in each individual case. There are also other things that are important to consider, and which differ in the cases, for example particularly sensitive subjects. Therefore, it is important to educate yourselves on the different ways we can work to influence each person's case in the best possible way. This you can do by reading the info sheets which is available on the activist portal, and which is sent to you by email.

MATERIAL AND REGISTRATION

The material this year consists of posters in A3 linked to each case, information sheets about the cases, and postcards. Petition lists can be printed from the activist portal. The activist portal will be filled with other material connected to the cases such as video clips, pictures, sample letters and other useful things that can be used during your campaigning. Registration and ordering material for this year's campaign is done through [this form](#). Expect it to take at least two weeks before you get the material from the moment you have ordered it, so order your material in good time before your action!

WRITE FOR RIGHTS AT THE ACTIVIST SEMINAR

On Sunday November 12 during the activist seminar, we will be guested by Imoleayo Michael who was one of the individuals who were lifted during Write for Rights 2021! He will

tell us what it meant for him to be a part of the Write for Rights campaign, don't miss this! A shorter lecture will also be given on Write for Rights during the activist seminar.

Hope to see you there!
If you have any questions, just contact me!

Karin Ledin da Rosa
Karin.darosa@amnesty.se

“INGET VAL” (No Choice/No Election) CAMPAIGN

On 18 October 2023, it will be one year since the government took office. Ahead of the 2022 election, Amnesty ran the “Inget Val” campaign, where we highlighted the areas of concern in Swedish domestic politics. It is with sadness and frustration that we see that many of the fears that Amnesty had then have now been realised.

We now see proposals that strongly threaten to violate human rights if they go through. The government, together with the Sweden Democrats, has presented a number of political proposals through the Tidö Agreement. Several of the proposals - denunciation, search zones, residence bans and surveillance - have now been taken further in the legislative process.

This is why we are re-launching the “Inget Val” campaign. We will continue to remind politicians of the commitments they have signed. We will regularly monitor and evaluate political developments from a human rights perspective regardless of the government. This may mean highlighting ongoing violations, concerns we see through upcoming legislation and investigations, or highlighting human rights successes that have been achieved.

Sweden has supported a large number of human rights obligations. It is primarily the government's responsibility to ensure that Sweden lives up to its promises, as Amnesty reminded all party leaders during the election campaign. Now we remind them again. Human rights are not a choice. It is a requirement, a promise and a must.

Stay tuned on the web and on social media! In the meantime, you can read more here!

Hilda Forsell
Advocacy Officer

hilda.forsell@amnesty.se

AUTUMN CAMPAIGN

There will also be more activities from the Fundraising Unit in the autumn! An autumn campaign is planned to start with the goal of putting pressure on the Swedish government to demand safe and legal refugee routes into the EU. Focusing on it in a petition and with a strong joint activity, we want to reach out to everyone with the message from the campaign.

For those who are active in the organisation, there will be opportunities to be involved in the campaign and right now we are planning together with the engagement team to find different ways for you to be involved. Keep an eye on the programmes for the autumn meetings and see when you can make a difference!

Robin Benigh,

Fundraising Manager, robin.benigh@amnesty.se

Aphrodite Mauricci,

Fundraising Manager and companies, afrodite.mauricci@amnesty.se

OPEN HOUSE: THEME WRITE FOR RIGHTS



Open House are an opportunity to meet new people, members and activists near you. At an open house you can network and learn more about a specific campaign.

During November-December, we will organise open houses in our local offices in Gothenburg, Malmö and Stockholm in connection with our annual "Write for Rights" campaign.

Every year 'Write for Rights' offers a lifeline to people all over the world whose human rights are threatened, simply because they stood up for their beliefs. This campaign challenges inequality, discrimination, political oppression and fights to protect all our rights, whether it's environmental justice or the abolition of the death penalty. "The 'Write for Rights' campaign is a living representation of everything Amnesty International stands for - people from all corners of the world uniting with one voice, in global solidarity, to challenge injustice.

