




AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS EDUCATION 2021

CONTENTS

- 03 WELCOME**
- 04 INTRODUCTION**
- 05 KEY TRENDS**
- 07 MEASURING PROGRESS**
- 08 GROWTH, ENGAGEMENT AND DIVERSITY:
MEASURING OUTCOME 2, 2021**
- 11 HRE STRENGTHENING CAMPAIGNS**
- 14 HRE WITHIN AMNESTY'S STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK**
- 19 REGIONAL HIGHLIGHTS**
 - 19 Africa
 - 22 Americas
 - 24 Asia Pacific
 - 27 Europe & Central Asia
 - 30 Middle East & North Africa (MENA)
 - 34 Global

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 *Cover photo:* HRE Write for Rights booster training for teachers and partners from Kyrgyzstan and Kazakhstan in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan, Central Asia by HRE Europe and Central Asia Amnesty International team together with Amnesty Ukraine.

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WELCOME

2021 saw continued havoc around the world with new deadly variants of Covid-19, the Taliban coming back into power in Afghanistan, coups in a few countries including Mali and Burkina Faso, the growing climate crisis, and rapid growth in rates of inflation and structural inequalities around the world.

In Amnesty International (Amnesty), the HRE network went through its own ups and downs. The closing of the Amnesty Hong Kong office also saw the closure of our long-term HRE programme running there. A similar situation evolved in Afghanistan as well. This follows close on the heels of Amnesty India closing and troubles brewing for HRE in other parts of the world including Poland, Hungary, Venezuela – this list grows! And as we launch this year’s progress report, our HRE work in Ukraine has been forced to stop due to Russia’s attack on the country.

However, there were some positive and promising developments in our line of work, with face-to-face HRE making a comeback, the [Amnesty Human Rights Academy](#) now available in 23 languages, and new HRE mobile games such as [Rights Arcade](#). The final evaluation and the tremendous impact of the [It’s My Body! Programme](#) also provided some much-needed inspiration! These are just a few examples of the impressive projects detailed in this year’s HRE progress report. In 2021, Amnesty’s HRE Network reached over 4 million people. We are growing not just in numbers but also in terms of the diversity of human rights topics addressed and the different kinds of stakeholders we reach.

2022 is a crucial year for Amnesty’s HRE work. Amnesty has entered a new strategic period. HRE is one of the core capabilities through which Amnesty aims to achieve its goals. This year, we will also launch our flagship campaign on the right to protest and people-powered movements. But now, it is also time to actively think of HRE strategies and HRE programmes in a world with rapidly expanding hostile environments. How can we ensure that HRE survives in these areas of conflict, as well as in areas where Amnesty has no presence on the ground? How do we continue to work productively with civil society and partners on the ground? How can we strengthen and further develop our existing HRE work on non-discrimination and the right to freedom of expression? And how do we do all of this with a virus that continues to infect, a refugee crisis that continues to be met with hostility rather than compassion, and a climate crisis that continues to deepen economic, social and cultural inequalities?

These are some of the questions that we are grappling with in HRE in Amnesty. While we celebrate all that we have achieved in 2021,

“ HRE is a key tool in Amnesty International’s work for building knowledge on a broad range of human rights issues. In 2021, Amnesty reached 4 million people through HRE. We trained journalists in Mali on human rights accountability, women activists in Morocco on gender-based discrimination, and young activists in Argentina, Peru and Chile on sexual and reproductive rights advocacy. Amnesty international reaches and empowers people in every corner of the world using face-to-face and innovative digital methodology. The continuing growth of Amnesty human rights education work speaks to the quality of our initiatives, but also to the continuing resonance of universal principles of equality and dignity for all. I commend all those involved in building the knowledge, skills and attitudes of current and future activists to defend human rights. ”

Agnès Callamard
Secretary General, Amnesty International

we will continue to challenge ourselves, our partners and states to strengthen HRE to continue building the foundation for the rights-respecting societies that we all need and deserve!



Kritika Vishwanath, Head of HRE

INTRODUCTION

Amnesty works with and through its members, supporters, activists and partners carrying out HRE in local, national, regional and global contexts. Today, educators at many of Amnesty's regional offices and national entities across the world raise awareness and equip people with the knowledge, skills and attitudes to be able to take informed action in support of the international human rights movement. Every year, the Global HRE Team at Amnesty works with Amnesty's regional and national entities to report on HRE projects around the globe and their achievement and impact.

In 2021, 63 Amnesty entities contributed to the report, providing information on 137 HRE initiatives. Together these projects reached people in 212 countries and territories. Covid-19 continued to impact the ways in which these projects were able to engage with their participants, with many projects continuing to utilize alternatives to in-person activities. The associated challenges and opportunities observed in 2020 remained present. However, after almost two years of a global shift towards digital solutions, many projects are reporting digital fatigue among their participants and how this negatively impacts both reach and retention of their activities.

Unfortunately, the emerging global threat of increasingly hostile environments for human rights and civil society continued to develop in 2021, presenting further challenges and implications for HRE.

In August, the collapse of the Afghan government following the seizure of power by the Taliban led to the immediate cessation of activities connected to the Human Rights Clubs Programme in Afghanistan, with all efforts being redirected towards trying to ensure the security and safety of the organizers, members and others connected to the programme.

On the 25 October 2021, Amnesty [announced](#) the closure of its two offices in Hong Kong.

HRE enables people to learn about human rights and how to claim them. HRE can be defined as any learning, education, training, or information efforts aimed at building a universal culture of human rights. It encompasses:

- **Knowledge – learning about human rights and human rights mechanisms.**
- **Values, attitudes and behaviours – developing values and reinforcing attitudes and behaviours which uphold human rights.**
- **Skills to take action – acquiring skills to apply human rights in a practical way in daily life and taking actions to defend and promote human rights.¹**

“This decision, made with a heavy heart, has been driven by Hong Kong’s national security law, which has made it effectively impossible for human rights organizations in Hong Kong to work freely and without fear of serious reprisals from the government”, said Anjhula Mya Singh Bais, Chair of Amnesty’s International Board.

“Hong Kong has long been an ideal regional base for international civil society organizations, but the recent targeting of local human rights and trade union groups signals an intensification of the authorities’ campaign to rid the city of all dissenting voices. It is increasingly difficult for us to keep operating in such an unstable environment.”

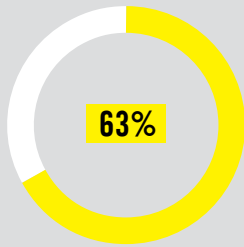
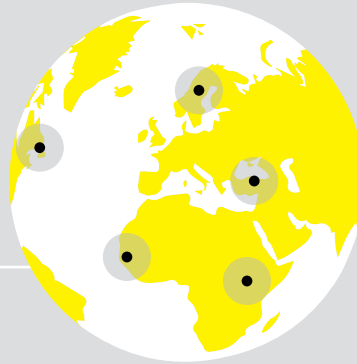
While these are some of the more extreme examples over the past year, several sections report on increasingly hostile environments for human rights in their countries and the challenges and threats posed to their HRE work, including the Philippines, Thailand, Hungary and Poland to name a few.

¹ The global HRE team uses the United Nations definition for human rights education.

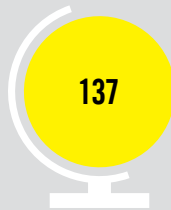
KEY TRENDS

Globally in 2021, HRE projects:

Engaged over **4 million** people and led more than **720,000** to take action² to defend human rights in **222 countries and territories worldwide**



of projects were conducted in **formal education spaces**.



137 projects were reported from **63** Amnesty entities.

“ I understand more on what I was already exercising, as an activist for climate justice and human rights within Fridays for Future movement. I want to share this course with my colleagues, so they understand more on what is currently happening. ”

Right to Protest course participant



66% of all those reached were **women and girls**³

83% of all those reached were **youth**⁴



HRE strongly contributed to campaign work being carried out on national, regional and global levels. Over **80% of projects reported contributing to at least one campaign**. Most frequently, HRE work in support of campaigns increased levels of awareness on the campaign issue, and understanding, knowledge and skills to take action for the campaign. Most projects also reported that HRE **increased engagement and actions taken** for the campaign.

² This represents the total number of people engaged in HRE projects estimated to meet Step 2 of the measurement framework for Outcome 1 of the HRE Strategic Framework, where participants are mobilizing and taking informed action for human rights or higher; it does not reflect individual assessment of HRE participants.

³ This percentage is based on the number of projects where disaggregate data is available.

⁴ This percentage is based on the number of projects where disaggregate data is available.

- **52% of projects** indicated that they work with groups facing discrimination, most frequently based on their gender, sexual orientation, or age. Of these projects, just under half reported that the project has the explicit intent to adopt a comprehensive intersectional approach, addressing root causes of discrimination and challenging attitudes and behaviours that perpetuate or reinforce inequalities.

- **80% of projects** reported working with partners at some stage within their project, most frequently in the implementation of HRE activities, highlighting the importance of work with partners to deliver HRE. In addition, **33 projects** reported working with partners throughout the whole project cycle, from planning and implementation through to evaluation.

- **63% of HRE projects** were conducted in formal education spaces, such as schools, colleges, or universities. Conversely, of 63 entities, only **20 reported** that HRE is included in formal curricula in their country.

