

Amnesty International USA Faith in Action Network

What is Amnesty International USA's Faith in Action Network?

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.

All people have fundamental human rights but these rights are abused everyday. Around the world, Amnesty International researches the facts, exposes what's happening, and rallies people together to pressure governments and others to respect everyone's human rights. Amnesty International is nonpartisan and not aligned with any political party, ideology, or government. We challenge human rights violations equally around the world, no matter who commits them.

Across the United States, many faith-based groups and faith communities come together to strengthen their neighborhoods and serve the needs of their wider communities. Faith-based groups have a unique role to play in this important work. In the United States, faith-based groups can have a big influence on decision makers and lawmakers, especially when groups are uplifting the same message at the same time.

Amnesty International USA's (AIUSA's) Faith in Action network is open to all faiths and engages faith-based groups across the country in grassroots activism for human rights. AIUSA provides faith-based groups with:

- A calendar of activism opportunities focused on:
 - Death Penalty Abolition: advocate for an end to the death penalty around the world, and the halting of executions here in the United States.
 - End Gun Violence: advocate for community-based gun violence prevention programs and common sense gun legislation across the United States.
 - Individuals at Risk: advocate for human rights of individuals under threat around the world because of who they are or what they believe.
 - Refugee and Migrant Rights: advocate for the rights of refugees and migrants entering the United States and globally.
- Learning opportunities, training, and activism resources
- Connections with other faith communities and human rights activists

5 Steps to Join AlUSA's Faith in Action Network

- 1. Sign up for AIUSA's Faith in Action Network
- 2. Schedule a Welcome to Amnesty Orientation for your faith group
- 3. Explore the Faith in Action Calendar and choose your group's Priority Issues
- 4. Use the calendar and Activism Resources to plan your activities
- 5. Start taking action!

Want to join the Faith in Action Network? Sign up: www.amnestyusa.org/faith-in-action-network-sign-up

Any questions? Email communitynetworks@aiusa.org for support taking next steps!

Faith in Action Network Activism Calendar

All Faith in Action Network members are invited to participate in the key mobilizations in the calendar below. For each mobilization network members receive resources, toolkits, and training to learn more and connect with other activists.

Faith in Action Network members can also request support to do year-round, ongoing work on **Death Penalty Abolition** or **Individuals at Risk**.

Look at this calendar alongside your faith community's calendar to plan when and how your group would like to take action. Select action opportunities that are connected to the issues that resonate most strongly in your community, and work best within your faith community's calendar.

January 11: Anniversary of the Opening of Guantánamo	April 1-30: Spring Interfaith Action	First Friday in June: National Gun Violence Awareness Day
Human Rights Issue: Security & Human Rights Advocate for the rights of individuals unjustly detained in Guantánamo Bay Detention Center and for its closure.	Human Rights Issue: Individuals at Risk + AIUSA Priority Work Advocate for human rights of individuals under threat around the world, in connection with AIUSA's priority campaigns.	Human Rights Issue: End Gun Violence Support community-based gun violence prevention programs and advocate for common sense gun legislation across the United States.
June 20: World Refugee Day	October 10: World Day Against the Death Penalty	November 1 - December 31: Write for Rights
June 20: World Refugee Day Human Rights Issue: Refugee & Migrant Rights	• •	

Faith in Action Network Activism Resources & Support

All Faith in Action Network members are provided with the resources below. Some resources will be made available during the onboarding process. Others will be available upon request. If your group needs any additional support or resources, you can email communitynetworks@aiusa.org at any time!

Resources Provided During Onboarding:

- **Welcome to Amnesty Orientation:** AIUSA staff will join a meeting of your group and provide an introduction to human rights activism at AIUSA. You will be invited to schedule an orientation as soon as you sign up for the Faith in Action network.
- <u>Activist Toolbox</u>: Faith in Action network members are welcome to use this online repository of resources to support organizing, activism, and human rights education.
- Monthly Activism Updates: Faith in Action network members are automatically signed up to receive
 monthly emails with activism opportunities and resources.
- Events Calendar: Faith in Action network members can post their human rights events on AlUSA's events calendar, to publicize it to the broader community. Groups can also find virtual and local events to join, posted by other Amnesty groups.
- <u>Speaker Request Form</u>: Your group can request an Amnesty expert to come and speak at your group meeting or community event.

Additional Training Opportunities Available by Request:

Your group can sign up to receive training specific to your interests, including:

- Human Rights Foundation Training: An introduction to global human rights principles and standards.
- Activism Strategy Training: An introduction to activism to help you plan your actions.
- Lobby Training: How to lobby elected officials at any level of government on human rights issues.

New Resources Coming in Fall 2023:

- Online Faith Activism Forum: Faith in Action network members have access to an online forum
 where you can connect with other faith-based groups and activists interested in the issues you care
 about.
- Interfaith Human Rights Events: AIUSA will host quarterly human rights activism events for the Faith in Action Network, promoting interfaith activism for human rights on a variety of key issues.