

## **Amnesty International Daily URGENT ACTIONS - August 7 to August 14, 2015**

**13 August 2015**

**Further information on UA: 182/14 (18 July 2014) and Updates (31 July 2014, 12 August 2014, 26 September 2014, 11 November 2014, 6 August 2015)**

**Issue Date: 13 August 2014**

**Country: Azerbaijan**

**<http://www.amnestyusa.org/get-involved/take-action-now/azerbaijan-release-arif-yunus-and-leyla-yunus-ua-18214>**

### **LENGTHY JAIL SENTENCES FOR PROMINENT DEFENDERS**

Azerbaijani human rights defender Leyla Yunus and her husband Arif Yunus have been sentenced to eight-and-a-half and seven years in prison, respectively, on 13 August. Arif Yunus's health has deteriorated and he fainted in the courtroom. Azerbaijani authorities continued to restrict access to the courtroom for international observers and journalists.

**Names: Arif Yunus (m), Leyla Yunus (f)**

**Issues: Prisoners of conscience, Health concern, Human rights defenders**

**14 August**

**Further information on UA: 117/15 (27 May 2015)**

**Issue Date: 14 August 2015**

**Country: Iran**

**<http://www.amnestyusa.org/get-involved/take-action-now/iran-release-mostafa-azizi-ua-11715>**

### **FILM PRODUCER GIVEN JAIL TERM AFTER UNFAIR TRIAL**

Iranian writer and film producer Mostafa Azizi, a permanent resident of Canada, has been sentenced to eight years' imprisonment. He has been convicted of vague and overly broad national security-related offenses for peacefully exercising his right to freedom of expression, including by posting on Facebook.

**Name: Mostafa Azizi (m)**

**Issues: Freedom of expression, Health concern, Legal concern**

**UA: 180/15**

**Issue Date: 14 August 2015**

**Country: Russian Federation**

**<http://www.amnestyusa.org/get-involved/take-action-now/russian-federation-protect-gennady-afanasiyev-ua-18015>**

**WITNESS MUST BE PROTECTED AGAINST TORTURE**

Gennady Afanasiyev, a key witness for the prosecution in the trial of Ukrainian activists Oleg Sentsov and Aleksandr Kolchenko, has withdrawn the testimony that he gave under torture. He has been threatened and is at renewed risk of torture and other ill-treatment.

**Name: Gennady Afanasiyev (m)**

**Issues: Risk of torture/ill-treatment, Unfair trial, Legal concern**

**Further information on UA: 161/15 (21 July 2015)**

**Issue Date: 14 August 2015**

**Country: Serbia**

<http://www.amnestyusa.org/get-involved/take-action-now/serbia-stop-forcible-eviction-of-roma-families-ua-16115>

### **ROMA FAMILIES STILL AT RISK OF HOMELESSNESS**

The demolition of the homes of 53 Roma families living in the Grmeč settlement, in Zemun municipality, Belgrade seems to have been suspended for now. However, the families remain in a situation of uncertainty and continue to be at risk of being made homeless as the demolition orders they were served with have not been withdrawn.

**Name: 53 Roma families (m and f)**

**Issues: Forced eviction, Legal concern, Economic social and cultural rights**

17 August 2015

**UA: 181/15**

**Issue Date: 17 August 2015**

**Country: Israel/OPT**

<http://www.amnestyusa.org/get-involved/take-action-now/israel-and-the-occupied-palestinian-territories-release-mohammed-allan-ua-18115>

### **HEALTH FEARS FOR PALESTINIAN HUNGER STRIKER**

Palestinian lawyer Mohammed Allan has been on hunger strike since 16 June in protest at his detention. He has been held by Israeli authorities without charge or trial since 6 November 2014. The reasons for his arrest and detention remain unknown. He lost consciousness on 14 August and is at risk of being forcibly fed.

**Name: Mohammed Allan (m)**

**Issues: Hunger strike, Forcible feeding, Arbitrary detention**

**UA: 179/15**

**Issue Date: 17 August 2015**

**Country: Sudan**

<http://www.amnestyusa.org/get-involved/take-action-now/sudan-inform-khalid-omer-yousif-magdi-okasha-amed-and-widad-abdelrahman-derwish-of-the-reason-for-t>

### **THREE OPPOSITION MEMBERS HARASSED BY NISS**

Khalid Omer Yousif, Magdi Okasha Amed and Widad Abdelrahman Derwish, opposition members of the Sudanese Congress Party (SCP), were arrested by the Sudanese National Intelligence Service (NISS) and released without charge. However, they are required to report to the NISS office every day.

