

Agenda

Link to August meeting email [here](#)

1. Welcome and apologies

- a. Attendance: Ailig, Andrew, Claire, Kirstie, Merle, Caitlin, Luca, Paolo, Ken, Ebba, Rob
- a. Apologies: Mhairi
 - i. *So great to see some ex-members back again! If you've also not been in a while, remember you are always welcome back, no apologies/excuses needed!*

2. Agreement of previous meeting minutes [link](#)

3. Team Updates (list of roles [here](#)):

a. Treasurer (Kirstie)

- i. [Pride: Cash donations on stall £62.45 and card donations £13.78 \(after card charge of 22p\)](#)
- ii. [Donation - £10 cheque made out to Amnesty International sent by Susan from her recent AmnesTea event. Susan has now moved back to Orkney.](#)
- iii. [Current balance: £427.81](#)

b. Social Media & website (Cait/Clara)

- No updates - urgently needing SM support!
- Ongoing: Update on Twitter/Bluesky discussion? <https://www.helloquix.com/> (not yet) [agreed not urgent until AIUK moves]

c. Local Political Outreach

- i. Paolo's HR Bill leaflet (see [here](#)) to put in public spaces, like libraries with brief info & link to the AIUK petition (<https://www.amnesty.org.uk/actions/first-minister-scotland-needs-human-rights-bill>) & QR code pointing to our website and a page to explain a bit better about the Human Rights Bill. People to review leaflet draft → make poster. First page is the leaflet to print and put in noticeboards, second page what we could put in the website. [Unactioned tasks from previous meeting:
 - a. approach shadow Ministers of Equalities (Kaukab is difficult to reach)
 - b. **Daisy** to write template email asking them to commit to Scottish HR Bill → **Clara/Ailig** to review & then all to send to party offices (agreed probably past manifesto deadline)
 - c. awareness-raising campaign on Human Rights Bill - SM post; prepare poster on the issue - AI Scotland could publish "manifesto" that we share with party offices - Paolo to write this and share w AI Scotland office for them to check
 - Clara offered to make info into pamphlet
 - Paolo can make website webpage to upload blog posts (& for SM)
 - Paolo still no update from AI Scotland office - agree to move forward without them
 - All to review Paolo's text and add tangible examples
 - [Timeline: Feb hustings](#) ; [attend hustings / host a hustings](#)
 - [Paolo to move forward via Signal to confirm info for website](#)
- d. **Theme focus - US Death Penalty - Cait to contact network**
- e. *Not currently active: Regional/Country focus [Korea (Clara)] ; Prisoner of Conscience/Individual At Risk Update [no current IAR for our group]*

4. Daytime Group Collaborations/Updates: How was the 27.07.25 Amnestea Fundraiser? [Thanks to Susan - cheque for £10 received](#)

5. Glasgow Uni Group Collaborations/Updates (on holiday) [Ailig] [no updates](#)

6. Actions/updates from previous meeting:

- a. **Pride! Great march; thin on the ground for the stall - need to have time overlaps next year; people commented that they remembered our presence from the previous year -**

good for us to have a continuous presence; people asked what Amnesty does, what our group does (have brief written info on this for next year?)

- i. Uni of Strathclyde Staff Assoc that works on LGBT+ issues Trans Awareness Week 13-19 Nov asked if we'd like to be involved - do we want to be involved?
- → Paolo to get more info
- a. Anti-Trump Rally in Edinburgh! A great day AI Scotland Groups featured in photo and article in AIUK Local Updates
- b. Did anyone attend:
 - i. Global Assembly Consultation meetings 16/17.07.25 - no-one from Group was able to attend
 - ii. How to do a Public Stunt training - no-one from Group was able to attend

7. Update re. new Scotland Regional Rep role: [Initial Meeting 09.08.25: 10am-12pm](#)

As a group, we need to discuss and agree on the Key Tasks:

- a. **Key Tasks** (NB main purpose: infusing enthusiasm/ideas to groups)
 - a. Organisation of annual f2f Scotland Gathering
 - b. Organisation of quarterly online meetings for all local group & individual members (could have 1 key topic/meeting)
 - c. Integration of local groups & coordinating with school / uni groups inc. coordinating a team of representatives from each local group to meet regularly
 - d. Integration with AI UK and AI Scotland:

NEXT STEPS

1. Groups discuss: any questions / further discussion points / other ideas / more people who are interested in the role / choose a named "Rep Liaison"
2. Once all groups in agreement, vote → nominated person does application form.
 1. All agreed Key Tasks are good
 2. Rep Liaison: Claire - Claire to feedback to central group

8. Urgent Appeals - Merle

of letters written during meeting: 15 (to beat: 12!)

- [Canada: People Seeking Asylum & Safety At Risk](#)
- [Uganda: Quash Human Rights Lawyer's Conviction](#)

& [Ban Settlement Goods: Letters to MPs](#)

[Import of goods from Israeli settlements in the Occupied Palestinian Territory - Early Day Motions](#)

- Even if your MP has signed it, still email them!

9. 2025 Glasgow West AI group's 50th anniversary! - see Ideas doc [here](#), inc.

