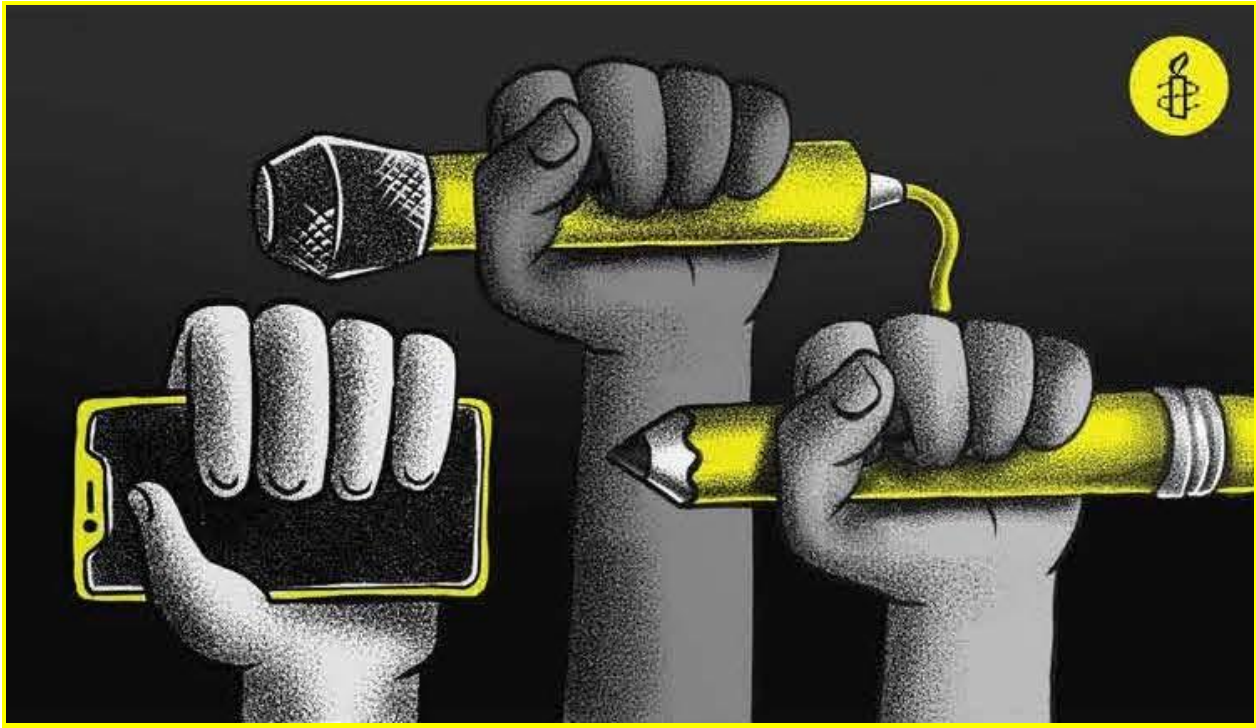


Banned Books Week Social Media Toolkit

September 18 - 24, 2022



INTRODUCTION: BANNED BOOKS WEEK AT AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL USA

Amnesty International is a global movement of millions of people demanding human rights for all people – no matter who they are or where they are. We are the world's largest grassroots human rights organization. We work to protect people whenever justice, freedom, truth, and dignity are denied.

Each year during Banned Books Week, Amnesty International draws attention to people around the world who have been imprisoned, threatened, or murdered because of their writing, art, or other published work. As a member of the Banned Books Week Coalition and in solidarity with the American Library Association (ALA) and organizations around the world, Amnesty activists work to fight challenges to freedom of expression. All of Amnesty International USA's Banned Books Week 2022 resources can be found here: <https://www.amnestyusa.org/banned-books-2022/>

SOCIAL MEDIA TOOLKIT

Are you looking for tools to mobilize your online networks to take action? In this section, you will find resources for social media and samples to help you draft your perfect post!

Download Graphics

You can post these graphics, designed by Amnesty International USA: <https://bit.ly/BBW22social>

Sample Posts

Sept 18 - Sept 24 is #BannedBooksWeek! Will you take action with @AmnestyUSA and fight for freedom of expression? Learn more: <https://bit.ly/AIUSABBW22>

Freedom of expression is threatened around the world! Join @AmnestyUSA this #BannedBooksWeek and defend writers, journalists and artists prosecuted for their work! Take Action: <https://bit.ly/AIUSABBW22>

Defend free speech with @AmnestyUSA this #BannedBooksWeek Sept 18 - Sept 24! Visit <https://bit.ly/AIUSABBW22> to take action today!