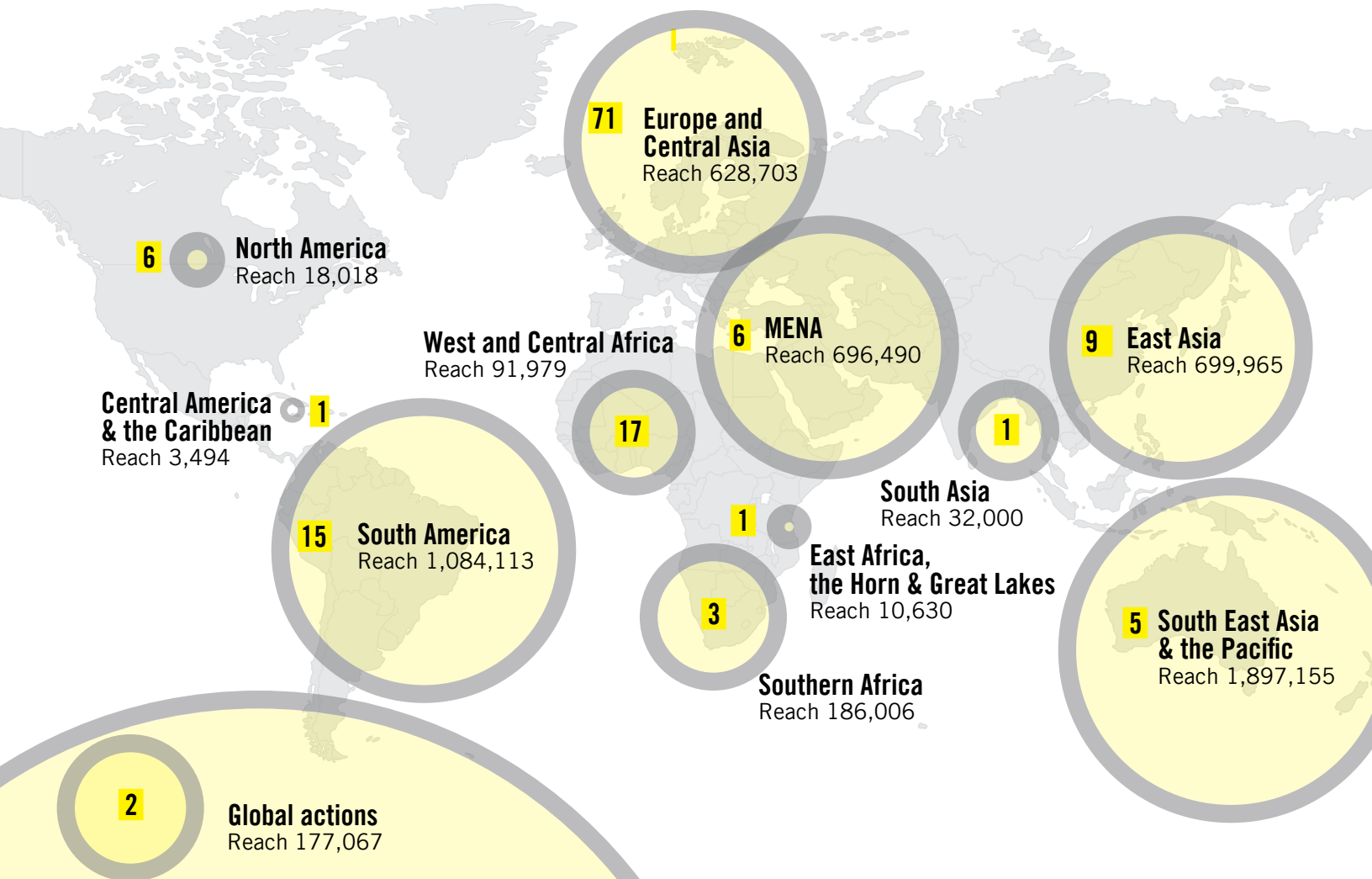
- **Key target groups** for HRE projects identified through reporting include children and youth, activists, teachers, journalists, women and girls, and members of the LGBTQIA+ community.

- When asked to identify who conducts HRE activities within projects, in addition to Amnesty staff, **teachers, volunteers and activists** were most frequently mentioned.

A note on this year's report: As Amnesty enters a new strategic period in 2022, the decision was made to revise the HRE measurement framework used to develop this report to bring it into alignment with the new strategy. Information collected in 2021 will provide the baseline in the new priority areas that the organization will work within over the next eight years, allowing us to track the contribution of HRE towards the realization of the new strategy. Efforts have been made where possible to compare trends from the previous organizational goals as well as providing initial insight into the state of HRE within the new priority areas for the organization.

GLOBAL SNAPSHOT OF PROJECTS AND

REACH BY REGION, 2021



IN 2021

137 Projects reported

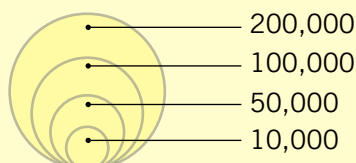
Over 4 million people were reached

66% women & girls³

85% youth⁴

Key

- 1** Number of projects
- People reached



Africa: *Thematic areas:* Human Rights Friendly Schools (HRFS), child rights, gender-based violence (GBV) including female genital mutilation (FGM), early [and] forced marriage (EFM)

Key target groups: Children and youth, teachers, formal education communities, community leaders and duty bearers

Americas: *Thematic areas:* LGBTQIA+ rights, comprehensive sexuality education (CSE), sexual and reproductive rights (SRR)

Key target groups: LGBTQIA+ community, youth and children, young activists.

Asia-Pacific: *Thematic areas:* Freedom of expression, general introduction to human rights, discrimination

Key target groups: Youth and children, students, activists.

Europe & Central Asia: *Thematic areas:* Human Rights Friendly Schools (HRFS), violence against women, general introduction to human rights

Key target groups: Teachers, children and youth, women and girls.

Middle East and North Africa: *Thematic areas:* Freedom of expression, violence against women, gender justice, migrant rights

Key target groups: Youth, women and girls, activists, human rights defenders (HRDs), migrant and migrant domestic workers

Global *Thematic areas:* Right to protest, child rights

Key target groups: Digital learners, youth

MEASURING PROGRESS

Every year Amnesty asks its network of educators to assess their projects' progress towards the achievement of two main outcomes as established by the HRE Strategic Priorities. The two outcomes for the period of 2022-2030 are as follows:

1. Action-oriented education – People have the knowledge, skills and attitudes to take action on human rights.
2. HRE growth and engagement – The human rights movement is stronger, larger and diverse.

Outcome 1 is measured through the evaluation of projects against a scaled framework. In 2021, 76 projects reported working within Step 2: mobilization, informed action and higher.

Outcome 2 is measured through the evaluation of projects across a series of measures. These are as follows:

Growth: The number of people reached through HRE projects as compared to the previous year.

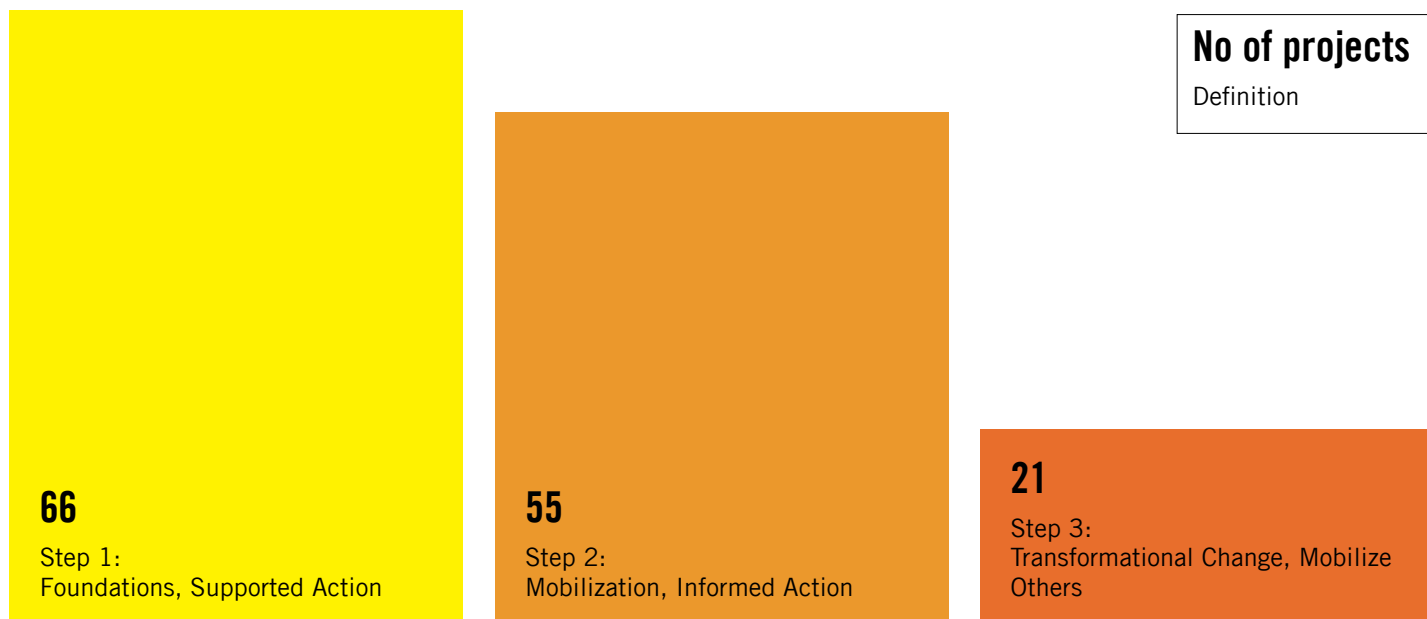
Engagement:

- ♦ The ways in which participants of HRE projects engage with Amnesty.
- ♦ The extent to which HRE projects engage with their participants, in planning, implementation and evaluation of projects, including support provided to participants following training.
- ♦ The extent to which the project engages with or coordinates with partners.

Diversity: The number of HRE projects working with groups facing discrimination and the way in which these projects work with the respective groups.

NUMBER OF PROJECTS AND REACH, SCALED FRAMEWORK OUTCOME 1, 2021

Action-oriented Education – People have the knowledge, skills and attitudes to take action on human rights.



GROWTH, ENGAGEMENT AND DIVERSITY: MEASURING OUTCOME 2, 2021

HRE Growth and Engagement – The human rights movement is stronger, larger and diverse.

GROWTH

After five years of progressive supporter growth, we saw a slight drop in numbers in 2021 among people for whom Amnesty has contact information and who have taken action including by participating in HRE. This could be attributed to a few potential causes, the first being the continued impact of the pandemic that year. In 2020, under similar circumstances, we saw continued growth as many entities adapted their HRE work to be delivered in virtual forms, enabling them to reach individuals they had been unable to reach earlier due to location constraints or simply because people were looking for ways to stay active during lockdown when other social activities were no longer possible. However, after two years under these conditions, we received many reports within projects of digital fatigue both among participants of training and those leading activities, as well as a deterioration in well-being and an increased sense of isolation. This has resulted in difficulties engaging people in online HRE and retaining them in longer programmes of HRE conducted entirely online.

In response to these challenges some projects have shifted towards blended models of HRE delivery, working with local Amnesty members to be able to deliver training in regions where travel is not possible, coupled with some central online activities. Alternatively, other projects have placed a stronger emphasis within training on well-being, providing support and resources to their participants.

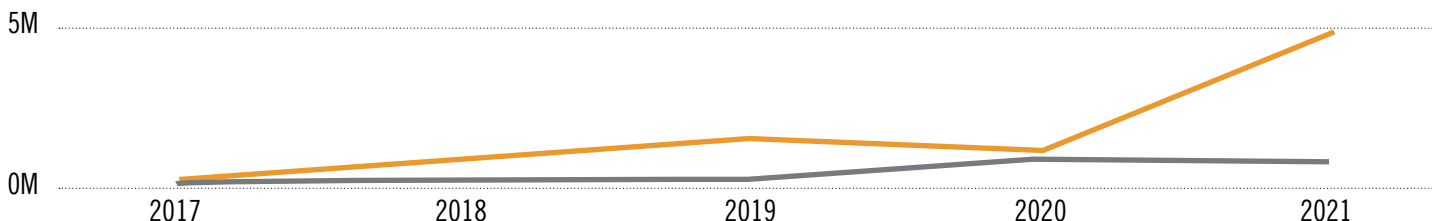
As mentioned in the introduction to this report, the other main cause for this drop in numbers may be due to the closure of offices in Hong Kong and the shutdown of work in Afghanistan. Meanwhile, in countries where HRE work is ongoing, but the hostile political situation is worsening, HRE

projects face several barriers from the inability to access schools, for example, to increased individual risk for participants of trainings or for those conducting training being associated with Amnesty in countries where civil society organizations (CSOs) and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) are targeted by the authorities and may face retaliation or the risk of prosecution or detention for engaging in human rights work.

