



# WORK PROGRESS 2019

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL THAILAND

**AMNESTY**  
**INTERNATIONAL**  
**T H A I L A N D**





# FOREWORD

Amnesty International Thailand is a part of a global human rights movement focussed on the protection of human rights in Thailand and worldwide. Our vision is a world in which every person is able to enjoy the human rights enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other international human rights standards. Amnesty International Thailand is one of more than 70 sections that make up Amnesty International worldwide.

This report captures the impact of our human rights work in the year 2019. It includes selected highlights from our human rights education and campaign work. The report also presents our supporters' movement in Thailand and globally in the past year as Amnesty aims towards a bigger, bolder, and more inclusive human rights movement of the future.



# Human Rights Education

The flagship project of Amnesty International Thailand.



## 7 Amnesty Clubs

- Bangkok Patana School
- Buriram Pitthayakhom School
- International School Bangkok (ISB)
- Prince of Songkhla University, Pattani Campus
- Ruamrudee International School (RIS)
- Thai-Singapore International School (TSIS)
- United World College (UWC) International School

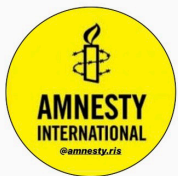
## 4 Memorandum of Understandings (MoUs)

- Khon Kaen University
- Prince of Songkla University, Hat Yai Campus
- Prince of Songkla University, Pattani Campus
- Thai-Singapore International School (TSIS)

# Our Network and Partners

Instagram

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amnesty.ris

Follow

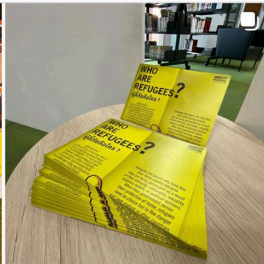
18 posts 119 followers 3 following

**AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL CLUB RIS**  
A member of Amnesty International Thailand  
est. 2019



POSTS

TAGGED



## Amnesty Club Spotlight

The official Instagram account of Ruamrudee International School's Amnesty Club. Follow for the latest human rights activities by student club members!

## Summary

In 2019, Amnesty International Thailand reached 5012 students in schools and universities through our human rights education programme. Most of our classes focussed on equipping students with the basic understanding of the principles of human rights, making use of real-world situations of human rights defenders and refugees both in Thailand and abroad. Amnesty has established memorandum of understandings (MoUs) with two universities and one school: Khon Kaen University, Prince of Songkla University in Hat Yai and Pattani provinces, and Thai-Singapore International School (TSIS). The established MoUs with these partners show our mutual commitment in advancing the topic of human rights in the Thai education system. Our Amnesty Clubs operate in seven education institutions around Thailand. Student club members actively engaged in Amnesty's national and global campaigns and initiated creative activities to support the human rights movement.



# Our Human Rights Education Classes

**Above:** An Amnesty officer engaging with students at Prince of Songkla University through human rights card games.  
**Right:** A human rights education class at Khon Kaen University.



**BIGGER**

**is**

**our**

**HUMAN RIGHTS  
EDUCATION**





# Beyond the Classroom

Human rights education outside education institutions.

## Summary

Our human rights education work was not confined to the walls of the classroom. In 2019, Amnesty International Thailand conducted several human rights workshops for various groups beyond schools and universities. In November and December 2019, Amnesty conducted a series of workshops on basic human rights and international human rights mechanisms for members of the Assembly of the Poor in Bangkok, Chumphon, and Trang provinces. A total of 90 participants from the Assembly of the Poor joined our workshops. Participants were also able to learn about the work of Amnesty in Thailand and abroad.

Many also contributed to our global campaign Write for Rights, through signing petitions to support the cases of individuals whom Amnesty was campaigning for and encouraging people in their communities to take part in the campaign.





#SaveHakeem

# Human Rights Campaigns

A look behind the success of our campaign for Hakeem al-Araibi.

