

## Web Action WA 14/06; AI Index POL 30/010/2006

Start date: 20/07/06

### An Amnesty International Campaign

Chat rooms monitored. Blogs deleted. Websites blocked. The Internet is a new frontier in the struggle for human rights. Sign our pledge to keep the internet as a space for freedom of information and expression.

Irrepressible

*adj. Impossible to repress or control*

Chat rooms monitored. Blogs deleted. Websites blocked. Search engines restricted. People imprisoned for simply posting and sharing information.

The Internet is a new frontier in the struggle for human rights. Governments – with the help of some of the biggest IT companies in the world – are cracking down on freedom of expression.

Amnesty International, with the support of The Observer UK newspaper, is launching a campaign to show that online or offline the human voice and human rights are impossible to repress.

[Find out more about this campaign](#)

### Be irrepressible

- Sign our pledge on Internet freedom to call on all governments and companies to ensure the Internet is a force for political freedom, not repression.
- Undermine censorship by publishing irrepressible fragments of censored material on your own site. The more people take part, the more we can defeat unwarranted censorship and create an unstoppable network of protest.
- Take action. In China, Microsoft, Google and Yahoo are supporting the government's denial of fundamental freedoms. Act now to put pressure on these companies to protect freedom of information and expression.

### Somebody doesn't want people to read this:

Take part by putting material like this on your site. The more people do this, the more we undermine political censorship. We call it [\[Irrepressible.info\]](#)

Read more about our examples of censored material

### About this Campaign

The web is a great tool for sharing ideas and freedom of expression. However, efforts to try and control the Internet are growing. Internet repression is reported in countries like China, Vietnam, Tunisia, Iran, Saudi Arabia and Syria. People are persecuted and imprisoned simply for criticising their government, calling for democracy and greater press freedom, or exposing human rights abuses, online.

But Internet repression is not just about governments. IT companies have helped build the systems that enable surveillance and censorship to take place. Yahoo! have supplied email users' private data to the Chinese authorities, helping to facilitate cases of wrongful imprisonment. Microsoft and Google have both complied with government demands to actively censor Chinese users of their services.

Freedom of expression is a fundamental human right. It is one of the most precious of all rights. We should fight to protect it.

## Want to find out more about these issues?

- [Read a statement by Irene Khan, Amnesty International's Secretary-General](#)
- [Read about our examples of censored material](#)
- [Download a briefing on Internet repression in China](#)

## Join Amnesty International

Irrepressible.info was conceived and built by [Soda Creative](#). Soda are creative technologists specialising in the delivery of innovative solutions for play, learning and art.

## Support this campaign

It has never been more important to stand up for human rights. If you believe in freedom of expression, and in the power of the internet, join our campaign now.

## Add irrepressible content to your site

If you have a website or blog, help us spread the word and undermine unwarranted censorship by publishing censored material from our database directly onto your site.

The more people take part the more we show that freedom of expression cannot be repressed.

1. Choose a format for the badge to use on your site:

wide (468 x 60)

half wide (234 x 60)

rectangle (180 x 150)

small square (125 x 125)

You can [preview the different formats](#) (will open in a pop up window)

2. Copy the html snippet you can see on the right and add it to your site where you want the badge to appear. Make sure to copy the entire code or the badge will not work properly.

3. Reload your site. New content from our database will appear each time a page is loaded.

## Add this html fragment to your site:

New content from our database will appear with each load of your site. If you don't have your own site you can [get static buttons](#) to use in emails.

## Download and use these buttons

You can show your support online by simply downloading your favourite button below to use it on your website, your desktop or in your email signature.

Simple right click on any of the badges and choose "save as" from the menu.

## Database of censored material

Amnesty International is working with the OpenNet Initiative (ONI) to help raise awareness of internet censorship around the world.

The ONI is a collaboration among the Citizen Lab, Munk Centre for International Studies, University of Toronto, the Advanced Network Research Group at Cambridge University, the Berkman Center for Internet & Society at Harvard Law School UK, and the Oxford Internet Institute, plus partner non- governmental organizations worldwide.

The aim of the ONI is to document empirically patterns of Internet content filtering and surveillance worldwide behind national firewalls over an extended period of time. The ONI employs a unique methodology that combines in-field

investigations by partners and associates within the countries under investigation and a suite of technical interrogation tools that probe the Internet directly for forensic evidence of content filtering and surveillance technologies.

The principal investigators of the ONI are Ronald J. Deibert (Toronto), Rafal Rohozinski (Cambridge), John Palfrey (Harvard), and Jonathan Zittrain (Oxford).

