

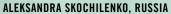
W4R 2022

FOR THIS YEAR'S WRITE FOR RIGHTS, AMNESTY PHILIPPINES FOCUSED ON THE FOLLOWING CASES:



YREN ROTELA AND MARIANA SEPÚLVEDA, PARAGUAY

Yren and Mariana have been fighting for years to change their legal names. Without it, transgender people like them cannot get proper access to education, livelihood, opportunities—and even their right to protest and expression. Tell Paraguay to legally recognise the identity of trans people so they can exercise their rights.



On 31 March 2022, Aleksandra replaced price tags in a local supermarket in Saint Petersburg with little paper labels containing facts about the invasion. Aleksandra was arrested and charged for her peaceful action. She has been held in detention ever since, in terrible conditions.





DORGELESSE NGUESSAN, CAMEROON

Dorgelesse protested for the first time to demand action for the state of Cameroon's economy. During the peaceful demonstrations, Dorgelesse was arrested. She was taken away from her family and sentenced to 5 years in prison. Tell Cameroon to free Dorgelesse Nguessan.

CHOW HANG-TUNG, HONG KONG

On 4 June 2021, Chow asked people on social media to light candles in memory of the protesters killed in the 1989 Tiananmen crackdown. Chow was arrested for daring to commemorate their lives. Now she is serving 22 months in prison for her activism. Ask Hong Kong to free Chow Hang-tung.





SHAHNEWAZ CHOWDHURY, BANGLADESH

After their village was destroyed by a storm, Shahnewaz wrote a Facebook post about the impact of a local power plant, linking it to the environmental destruction of his region. He was arrested for his Facebook post, and is now at risk of spending many years in prison. Tell Bangladesh to drop the charges today.

campAlgn PAC 2

Since its beginnings as a movement in 1961, Amnesty International has always included personal letter writing as one of its main campaign methods. Many have already spoken out in defense of human rights by simply taking a few minutes to write a letter. Since 2001, the organization has collected millions of messages written in support of people who are unjustly detained or persecuted, and Write for Rights (W4R) has become the world's biggest human rights event.

This year, the section took action with the following participating regions: NCR, CAR, Region 3, Region 7, Region 8, Reg 10-A, Reg 10-B, CARAGA and with the following local groups: AIPh UP Baguio, Individual members from Bataan and Bulacan, AIPh Tacloban and AIPh UP Tacloban, AIPh Tagbilaran, AIPh Jimenez local group, AIPh Cagayan de Oro, PHINMA-COC Mindanao HRYAN and, AIPh CARAGA and CARAGA Youth.

Amnesty Philippines also partnered with British School Manila, Philippine National University, the Commission on Human Rights and iDefend Human Rights Festival.



LEARN MORE ABOUT WRITE FOR RIGHTS AND
TAKE ACTION!

www.amnesty.org.ph/write4rights





Some notable activities included: action booths in schools, online and offline W4R info and letter-writing sessions, human rights motorcades, partnership with local organizations, and house to house signature campaigns.





ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH LEADERS 2022: BUILDING A COMMUNITY OF YOUTH HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH LEADERS (AYL) IS A BI-ANNUAL GATHERING OF AMNESTY PHILIPPINES' YOUNG HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS FROM DIFFERENT REGIONS ACROSS THE COUNTRY-



AYL provides a venue for young activists to discuss and address youth-related issues and concerns within and outside the movement. The pandemic made it challenging to meet in large groups due to health protocols, thus, this years' assembly was the first physical gathering after two years.









On 25 - 27 November, Amnesty Philippines held the AYL at Cagayan de Oro where they reconnected with young human rights defenders for the theme 'Building a Community of Youth Human Rights Defenders'. A day before the program proper, delegates from different regions were invited to visit the community of the Manobo-Pulangiyon 1490 in Bukidnon.

The community warmly welcomed the delegates and Amnesty Ph through shared cultural performances. The group had a chance to directly hear from the tribe leaders about the situations that the community experiences almost every day.







Following this, Amnesty Ph together with the delegates and community of the Manobo-Pulangiyon had the opportunity to exchange conversations. The community members showed their living conditions with the ongoing land dispute.







After the visit, Amnesty PH and the delegates had time to reflect and share their thoughts in which the members felt a huge responsibility upon hearing and seeing the conditions of the community.







The first day of AYL kicked off with reports from the Youth Core Group (YCG), Asia-Pacific Regional Forum (APRF) and Global Assembly (GA) Youth Delegate, and AYL delegates from each representing region/local group. They shared their accomplishments, best practices and learnings and any updates on their locality's Human Rights situation since the last AYL.