- a. The Lord Provost's Office has suggested a **Civic Reception** for Amnesty Glasgow. **Tuesday 28th October 6-7.30pm** drinks reception & canapes - confirmed
 1. Speakers: Lord Provost (*or one of their Deputies*); Amnesty spokesperson about Amnesty in Glasgow over last 50 years.
 2. Discussed whether to have an external org speaker or only internal AI speakers
 - a. Agreed only internal AI speakers

- b. Andrew to see if someone from Amnesty London office/board can come?
 - 3. Need to make a speech of what Amnesty has done over the last 50 yrs
 - a. Take along key archive items for a small display
 - b. ?? Christine to do a speech!
 - 4. Musician to provide background entertainment? People to ask through their networks
 - 5. Invitees: we've said we'll get 30 - set up eventbrite - Email AI office with email to go to all AI members
 - 6. Merle to review list of old members with Christine ; Andrew has asked Daytime group for suggestions - Thanks to Merle & Christine!
 - 7. Andrew has asked Rob for mailing list
 - 8. Claire to set Eventbrite link & share in Signal chat - no cap; Claire to monitor weekly; "close the sales" 2 days before
- a. **Meal:**
 - i. Agreed best Saturday PM (*Sat 13th December likely closest to co-incide with Write for Rights?*)
 - ii. Could do meal and W4R combined - Human Rights Day this year = Wednesday 10.12.25 - do meal around then so people do letter writing and meal at same time - Sat/Sun in early Dec
 - iii. ?? Invite MPs / Councillors / MSPs
 - iv. ?? Apartheid free meal
 - v. 'Pay WHat You Can' tickets to cover costs
 - vi. Paolo to ask his catering friends for their input re format, etc
 - vii. Paolo spoke to someone from Maryhill Integ Centre
 - 1. Council can suggest a community hall to do it
- b. **Tree planting:** Nov in Kelvingrove. Andrew in contact with Council re logistics, but still waiting on further info
- c. Andrew contacted **Strathclyde University Journalism and Human Rights course** leaders to see if they have students interested in developing some stories around the Group's archive materials.
 - i. → looks like not a fit with current research - lecturer suggested we contact the Herald/Glasgow Times and gave us contacts
 - ii. Andrew has also contacted uni group & Daytime group to see if would like to be involved/if they have an archive also
 - iii. Andrew messaged Mal to see if there's any more. Mal has since liaised with Kirstie on documents / leaflets, etc that he had

10. Ban Israeli Settlement Goods Campaign Pack - [here](#), general info [here](#), launch presentation [here](#)

- a. calling on the UK Government to end its trade and business complicity in illegal Israeli settlements, and to hold Israel accountable for its flagrant violations of international law in Gaza and the Occupied Palestinian Territory.
- Does anyone want to take a lead on this? Getting us:
 - engaged with MPs
 - form coalitions with local Palestine Solidarity Campaign branch
 - Organise community Apartheid-Free Meal
 - Resources:

- [2 template letters to MPs](#)
 - [the template Press Release for an Apartheid-Free Meal](#)
 - local procurement ask to councillors [here are the materials](#)
- Amika.George@amnesty.org.uk - forward any replies from MPs to Amika

11. Potential Speakers:

- Refugee Action** - Andrew link up w Daytime group - maybe September
- Clara: potential speaker - journalist from Somalia - Clara to check his availability and if needs transport/accommodation costs
- Paulo: potential speaker (and try to invite all other AI Scotland groups to join online): law professor re. UK supreme court ruling that affects trans rights.
- AIUK Equality Network speaker - Ailig to look into - how to have conversations w family and friends
- [Amicus, link through Uni group: after find out about Death Penalty network]

12. [Groups Planning Pack 2025](#) from central AIUK - some useful links, especially the [Calendars](#) with key events/trainings.

13. Local Group Updates

- Petition:** [Last year was the deadliest year for journalists. Add your voice to defend press freedom.](#)
- Training: Tuesday 26 August - 18:00 - 19:30 - **A Guide to Working with Schools**
 - Plan how you could work in schools, including discussing some key human rights case studies, including refugee rights and LGBTQ+ rights, and understand key duties that you have as an educator around safeguarding and inclusive practice.

AOB

- Interesting press article: [Starmer v Starmer: why is the former human rights lawyer so cautious about defending human rights? | Keir Starmer | The Guardian](#)
- Event at the Stand in aid of Medical Aid for Palestinians, 15.10.25: [The UK, Gaza and the Media: In conversation with Peter Osborne - The Stand Comedy Club](#)
- This is a template to email your MP to support 40 young people in Gaza who currently have a place at UK universities: <https://newscord.org/action/gaza-students> - Currently, the UK govt won't let them come as they need biometric ID for their visa. As they can't do that in Gaza, the letter is asking for them to be allowed to come to the UK and provide the biometric requirements here.
- Saturday 16.08.25 Demo for Gaza - Glasgow Green 12.30pm - organisation Glasgow Stop the War Coalition
- Stop Trump Protest - 17.09.25, London - arranged by AIUK (Further info in Local Updates link)
- Merle suggestion: We should refer to our organisation in full - Amnesty International, rather than the abbreviation AI. This is due to the increasingly common usage of the AI shorthand to refer to Artificial Intelligence. Agreed
- Thanks to Claire, Kirsty & Andrew for sorting through a huge influx of resources from Mal's flat! We made this list of our current total leaflet / poster, banner, etc resources:
 -  [Glasgow West Inventory](#) - which will hopefully help us have more exciting stalls in future!

AIUK Local Group Updates – July [link](#)

Next meeting - Thurs 11th September 2025, including **GUEST SPEAKER! Motez Amer, AIUK Country Coordinator for Yemen & Saudi Arabia**