Its 11 country reports have documented the scope, scale and sophistication of numerous filtering regimes worldwide, and have helped verify the use of US commercial filtering technologies, such as Smartfilter and Websense that are used in some ways to underpin these regimes. The [ONI's flash map of global filtering](#) shows the results of these investigations.

The work of ONI is supported by the Information Program of the [Open Society Institute](#) and the [John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation](#). ONI's mapping work is supported by the [International Development Research Centre \(Canada\)](#).

The examples of censored material used for Irrepressible.info have been drawn from websites that have been blocked in one of the following countries – China, Iran, Myanmar, Tunisia, Uzbekistan, Syria and Vietnam, and are based on latest testing results available from each country.

These examples are for illustrative purposes only and Amnesty International does not control, monitor or guarantee the information contained in these sites, and does not endorse the content of these sites or any views expressed on them.

### **The site belongs to ...**

#### **and has been censored in...**

Human Rights in China

HRIC is a Chinese human rights organisation

Amnesty International

Amnesty International is a movement of ordinary people standing for humanity and human rights.

British Broadcasting Corporation

The BBC is a public service broadcaster

Free Tibet Campaign

Free Tibet Campaign stands for the Tibetans' right to determine their own future

Free China Movement

Free China Movement is a pro-democracy association

Human Rights Watch

Human Rights Watch is an independent human rights organisation

Hossein Derakhshan is an Iranian in Canada who writes a blog

Iranian Gay and Lesbian Healthcare Workers Association

It is a community of Iranian LGBT healthcare workers

Persian Gay & Lesbian Organization

PGLO is an NGO focusing on the Iranian LGBT society

BBC Persian

BBC news in Persian

Gooya News

It is an Iranian news site

Women in Iran

It is an Iranian women's rights site

The Irrawaddy

IPG is a news site for Burmese citizens living in exile

Women's League of Burma

The WLB is a platform for the women of Burma

The Burma Project

The Burma Project seeks to increase international awareness of conditions in Burma

The Burma Campaign UK

The Burma Campaign UK campaigns for human rights and democracy in Burma.

It is a non-profit portal about the Karen People

Syrian news site

Levant news

It contains daily news and views from Syria

Syrian Human Rights Committee

SHRC is a human rights organisation in Syria

Arab Times Newspaper

The Arab Times Newspaper is the largest Arab-American newspaper published in the US since 1986

It contains news and views on Syrian society

Reporters Without Borders

Reporters Without Borders advocates freedom of the press.

A website which provides news, information, and commentary

The website provides news, information, and commentary.

Website Maghreb des Droits de l'Homme, provides human rights news and information on Tunisia, Algeria, Morocco, and Mauritania

The Open Society Institute

The Open Society Institute promotes democratic governance, human rights, and social reform

It is a discussion forum.

A news and opinions site

It is a pro democracy site

Human Rights Society of Uzbekistan

A news and opinions site

United Uzbek Democratic Coalition

It is a pro democracy website.

The Information-Analytic Center Eurasia

Independent political analysis of Central Asia

Vietnam Human Rights Network

The site aims to increase awareness of human rights violations in Vietnam.

International freedom of expression exchange

The site is a global network of 57 free expression groups.

A pro democracy site

News and views from Vietnam

Human Rights Watch is an independent human rights organisation

*Start date: 27/05/2006*

## **IRREPRESSIBLE.INFO**

**an Amnesty International campaign**

### **About this Pledge**

In November 2006, governments and companies from all over the world will attend a UN conference to discuss the future of the Internet. You can help us send a clear message to them that people everywhere believe the Internet should be a force for political freedom, not repression.

We will present the total number at the conference. The more people who sign up, the louder our voice.

Please read and sign our pledge.

**people have signed the pledge**

### **The pledge**

I believe the Internet should be a force for political freedom, not repression. People have the right to seek and receive information and to express their peaceful beliefs online without fear or interference.

I call on governments to stop the unwarranted restriction of freedom of expression on the Internet – and on companies to stop helping them do it.

### **Sign this pledge**

First name

Surname

Email address

Yes, I would like to receive further information from Amnesty International.