Open house STHLM November 8 At 18:00 Location: Alnögatan 11 Sign up here!	Open house Gothenburg November 25 At 13:00 Location: Haga Östergata 30 Sign up here!	Open house Malmö November 30 At 18:00 Location: Ledeburgsgatan 5 Sign up here!
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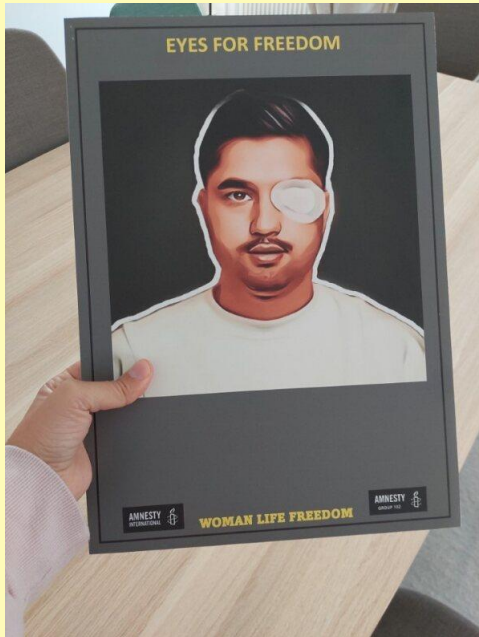
We look forward to meeting you at one of our Open House events and discussing our shared commitment to human rights. **Feel free to bring a friend! A warm welcome!**

Mohammed Ryback, mohammed.ryback@amnesty.se

Nathalie Parra-Jakupovic, nathalie.parra-jakupovic@amnesty.se

Ellinor Chamoun, ellinor.chamoun@amnesty.se

EYES FOR FREEDOM – PHOTO EXHIBITION ABOUT HOPE AND COURAGE



Together with Group 102 (the Iran group in Gothenburg), we have created a thought-provoking photo exhibition that takes us on a journey through the lives of young Iranian girls and boys who have been affected by violence during the autumn 2022 protests in Iran.

About the photo exhibition "Eyes for Freedom":

- ❖ The portraits in the exhibition capture the essence of their strength while revealing their vulnerability, creating a deep emotional connection.
- ❖ Through short personal stories, we gain insight into their challenges and how they defy the odds to hold on to their dreams.
- ❖ "Eyes for Freedom" celebrates their unrivalled resilience and determination to overcome difficulties.

You can borrow the exhibition!

The Iran group in Gothenburg wants to spread the exhibition around Sweden and offers local groups the opportunity to borrow it. If your group is interested, do not hesitate to contact Mohammed Ryback, Organisational Developer, by email: mohammed.ryback@amnesty.se

Mohammed Ryback

mohammed.ryback@amnesty.se

JOIN THE FOCUS GROUP

At the annual meeting on 6-7 May, the decision was made to introduce local associations within Amnesty Sweden and that the districts will eventually be phased out. In the April issue of *Insats*, you could read about the proposal and also about the focus group that helped develop the proposal (on pages 10-11). If you have thoughts and ideas you want to put forward, you now have the opportunity to join the focus group, which currently consists of five activists from different parts of the country. This is a fantastic opportunity to contribute to the work of strengthening our local organisation.

Register your interest today by emailing me at nathalie.parra-jakupovic@amnesty.se

NEW INFOPAGE FOR LOCAL GROUPS

Dear local groups,

We want to remind you of our ongoing work to create a new info page that will highlight our fantastic local groups. We have already received information from 8 groups, but we need even more to make the page as informative as possible.

What you can expect from the new info page:

- **Local information:** On the info page we will list all our local groups, their meeting times and locations. This will make it easier for our members and interested parties to find and get involved in local groups operating in their neighbourhood.
- **Focus areas:** Each group will have the opportunity to present their specific focus areas and activities. This gives potential members the opportunity to choose a group that works on issues they are passionate about.
- **Contact person:** We will include the name and contact details of each locally responsible person. This way, members and interested parties can easily reach out and ask questions or express their interest.