## Summary

Hakeem al-Araibi, an Australia-based football player of Bahraini descent, travelled to Thailand with his wife on 27th November 2018. He was detained upon arrival in Bangkok by the Thai authorities, and was held in Bangkok Remand Prison due to an official extradition request from the Bahraini government. A global campaign led by Amnesty International Australia and Amnesty International Thailand was started.

Our effort in calling for the release of Hakeem received enormous support from Thai students and Thai football clubs including Chiang Rai United Football Club and Cha-choengsao Hi-Tek Football Club. At the international level, renowned sports organisations including the International Federation of Association Football (FIFA) had sent a letter to Prayuth Chan-o-cha, the prime minister of Thailand, putting further pressure on the Thai government to act. An online petition launched by Amnesty received over 50,000 signatures from our supporters around the world contributed to the campaign, with growing media coverage and public interest at the global level.

On 12th February 2019, Hakeem was able to return home to Australia, a positive outcome of a campaign which truly showcased the power of Amnesty as a global movement.

# #SaveHakeem Campaign

A movement-wide effort to bring a football player home.

## Every Contribution Counts

Our campaign for Hakeem was joined by Thai students from Chulalongkorn University and Thammasat University, whom wanted to show support for the football player. The Asian Football Confederation, the International Olympic Committee, and the International Federation of Association Football had all sent letters, demanding the Thai authorities to release Hakeem.



## Collaborating with Football Clubs

**Above:** The team of Cha-choengsao Hi-Tek Football Club holding an Amnesty #SaveHakeem banner after a match.

Over 50,000 signatures from Amnesty's supporters worldwide collected to support Hakeem.

Amnesty International offices in over 8 countries coordinated in helping the case.

The campaign attracted wide media coverage in Thailand and globally, sparking a conversation on the topic of refugees and human rights.



## A True Global Effort

**Left:** A youth member of Buku Football Club in Pattani province, Thailand, holding a #SaveHakeem sign.

**Above:** Amnesty supporters in Australia gathered to show support for Hakeem.

# **BOLDER**

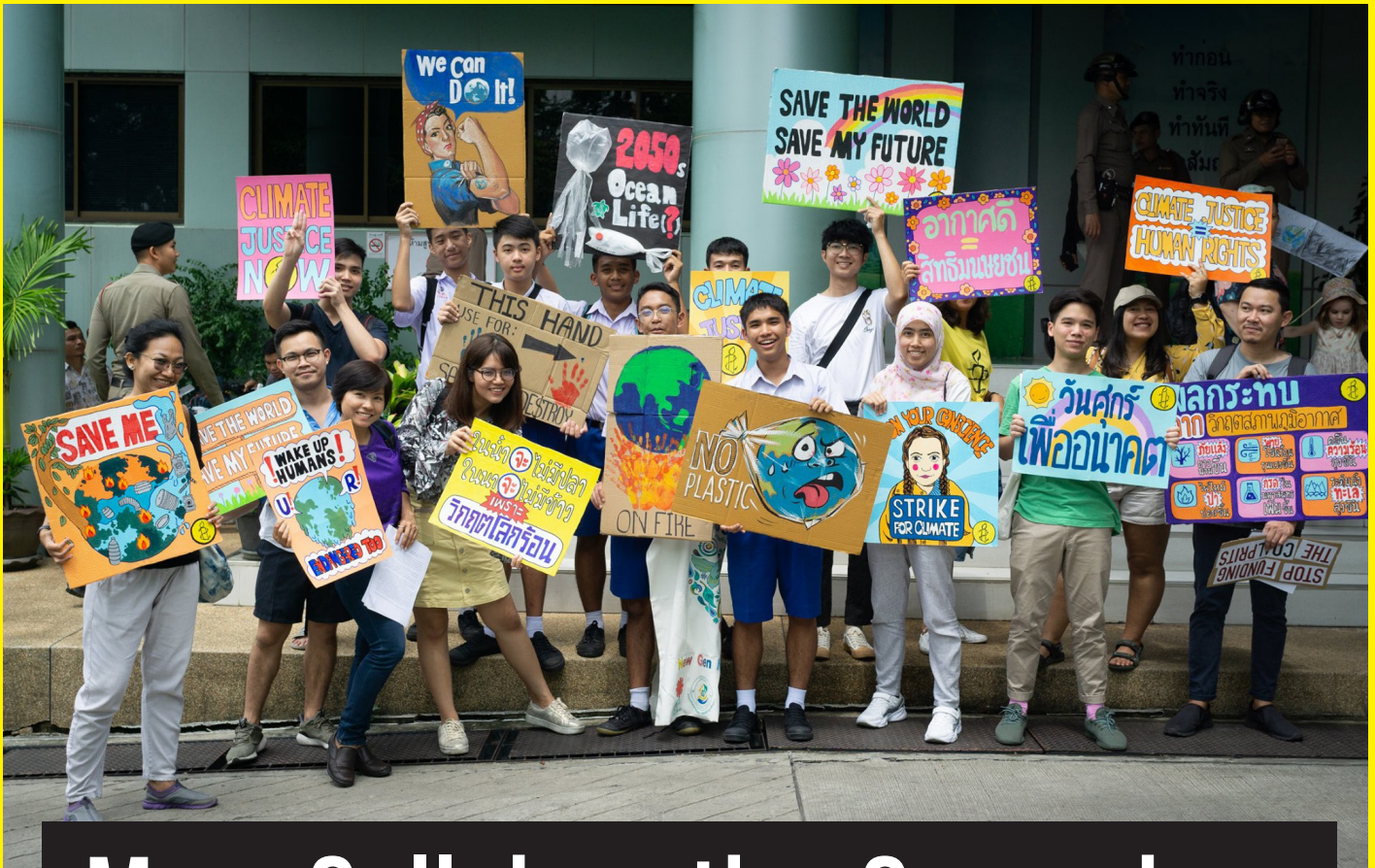
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our

