



**WRITE
FOR
RIGHTS**

**AMNESTY
INTERNATIONAL**



**YOUR
WORDS
CAN
CHANGE
LIVES**



WRITE A LETTER, SIGN A PETITION, SEND A TWEET...

Whatever you do for Write for Rights, your words will help defend people's human rights across the world.



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WHAT IS WRITE FOR RIGHTS?



Every December, Amnesty supporters across the globe write millions of letters for people whose basic human rights are being attacked. It's one of the world's biggest human rights events, and carries on a long tradition of people like you writing letters to right some of the world's biggest wrongs. And it's not just letters – it could be petitions, emails, Tweets, Facebook posts, photos, postcards... Whatever you think will have the biggest impact, and help bring about change.

WHY DO WE NEED TO TAKE ACTION?



Across the world, people's freedom is under threat. Activists are locked up just for expressing their opinions online. Protestors are tortured and wrongfully imprisoned. Women and girls are dying in childbirth because they can't get the health care they deserve. Your letters, words and actions will put pressure on authorities worldwide to take immediate action, so these people can be free to live their lives.

WHO DO WE WRITE TO?



We'd like you to write two letters. One will be to the person in authority – it could be a king, president, justice minister or head of police – who can help make change happen. And the other letter will be to the person (or group of people) we are fighting for. These letters of support mean the people know we will never forget them.

DOES IT WORK?



Yes! Every year, real change happens because of your letters and actions. People wrongfully imprisoned are released. Torturers are brought to justice. And people in prison are treated more humanely. On the next page are just a few examples of how your letters have changed lives over the last few years.



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Freedom in Cambodia

Yorm Bopha (above left) was imprisoned for three years after protesting against forced evictions in her community. She was released in November 2013 after authorities received nearly 253,000 letters from Amnesty supporters across 54 countries.

"I thank all of the people who devoted their time to write petition letters to the government to request my release. I am very happy to know that we are not alone."

Yorm Bopha, Cambodia

Released in Russia

In 2013, letters from Amnesty supporters focused attention on three activists arrested following a protest in Bolotnaya Square, Moscow. The pressure led to the release of two of them, Vladimir Akimenkov (above right) and Mikhail Kosenko.

"I want to express deep gratitude to Amnesty International and all those who sent me their letters. Your letters influenced my release."

Vladimir Akimenkov, Russia

Pardoned in Azerbaijan

Jabbar Savalan, a youth activist in Azerbaijan, was pardoned and released in 2011 within days of your letters arriving in the country.

"The support I received was so great that I did not feel like I was imprisoned. I did not feel alone, I knew that people believed in me."

Jabbar Savalan, Azerbaijan

WRITE A LETTER CHANGE A LIFE

We'd love it if you could write a letter, sign a petition or show your support online as part of Write for Rights 2014.

Here's what you need to do:

1. Your local Amnesty team will have all the info about the people they're focusing on this year – find your nearest national office (and their website) at amnesty.org
2. Read about some of this year's cases, watch their videos and find out how you can take action at amnesty.org/writeforrights
3. Tweet your support to @AmnestyOnline and use the hashtag #W4R