This poses significant risk to Amnesty’s ability to reach people to provide HRE and challenges us with the question of how we can safely conduct HRE in the worsening human rights climate. There is, however, some experience in the network of working in hostile political environments, closed countries and countries facing conflict, upon which we can build, as this unfortunately becomes relevant for more of the network.

In 2021, we recorded an increase of approximately 3 million followers, people who have been reached by Amnesty with HRE but

FOLLOWERS AND SUPPORTERS



for whom we do not have contact details. While this may seem like a significant increase, it is important to note that in previous years we chose to omit numbers pertaining to people reached through digital engagement strategies with HRE. The additional 3 million people reached reflects the digital engagement efforts, mostly of three entities, with comprehensive digital engagement plans through social media centered around HRE. These are namely, Amnesty Argentina, Amnesty Australia and Amnesty's Middle East and North Africa Regional Office.

Digital engagement is an effective way of reaching individuals with HRE and while it is important to note that the level of impact and the depth of learning achieved through these is difficult to measure or gauge, in today's modern world it is hard to ignore the influence and reach of social media; and HRE has proven to be an effective way of engaging people with Amnesty's work and can be, for many people, their first exposure to the organization. Research also shows a trend towards learning through social feeds, as younger generations move away from more traditional e-learning.⁵ As such we made the decision to include these numbers to set a baseline as we move into the new Strategic Framework.

ENGAGEMENT

HRE Participant Engagement With Amnesty

As part of the revised measurement framework, projects were asked to indicate the types of engagement that participants of training have with Amnesty and how frequently they saw these engagements within the project. Looking at all the projects together, the top types of engagement observed were people choosing for themselves to participate in the HRE activities, people taking part in HRE activities they were enrolled in within their formal education institutions and people taking action as a result of participating in the HRE. Given that HRE at Amnesty is action-oriented, it is encouraging to see that this is present in the top three types of engagement observed in projects. Meanwhile, given the significant percentage of projects we have working in formal education, it is also unsurprising that we see people engaging in HRE because of attending training being conducted in formal education. On the other hand, the number of people choosing for themselves to participate in HRE would suggest that there is both a need and a desire for people to receive HRE.

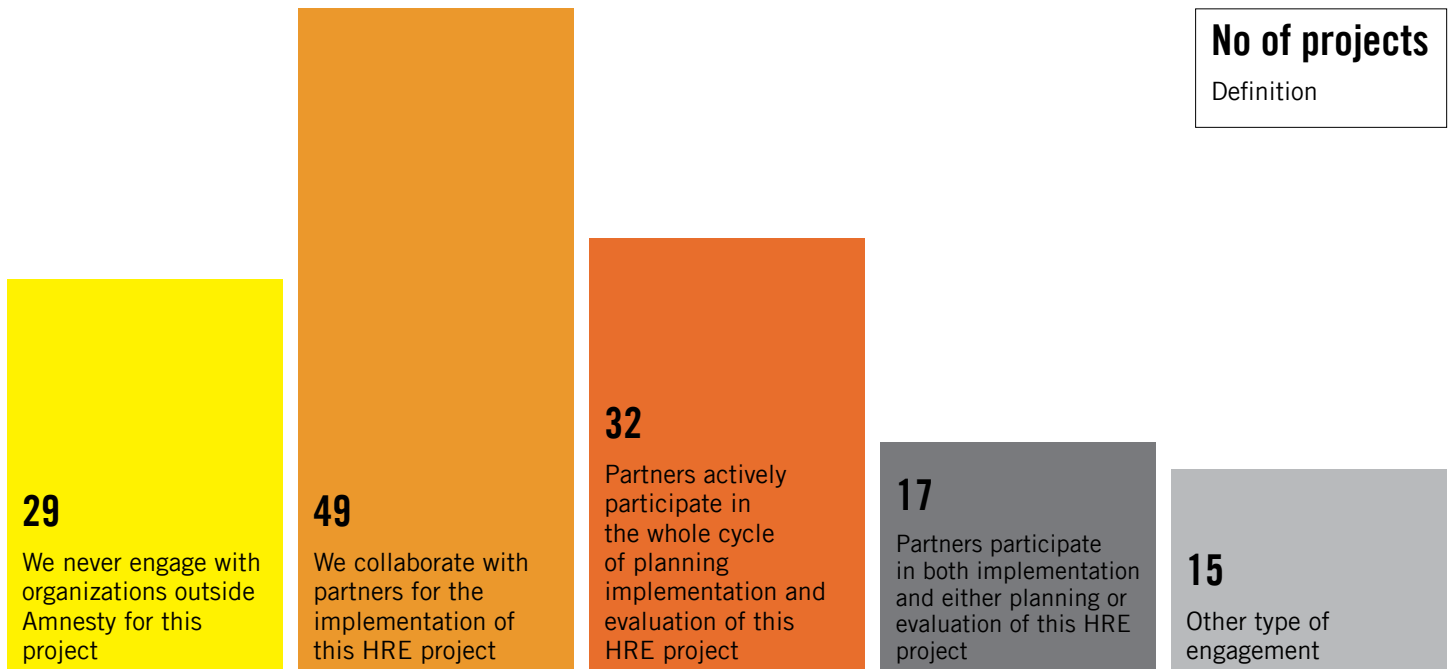
When compared against the overall project rating for measurement framework for Outcome 1, there is no difference observed between Step 1 and Step 2, where the top three types of engagement are the same. However, at Step 3 we see that people conduct their own HRE activities as part of the project enters the top three behaviours observed indicating the more in-depth training and impact typical of projects at Step 3.

Perhaps what is most interesting is that when it comes to becoming Amnesty members or volunteers, we see this ranked most highly within projects working at Step 1 of the measurement framework for Outcome 1. As this is the first year, we have no further information to say concretely why this may be, but the assumption made on analysis of the projects and the data to be tested in subsequent years, is that HRE constitutes an important first step in people's journeys with Amnesty and that projects working at higher levels may already be working with individuals that are activists, members, or volunteers within Amnesty and subsequently do not become members as a result of the training they are part of.

5 thinkforward.wearesocial.com/in-feed-syllabuses.html

Work with partners

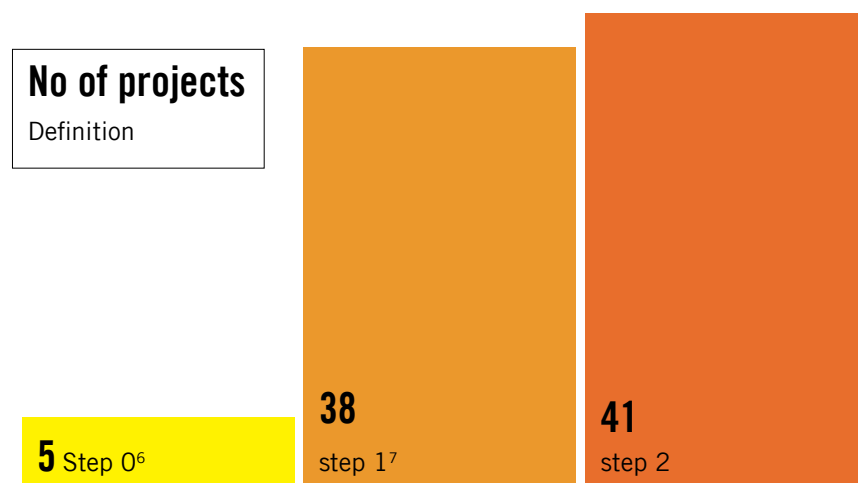
Eighty per cent of projects reported working with partners at some stage within their project, most frequently in the implementation of HRE activities, highlighting the important capacity brought by partnerships enabling Amnesty to carry out more HRE activities and reach more individuals. In addition, 32 projects report working with partners throughout the whole project cycle, from planning and implementation through to evaluation.



DIVERSITY

Fifty-two per cent of projects reported working with groups facing discrimination based on one or more protected grounds of discrimination. Most frequently projects identified their participants as facing discrimination based on gender, sexual orientation and/or age.

Work With Groups Facing Discrimination Scaled Framework



6 Step 0: The project and its activities do not take in to account the differential needs of individuals and groups that are discriminated against.

7 The project is aware of the needs and challenges faced by individuals and groups that are discriminated against, and its activities are adapted accordingly. The project intends to safeguard and ensure no unintended harmful or negative impacts occur within or because of the project or its activities. The project intends to equip groups and individuals facing discrimination with knowledge and skills to address specific challenges in the immediate or short term but does not explore root issues or paths to long term change towards substantive equality.

8 The project has an explicit intent to adopt a comprehensive, intersectional approach tackling constraints that prevent full and equal access to, and enjoyment of human rights for groups facing discrimination. It promotes equal access and enjoyment of human rights for groups and individuals that are discriminated against, with a long-term vision towards change and improvement. The project considers thoroughly the differences in needs, risks, and vulnerabilities of the target group and adapts approaches accordingly. Root causes are addressed, attitudes and behaviors that perpetuate or reinforce inequalities are challenged.

HRE STRENGTHENING CAMPAIGNS

HRE projects contribute significantly to Amnesty's global, regional and national campaigning. Of all projects, 112 reported they contribute to at least one campaign whether national, regional, or global. This is 80% of projects reported in 2021.

Most frequently projects reported that they have increased awareness of the campaigns they contribute to and increased participants' understanding, knowledge and skills to take action for the campaign. In addition, most projects also reported that they increased engagement with the campaign and actions taken in support of the campaign.

Write for Rights remained the global campaign that most frequently receives support from HRE projects, with 77 projects indicating they contributed to the campaign. The Write for Rights campaign was particularly popular as part of projects working within formal education, many sections carried out workshops either directly within educational institutions themselves, or in coordination with teachers and volunteers within the schools' communities.

In 2021 we asked entities to report for the first time if their project contributed to regional or national campaigns. In total, 55 projects reported that their HRE project is supporting a campaign within their national entity, and 20 projects reported contributing to regional campaigns

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS: HRE & CAMPAIGNS

Global Campaign Highlight

Educating Younger Generations from Universities and Schools (Including HRFS To Engage Them in Amnesty Global Campaigns and Activism – Amnesty Burkina Faso)

The project Educating Younger Generations From Universities and Schools targets young pupils in schools and students in universities with the aim of empowering young pupils and students in human rights work and engaging them in Amnesty's global campaigns and actions.

The project creates and puts in place HRE clubs in schools and universities, engages the students and pupils in actions for Amnesty campaigns, and supports them in taking action in support of victims and survivors of human rights violations and abuses.

Write for Rights is one of the campaigns receiving significant contributions from the project, and in 2021, 8,741 signed petitions were received from the schools and universities. In total Amnesty Burkina Faso received 30,504 signed petitions, making the contribution of this project just under a third of the total petitions.