Select your country

Afghanistan

Albania

Algeria

Andorra

Angola

Anguilla

Antigua & Barbuda

Antilles

Argentina

Armenia

Australia

Austria

Azerbaijani Republic

Azores

Bahamas

Bahrain

Bangladesh

Barbados

Belarus

Belgium

Belize

Benin

Bermuda

Bhutan

Bolivia

Bosnia-Herzegovina

Botswana  
Brazil  
Brunei  
Bulgaria  
Burkina Faso  
Burundi  
Cambodia  
Cameroon  
Canada  
Cape Verde  
Cayman Islands  
Central African Republic  
Chad  
Chile  
China People's Republic  
China Tibet  
China Xuar  
Colombia  
Comoros  
Congo People's Republic  
Costa Rica  
Côte d'Ivoire  
Croatia  
Cuba  
Cyprus  
Czech Republic  
Czechoslovakia  
Democratic Rep. of Congo  
Denmark  
Djibouti  
Dominica  
Dominican Republic

Ecuador  
Egypt  
El Salvador  
Equatorial Guinea  
Eritrea  
Estonia  
Ethiopia  
Falklands Islands  
Faroe Islands  
Fiji  
Finland  
France  
French Guiana  
Gabon  
Georgia  
Germany  
Ghana  
Gibraltar  
Greece  
Greenland  
Grenada  
Guadeloupe  
Guatemala  
Guinea  
Guinea Bissau  
Guyana  
Haiti  
Honduras  
Hong Kong  
Hungary  
Iceland  
India



Indonesia

Iran

Iraq

Ireland

Israel

Italy

Jamaica

Japan

Jordan

Kazakhstan

Kenya

Kiribati Republic

Korea North (DPROK)

Korea South (ROK)

Kuwait

Kyrgyzstan

Laos PDR

Latvia

Lebanon

Leeward Islands

Lesotho

Liberia

Libya

Liechtenstein

Lithuania

Luxembourg

Macao

Macedonia

Madagascar

Malawi

Malaysia

Maldiv Islands

Mali  
Malta  
Martinique  
Mauritania  
Mauritius  
Mexico  
Moldova  
Monaco  
Mongolia PR  
Montenegro  
Montserrat  
Morocco  
Mozambique  
Namibia  
Nauru  
Nepal  
New Zealand  
Nicaragua  
Niger  
Nigeria  
Norway  
Oman  
Pakistan  
Palestinian Authority  
Panama  
Papua New Guinea  
Paraguay  
Peru  
Philippines  
Poland  
Portugal  
Puerto Rico

Qatar  
Reunion  
Romania  
Russian Federation  
Rwanda  
Saint Lucia  
Saint Vincent Grenadines  
Samoa  
San Marino  
Sao Tome and Principle  
Saudi Arabia  
Senegal  
Serbia  
Seychelles  
Sierra Leone  
Singapore  
Slovak Republic  
Slovenia  
Solomon Islands  
Somalia  
South Africa  
Spain  
Sri Lanka  
St Kitts Nevis  
Sudan  
Suriname  
Swaziland  
Sweden  
Switzerland  
Syria  
Tadzhikistan  
Taiwan Republic of China

Tanzania  
Thailand  
The Gambia  
The Netherlands  
Togo  
Tonga  
Trinidad & Tobago  
Tunisia  
Turkey  
Turkmenistan  
Turks & Caicos Islands  
Uganda  
Ukraine  
Union of Myanmar  
United Arab Emirates  
United Kingdom  
Uruguay  
US Virgin Islands  
USA  
Uzbekistan  
Vanuatu  
Vatican  
Venezuela  
Vietnam  
Virgin Islands  
Western Sahara  
Windward Islands  
Yemen Arab Republic  
Yemen PDR  
Yugoslavia  
Zambia  
Zimbabwe

## Sign Pledge

[Privacy statement](#) (will open in a pop up window)

### What happens to my name?

Your name will be added to our database that is recording the total number of pledges, which will be presented to the UN Internet Governance Forum in Geneva in 2009. It will not be made public in any way.

### Who will contact me?

If you agree to be contacted, Amnesty International may contact you by e-mail about this or future issues. Your e-mail address will not be passed on to any third party.

### Will my e-mail address be visible on the site?

No. Your e-mail address will not be available anywhere on our site. It will only be kept in our systems if you have given us permission to contact you, otherwise it will be removed.

[close window](#)

A campaign by [Amnesty International](#). Concept and realization by [Soda Creative](#). Supported by [The Observer](#) and [OpenNet Initiative](#).

## Thank You

Your support is hugely important to us. We will take your message of support for Internet freedom to governments and business leaders around the world. Whether at the UN conference or in one-to-one meetings, your voice will be heard.

### Want to do more?

Undermine censorship

Add an Irrepressible.info button to your website, or email signature, linking to the pledge. Copy the code for the button you want to use, and add it to your web page.

Someone doesn't want people to read this

IRREPRESSIBLE.INFO

### [Take action](#)

In China, Microsoft, Google and Yahoo are aiding repression, censorship, and violation of fundamental freedoms. Act now to put pressure on these companies to protect freedom of information and expression.

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