**HUMAN RIGHTS  
CAMPAIGNS**





# More Collaborative Campaigns

Leading and supporting movements to drive human rights impact.

## Summary

Amnesty International Thailand had led and supported various campaigns on a number of topics including climate change, one of the most prominent human rights issues of recent years. On 20th September 2019, Amnesty took part in the climate strike Fridays for Future in Bangkok, Thailand.

Over 200 participants, mostly students from schools and universities, attended the march to the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment. Youth representatives presented a letter to the ministry, calling for the Thai government to take urgent measures to address the issues of climate change. The Fridays for Future climate strike in Thailand had taken place twice earlier in the year in March and May 2019. It is one of the global climate strikes that had been inspired by climate change activist, Greta Thunberg, whom was honoured with Amnesty's Ambassador of Conscience Award in Washington D.C., USA, ahead of the Peoples' Summit on Climate, Rights, and Human Survival which took place in New York in September 2019.



# Human Rights Movement

A vibrant year of Amnesty movement in Thailand.

## Summary

Amnesty International is a global movement of more than 7 million people who take injustice personally. In Thailand, our supporter base, although comparatively small to those in other countries – is growing each year and is ever as active in contributing to the human rights movement in the country. In 2019, Amnesty International Thailand had 450 donors, 823 members, and over 1000 supporters. Amnesty's members and supporters actively engaged in our work by attending our public events and supporting our human rights campaigns. During June and July 2019, members and supporters also provided direct inputs into Amnesty's development of our new global strategy which will be implemented between 2021 to 2028 – through a number of surveys and consultation workshops conducted. Last year, seed funds were provided for a diverse range of individuals and groups including the 1448 For All, a network pushing for marriage equality in Thailand. Amnesty also continued in our engagement with youth through a number of activities such as Writers That Matter – a workshop aimed at inspiring young writers to learn about human rights and creating content for change.



# Your Contributions to Human Rights

Engaging with our supporters to maximise our impact.