The "Education for Action" approach of this project has been highly successful in mobilizing young people to take action. Through empowering and trusting young people, they can take action to protect and defend both their own rights, and the rights of others.

Salif Sankara, a student from the University of Ouahigouya who took part in the project, thanked Amnesty; he is now a leader at his university and because of the project can mobilize his friends to participate in the global campaigns and actions of the movement in Burkina Faso.

Regional Campaign Highlight



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ESIgualdad – Wellspring – Amnesty Argentina

Amnesty Argentina's project, *ESIgualdad – Wellspring*, works with young people and adults as well as regional groups and organizations and seeks counter narratives about “gender ideology” in the education sector in Argentina and Paraguay, as well as in Latin America more broadly, through a campaign in favour of (CSE) with a gender focus.

It is a decentralized (“distributed”) campaign that focuses on fostering grassroots activism at the local level, particularly youth activism, and building a broad coalition of organizations in both countries, as well as regionally, dedicated to diverse topics such as sexual and reproductive rights, gender equality, LGBTQIA+ rights, children's rights and comprehensive sexuality education.

During the year, more than 20 workshops and talks were held on CSE, abortion and diversity, in which more than 1,000 people participated. As part of the project, alliances were established and strengthened with CSOs that defend CSE and the rights of LGTBQIA+ people. Between October and December, young Amnesty activists volunteered to promote CSE in face-to-face sessions in Tecnópolis, Buenos Aires, in which more than 600 people participated. The youth group led the design and development of sessions on CSE and SRR. They carried out playful signature and educational activities aimed at children, young people and adults. During the year, two requests were made focused on the implementation of CSE in the country, with more than 800 signatures each; actively made posts on social networks to make visible what CSE is, situations of discrimination and useful tools to defend it. In particular, a [CSE Information Guide](#) (Spanish) was designed, and an investigation was carried out on the level of implementation of CSE in the country.

When asked about key achievements in 2021 for the project, the following were highlighted:

- A school in Salta had to cancel its discriminatory entrance requirement for trans and non-binary children and adolescents. More than 800 people signed a petition for the Ministry of Education to take action and listen to the claim of a family so that everyone's right to identity is respected.
- Amnesty strengthened its position as a benchmark for supporting CSE defence and promotion strategies of other organizations from various jurisdictions in the country.
- The foundations were strengthened to promote advocacy in the public debate on diversity and the rights of LGBTQIA+ people.

The project has a strong digital presence, in addition to the workshops and activities carried out. As such, in 2021 the project reached well over 1 million people across its activities and digital engagement.



National Campaign Highlight

Step Ahead (Lépéselőny) – Amnesty Hungary

The Step Ahead (Lépéselőny) project aims to equip employees, especially women, with the tools and skills to fight the gender pay gap and other forms of gender discrimination in the labour market through training conducted both through e-learning and workshops. The project contributes to Amnesty Hungary's national campaign *One Step Closer*, which aims to highlight the existing gender pay gap in both public and private sectors in Hungary and help companies tackle this gap.

Training was held for large-sized companies such as Decathlon, Heineken, Erste Bank and Lenovo, however, to also reach employees whose workplaces do not have the resources or the willingness to organize a training, or the willingness Amnesty Hungary partnered with trade unions and NGOs and organized an open workshop. Altogether, the project reached 16 companies and organizations.

The training was developed based on an in-depth needs analysis with employees and employers, to ensure the training could be adapted to the specific contexts of the companies within which it was held. Following the training, the participants were provided with follow up support through further e-learning and Amnesty's continued engagement with the companies receiving the training. All companies reached through the project with expressed their enthusiasm either during or following the training to continue working with Amnesty by extending the training to reach more of their employees, as well as creating even more personalized trainings and e-learning for them. In addition, the participating companies committed to sharing data on their gender pay gap within their organization.

Despite unexpected resistance from many companies due to increasing political tensions in Hungary, in 2021 the project delivered 35 trainings to 392 employees and employers in five different cities of Hungary (Pécs, Szeged, Makó, Budaörs, Pétfürdő) over the course of three months.

Regional Campaign Highlight

#ESIgualdad

#ESIgualdad is a regional movement of organizations, groups, collectives and activists who want an education that builds and promotes equality, equity, diversity, and unconditional respect inside and outside the classroom, united by the demand for universal access to comprehensive sexuality education (CSE). At the time of writing this report the movement consists of 107 partners, including Amnesty.

Currently the Americas Regional Office, Amnesty Argentina, Amnesty Chile and Amnesty Paraguay participate in the campaign. From an HRE perspective, three projects indicated that they contribute to this campaign from Amnesty Argentina and Amnesty Chile.

HRE WITHIN AMNESTY'S STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK

Following the adoption of the Amnesty Strategic Framework 2022-2030 the movement adopted two new global human rights priority areas. To establish a baseline the decision was made to report on 2021 against the new priority areas. These are as follows:

1. Freedom of Expression and Civic Space
 - 1.1. Strengthening freedom of expression and association
 - 1.2. Securing the right to peaceful assembly for all
2. Equality and Non-Discrimination
 - 2.1. Promoting gender, racial and intersectional justice
 - 2.2. Strengthening the enjoyment of rights to health, housing and social security
 - 2.3. Securing climate justice
 - 2.4. Protecting the rights of refugees and migrants and rights of people on the frontlines of crisis

HRE AND PRIORITY 1: FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION AND CIVIC SPACE

In 2021, 79 projects reported contributing towards the realization of priority 1.1 and 54 projects towards priority 1.2.

There were very few HRE projects with a sole focus on strengthening freedom of expression and civic space. However, many projects introducing general human rights addressed this priority area and its sub-areas. For example, many of the projects conducted in formal education spaces and projects connected to Write for Rights addressed the topic of freedom of expression and civic space as part of their activities. Similarly, there were many projects that aimed to equip individuals with skills that enable them to use their right to freedom of expression and the right to peaceful assembly to defend human rights. It is also important to note that when reporting on challenges in implementing projects, several Amnesty entities mentioned the impact of shrinking space for civil society and hostility towards human rights and associated organizations.

CITIZEN OBSERVATORY AGAINST IMPUNITY AND FOR ACCOUNTABILITY (OCCIPRE) AMNESTY MALI

The OCCIPRE project, which began in January of 2020, works with Malian HRDs, journalists, bloggers and lawyers with the aim to contribute to a democratic and inclusive Malian society in which all citizens flourish equally by enjoying fundamental freedoms, ensured by the collective observation of human rights and the attribution of citizen rights as well as freedom of expression for all.

In 2021, the project consisted of three key activities: the training of journalists in investigative journalism and human rights – these trainings aimed to enable the journalists to produce thematic articles on human rights and economic crimes; the training of young associate lawyers and lawyers with a focus on impunity for human rights violations – the intention of these trainings is to create a pool of young lawyers with an interest in the issue of human rights, tackling a general lack of interest among lawyers in Mali around human rights. Finally, the project also held educational talks in all regions of Mali to reach more people. The talks held by 75 observers aimed to equip individuals with knowledge about human rights and how to monitor the human rights situation in their areas. In total the talks reached 645 people.

As a result of the project:

- 20 Malian journalists were strengthened in the fight against impunity for human rights violations and corruption, and 10 investigative grants have been awarded.
- 700 people have been trained in human rights and human rights monitoring; 1,168 incidents of human rights violations have been collected and documented. Four periodic human rights reports are produced and published at press conferences. You can find these reports here: sirasahel.com/reports (French)
- 20 lawyers were strengthened in the fight against impunity for human rights violations and the fight against corruption.
- Cooperation with ten human rights organizations over actions is strengthened.

To learn more about this project, and keep up to date you can follow it here: www.facebook.com/occipre/

FIGHT THE CRIMINALIZATION OF SOCIAL PROTEST

AMNESTY CHILE

Targeted towards activists of grassroots social organizations, the project aims to educate and inform the population regarding their right to social protest and the limits of police action and public order measures. In addition, training of trainers in defence of the right to social protest and limits of police action and public order measures are conducted within the project.

Despite the challenge of the pandemic, the project carried out a virtual cycle of training workshops for trainers. The project also designed, launched and distributed the educational comic [Ojos Sobre Chile](#), with national artist, cartoonist and muralist Luis Henríquez “Mico”.

The educational comic is an adaptation and presentation of the [report](#) of the same name released by Amnesty Chile in October 2020, especially aimed at young people and has an attractive graphic that invites them to internalize the relevance of issues such as: police violence, criminalization of social protest, command responsibility in human rights violations, and measures of truth, justice, reparation and non-repetition. The comic was launched through an Instagram Live from the @amnestiachile account. It can be [seen here](#). Participating in the conversation were Mico, Natalia Aravena, a survivor of eye trauma and a member of the Ocular Trauma Victims Coordinator, and Cristóbal Flen, a victim of beatings and other illegitimate pressures by Carabineros.

Overall, the project succeeded in strengthening the alliances with activist social organizations in Chile, building alliances with many educational institutions and teachers across the country which in turn has meant the project has been able to reach many more people with their HRE materials. Thanks to this HRE project, more people are aware of the human rights violations that occurred during the social uprising; more people recognize what a human rights violation is and stop normalizing it; more people know how to act in the event of suffering a human rights violation or if another protester suffers it. The project participants in turn train their peers in the knowledge, attitudes and techniques learned, actively getting involved in other HRE activities and other Amnesty actions, such as signing online actions in support of the national campaign *Eyes on Chile: Police Violence and Command Responsibility During the Social Outbreak* or conducting other workshops.

Spotlight Priority 1.2

“One way to prevent events as atrocious as those that occurred after the social outbreak at the hands of the police forces is by making what happened visible and educating the new generations in human rights, mainly. We are very happy that Mico has extracted the essentials from our report ‘Ojos sobre Chile’ and turned it into an interesting and friendly comic for memory and human rights”,

says Ana Piquer, executive director of Amnesty Chile

HRE AND PRIORITY 2: EQUALITY AND NON-DISCRIMINATION

In 2021, 94 projects reported contributing towards the realization of priority 2.1, 47 projects towards priority 2.2, 30 projects towards priority 2.3 and 46 projects towards priority 2.4.

Priority 2.1 promoting gender, racial and intersectional justice is the priority most frequently contributed to by HRE projects. The current portfolio of projects has a strong focus on projects tackling issues related to gender justice, such as GBV and LGBTQIA+ rights. There are also several projects that address discrimination more broadly as part of their activities, often in formal education settings. There are comparatively few projects currently engaged in addressing racial justice. However, as this is a new priority for Amnesty, we expect to observe an increase in this work over the course of the next few years. It is a comparable

situation for priority area 2.3 on climate justice, where work is just beginning with 30 projects currently noting their contribution; in addition it is a comparatively narrow scope. Meanwhile on priority area 2.4, there is work being conducted, particularly on refugee and migrant rights as part of broader general HRE training. There is currently little work with people at the frontlines of crisis. However, this is likely to increase, particularly in light of the developing conflict in Ukraine given that the greatest number of HRE projects is conducted in Europe and Central Asia.

