

Prosecutor General of the Republic of Belarus  
ul. Internatsionalnaya 22  
220030 Minsk, Belarus

Dear Prosecutor General,

Mikita Zalatarou was waiting for a friend on the street in Homel when he was swept into a crowd of protesters on August 10, 2020. Within 24 hours, the 16-year-old – who also has epilepsy – was in police custody, accused of throwing a Molotov cocktail. Officers beat him, electrocuted him, interrogated him without a lawyer or responsible adult present, and locked him up for six months before putting him on trial. Despite no evidence showing Mikita had been involved in any violence, he was convicted and sentenced to five years' imprisonment.

Please do all in your power to ensure that he is released pending a fair trial that meets international child justice standards.

Sincerely,

President Xi Jinping  
President of the People's Republic of China  
Zhongnanhai, Xichang'anjie  
Xichengqu, Beijing Shi 100017  
People's Republic of China

Dear President Xi,

Zhang Zhan typifies the courage of investigative journalists who speak truth to power. Citizen journalists like her were the only source of uncensored, independent, and first-hand information about the coronavirus outbreak, publishing reports on social media and the internet despite constant harassment and repression. Yet, instead of being praised, Zhang Zhan received four years' imprisonment for daring to report what she saw. If the Chinese authorities are serious about combating Covid-19 and preventing similar outbreaks from happening again, they must stop censorship and respect freedom of expression – free Zhang Zhan immediately and unconditionally.

Sincerely,

The President  
Office of the President  
Al Ittihadia Palace  
Cairo, Arab Republic of Egypt

Dear President,

As a human rights lawyer, Mohamed Baker helps the people who need him most – those who have been marginalized and jailed unfairly. Now Baker himself has been locked up unjustly. Falsely accused of terrorism, Baker was never put on trial. Instead he was thrown in jail where prison authorities are confining him to his cell round the clock and cruelly refusing him a bed, mattress, books, newspapers – even family photos.

Defending people's freedoms should not cost him his own. I ask that you release Mohamed Baker immediately and unconditionally, and close all investigations into the bogus accusations made against him.

Sincerely,

US Secretary of State  
2201 C St., NW  
Washington, DC 20520  
USA

Dear Secretary of State,

Ciham Ali, a US citizen born in Los Angeles and raised in Eritrea, has been missing since December 8, 2012. The teenager who dreamt of becoming a fashion designer was arrested at the Eritrean border when she was 15. Her arrest appears to be in retaliation against her father's suspected involvement in a coup attempt on the Eritrean government. Nine years on and no one knows where Ciham is. Eritrea is notorious for imprisoning people in underground containers where they torture, starve or even kill them. The US government must act now. Please use your influence and speak out for Ciham: demand her immediate and unconditional release.

Sincerely,

Attorney General of Guatemala / Fiscal General de Guatemala  
Public Prosecutor's Office / Ministerio Público  
15 Avenida A 15-16, Ciudad. de Guatemala  
Guatemala

Dear Attorney General,

Bernardo Caal Xol holds a whole people in his heart. He and the Maya Q'eqchi are a vital part of Guatemala's heritage. They are peacefully protecting the land and water that make the country a unique place. Yet the hydro-electric power plants licensed to operate without their permission are disrupting their sacred Cahabón river, scarring the landscape, and destroying their way of life.

Bernardo only wants to ensure that the land and water are preserved for the future, yet he has been smeared with baseless accusations and imprisoned for more than seven years on sham charges. I urge you to drop all charges against Bernardo and free him immediately.

Sincerely,

Attorney General of Quintana Roo  
Av. Adolfo López Mateos No.500, esquina Nápoles  
Colonia Italia, C.P. 77035  
Chetumal, Quintana Roo, México

Dear Attorney General,

Wendy Galarza is a dedicated childcare worker. Through her work, she strives to create a kinder and more compassionate society. It's an especially important goal in a context where women are often abused and killed for being women.

On November 9, 2020, Wendy, too, nearly lost her life to such violence. She attended a feminist march in Cancún where police fired shots and she was wounded. She launched a case against the police, but those responsible for the violence have not been brought to justice. Show Wendy that you take violence against women seriously. Impartially and thoroughly investigate the violations that she suffered, and ensure that all those responsible are brought to justice.

Sincerely,

Attorney General of the Federation and Minister of Justice  
Ministry of Justice  
New Federal Secretariat Complex  
5th Floor, Shehu Shagari Way, Maitama  
P.M.B 192 Garki, Abuja, Nigeria

Dear Attorney General of the Federation,

Imoleayo Michael is a young computer programmer who only wants a fairer, more just Nigeria. In October 2020, he joined other young people who were protesting against the Special Anti-Robbery Squad – or SARS – a police unit notorious for violence, extortion, and killings. Two weeks later, armed men took him from his home and locked him in an underground cell for 41 days. He's facing trumped-up charges and years in prison, all because he believes that Nigeria's police can do better for the people they are meant to protect. I urge you to drop all charges against Imoleayo immediately.

Sincerely,

Chair, Committee for the Rights of the Child  
The Knesset  
Committee for the Rights of the Child  
Kiryat Ben Gurion  
Jerusalem, Israel 9195016

Dear Member of Knesset,

Janna Jihad just wants a normal childhood. But the 15-year-old lives in the Israeli-occupied West Bank, where systematic discrimination and oppression are the norm. Having seen her own uncle killed by the Israeli military, Janna has been thrust into the world of citizen journalism, documenting and exposing the Israeli army's oppressive and often deadly treatment of Palestinians, including children. Israel has signed up to the Convention on the Rights of the Child, yet doesn't extend those protections to Palestinian children in the Occupied Palestinian Territories.

Today, Janna's principled journalism has marked her out for harassment and death threats. I call on you to end discrimination against Janna, and to meet your obligations under the Convention by protecting her and other Palestinian children from harm.

Sincerely,

Prime Minister of Thailand  
The Office of the Permanent Secretary  
Government House  
1 Nakhon Pathom Road  
Dusit, Bangkok 10300, Thailand

Dear Prime Minister,

Panusaya “Rung” Sithijirawattanakul is a promising university student who, like many other young people, has been peacefully protesting as part of Thailand’s democracy movement. She and her peers are campaigning for a society where public concerns are heard and acted upon – not silenced. Because Panusaya dared to publicly and peacefully call for change, she faces multiple criminal charges against her and the possibility of life in prison. The Thai authorities need to encourage and enable all people in Thailand to enjoy and exercise their human rights, including peaceful protest. I urge you to drop all criminal charges against Panusaya.

Sincerely,

Ministry of Internal Affairs  
vul. Akademika Bohomoltsa, 10  
01601 Kyiv, Ukraine

Dear Minister,

Sphere NGO in Kharkiv is one of the oldest LGBTI and women's rights NGOs in Ukraine. But as groups targeting LGBTI people have proliferated across the country, Sphere has endured dozens of discriminatory attacks. These include physical attacks, destruction of their property and homophobic chants hurled at supporters. I urge you to ensure that the attacks on Sphere – including the hate motive – are investigated, and those responsible are held to account in fair trials. Ukraine must build on its recent progress on LGBTI rights and end impunity for hate crimes.

Sincerely,