Name: Khalid Omer Yousif (m), Magdi Okasha Amed (m) and Widad Abdelrahman Derwish (f)  
Issues: Freedom of expression, Arbitrary arrest, Legal concern

**\*Stop Action\***

Further Information UA: 177/15 (12 August 2015)

Issue Date: 17 August 2015

Country: Democratic Republic of Congo

<http://www.amnestyusa.org/get-involved/take-action-now/good-news-democratic-republic-of-congo-bienvenu-matumo-released-ua-17715>

**LUCHA YOUTH ACTIVIST RELEASED WITHOUT CHARGE**

Bienvenu Matumo, a youth activist from the youth movement Lutte pour le Changement (LUCHA) in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), was released from detention on 12 August without any explanation on the motivation behind his arrest and detention.

Many thanks to all who sent appeals. This is the final update for UA 177/15.

Name: Bienvenu Matumo (m)

Issues: Arbitrary detention, Enforced disappearance, Legal concern

**18 August 2015**

UA: 182/15

Issue Date: 18 August 2015

Country: Mexico

<http://www.amnestyusa.org/get-involved/take-action-now/mexico-investigate-to-determine-the-whereabouts-of-artemio-duarte-martinez-ua-18215>

**TORTURE SURVIVOR'S WHEREABOUTS UNKNOWN**

Artemio Duarte Martínez, one of 25 police officers tortured in Tijuana in 2009, has gone missing after receiving harassment and threats for denouncing the torture he suffered. The authorities must immediately establish his whereabouts and protect his family, his lawyers and all other victims of the same case.

Name: Artemio Duarte Martínez (m)

Issues: Torture, Enforced disappearance, Legal concern

**19 August**

UA: 183/15

Issue Date: 19 August 2015

Country: United Arab Emirates

<http://www.amnestyusa.org/get-involved/take-action-now/united-arab-emirates-release-dr-nasser-bin-ghaith-immediately-ua-18315>

**PROMINENT ACADEMIC ARRESTED, RISKS TORTURE**

Economist and prominent academic Dr Nasser bin Ghaith was arrested on 18 August in Abu Dhabi, the capital of the United Arab Emirates (UAE), by the country's State Security apparatus. His whereabouts are unknown and he is at risk of torture and other ill-treatment. He is a former prisoner of conscience.

Name: Dr Nasser bin Ghaith (m)

Issues: Prisoner of conscience, Arbitrary detention, Risk of torture

**20 August**

**\*STOP ACTION\***

Further information on UA: 128/14 (16 May 2014) and updates (8 October 2014 and 14 April 2014)

Issue Date: 20 August 2015

Country: Egypt

<http://www.amnestyusa.org/get-involved/take-action-now/good-news-egypt-mohamed-soltan-released-ua-12814>

**MOHAMED SOLTAN RELEASED, RECOVERING IN THE U.S.**

Egyptian-American activist Mohamed Soltan was released from prison and deported to the United States on 30 May, after spending one year and nine months in jail in Egypt.

Many thanks to all who sent appeals. This is the final update for UA 128/14.

Name: Mohamed Soltan (m)

Issues: Hunger strike, Health concern, Unfair trial

**\*STOP ACTION\***

Further information on UA: 161/15

Issue Date: 20 August 2015

Country: Serbia

<http://www.amnestyusa.org/get-involved/take-action-now/good-news-serbia-roma-families-protected-from-forced-eviction-ua-16115>

**ROMA FAMILIES PROTECTED FROM FORCED EVICTION**

The demolition of the homes of 53 Roma families living in the Grmeč informal settlement in Zemun municipality has been suspended on the order of the Serbian government. All families living in the settlement have been promised alternative accommodation before any eviction should take place.

Many thanks to all who sent appeals. This is the second update of UA 161/15.

Name: 53 Roma families (m and f)

Issues: Forced eviction, Legal concern, Economic social and cultural rights