MY RIGHTS BESIDE ME: FIGHTING GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE IN MOROCCO AMNESTY MOROCCO

My Rights Beside Me is a project that works with organizers of women's rights associations, women and girls who are victims of violence, and children to strengthen the capacities of associations working for women's rights in the Rabat-Salé-Kénitra region to improve the quality of local services for the benefit of women at risk or victims of violence.

Taking a multi-dimensional approach of reflection on the roots of gender discrimination in society, the project raises the awareness of the target groups about the existing cultures and practices which anchor this discrimination. It offers the opportunity for target groups to learn about national and international legal standards for the protection of women's human rights and prepares them for the search for adequate solutions to put an end to this problem, while strengthening their skills to advocate for effective equality and for a dignified life for women.

The project consists of three key areas of work. The first centres around equipping the participants through workshops with knowledge on the new Moroccan law 103.13 on the fight against violence against women, to be able to identify the different provisions for the prevention, protection, and care of women victims of violence and the penalties for perpetrators of such violence. The second part of this workshop builds the capacities of participants to communicate this information to victims of violence, as well as strengthening their skills in advocacy aimed at duty bearers to end violence against women. This second area of work focuses on equipping organizers of discussion groups for women victims of violence, improving their knowledge of GBV, and their skills to facilitate such groups and the ways in which they can support women and girls who have been victims of violence. Finally, the project also runs a workshop to build capacities of individuals to enable them to educate children on issues relating to GBV.

As a result of this work, 24 individuals from 12 local NGOs can apply a human rights-based approach in actions to combat violence against

women, understand the new Moroccan law in regard to women and international standards, and to have mastered advocacy and mobilization tools. In total, 587 women rights holders targeted by the advocacy group workshops were made aware of Law 103-13, informed about the local services of associations and government authorities in place for the defence of women's rights in their region. Thirty-six women victims of violence selected by partner NGOs have been equipped to lead discussion groups and raise awareness among other women at risk or victims of violence in their communities. Three people from the permanent staff of Amnesty Morocco and two from civil society are trained on the development of educational resources for children (three-to-10-years old) on women's rights and on the Kamishibai (Japanese paper-theatre storytelling technique). Subsequently, 190 children participated in educational workshops and were sensitized through the Kamishibai storytelling technique on the theme of discrimination and violence against women and girls. In addition, a set of educational tools have been published and distributed throughout 2021 to different target groups of the project. They include a training guide on GBV, an informative leaflet on the project, an awareness flyer on GBV, and information on state and non-state bodies aiding victims of violence.

RESTORE DIGNITY: END OBSTETRIC FISTULA IN ZIMBABWE

AMNESTY ZIMBABWE

Rooted within the campaign, Restore Dignity: End Obstetric Fistula in Zimbabwe, the HRE activities target communities, the Ministry of Health and Child Care, and the Ministry of Justice Legal and Parliamentary Affairs with the aim to increase awareness and knowledge of the problem of obstetric fistula as a sexual and reproductive health and rights issue.

Adopting a multi-channel approach, Amnesty Zimbabwe partnered with community radios, television stations, and social media groups that perform comic skits, to reach people through radio, television, YouTube, Facebook and learning materials to raise awareness on the issue of obstetric fistula and unpack, in local languages, the causes of the condition and how it manifests, how it leads to life-changing stigmatization and the far-reaching consequences on women and girls' physical well-being, social and marital relationships, mental health and economic capacity.

The HRE activities carried out reached over 18,000 people, leading to further understanding of how the condition can be prevented and a call for the need to have a comprehensive obstetric fistula strategy for the government. In addition, because of increased knowledge of the condition, the project combatted false narratives depicting people suffering from obstetric fistula as bewitched. This in turn has led to women and girls seeking medical treatment for corrective procedures.

To learn more about the issue of obstetric fistula in Zimbabwe, you can read the report "[I Never Thought I Could Get Healed From This](#)" which documents the barriers to treatment and human rights abuses against women and girls with obstetric fistula in Zimbabwe.

Spotlight Priority 2.2

HRE FROM AND FOR YOUTH ON CLIMATE JUSTICE

AMNESTY JAPAN

In 2021 Amnesty Japan began working on the HRE From and for Youth on Climate Justice project, aimed at young people in Japan. The project aims to equip youth with the skills, knowledge and attitudes to plan and lead on HRE and climate justice.

Through a series of webinars, live streamed on YouTube on the topic of climate justice with expert and influencer guest speakers, talks and presentations on climate justice by youth leaders offline at community centres and talks by staff on climate justice at universities during lectures, the project successfully engaged with youth who were empowered to plan and lead their own actions. You can watch one of the live streamed events [Climate Café: Not Drowning but Fighting!](#)

In 2021 the project reached around 2,500 people, supported climate strikes and contributed petitions to the Fridays for Future movement. In addition, Amnesty Japan joined Climate Live Japan for a talk on climate change and human rights.

Spotlight Priority 2.3



🗨 Captions
 © Amnesty International Greece

Spotlight Priority 2.4

**YOU AND ME TOGETHER: HRE IN PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS
 AMNESTY GREECE**

The You and Me Together project is a comprehensive HRE programme working with school communities, namely educators and students of primary and secondary education, as well as parents and caregivers to educate and sensitize them on human rights through a series of trainings, interactive and participatory activities, festivals and other activities. Its overall aim is to empower the target group to achieve in-depth understanding and knowledge, and to take action to protect and promote human rights in their everyday life.

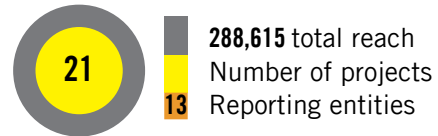
The project includes a strong focus on refugee rights and collaborates strongly with the national campaigning team. It is closely tied to work being done in Amnesty Greece on pushbacks of refugees to Turkey. The approach of HRE in the project is centred on the right to education and equal access of all children, including refugee children.

The project's most significant achievement, accomplished in 2021, was the inclusion of the "Skills Workshops" in the official curriculum, introduced by the Institute of Educational Policy of the Greek Ministry of Education.

The Skills Workshops focus on four thematic areas, including human rights. As a result of their inclusion in the curriculum, the project was expanded to secondary schools. In addition, the educational guides were officially introduced to the schools as a recognized, by the Ministry, educational material.

REGIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

AFRICA



41% women & girls

54% youth

The Africa region has a strong focus on reaching children and youth through formal education settings and works strongly with school communities to this end, including parents, teachers, and school administration as well as community leaders. In addition, there are several projects working within communities in non-formal spaces with both community members, leaders and duty bearers. Regarding thematic priorities identified within the region, GBV and gender justice are key priorities along with child rights.

Between 2017 and 2020, a programme fighting FGM and EFM as implemented by the Amnesty sections in Burkina Faso, Senegal and Sierra Leone and the regional office for West Africa. The work was funded by the UK government's Department for International Development. In early 2021, an external evaluation of the programme was finished.

The evaluation found a decrease in FGM and EFM in targeted areas, whereas awareness and knowledge on the topics increased. A second phase of the project is now being implemented with financial support from Foundation for a Just Society International.

In 2021, the region saw a drop in the number of people reached. However, this is attributed to one project where the data collection and reporting method has changed, and as a result a new baseline has been established for the project which will be taken forwards. The entity contributing the largest reach in 2021 was South Africa.

HRE projects in the region work strongly with partners to develop and deliver their HRE activities, with just one project reporting they do not engage with any partners as part of the project. Most frequently, projects reported that the partners they work with are involved in the entire project cycle from planning through to delivery and evaluation.

Priority areas 2.1, 1.1 and 2.2 are most frequently contributed to by HRE projects in the region. Meanwhile, the Write for Rights campaign and the Stand Up for the Brave campaign are the global campaigns most often contributed to by the projects. This is followed by contributions made to national campaigns being run by the entities in which the projects are based, with a total of nine projects indicating they contribute to at least one national campaign in their entity.



AWARENESS-RAISING AND EDUCATION FOR PARENTS AND OWNERS OF WORKSHOPS IN THE OUÉMÉ VALLEY AGAINST CHILD TRAFFICKING AND EXPLOITATION

AMNESTY BENIN

Working with parents, artisans (owners of workshops), students and community leaders, the project aims to raise awareness among these target groups and educate them to prevent the trafficking and exploitation of children.

In 2021, a total of 18 school and community trainings were carried out by the nine local Amnesty groups in the Ouémé Valley who were technically and financially supported to each organize community and school education on children's right to education, the legislative framework for the protection of children, the mechanisms for denouncing and referencing acts of trafficking and exploitation of children. To further expand the reach of the project, two radio programmes in French and in the local language were hosted on a local community radio station with the involvement of the head of the local social promotion centre.

A half-day stakeholder engagement workshop was organized in the Ouémé Valley to present the project and saw the participation of various actors, including representatives of offices of parents' associations, the collective of craftsmen, community radios, religious leaders, the Departmental Directorate of Social Affairs and Microfinance of Ouémé Plateau and its services, the Communal Child Protection Unit, the Departmental Directorate of Secondary and Technical Education and Vocational Training, directors of colleges and the police station. At

this activity, they were able to discuss the participation of each of the organizations in the fight against child trafficking.

As a result, various community actors were mobilized and became committed to the defence of children's rights. This project has made it possible to gain strong commitment from the target populations for the elimination of child trafficking and received the support of a king of the locality who made himself available to participate in the stakeholder engagement workshop. In the targeted locality, several structures working with the targets have been alerted to the situation of local children. All participants were made aware of the importance of sending children to school and the harm caused to them by exploitation and trafficking, and many parents expressed their satisfaction with the training to the activists conducting it, and to request further information on how to take actions for denunciation.

HRE ON ENDING SEXUAL AND GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE (SGBV)

AMNESTY GHANA

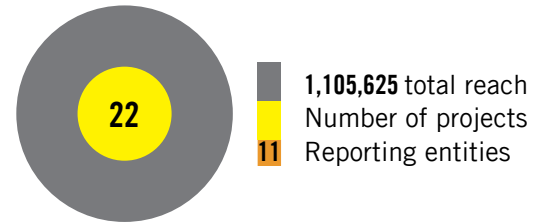
Contributing to the national campaign in Amnesty Ghana to end SGBV in schools, the project HRE on Ending SGBV targets students aged 13-20 in junior and high schools with the overall aim to reduce SGBV in schools through equipping students with knowledge and understanding of SGBV, ways to action to fight against SGBV and to support those that have been victims of SGBV, as well as reducing stigma that prevents victims from reporting.

Over the course of 2021, students and teachers, including school counsellors from selected schools, were educated on what SGBV is, and the forms and effects on students. The target groups received presentations by gender experts, Amnesty staff and partners from the Ghana Education Service, the Domestic Violence and Victim Support Unit, and the Commission of Human Rights and Administrative Justice. Participants were also able to share experiences they have had pertaining to SGBV in their schools. In addition, some boys from the selected schools were trained as boys' campaigners and took up the task of being influencers and campaigners in their schools to help bring an end to SGBV. The project also actively encouraged victims to use the online reporting platform created by the UNFPA known as the BOAME APP, and that of the Domestic Violence and Victim Support Unit of the Ghana Police Service.

