

HUMAN RIGHTS FACTS & FIGURES FOR 2015

In 2015, Amnesty International investigated the human rights situation in 160 countries and territories worldwide. Progress continued in some areas, but many people and communities faced grave human rights abuses.



At least 113 countries arbitrarily restricted freedom of expression and the press.



More than 60 million people were displaced from their homes worldwide.¹ Many had been displaced for several years or longer.



30 or more countries illegally forced refugees to return to countries where they would be in danger.



Armed groups committed human rights abuses in at least 36 countries.

156

At least 156 human rights defenders died in detention or were killed.²

61

61 or more countries locked up prisoners of conscience – people who were simply exercising their rights and freedoms

122



122 or more countries tortured or otherwise ill-treated people.

19

War crimes or other violations of the “laws of war” were carried out in at least 19 countries.

20

At least 20 countries, at least four in 2015, have now passed laws and/or bills recognizing marriage or other forms of relationships between people of the same sex.



At least 55% of countries conducted unfair trials. When a trial is unfair, justice is not served for the accused, the victim of the crime or the public.

Amnesty International is a global movement of more than 7 million people who campaign for a world where human rights are enjoyed by all.

Our vision is for every person to enjoy all the rights enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other international human rights standards.

We are independent of any government, political ideology, economic interest or religion and are funded mainly by our membership and public donations.

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Information in this document is not exhaustive and refers to 160 countries where Amnesty International documented or received information from credible sources on specific human rights violations during 2015 – unless an external source is otherwise stated.

¹ According to UNHCR, the UN refugee agency

² According to Front Line Defenders

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Amnesty International, International Secretariat, Peter Benenson House, 1 Easton Street, London WC1X 0DW, UK

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