

# WRITE FOR RIGHTS 2018

Sometimes a letter can change someone's life. That's the premise of Write for Rights, Amnesty's global letter-writing campaign. We've been doing it for 15 years and today, it's the world's biggest human rights event.

Every December, Amnesty supporters across the globe will write millions of letters for those whose basic human rights are being attacked. They are people like you, continuing a long tradition of writing letters to right some of the world's biggest wrongs.

And it's not just letters – it could be petitions, emails, Tweets, Facebook posts, photos, postcards. Your words really can change lives. Join us.



**NI YULAN / CHINA: NO MORE HARASSMENT BY POLICE.**

Ni Yulan has faced nearly 20 years of harassment, detention, evictions, and surveillance for championing housing rights. The police once tortured her so brutally, she was left with broken feet, smashed kneecaps and confined to a wheelchair for life. Since her release, Ni

Yulan and her family have been repeatedly evicted from their homes or prevented from renting them.

Since her last move, however, police intimidation has stopped and Ni Yulan has stressed that international involvement in her case has contributed to this improvement.

**GOOD NEWS**

*You are a manifestation of the global support I needed, to rewrite a history of wrong and I am thankful that Nakiea's story resonated sufficiently with you; allowing me to become the beneficiary of your support; commitment and hospitality. You have made the journey manageable ... and provided the web of support required in this change process.*

Shackelia Jackson, who lost her brother Nakiea when police shot him dead, is fighting for justice in Jamaica.



More Information and all actions for 2018: [regionwien.amnesty.at](http://regionwien.amnesty.at)

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3. – 17. Dezember 2018

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## WRITE FOR RIGHTS

## Write a letter, change a life

“Your generous support has not only helped me but also advanced China’s human rights.”

Ni Yulan, housing activist in China



**BRAZIL - MARIELLE FRANCO: POPULAR CITY COUNCILLOR KILLED**

On 14 March 2018, human rights defender Marielle Franco was shot dead in her car together with her driver, Anderson Gomes. She was a highly respected city councillor who stood up for the rights of LGBTI people, black women and young people and condemned unlawful killings by the police.



**INDIA - PAVITRI MANJHI: ADIVASI HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDER UNDER THREAT**

Pavitri Manjhi is part of an Adivasi indigenous community who were forced to sell their land to make way for two power plants. As head of a village council, she filed nearly 100 formal complaints. In return, she has been repeatedly harassed and pressured to withdraw the complaints. .



**IRAN - ATENA DAEMI: HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDER IN PRISON**

Atena Daemi is serving a seven-year prison sentence for peaceful activism, including charges related to distributing anti-death penalty leaflets and posts on social media criticising Iran’s execution record and calling for human rights for women and children. She is a prisoner of conscience.



**KENYA - SENGWER INDIGENOUS PEOPLE: FORCED EVICTIONS**

Members of the Sengwer community is being violently evicted from their ancestral land in the Embobut Forest. In the name of “conversation”, forest guards and police have burned an estimated 2,600 houses since 2012, making some 4,600 people homeless.



**KYRGYZSTAN - GULZAR DUISHENOVA: HANDICAPPED PEOPLE DISCRIMINATED**

Following an accident in 2002, Gulzar Duishenova has lost movement of her legs. In her daily life, she has been facing constant barriers, such as to buildings and public transport. She has made it her life’s mission to ensure people with disabilities can live with dignity.



**MOROCCO - NAWAL BENAISSA: SOCIAL ACTIVIST HARASSED**

Nawal Benaissa joined the movement “Hirak” in the Rif region to call for social justice and better health care in her region. She participated in peaceful protests and campaigned on social media. She has been harassed by repeated arrests.



**SOUTH AFRICA - NONHLE MBUTHUMA: FIGHTING AGAINST A MINING COMPANY**

Nonhle Mbuthuma is leading a fight for her community against a mining company which wants to mine titanium on their ancestral land. She has been continuously intimidated and threatened and even survived an attempt to kill her.



**UKRAINE - VITALINA KOVAL: ATTACKED BY FAR-RIGHT GROUP**

On 8 March 2018, Vitalina Koval organised a demonstration for women’s and LGBTI rights. A group shouted insults and hurled red paint. The attacks are part of a wider surge in violence and intimidation by far-right groups in Ukraine.



**VENEZUELA - GERALDINE CHACÓN: SUPPORTER OF AT-RISK YOUTH**

Geraldine Chacón, lawyer and director of an NGO working with at-risk youth, was arrested in February 2018. After four months jailed in appalling conditions, she was conditionally released. She she could be arrested again at any time.



**VIET NAM: BLOGGER RELEASED.**

Blogger Mẹ Năm (“Mother Mushroom”) was released on Oct 17 after two years in prison. She has advocated for human rights and justice for more than 10 years. *Mẹ Năm’s case was originally chosen as one of Amnesty’s 2018 Write for Rights cases.*