Following each of the activities, participants were given training manuals and fliers on SGBV allowing them to be able to further educate their colleagues and fellow students, and schools administration were also presented with materials and pathways to addressing the issue in their schools.

Meanwhile, victim support groups formed of a diverse group of students and teachers were established in schools where this project was implemented to enable students whose rights are violated to seek support in addressing their concerns. The diversity of the support groups has been important to ensure that each student, regardless of their gender, has confidence in the members of the support group and has an option of approaching whoever they feel comfortable with. This has been especially crucial in attempting to address barriers preventing boys and men from reporting SGBV due to fear of stigma and mockery they may face.

As a result of the training students and teachers can independently mobilize on ending SGBV in their schools. As one example, a participant (Leonard, a junior high school student) has formed a club in his school to educate students about SGBV, the need to end it and how to assist victims to address issues without being stigmatized. Monitoring and evaluation meetings have also revealed that most of the participants in the various schools have subsequently engaged their fellow students through mediums created by the principals of the schools to educate their peers.

AMERICAS
44% women & girls
58% youth

The Americas region focuses strongly on working with youth, young activists, activists, and members of the LGBTQIA+ community within its priority thematic areas of CSE, SRR and LGBTQIA+ rights. There continues to be a strong emphasis on youth led focuses which is seen in key programmes within the region such as the It's My Body! programme and the Diversxs programme.

Diversxs reached out to over 570 young people through different methods, including the #JuntxsEnPandemia (Together in Pandemic) web series, which deals with the realities of LBTQIA+ people during the Covid-19 pandemic, and the Diversxs Academy – which has trained over 170 young people on LGBTQIA+ rights in their communities.

As mentioned in the overview of growth for 2021 earlier in this report, we made the decision to include numbers around digital engagement which were excluded in previous years. As a result, there appears to be a significant increase in reach within the region, driven by the digital engagement strategy of Amnesty Argentina. In reality, we saw a drop in the number of supporters reached in the region. This can be attributed once again to the pandemic making it difficult to reach people in person and to digital fatigue. This has impacted the sections working with the Human Rights Academy, in particular Amnesty Brazil. In addition, a couple of projects on Write for Rights were reported in previous years to the HRE progress report, but due to internal structure changes, were not reported this year.

Meanwhile, priorities 2.1, 1.1 and 1.2 are most often contributed to in the region. Meanwhile the strong regional focus on the campaign for CSE is reflected in HRE projects where most projects report their contribution to regional campaigns, followed by national campaigns and in third position, Write for Rights. Eighty-two per cent of projects work with partners at some point during the project, with half of these projects working with partners throughout the project cycle.



IT'S MY BODY!

AMNESTY ARGENTINA, CHILE AND PERU

Five years ago, Amnesty launched It's My Body!, a programme to support young activists in Argentina, Chile and Peru to improve their knowledge of sexual and reproductive rights, and to train a new generation of activists with the skills and tools to take part in the debates leading to decisions about them. Creativity, peer education and youth centrism have been the approaches that have marked this programme.

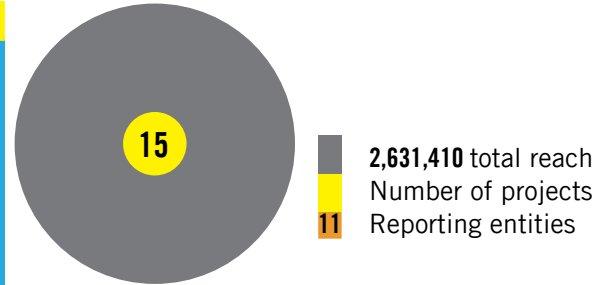
As a final part of the programme, Amnesty has asked activist groups in each country to consider the impact the programme has had on their lives. Reflecting the key approach of the programme, in which young people are the leaders of all activities, this evaluation stage was conducted in a participatory and creative manner. The plan was to empower young people to create an audiovisual piece in which they could express what they had learned to tell a story from their perspectives and experiences, in their preferred creative language. To do this, Amnesty worked with La Combi – Arte Rodeante, a video production house specializing in the creation of participatory audiovisual materials. *“The production of participatory audiovisual pieces allows creators to document their ideas from their own point of view. The audiovisual process becomes a very powerful tool for collective expression and generates learning and reflection. The focus on non-hierarchical working has also permitted closer links between the young filmmakers”*, says Carolina Martín de Ramón, Co-director of La Combi – Arte Rodeante. The workshop facilitation team guided activists through the process of defining and writing a script, with the aim of giving them the tools to put their ideas in front of the camera without influencing the choice of story or subject matter. Young activists from the three countries were also given the technical skills necessary to record their own video and edit the final output, allowing them to tell a story of their choice in their own words.

Young people in Argentina, Chile and Peru face similar barriers and issues in all three countries where people are still not allowed to talk openly about young people's sexual and reproductive rights, and where neutral CSE in schools is limited and, finally, where the lack of adequate policies on the issue further accentuates this problem. However, the three countries have different histories, traditions and political contexts, which are reflected in the videos produced. *“When we opened the video production process to make it fully participatory, we didn't know what we were going to get from the activists. It has been very interesting to see how they have developed intimate stories and stories about their personal journeys and growth in such an artistic way, according to the differences between them, but true to themselves, their profiles and the impact of It's My Body!”*, says Imke van der Velde, Regional Education Coordinator for Amnesty, about the video production process.

You can watch the videos from each of the countries in the following links: [Argentina](#), [Chile](#), [Peru](#).

In addition, two evaluation reports were produced, one looking at the evaluation of impact and the second on [evaluation of the coordination](#) of the programme.

ASIA PACIFIC



The Asia-Pacific region works strongly in formal education spaces, in schools and universities with children and youth. In addition, there is also work carried out in non-formal spaces with activists, HRDs and Amnesty members. In terms of priority areas, many of the projects in formal education or working with children and youth have a focus on raising general human rights awareness, and building knowledge, skills and attitudes. Meanwhile, freedom of expression and work against discrimination in various forms is also present.

As mentioned earlier in the report, the region has continued to face increasingly hostile environments for human rights and HRE with the closure of the Hong Kong offices where strong HRE work had been carried out over the years, and worsening situations for both Amnesty Thailand and Amnesty Philippines.

It is not, however, all sad news, as Amnesty Australia began working on HRE for the first time since the creation of the HRE Measurement Framework and Progress Report. As a result, despite the very visible impact of the hostile environment for human rights in the region, we see a significant increase in the number of people reached in 2021 owing to the addition of Amnesty Australia.

Meanwhile the South Asia Regional Office HRE programme launched Amnesty’s game app called Rights Arcade. Built for young people to strengthen their human rights understanding through play, Rights Arcade is a mobile game application for [Android](#) and [iOS](#) users.

The game unpacks human rights principles and concepts around peaceful protest, national laws and international standards on freedom of expression and assembly using human rights violation cases from Bangladesh, Thailand and China. The game was made available in English, Thai, Korean and Simplified Chinese in December 2021, coinciding with the Write for Rights 2021 global campaign.

Priority areas 2.1, 1.1 and 2.2 are most frequently contributed to by the region, and sections report most often that they contribute to a national campaign, to Write for Rights and upcoming campaigns for the right to protest and for people powered movements.



GREATER FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION AND DEMOCRATIC SPACE

AMNESTY PHILIPPINES

The Greater Freedom of Expression and Democratic Space project is a broad HRE programme run by Amnesty Philippines that carries out a range of HRE activities. In 2021, because of the continuing pandemic, a series of online and blended learning sessions were carried out.

Covid-19 and Human Rights, an online learning session, is anchored within the national context of government's response to the pandemic and is based on the core elements of the right to health. Within the training, participants are facilitated through analysis of the duty-bearer's human rights obligations under the pandemic with emphasis on conduct and result. As a part of this online training a total of 916 individuals also took action for the global campaign urging pharmaceutical companies to [give us all a fair shot](#).

Human Rights and Community Organizing is a blended learning session that focuses on human rights-based community organizing in rural communities. It underscores the relevance of the people themselves taking action against human rights violations and abuses of state and non-state entities through monitoring and documentation.



Land Rights and Human Rights is a newly developed blended learning session working with farmers and Indigenous peoples. The participatory HRE training affirms the small farmers' assertion of their right to means and sources of subsistence based on national policies. Paralegal framework and tactics are also integrated in the design. As a result of the training received, 13 Indigenous people who are farmers are currently in the process of claiming their rights to 24 acres of land which, for over 70 years, they and their ancestors have tilled.

© Top: facilitators and the participants
Below: A workshop doing community mapping on "Land Rights & Human Rights" with the Carmen-13 farmers and the Jimenez local support group;
© Amnesty Philippines Jimenez Local Group, Misamis Occidental, Philippines

In addition to these three key activities under the project, the project also reached Amnesty members and supporters with educational activities on Human Rights Essentials, Basic Orientation Seminar which covers the Human Rights Essentials training as well as an introduction to Amnesty and their general membership orientation, Introduction to Human Rights Defenders (HRDs), Criminalization and Unjust Imprisonment of HRDs, Digital Security and Human Rights, Human Rights Defenders: A Short Guide and an Introduction to Child Rights.

Despite the continued impact of the pandemic and an increasingly hostile situation for human rights and HRDs within the country, the project succeeded in reaching over 3,000 people throughout 2021.

ANTI-RACISM ALLY GUIDE

AMNESTY AUSTRALIA

[The Anti-racism Ally Guide](#) developed by Amnesty Australia aims to change the conversation about racism in Australia and empower people with the skills and knowledge to challenge racism when they see it.

The guide educates people on how racism manifests itself and explores institutionalized racism and individual racism, structural inequalities and systemic discrimination. It offers practical guidance on how to better recognize and address racism and includes information about why it is important to be an ally, what it means to be an ally, and how allies are not saviors and must advocate in the community, but also know when to step back. It encourages allies to reflect on their own behaviour and how that behaviour may contribute to the problem. In addition, it directs people to further resources to engage with such as novels and podcasts, and activists to follow on social media.

The launch of the anti-racism ally guide was the first major external campaign launch on anti-racism for Amnesty Australia and has contributed to actions taken for the Raise the Age Petition, in addition to raising awareness of the campaign. [Raise the Age](#) is a campaign that highlights the fact that children as young as 10 are charged, brought before a court, sentenced and locked up behind bars. Given the ongoing legacy of colonization and its impact on the justice system, this disproportionately impacts First Nations children.

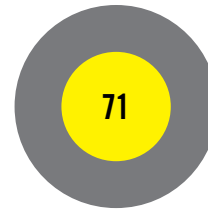
In total, 13,985 individuals requested to download the guide and through its digital engagement strategy the project reached well over 1 million people across Australia.