After the reports, the YCG discussed the importance of the formation of a Philippine Children and Youth Strategy, why it must be regularly updated, and how Amnesty Philippine's young activists can contribute. With that, a workshop was conducted. Delegates were asked questions on how they envision the growth and development of young activists can be in Amnesty.

On the last day of the AYL, young human rights defenders gathered up for the Youth Action Plan workshop wherein members were tasked to identify campaign priorities and possible actions per island group. Delegates chose the campaign priorities that they think are relevant and timely in their region. Issues on Education, Climate Justice, and Equality and Anti-discrimination were significantly highlighted during the workshop.







Moreover, the Members' General Assembly (MeGA) was introduced to the young HRDs, further explaining the member's opportunity to have an influence or to set a direction on Amnesty Philippine's policies and strategies through resolution making.







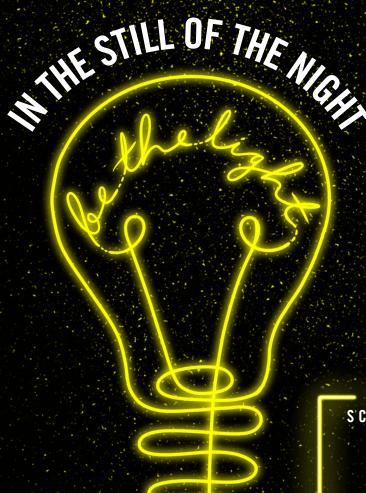
Highlighting the importance of pausing from the amount of Human Rights work that needs to be done, the assembly ended with a session on Activist Self-care and Well-being. Young activists, and activists in general, are juggling different priorities yet still fulfill their obligation to defend Human Rights.



Promoting youth inclusion and participation in governance spaces, throughout the AYL, four elections took place. The body has forwarded a youth delegate to the APRF and GA, youth delegate to the MeGA, members to the Youth! Power! Action! Network, and island representatives to the YCG for the term 2022-2024.







Last World Kindness Day, Amnesty International Philippines launched the "Be The Light" donation project.

All donations to Amnesty Ph will be supporting the organization's human rights education and our partner communities through the #BigKindnessFund.

Those who donate also get a free Be The Light token!

SCAN THE QR CODE OR VISIT THE LINK TO DONATE!

bit.ly/donateAlPH

STAND WITH THE PEOPLE OF THE MANOBO-PULANGIYON



SCAN E



bit.ly/BTLMerchDonate

STAND WITH THE MP1490!



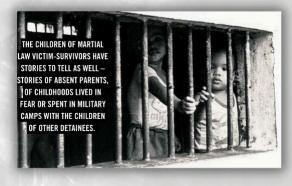


WATCH THE FULL EPISODE: bit.ly/IC2022MLBL



20 September 2021: On the eve of the commemoration of the declaration of Martial Law, Amnesty Philippines hosted its most recent episode of Ignite Conversations, venturing into the topic of the intergenerational trauma inflicted on families by the human rights violations of that time. Our featured guest was Issa Manalo Lopez, a theater artist and the child of activists hunted and detained by the first Marcos administration. The episode was hosted by Amnesty's own Manu Gaspar, and he and Issa discussed her earliest childhood memories as well as her experience growing up in a detention center.





This episode was the official launch of the year-long Martial Law Bloodlines project, focused on the multi-generational effects that Martial Law has had on so many Filipinos. The stories of the survivors among the persecuted by the Marcos Sr. Administration are well known, however over time it seems to have been forgotten that these stories happened to real people: real parents, siblings and friends. This project aims to tell the stories of their children and surviving relatives - stories of absent parents, of childhoods lived in fear or in military camps. Their lives were irrevocably impacted by the dictatorship and their stories deserve to be told.

Martial Lar



ARTISTS

From September 2022 to September 2023 Amnesty Philippines will partner with tattoo artists, filmmakers and educators to put together a series of

Martial Law Bloodlines Tattoo Festivals.

al Law



AFTER 8 BISTRO, BAGUIO CITY



There will be pockets of talks about the multigenerational effects of martial law to be led by children and relatives of martial law victims. The term "bloodlines" is both a practice by tattoo artists and a reference to the lines of descent of Martial Law victim-survivors.