Imagine getting arrested, imprisoned or sentenced to death because of a photo you took, a story you wrote, or something you tweeted. Take action with @AmnestyUSA for #BannedBooksWeek Sept 18 - Sept 24 <https://bit.ly/AIUSABBW22>

Case Specific Sample Posts with Clickable Action Links

Jeannot Randriamanana, Madagascar: Teacher sentenced to 2 years in prison for Facebook post. [Click here](#) to take action to defend free speech #BannedBooksWeek @AmnestyUSA

Zahra Sedighi-Hamadani, Iran: LGBTI rights defender arbitrarily detained following posts on social media defending LGBTI rights and her appearance in a BBC documentary. [Click here](#) to take action to defend free speech #BannedBooksWeek @AmnestyUSA

Vladyslav Yesypenko, Ukraine/Crimea: Journalist for Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty service detained, tortured, and facing 6 years in prison. [Click here](#) to take action to defend free speech #BannedBooksWeek @AmnestyUSA

Luis Manuel Otero Alcántara and Maykel Castillo Pérez, Cuba: Artist and musician detained and facing 5 and 9 years in prison for artistic performance. [Click here](#) to take action to defend free speech #BannedBooksWeek @AmnestyUSA

Learn More: www.amnestyusa.org/banned-books-2022

Alaa Abdel Fattah, Egypt: Prisoner of Conscience sentenced to 5 years on charges of “spreading false news” and “using social media to commit a publishing offense.” [Click here](#) to take action to defend free speech #BannedBooksWeek @AmnestyUSA

Janna Jihad, Israel Occupied Palestinian Territories: 16-year-old journalist, facing death threats and intimidation for her work documenting human rights violations in the Occupied Palestinian Territories. [Click here](#) to take action to defend free speech #BannedBooksWeek @AmnestyUSA

MEET THE 2022 BANNED BOOKS WEEK CASES

On the following pages you'll find case sheets containing background information and links to online actions for each of the six human rights cases Amnesty International USA is highlighting for Banned Books Week 2022. Banned Books Week 2022 is September 18-24 but you can take action on these cases with Amnesty International USA through October 31. You can use these case sheets to add more details to your posts, or print them case sheets and use them during activism events in your community!



On July 11, 2021, thousands of people took to the streets in Cuba to demonstrate peacefully, exercising their rights to freedom of expression and assembly. In response, authorities detained and criminalized hundreds for participating in the nation-wide protest.

Luis Manuel Otero Alcántara (pictured above) is an artist and member of the San Isidro Movement. The San Isidro Movement was formed by artists, journalists, and academics in response to Decree 349, a law seeking to silence critical artists. On July 11, 2021, Luis was detained by state agents shortly after posting a video declaring his intention to join the protests. Maykel Castillo Pérez, commonly known by his artistic name "Maykel Osorbo," is a musician, member of the San Isidro Movement, and co-author of the song "Patria y Vida", a protest anthem criticizing the Cuban government. On May 18, 2021, security agents detained the musician at his home and then refused to provide information on his whereabouts for 10 days.

On August 19, 2021, Amnesty International named Luis and Maykel prisoners of conscience, along with other Cubans detained in the context of the protests of July 11, 2021 and are calling for all charges to be dropped and that they be immediately and unconditionally released.

***Email the Cuban government and demand the release of
Luis Manuel Otero Alcántara and Maykel Castillo Pérez!***

Scan the QR Code
Or Use This Link:

<https://bit.ly/BBWLuisandMaykel>



Learn More: www.amnestyusa.org/banned-books-2022



One of the most important voices for freedom in Egypt, Alaa Abdel Fattah is author of “You Have Not Yet Been Defeated,” a collection of his political essays published during his current detention. He has continued his work despite ongoing efforts by the government of President Abdel Fattah al-Sisi to silence him.

Alaa Abdel Fattah is a symbol of resistance and freedom in Egypt, and his continued imprisonment sends a chilling message to other activists.

He is currently serving a five year sentence after being convicted of spurious charges of spreading “false news” over his social media posts. He has been on a hunger strike since April 2, 2022 protesting his detention and prison conditions, as well as the refusal of the authorities to grant his consular visit as he obtained British citizenship in 2021 through his British-born mother.

***Email the Egyptian government and demand
the immediate release of Alaa Abdel Fattah!***

Scan the QR Code
Or Use This Link:

<https://bit.ly/BBWAlaa>



Learn More: www.amnestyusa.org/banned-books-2022



Zahra Sedighi-Hamadani, known as Sareh, has been arbitrarily detained in Urumieh, West Azerbaijan province, since her arrest on October 27, 2021 due to her real or perceived sexual orientation and gender identity as well as her social media posts, statements in defense of LGBTI rights, and her appearance in a BBC documentary that aired in May 2021 about the abuses that LGBTI people suffer in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq. Authorities have ill-treated her and threatened to convict her of “spreading corruption on earth”, which carries the death penalty.