EUROPE & CENTRAL ASIA

The Europe and Central Asia region remains our largest region, both in terms of the number of reporting entities, and the number of HRE projects being conducted. The region has a strong focus on HRE in formal education, with 70% of all projects reported taking place in educational institutions, working with children, youth and teachers as key target groups. As such we see a large amount of work in the general introduction to human rights. In addition, there is a focus on violence against women as well as sexual and reproductive rights, particularly around sexual consent in support of the regional campaign [Let's Talk About Yes](#). HRE work in the region also provides significant contributions to the Write for Rights campaign with 50% of projects indicating they work on Write for Rights. In terms of the priority areas, 2.1, 1.1 and 1.2 were most frequently contributed to in the region.

The region also saw an increase in their reach in comparison to 2020, perhaps an indication of some improvement in the region in relation to the pandemic as comprehensive vaccination schemes were rolled out and schools were able to return to some semblance of business as usual in some countries.

Meanwhile, in November 2021, [Human Rights Workout](#), Europe and Central Asia's regional e-learning platform reached an important milestone of 10,000 learners. The platform uses a game-based approach to online education. It is especially praised for unpacking emblematic cases of the European Court of Human Rights in an interactive way and using simple language. It was launched in mid-2019 and currently has three micro-learning modules in six European languages, including the newest one on consent. You can read [more here](#).



628,703 total reach
Number of projects
23 Reporting entities

50% women & girls

83% youth

HUMAN RIGHTS FRIENDLY SCHOOLS (HRFS) AMNESTY PORTUGAL

Working with whole school communities, the HRFS programme empowers young people and promotes the active participation of all members of the school community in integrating human rights values and principles into all areas of school life.

Amnesty Portugal highlighted three key activities conducted within the project in 2021:

- Teachers' training on human rights – a structured training course for teachers consisting of five modules; human rights issues from a practical perspective as well as theoretical and legal perspectives; HRE addressing concepts and practices; and ways of working towards a more HRFS. The training was attended by 30 teachers from every school integrating the HRFS programme and the evaluation demonstrates that the training was relevant and useful for teachers. They report they have better knowledge of the project and how they can contribute, as well an increased knowledge of and sensitivity to human rights issues which is fundamental to work around these issues.
- Human Rights Temperature questionnaire – In 2020, four new schools integrated the HRFS project in their schools and conducted the Human Rights Temperature questionnaire. In 2021, Amnesty Portugal

analysed the results and made a set of recommendations for each school. These results also provided the basis of two workshops to define priorities and a plan that would respond to the needs found.

- HRFS' Challenge – This initiative takes place every year. In previous years, the theme of the challenge was normally set by Amnesty in line with the thematic priorities of the movement. However, in 2021 the challenge was designed and proposed by students and teachers to respond to problems that affect them in the school context. The chosen theme was discrimination, and the format was the production of short videos (vox pop) as well as the collection of testimonies in schools, to understand how discrimination is perceived in each educational establishment. The videos are now being used as a resource to promote the debate on discrimination and ways to combat it.

Despite the constraints of the pandemic, most schools carried out project activities on a regular basis, adapting actions to online contexts or using other spaces to overcome the difficulties imposed. This shows that the schools are committed to keeping the project alive, maintaining regular activities and contact with Amnesty and among themselves through their network.



© Let's talk about yes – A photo from campaign protest in Denmark.

© Jonas Persson

HRE IN CENTRAL ASIA

EASTERN EUROPE AND CENTRAL ASIA REGIONAL OFFICE, AMNESTY

The HRE in Central Asia project aims to equip young people, teachers and supporters of Amnesty in the countries with the knowledge, skills and attitudes to become multipliers who in turn can reach more people with HRE. Through this the project aims to build a vibrant online and offline constituency of human rights educators, maximizing engagement on the ground and exploring avenues for HRE advocacy building the foundation for long-term HRE advocacy efforts.

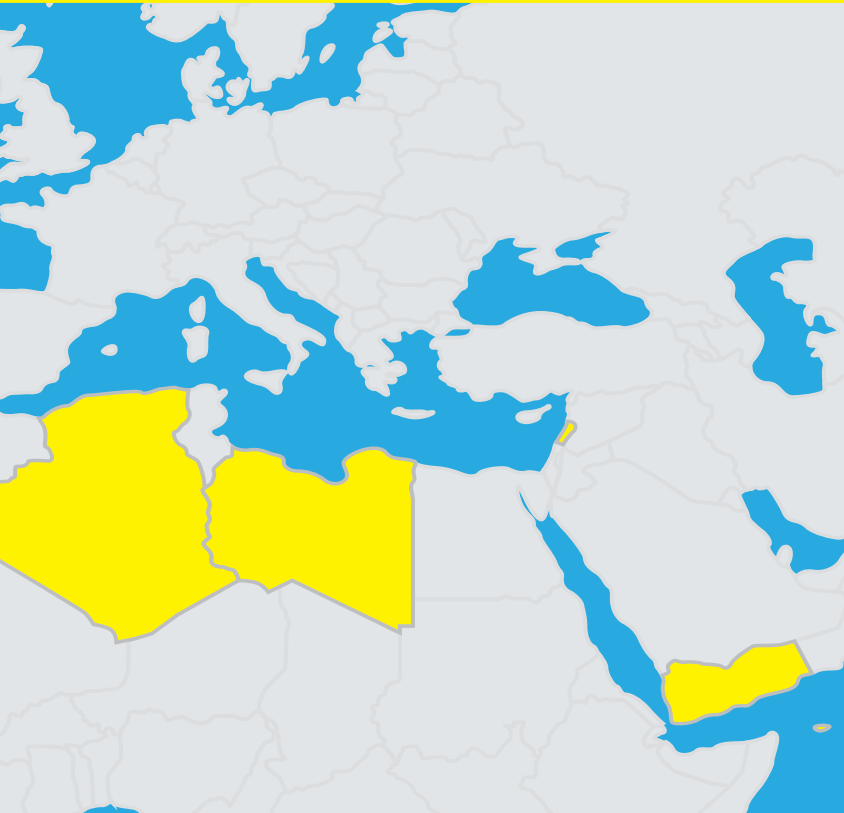
In October 2021, the Amnesty team in Central Asia organized a blended-learning course for 14 new Russian and Kyrgyz-speaking teachers in Central Asia. It consisted of several steps: taking an online course Introduction to Human Rights (in Russian) on the Human Rights Academy, participating in an offline two-day training in Bishkek (in Russian and Kyrgyz) and delivering follow-up lessons or events in schools in November-December to mark the International Day of Human Rights (in Russian and Kyrgyz). This bilingual course was organized together with the Kyrgyz Academy of Education and was aimed at unpacking the basics of human rights in general, women's rights, the prohibition of torture, the right to fair trial and the importance of the right to freedom of expression, as well as Write for Rights stories.

According to the follow-up evaluation, teachers gave an extremely high score of 9.75 out of 10 for the overall usefulness and applicability of the knowledge and skills they received during the course. One teacher from Kyrgyzstan wrote in the anonymous feedback, *“Most important part of the course was the one about the very concept of human rights; I believe that it is crucial to transmit this knowledge to our students and teach them how to empathize with those whose rights are being violated.”*

Another teacher, in their report about the implemented lessons, said, *“Many students were particularly stunned that Belarus, Mexico and Kazakhstan were so unwilling to take any actions to make amends with their own citizens whose rights they had violated. They felt sorry for the heroes of the Write for Rights campaign and wrote heart-felt letters to support them”.*

As a follow-up from Amnesty blended-learning courses, the teachers reached out to more than 7,000 young people in Kyrgyzstan, who took part in HRE events within Write for Rights and took action in support of their heroes.

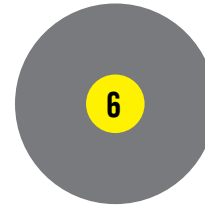
In 2021, together with Amnesty Ukraine, progress was made in advocating for quality HRE in Kyrgyzstan. In May 2021, Amnesty released a mapping of the state of HRE in formal education in Kyrgyzstan in [English](#), [Russian](#) and [Kyrgyz](#) languages. At the online round table, there was a fruitful discussion about the gaps identified in the mapping and the feedback from the representatives of the Kyrgyz Academy of Education (KAO) and the Ministry of Education of Kyrgyzstan was positive. This laid the foundations for the cooperation on the Write for Rights campaign later in 2021 and culminated in the signing of the Memorandum of Cooperation between Amnesty and KAO. The parties of the memorandum agreed on cooperation in the development of education standards on subjects that include human rights topics; translation of online courses into Kyrgyz and their integration into school curricula and textbooks; and development of teachers' skills in teaching human rights using modern methodological and technological resources.

MIDDLE EAST & NORTHERN AFRICA

The Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region is the region with the smallest Amnesty presence with just four reporting entities and six HRE projects. Due to strong work in digital and blended learning through the Human Rights Academy and digital engagement, however, there is good reach in non-presence countries.

Youth, women and girls, activists, HRDs, migrant and migrant domestic workers are among the key target groups for the region with a focus on freedom of expression, violence against women, gender justice and refugee and migrant rights. There is also an emphasis on strengthening civil society and grassroots work, including the monitoring, documenting and reporting of human rights violations (MDR), in countries where there is no Amnesty presence through the MDR stream of work carried out by the MENA Regional Office through their Human Rights Academy.

Write for Rights, the upcoming campaign on Right to Protest and the Stand Up for The Brave campaign are most often supported by HRE in the region, while priority areas 1.1, 1.2 and 2.1 are most frequently contributed to.



696,490 total reach
Number of projects
4 Reporting entities

59% women & girls

50% youth

JEUNES ET ENGAGÉS (YOUNG AND ENGAGED) AMNESTY ALGERIA

Working with 70 young people engaged in Algerian CSOs and members of Amnesty Algeria, the project aims to promote the Declaration on Human Rights Defenders through equipping participants with the knowledge, skills, and attitudes to be able to identify human rights areas for action and support in the development and implementation of actions to mobilize human rights.

In addition, in 2021, the project also conducted trainings on sustainable development and human rights, enabling the participants involved to make the link between the field of work of their associations and collectives and the work on human rights, and highlighting the link of each sustainable development goals (SDGs) to connected human rights.

The year was particularly difficult, on the one hand, because of the health context linked to the Covid-19 pandemic resulting in several activities being postponed or cancelled, delaying the progress of the project. On the other hand, the political context was also an obstacle because there was a lot of repression and several arrests individuals for their legitimate beliefs/peaceful actions which created a climate of insecurity. This atmosphere impacted the participants because the security problems became increasingly evident.

Despite these immense challenges, reporting shows that the participants of the Young and Engaged project have still managed to implement human rights mobilization actions using the tools and knowledge they acquired during the training and workshops. For example, one of the participants was able to build and implement an action on freedom of expression in Algeria.



HRE STRENGTHENING MONITORING, DOCUMENTING AND REPORTING HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS MENA HUMAN RIGHTS ACADEMY

Working with HRDs and women HRDs in hostile environments across the region, 31 participants took part in two sequential iterations of the MENA flagship programme: HRE strengthening MDR.