NORTHERN LUZON

PRIDE NETWORK
PARTNER

Tattoos have always been regarded as symbols of political acts of resistance within cultures that demand conformity. An act of protest, it represents bodily autonomy, control, and the right to make decisions over one's own life and future – something that any form of authoritarianism or dictatorship strips off of people.

Last year, many Amnesty activists exercised precisely these rights by getting their first tattoos at the Martial Law Bloodlines Festivals, first in Koronadal City on November 26 and then again in Baguio City on December 10.



23 soodlines



AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL

In the tradition of collaborating with new artists, the festival had booths for tattoo artists and other advocacy organizations, and the stage was graced by musicians, poets, and filmmakers.



GOODVIBES 90.5 FMN LUZON
OFFICIAL MEDIA PARTNER



MUGWAGI CAFE, KORONADAL CITY

MÖgWag

HUMAN RIGHTS SOCIETY GENSAN
PARTNER

CAMPAIGNERS MEETING

The Campaigners Team meeting set out to bring together innovative and determined Amnesty activist-leaders in one room to work together and understand the context of human rights campaigning in different parts of the Philippines, build skills for advocacy and mobilization relevant and applicable within their communities, and plan as one section for upcoming campaigns--Write for Rights and Protect the Protest among others. This activity was attended by representatives from Baguio, Bulacan, NCR, Tacloban, Bacolod, Iloilo, Bohol, Cagayan de Oro, Misamis Occidental, CARAGA, and Zamboanga.









The workshop-meeting started with context. The campaigners looked into the environment we are currently doing our human rights work in. Within and across Luzon, Visayas, and Mindanao, they identified challenges they have faced and may continue to face as human rights defenders, and shared ideas on how Amnesty can adapt and mobilize during these difficult times.

Core to the purpose of the Campaigners Meeting this year is exploring ways we can bring more people into human rights advocacy and build our advocate base in the long-term. After all, the reality is, we have more allies than we think! The team dedicated time to take a step back and look at the bigger picture of their who and how we can engage different groups, sectors and partners beyond Amnesty's "usual" audiences and "usual" methods. In addition to just bringing in new members, Campaigners expanded their thinking into how to turn passive allies into active allies by reaching out of our comfortable echo-chambers and conversations, in one form or another, with people of differing—and sometimes, conflicting —perspectives as us.

Supplementing these were skills building on policy advocacy at the community level (in your LGU or even in your school), relationship building with community, and very importantly—how can we prepare for our activities the safest way we can.



The official work-mode of the meeting ended with an introduction to our upcoming Protect the Protest and Climate Justice work, and a planning session for #WriteForRights2022, and Human Rights Day. Each region laid out their plans with a renewed energy now that in-person activities are possible. More than creating their plans, these sessions became opportunities for each region to learn best practices from each other.

The final session was on activist well-being. In the midst of all our human rights work and the uncertainty that comes with it, the campaigners reflected on how we they can take care of themselves as human rights defenders, and how they can take care of their fellow members too.





The Campaigners Meeting was the first in-person space for members from almost all Amnesty regional formations to come together and see each other since the pandemic began. The feeling of community was palpable and immediate, and with it came this incredible burst of determination and motivation to push our human rights work forward. As was echoed again and again by the members during our last check-out before concluding the workshop: we may have a lot of challenges ahead us, but we can always find strength in each other.

Art x Protest

ART + FACTS VIRTUAL ART EXHIBIT



2021. Rights On Human Day Amnesty Philippines launched ART+FACTS, an inclusive online space where artists can showcase their work focused on their personal advocacies and where visitors can easily take action on these issues. A play on the word "artifact," this project is meant to highlight the role that art and artists play in championing the cause of human rights. It was also a means by which Amnesty Philippines could return some of the support Artists for Amnesty have given over the years by providing a free space to showcase their work while recovering from the effects of the pandemic.



When ART+FACTS launched it focused on the different campaigns supporting Write for Rights 2021. In 2022, we have pivoted to align with Amnesty's flagship campaign Protect the Protest. The art currently displayed showcases the protest movements at the heart of positive human rights change. We have also partnered with illustrators from all over the world whose art vividly shows why protests matter and the importance of defending our right to protest.

Take a look at the local and international artists participating in this relaunch!



LIAN CHO



CAMILA ROSA



RANDY VALIENTE



SIDDHESH GAUTAM



TAMARA-JADE KAS

Visit the museum

bit.ly/artfactsKUNST

Interested in submitting your own work or learning more about the project?

