

A dark, grainy photograph of a protest scene. In the foreground, a person in a red shirt is running towards the left, holding a flag. To their right, another person is running towards the camera. The background shows a city street with buildings and trees. The overall mood is somber and urgent.

THE LAUNCH OF AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL REPORT 2017/18

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AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL REPORT 2017/18

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GLOBAL OVERVIEW

“As we enter the year in which the Universal Declaration of Human Rights turns 70, it is abundantly clear that none of us can take our human rights for granted.”

Salil Shetty, Secretary-General of Amnesty International.



ASIA PACIFIC

- Human rights defenders, lawyers, journalists are the target of repression – from crackdown on freedom of expression in China to intolerance of dissent in Cambodia and Thailand and enforced disappearances in Bangladesh and Pakistan.
- Impunity was widespread – breeding and sustaining violations including unlawful killings and torture, denying justice and reparation, and fueling crimes against humanity or war crimes in countries such as Myanmar and Afghanistan.



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War on the Poor

Philippines



ISIS in Southeast Asia

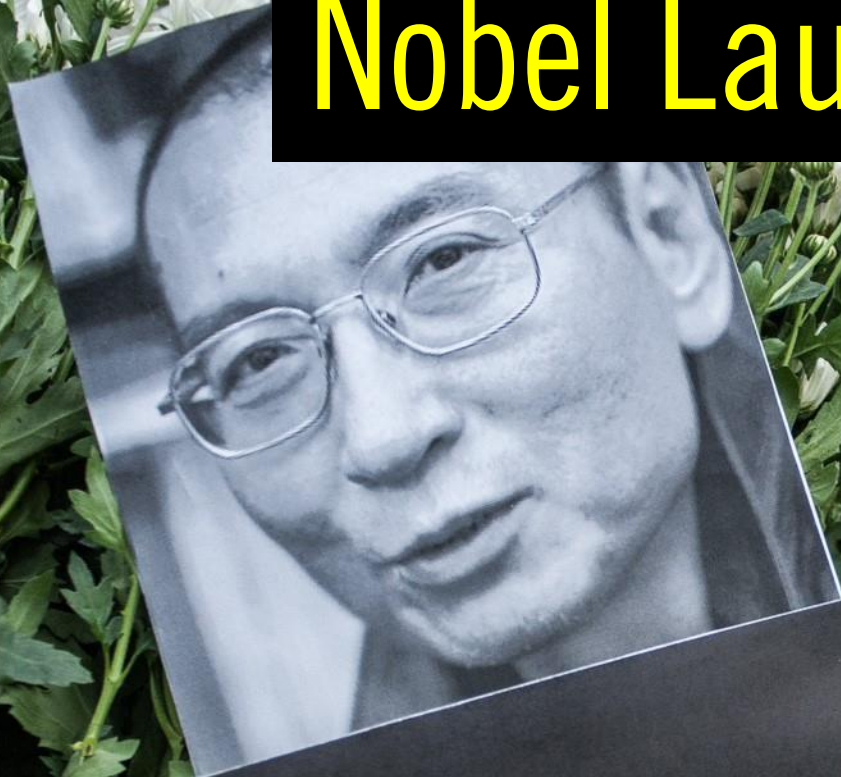
Philippines

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Nobel Laureate Death in Custody

China



#LIUXIAOBO

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A photograph showing several police officers in dark blue uniforms and berets, equipped with riot shields and batons, standing in formation. They are positioned in front of a large, ornate structure that appears to be a religious or cultural monument, possibly a shrine or a large ceremonial umbrella. The scene is outdoors, and the lighting suggests it might be daytime. The officers are looking towards the left side of the frame.

Impunity for Deaths in Custody

Malaysia

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Prosecution of Gay Men

Indonesia

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Labor Exploitation

Indonesia

Forced Evictions

Cambodia



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Brutal Offshore Detentions

Australia, Nauru, Papua New Guinea

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Refugee Crisis

Myanmar, Bangladesh

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MYANMAR

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MYANMAR OVERVIEW

- Hundreds of thousands of Rohingya fled crimes against humanity in Rakhine State to Bangladesh.
- Those who remained continued to live under a system amounting to apartheid.
- Two Reuters reporters were detained for reporting on the situation there.
- Restrictions on freedom of expression remained.
- Increasing religious intolerance and anti-Muslim sentiment.
- The Army fought with ethnic armed groups where both parties committed wide-ranging human rights violations.
- Impunity persisted for past and ongoing human rights violations.

THAILAND

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THAILAND OVERVIEW

- Activists, journalists, politicians and human rights defenders were arrested, detained and prosecuted for peacefully expressing opinions.
- It also failed to fulfill its promise to pass a law prohibiting torture and enforced disappearances.
- Refugees and asylum-seekers continued to be vulnerable to arrest, detention and deportation.
- Online freedom and privacy continued to be under attack.
- Impunity persisted for past and ongoing human rights violations.
- Despite the situation, the government declared human rights a national agenda and a driving force behind Thailand 4.0



Freedom of Expression Human Rights Defenders Torture

The cases against three human rights defenders who got charged for reporting torture allegations in the deep south were finally dropped.



Enforced Disappearance Human Rights Defenders Impunity

The government still failed to make progress in resolving open cases of enforced disappearance of at least two human rights defenders.




Freedom of Expression Human Rights Defenders

A student activist and human rights defender was sentenced to two and a half years' imprisonment for sharing a BBC article.



Freedom of Assembly Human Rights Defenders

16 people from a southern community were arrested during a march against the plans for a coal-fired power plant, facing criminal charges.

A close-up photograph of two hands holding a blue pen, with one hand writing on a dark surface. The hands are positioned in the center of the frame, with the pen held between the fingers of the right hand and the thumb of the left hand. The background is dark and textured.

Freedom of Expression Freedom to Information Privacy

Authorities pressured Facebook, Google and YouTube to remove online content including material deemed critical.



Extrajudicial Killing
Human Rights Defenders
Impunity

An indigenous youth activist was shot dead at a checkpoint by soldiers and anti-narcotics officers. The official investigation made little progress.



Non-refoulement Asylum Seeker

Thai authorities extradited a Turkish national to Turkey despite warnings from UN agencies that he was at risk if returned.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Revoke the head of the NCP0 order 3/2558 and other repressive laws that infringe on freedom of expression and peaceful assembly.
- End arbitrary detention.
- Stop trying civilians in the military court.
- Enact the draft of Prevention and Suppression of Torture and Enforced Disappearances Act.
- Protect human rights defenders and ensure that they can work safely.
- Respect the principle of non-refoulement and develop the refugee screening mechanism that is in line with international standards.

“Amnesty International always looks forward to genuinely cooperating with the Thai authorities in order to address the problems and to enhance social development.”

Amnesty International Thailand