In January 2022 she was brought before the lead investigator of Branch 6 of the Office of the Revolutionary and Public Prosecutor in Urumieh who informed her that she is accused of “spreading corruption on earth” including through “promoting homosexuality,” “communication with anti-Islamic Republic media channels” and “promoting Christianity.”

After her arrest she was held in solitary confinement in a detention center in Urumieh. During this period, she says a Revolutionary Guard agent subjected her to intense interrogations accompanied by verbal abuse and insults directed at her identity and appearance and threatened to execute or otherwise harm her and take away the custody of her two young children. These acts violate the absolute prohibition on torture and other ill-treatment.

***Email the Iranian government and demand
freedom for Zahra Sedighi-Hamadani!***

Scan the QR Code
Or Use This Link:

<https://bit.ly/BBWZahra>



Learn More: www.amnestyusa.org/banned-books-2022



Jeannot Randriamanana is a 38-year-old secondary school teacher living and working in Mananjary, Madagascar. He is a father of four children. In addition to his work as a public school teacher, he also works as a communication officer for the local branch of the NGO, Independent Observatory of Economic, Social and Cultural Rights in Madagascar (OIDESCM).

He has been posting on his social media about the poor state of school infrastructure in the district of Nosy Varika since December 2021 and has since been targeted for harassment and intimidation for denouncing cases of corruption on his social media account. On May 10, 2022 Jeannot, who had been arbitrarily detained for two months, was granted provisional release.

But on July 12, 2022, the Court of Appeal of Fianarantsoa upheld his conviction and two-year suspended sentence on the charges of “defamation and humiliation of members of Parliament and public servants and identity fraud.”

***Email the Madagascar government
and demand all charges are dropped
against Jeannot Randriamanana!***

Scan the QR Code
Or Use This Link:

<https://bit.ly/BBWJeannot>





Janna Jihad just wants a normal childhood. “Like any other child... I want to be able to play soccer with my friends without having tear gas canisters rain on us,” she says. But 15-year-old Janna lives in the Israeli-occupied West Bank. Life under systematic discrimination is anything but normal. When Janna was seven, the Israeli military killed her uncle. At 13, Janna was recognized as one of the youngest journalists in the world, documenting the Israeli army’s oppressive and often deadly treatment of Palestinians.

This includes night raids, demolishing homes and schools, and crushing communities who stand up for their rights. Palestinian children are particularly affected. Many have been killed and injured by Israeli forces. Israel has signed up to the Convention on the Rights of the Child, yet has failed to extend those protections to Palestinian children in the West Bank. By contrast, Israeli children are protected – even those living in illegal settlements near Janna. Today, Janna’s principled journalism has marked her out for harassment and death threats. She won’t give up. “I want to know what freedom means in my homeland, what justice and peace and equality means without facing systematic racism,” she says.

Email the Israeli government and demand they protect Janna Jihad and other Palestinian children from harm!

Scan the QR Code

Or Use This Link:

<https://bit.ly/BBWJanna>



Learn More: www.amnestyusa.org/banned-books-2022



VLADYSLAV YESYPENKO

JOURNALIST

UKRAINE/CRIMEA

**SENTENCED TO 6 YEARS IN
PRISON**

Vladyslav Yesypenko is a freelance journalist working for Krym Realii, a Crimean branch of Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty (RFE/RL). Vladyslav was arrested on March 10, 2021 by the Russian Federal Security Service (FSB), on allegations of spying and carrying ammunition.

On March 18, Yesypenko's forced confession was televised on the Russian state-owned TV channel "Krym 24" in which he says he was shooting videos for Krym Realii and sending copies to the security services of Ukraine. He was denied access to an independent lawyer for 27 days, until a remand court hearing where Vladyslav alleged that a grenade had been planted by his captors in his car and that he had been subjected to torture and other ill-treatment to extract his "confession" on video.

Vladyslav was convicted on February 16, 2022 to 6 years in prison and fined RUB 110,000. Amnesty is calling for his immediate release.

***Email the Russian government and demand the
immediate release of Vladyslav Yesypenko!***

Scan the QR Code
Or Use This Link:

<https://bit.ly/BBWVladyslav>



SCAN ME

**AMNESTY
INTERNATIONAL**



Learn More: www.amnestyusa.org/banned-books-2022