

Alexander Koniuk  
Prosecutor General of the Republic of Belarus  
Internatsionalnaya Str. 22  
220030 Minsk  
BELARUS

Dear Prosecutor General,

Emil Ostrovko was only 17 years old when he received a 10-year prison sentence for drug trafficking, later reduced to eight years. Emil had worked after school as a courier for an online company. His employer told him that the parcels he was delivering contained legal smoking mixtures – it was a lie; he was delivering illegal drugs. Investigators never looked for the owner of the company, or anyone else. Only Emil was prosecuted.

I urge you to immediately release Emil, clear his criminal record and ensure no children are imprisoned for minor, non-violent drug offences.

Yours sincerely,

Prime Minister of Canada  
80 Wellington Street  
Ottawa, Ontario  
K1A 0A2  
KANADA

Dear Prime Minister,

The Indigenous Anishinaabe community of Grassy Narrows, Ontario, has been hard-hit by mercury poisoning. The terrible impacts of toxic mercury dumped into the English and Wabigoon River system in the 1960s are still seen today.

Because of government inaction, generations of young people have grown up with devastating health problems and the loss of their cultural traditions.

In 2017, the federal government promised to deal with the mercury crisis “once and for all” – now is the time to make good on that promise.

Yours sincerely,

Xi Jinping  
President of the People's Republic of China  
Zhongnanhai  
Xichangan'jie, Xichengqu  
Beijing, Shi 100017  
VOLKSREPUBLIK CHINA

Dear President,

In 2017, Yiliyasijiang Reheman was studying at a university in Egypt and looking after his growing family. Then, in July of that year, people from your government pressured the Egyptian government to round up hundreds of Uyghur people in Egypt. It is likely that Yiliyasijiang Reheman is now in one of your country's secret internment camps, where numerous human rights violations are taking place.

I urge you to release Yiliyasijiang Reheman immediately and unconditionally and return him to his family.

Yours sincerely,

Public Prosecutor Nabil Sadek  
Office of the Public Prosecutor  
Madinat al-Rehab  
Cairo  
ÄGYPTEN

Dear Sir,

I am concerned for the life and safety of human rights researcher, Ibrahim Ezz El-Din. On 11 June 2019, he was arrested by security officers in plain clothes.

Ibrahim Ezz El-Din is the fifth person linked with his organisation, the Egyptian Commission for Rights and Freedoms, to have been arrested in just three years.

I urge you to reveal where Ibrahim Ezz El-Din is, give him access to his family and lawyers and ensure that he is protected from torture and mistreatment. I call on you to release him unless he is charged with an internationally recognized crime.

Yours sincerely,

Minister of Citizen Protection  
Michalis Chrisochoidis  
Ministry of Citizen Protection  
P. Kanellopoulou 4, 101 77  
Athens  
GRIECHENLAND

Dear Minister,

Rescue workers Sarah Mardini and Seán Binder, who volunteered for a sea search and rescue organization in Lesvos and helped people in danger at sea, ended up in prison charged with spying, people smuggling and belonging to a criminal organization, until they were released on bail in December 2018 while awaiting trial.

No government should ever criminalize people helping refugees, instead of doing more to protect a refugee's right to find a safe place to live.

Please ensure that all charges against Sarah Mardini and Seán Binder are immediately dropped. I also call on you to acknowledge the legitimacy of humanitarian actions and the activities carried out by people acting in defence of refugee and migrant rights.

Yours sincerely,

Head of the Judiciary  
Ebrahim Raisi  
c/o Permanent Mission of Iran to the UN  
Chemin du Petit-Saconnex 28  
1209 Geneva  
SCHWEIZ

Dear Mr. Raisi,

Yasaman Aryani was sentenced to 16 years in prison for campaigning against discriminatory forced veiling laws. Yasaman Aryani and also her mother Monireh Arabshahi were arrested in April 2019 in relation to a video that showed them without headscarves on a women-only train handing out flowers on International Women's Day.

I urge you to release Yasaman Aryani and her mother Monireh Arabshahi immediately and unconditionally as they are prisoners of conscience, jailed solely for their human rights work. Until they are released, please ensure they have regular contact with a lawyer of their choosing. I also urge you to stop criminalizing the work of women's rights defenders and abolish forced veiling laws.

Yours sincerely,

Lic. Mauricio Vila Dosal  
Governor of Yucatán State  
Palacio de Gobierno Calle 61 x 60 y 62  
Col. Centro, C.P. 97000  
Mérida, Yucatán  
MEXIKO

Dear Governor,

José Adrián was walking home from school when he stumbled on the aftermath of a clash between a group of youths that ended up damaging a police car. Aged just 14 at the time, he was arrested with no explanation. The police never called his parents. They took him to the police station and tortured him.

I urge you to ensure that José Adrián gets justice and full reparations for the human rights violations he has suffered.

Yours sincerely,

H.E. Babajide Olusola Sanwo-Olu  
Governor of Lagos State  
Governor's Office  
Ikeja, Lagos State  
NIGERIA

Dear Sir,

Nasu Abdulaziz was 23 when men with guns and in bulldozers descended without warning on his community of Otodo Gbame, Lagos. Homes have been burned down, families have been shot at, tear gas has been used and livelihoods destroyed. Nine people are believed to have been killed, another 15 are still missing, and 30,000 people have been left homeless.

I call on you to ensure that a full investigation into the forced eviction of Nasu's community is conducted and that everyone is resettled and given full compensation.

Yours sincerely,



President Rodrigo R. Duterte  
President of the Philippines  
Malacañang Complex  
J.P. Laurel Street  
San Miguel, Manila 1005  
PHILIPPINEN

Dear President,

Marinel Sumook Ubaldo survived the deadly Typhoon Yolanda in 2013 to become a leading youth activist, dedicated to ensuring the Philippine government and governments around the world confront climate change and tackle its effects on her community.

Please support her cause by ensuring that you do all you can to enable the residents of Matarinao village in Salcedo, Eastern Samar and other vulnerable communities in the Philippines to live in decent conditions, including having access to enough food, water, housing, electricity and toilets.

Yours sincerely,

Permanent Mission of the  
Republic of South Sudan to the United Nations  
336 East 45th Street, 5th Floor  
New York, NY 10017  
USA

Dear Ambassador,

I am writing in concern for Magai Matiop Ngong, a 17-year-old on death row in South Sudan. He was 15 years old when he was convicted of the murder of his cousin and sentenced to death by hanging. During his trial, Magai Matiop Ngong told the judge that his cousin's death was an accident. He did not have a lawyer during his trial.

Anyone below 18 at the time they were involved in a crime must not be sentenced to death, let alone be executed. The use of the death penalty against youth is strictly prohibited by Section 21(2) of the Transitional Constitution of the Republic of South Sudan, 2011, and under international human rights law (Article 37(a) of the Convention on the Rights of a Child), to which South Sudan is a party.

I urge to cancel the death sentence of Magai Matiop Ngong.

Yours sincerely,