To be part of this initiative, we ask you to fill in a short form with information about your group. **The form can be found [HERE](#)**

The site can be useful both for those looking for a local group to join and for existing groups looking for new members!

Mohammed Ryback, mohammed.ryback@amnesty.se

NEW ACTIVISTPORTAL

The activist portal you are all familiar with is currently undergoing a change for the better! The goal is for the website to become more user-friendly and accessible to all our activists. Updates that you can expect are:

- ★ Improved layout and navigation for a smoother user experience
- ★ Simple and intuitive design to facilitate engagement in campaigns and activities
- ★ Opportunities for increased solidarity among our activists

We would like to hear your opinions and thoughts in order to design as good an Activist portal as possible. You can answer the survey which only takes a few minutes to fill in and feel free to share it with others in your group! [HERE is the link!](#) Note that the survey has a one-week response time, answer no later than Wednesday 1 November.

DIGITAL REFERENCE GROUP:

Are you interested in participating in a digital workshop that provides input on the design for the new Activist portal? We plan to hold the workshop in the first week of November for about an hour. Email me your interest for more info.

Linnea Falk
Project manager for Aktivistportalen
linnea.falk@amnesty.se

GREETINGS FROM THE YOUTH COUNCIL

We are the Youth Council! We are youth activists from different youth groups from different cities around the country and together we work in different ways to represent youth perspectives in Amnesty! We are here to be the link between the organisation and the youth activists and we contribute with different perspectives to ensure that our voices as young people are heard!

In addition to representing Amnesty's youth activists, we also plan and organise our various youth activities, such as the regional meetings held earlier this month in Stockholm and Gothenburg (see pictures on the Bulletin Board).

During the weekend of 14-15 October, parts of the Council gathered for a joint kick-off in Gothenburg to plan the exciting activities of the academic year. Together with the Student Council, we have planned parts of this year's Activist Seminar and

National Youth Meeting, and during the kick-off we planned, among other things, workshops and this year's solidarity action that you will learn about at the Activist Seminar and National Youth Meeting.

Are you interested in knowing more about how we work and what we have planned for the coming year? Get in touch with us on Instagram @amnestyung or talk to us at the Activist Seminar in November - hope to see you there!

Greetings from the Youth Council,

Abir (U94), Anela, (U93), Assar, Emma (U50), Henning (U19), Isabella (U31) Lile (U87),

Mustafa (U64), Ophelia (U62), Roulana (U31), Saadet (50) and Taha (69).

We in the Youth Council consist of 12 youth activists from 6 different cities and youth groups in Stockholm, Malmö, Örebro, Gothenburg, Vårgårda, Skene and Uddevalla.



On 1 and 8 October, youth activists from across Sweden met in Stockholm and Gothenburg for the Regional Youth Meeting led by the Youth Council. The theme of the meeting was "The right to life" with a focus on the death penalty and abortion rights. At the meeting, we listened to our experts Maja Åberg & Katarina Bergehed who talked about the death penalty and the common intersection of abortion rights. There was also a poster workshop, as well as writing solidarity letters and recording video greetings to human rights defenders - thank you to everyone who participated!



In September, demonstrations were organised in Stockholm, Malmö and Gothenburg against a policy inquiry that would compel public servants to report undocumented people, including children, to the Migration Agency and the Police. We stood up against a law on obligation to report that in practice would clash with Swedish legislation, international law and a number of conventions, but also rules on employee loyalty and ethical rules.

EDITOR



My name is **Nishani** and I am the new editor of Insats. Please contact me directly if you have any thoughts, concerns or ideas as I would love to know what you think about Insats. Contact me at: clara-nishani.holm@amnesty.se