## Amnesty's Next Global Strategy

In 2019, Amnesty International Thailand conducted a series of consultation workshops with our stakeholders to contribute to the development of our new global strategy which will be implemented from 2021 to 2028. 60 participants including our board, staff, supporters, and activists, participated in the process which took place between June and July last year.

## Exchanging Ideas for Our Work

**Left:** Our supporters participated in a consultation workshop to provide their inputs for Amnesty's new global strategy.

Amnesty International Thailand has 450 donors, 823 members, and over 1000 supporters.

In 2019, the total of 2,306,558.46 baht was fundraised in Thailand to support our human rights work.

8 Seed Funds given to our supporters to support their human rights work and multiply our impact.



## Human Rights Conversations

**Above:** A volunteer guided guests through our exhibition at the event Be My Guest.

**Left:** A creative activity funded by Amnesty to commemorate 30 years of the Tiananmen Square Protests in 1989.



**MORE INCLUSIVE**

**is**

**our**

**HUMAN RIGHTS  
MOVEMENT**

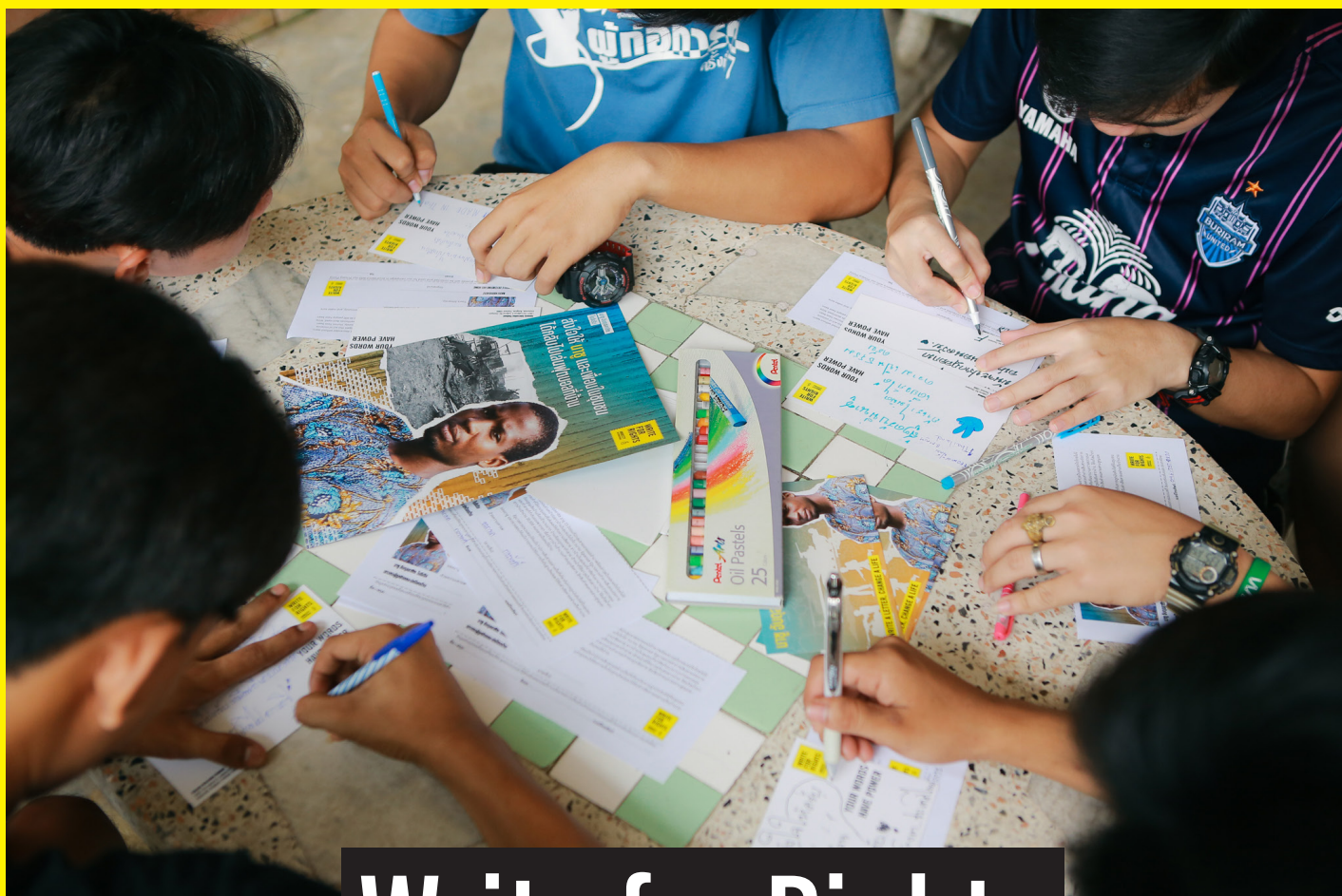


# Rise of Melodies

The year's biggest fundraising event for human rights.

## Summary

On 19th December 2019, Amnesty International Thailand hosted a fundraising concert at River City Bangkok. The sole proceeds from the ticket sales contributed to the publishing of 70,000 mini-booklets containing the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) – to be distributed in communities, schools and universities across Thailand. The concert received over 120 attendees and raised a total sum of 123,319.46 baht. The music was provided by the non-profit band, the IHS World Orchestra. Opening acts by bands of young musicians from Harrow International School and Mahidol University's College of Music warmed up the audience before the orchestra took to the stage. Furthermore, the attendees were able to take part in Amnesty's campaigns on the side of the main stage, including our biggest annual campaign, Write for Rights, while enjoying marvellous food, drinks, and music on what was an unforgettable night to wrap up another year of our human rights work.



# Write for Rights

Amnesty's biggest, annual global campaign.