Visit our website.

https://www.amnesty.org.ph/artfacts/

In this campaign, Amnesty wants to say: Your voice matters. You have the right to say what you think, share information and demand a better world. You also have the right to agree or disagree with those in power, and to express these opinions in peaceful protests.

Amnesty International supports people who speak out peacefully for themselves and for others – whether a journalist reporting on violence by security forces, a trade unionist exposing poor working conditions or an indigenous leader defending their land rights against big business. We would similarly defend the right of those who support the positions of big business, the security forces and employers to express their views peacefully.

We consider anyone put in prison solely for exercising their right to free speech and peaceful protest to be a prisoner of conscience and call for their immediate and unconditional release.

In France, when large demonstrations were temporarily banned, people lined up thousands of empty shoes at an environmental summit at Place de la République to ensure their voices would still be heard. This peaceful protest inspired global solidarity and UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon sent his jogging trainers in support.



THE SOLUTION: WHAT IS AMNESTY CALLING FOR?

- Prisoners of conscience around the world should be released immediately and unconditionally. All laws criminalizing people who speak out or protest peacefully, should be struck off the law
- Laws against hate speech or other incitement to discrimination and violence must not be used to repress peaceful dissent.

books.

- People should have access to information, and the power of governments and companies to obtain information about individuals and organisations must be restricted.
 - If you would like to join us in Protecting the Protest, you can sign the petition on Amnesty's Take Action web page.



PROTECT THE MANAGED PROTEST

In Thailand, giant rubber ducks were used by peaceful protesters as shields against police armed with riot gear using water cannons. The 'protector duck' became a symbol of Thailand's pro-democracy movement in the face of police abuses. Images of the ducks went viral inspiring global solidarity.

discriminated against groups are From Russia to Sri Lanka, France to Senegal, and Iran to Nicaragua, state authorities are implementing an expanding array of measures to Protesters across the globe are other measures to restrict the right to protest; the misuse of force, the expansion of unlawful mass and with a growing number of laws and shutdowns and online censorship; facing a potent mix of pushbacks, and abuse and stigmatization. subjected to even further barriers. marginalized surveillance; organized Meanwhile, suppress

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Amnesty International's "Protect the Protest" campaign will challenge attacks on peaceful protest, stand with those targeted and support the causes of social movements pushing for human rights change.

provide include the rights to freedom of a variety of rights, which can collectively, they are exercising whether comprehensive protection. Even international expression people in human rights treaties, when not codified as a separate right though the right to protest is treaties which, taken together, provisions enshrined in various through a number of separate protects the right to protest assembly. International human rights law engage in protests, protests individually and and peaceful regional with

> used repeatedly against peaceful arbitrarily, security" expansive and taking pre-emptive deterrent "terrorists". By casting protesters rights defenders. protesters, journalists, and human measures. deploying heavy handed policing, "troublemakers", "rioters", or even restrict protest. And, in India, the National Security Law and its witnessed in Hong Kong, where the Governments across the world are anti-terror in this light, protesters; public order and by stigmatizing that protest constitutes a threat to introducing and misusing ustifying restrictions by arguing ustified zero-tolerance approaches: draconian among other things, to "sedition", have been definition of "national This approach was Act (UAPA) and Unlawful Prevention have branding authorities have security been vague them used

In Brazil, millions of people
took to their balconies to
protest President Bolsonaro's
appalling handling of the Covid19 pandemic by banging loudly
and repeatedly on pots and
pans. After months of inaction
and under pressure, the
government finally announced
emergency measures and a
package of support for lowincome families.



People who face inequality and discrimination, whether based on race, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, religion, age, disability, occupation, social, economic or migratory status are also more affected by restrictions on their right to protest and face harsher repression.

In Burkina Faso, women took to the streets with spoons to demonstrate against president Compaoré. After several days of waving spoons in the air, singing protest songs and blowing whistles, the president stood down and the humble spoon became a symbol of resistance.



For example, women, LGBTI and gender-non-conforming people are facing different types of gender-based violence, marginalization, social norms and legislation. In countries including Sudan, Colombia and Belarus, women have been sexually assaulted for participating in protests, while in Turkey, for example, Pride marches have been banned for years.

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PERSEVERANDA TOWNHOMES II 6C MANINGNING CORNER MAAMO STS., SIKATUNA VILLAGE, 1101, QUEZON CITY

> TELEFAX: +63 2 7744 4108 E-Mail: Section@amnesty.org.ph

> > WE'RE ON THE WEB TOO! WWW.AMNESTY.ORG.PH

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