The first iteration included 13 HRDs from Tunisia, Libya and the Western Sahara. The training started with 20 hour self-paced on the academy platform followed by the training workshop that focused on building knowledge, skills, attitude and confidence of participants in monitoring, documenting and developing reports, while the coaching phase aimed at building their practical experience in conducting research activities and producing short reports with the support of Amnesty researchers.

All trainees have reported an increased capacity for monitoring and documenting human rights violations and an increase in their advocacy efforts around human rights issues in their national contexts. This finding is confirmed by the trainees' coach who ensures follow-up on the implementation phase when trainees conduct minimal risk projects. He confirms that all trainees have a full and equal understanding of all monitoring approaches because of the first and the second phases of the programme.

"This experience showed me that there is fundamental research being conducted in MENA. Although these trainees belong to grassroots groups and local NGOs, the level and skills as researchers equal INGOs

[international NGOs] researchers and HR [human rights] high quality professionals." says the MDR coach and mentor. He also stresses that some trainees worked on new fields of research producing quality reports despite the scarcity of primary sources.

The second iteration was adapted to an online training following Covid-19 restrictions. The training started with participants taking 20 hours of self-paced learning on the academy and then taking part in a full face-to-face online workshop for 11 days in addition to a three-month follow-up phase. The programme has been totally redesigned to suit an online regional audience based in hostile environment countries and countries limited access. Eighteen grassroots organizations with professionals from Yemen, Syria, Lebanon, Algeria, Oman and Bahrain have been committed to all programme phases, including by producing their own project reports with mentorship offered as part of the programme.



© MENA HRE activism program alumni, Beirut 2019. © Amnesty International

HRE STRENGTHENING ACTIVISM MENA HUMAN RIGHTS ACADEMY

Working with young activists and HRDs between the ages of 18-24, the HRE Strengthening Activism programme under the MENA Human Rights Academy aims to strengthen activism and grow human rights campaigning constituencies based on acquired competencies and skills. In 2021 the focus of the programme was to enhance the skills of participants in designing campaigning and advocacy initiatives and leading them in their local context with mentoring, technical and financial support.

Despite the impact of Covid-19 continuing to affect the ability to reach people in person, the trainees succeeded in reaching over 120,000 people through their digital campaigns run in 2021 and 100 people who participated in the campaigns and in the workshops they designed.

Here are just a few examples of the campaigns developed and led by the young trainees in 2021:

In Yemen, two Yemeni HRDs based in two different remote areas managed to fully implement their project aimed at challenging the increased hate speech in Yemeni national media and social media, which has resulted in social disintegration and regional incitement to violence, contributing to a high rate of human rights violations such as death threats, forced displacement, forced disappearance, torture, and violations of freedom of assembly and freedom of expression, which threaten social cohesion in Yemen.

The project started with research on hate speech in media and creating an interactive platform where hate speech is analysed and criticized through research and through sharing articles about stories of hate speech victims. The platform was named “Dakkh” and more than 76,000 people across the country participated. You can follow their work on [Facebook here](#).

In Libya, Archidah or Powerful Women is the name of an initiative that was developed and led by a group of three HRDs based in three different geographic areas across Libya. They worked together on a campaign and a series of podcasts defying hate speech in the country.

Meanwhile in Lebanon, two initiatives were led separately by three HRDs. The first initiative was aimed at building awareness among female tenants, civil society actors and feminist groups around the human rights abuses in female-shared housing. The initiative started with research that led to a conclusion that the lack of protection laws particularly affected female students and migrant domestic workers. The activists collaborated with The Lebanese Democratic Women’s Gathering and the anti-racism movement to draft a law and advocate to present it at parliament. As part of the project, the activists created a social media campaign reaching 300 people and engaging more than 220. The social media channel focuses on anonymous women sharing their stories of human rights abuses. You can follow the work on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#).

The second initiative designed and led by a woman HRD from Lebanon led on *Jeyetna*, a campaign to stop period poverty among migrant workers in Lebanon. Menstrual health falls under reproductive health, the right to which is violated in Lebanon and has only worsened due to the current economic crisis, as disprivileged people are increasingly forced to choose between food or sanitary products such as tampons. Period products were also excluded from the government support plan.

The activists organized three workshops with female migrant workers and migrant domestic workers on sexual health that helped facilitate a dialogue about periods and offer sustainable alternatives like menstrual cups and reusable pads.

GLOBAL

177,067 total reach
Number of projects
1 Reporting entities

After a year of exponential growth in 2020, the full force of digital fatigue hit the online offerings of the Global HRE Team, something that has been present in reports across regions. As a result, we have seen a drop in the number of people reached and have sought to explore new methods of reaching people with HRE.

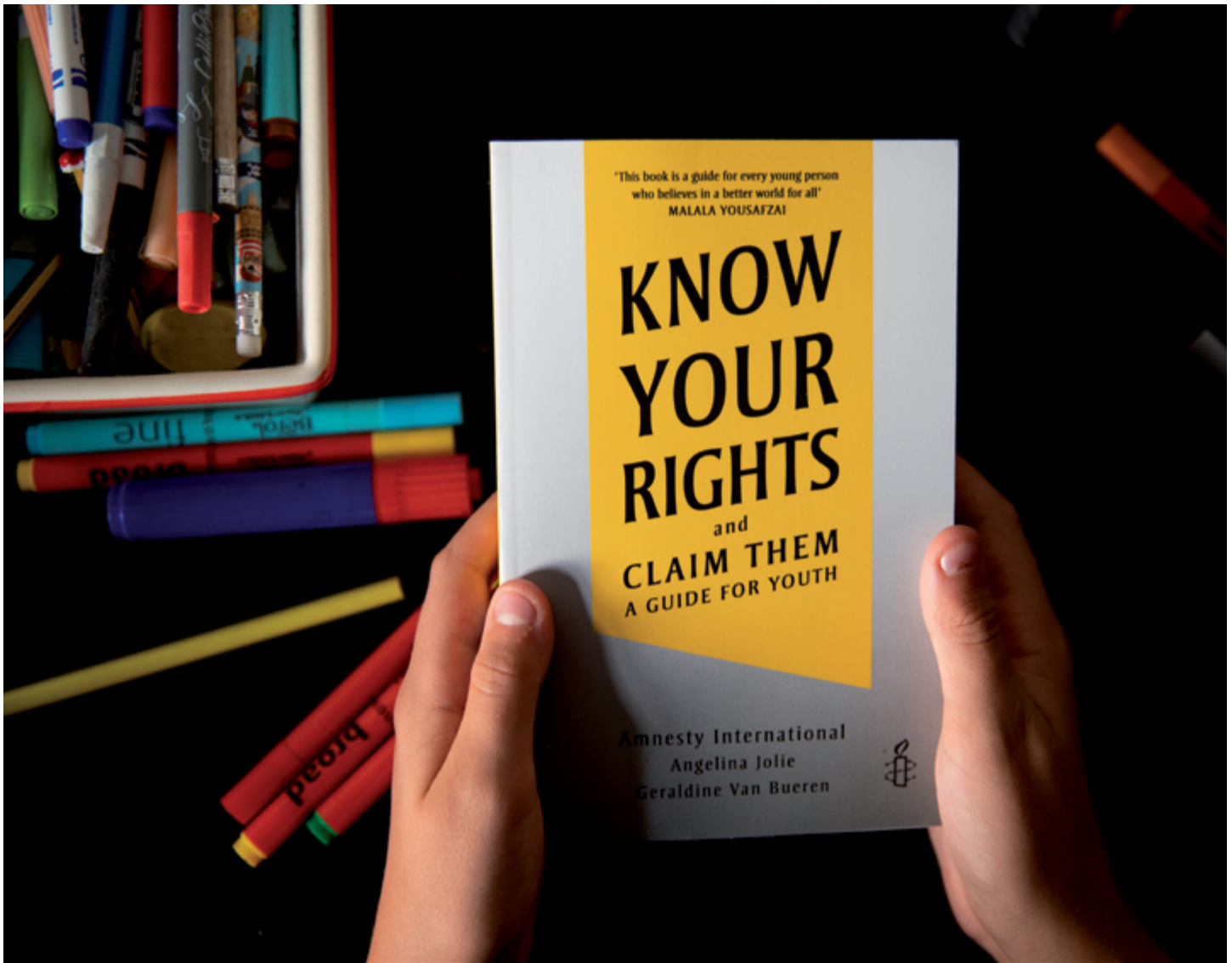
Consequently, in 2021 the Global HRE Team piloted new ways to reach learners with HRE, adapting the [Introduction to Human Rights Course](#) from the Human Rights Academy to an audio-learning experience. The full course is available in English on YouTube ([full course](#); [by module](#)) and Soundcloud ([full course](#); [by module](#)) and is suitable for ages 10 and upwards.

Meanwhile, four new learning videos of around two minutes each were made available on [YouTube](#) covering hate speech, GBV, activism in the Covid-19 era and the right to vaccines. They are available with voiceovers in English, Arabic, Spanish and French.

To accompany the launch of [Know Your Rights and Claim Them](#), the Global HRE Team developed a 90 minute online course, An Introduction to Child Rights. The course explains the scope of children's rights, describes government obligations regarding children's rights, analyses how children's rights can protect children in a diverse range of circumstances, and empowers learners to be able to apply a child rights lens to their everyday life and to take action to promote and defend children's rights.

The course is now available in [English](#), [French](#) and [Spanish](#). More language editions will be out in 2022 in Arabic, Italian, Thai and many others. It is designed for youth and adults looking for an introduction to child rights and wanting to support children in claiming their rights.

Finally, despite the drop in reach, the [Human Rights Academy](#) has seen a lot of action in 2021, with the launch of 28 courses, two of which are new, and 26 translations in 15 languages! With an average of 2,500 new learners every month, the Human Rights Academy mobile app was also launched this year, allowing for more accessibility to all our courses available for [iOS](#) and [Android](#).



RIGHT TO PROTEST COURSE AMNESTY'S HUMAN RIGHTS ACADEMY

At the end of 2020, the Global HRE team launched an online course [Right to Protest](#). The course aims to equip learners with knowledge around the scope of the right to protest, how the right to protest is protected by international law and outlines challenges to the right to protest. In addition, it aims to accompany learners in developing ways they can take action to defend the right to protest, develop their own strategies for staying safe and secure while exercising their right to protest, and demand adequate and rights-respecting policing practices.

By the end of 2021, the course had been translated into eight languages. It is also important to note that the course was also adapted to regional and local contexts in the translation of the Arabic, Russian and Polish courses. Amnesty Poland highlighted the importance of adapting courses to local context and have used the Right to Protest course along with the Introduction to Human Rights Course to support

their national campaigns on human rights in Poland, the right to assembly and Individuals at Risk. They promoted the Right to Protest course to individuals who took action in signing their petition for freedom of assembly, allowing them to deepen and strengthen their knowledge on the right to protest.

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL

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