## Summary

Write for Rights is Amnesty International's global letter-writing campaign which takes place annually. Amnesty supporters around the world would write millions of letters for those whose basic human rights are being violated, calling for their respective governments or those in power, to immediately protect these individuals. And it is not just letters – it could be petitions, emails, Tweets, Facebook posts, photos, or postcards.

In 2019, Amnesty International Thailand actively worked on the cases of Yasaman Aryani, Yiliyasijiang Reheman, Nasu Abdulaziz, Sarah Mardini and Seán Binder. These young people have stepped up to fight for human rights in their countries but had faced terrible violations as a result. In Thailand, Amnesty collected a total of 25,146 petitions and postcards, among other 'actions' for all the cases – surpassing the previous year's record for the campaign. Amnesty continually engaged with students through our human rights education project where it had received enormous support and interest, as young people in Thailand could directly help the lives of young people in other countries. Amnesty also engaged widely with our members and supporters to help raise awareness of these cases and their related human rights issues.



# Write a Letter, Change a Life

Our supporters' role in Write for Rights 2019.

## Raising Awareness

To spread the stories of the cases for Write for Rights, Amnesty promoted the campaign by hosting public events and collaborated with partner organisations. Amnesty held Write for Rights activities and events in diverse communities across the country at exhibitions, schools, universities, and festivals. Amnesty also provided seed fund for our supporters to work on the campaign.



## Working with Our Supporters

**Above:** Amnesty staff and volunteers set up a Write for Rights booth at an event in Bangkok, Thailand.

A total of  
25,146 actions  
collected including  
petitions and  
postcards  
for the cases.

Approximately  
5255 students  
took part in Write  
for Rights 2019  
through Amnesty's  
human rights  
education  
classes.

Amnesty also  
promoted Write  
for Rights on online  
platforms such as  
Facebook, Instagram,  
and YouTube to  
engage with the  
Thai public.



## A Campaign Driven by Young People

**Right:** Members of Amnesty International Thailand's Youth Power Action Network promoted Write for Rights.

**Above:** A Write for Rights booth at Sam Praeng festival in Bangkok, Thailand.



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