



# Collaborative Group 7: Amnesty International Detroit



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## Amnesty International

- **History**
  - Amnesty International (AI) originated when two Portuguese students were unjustly imprisoned for raising a toast to freedom.
  - Their story was published, and thousands of individuals wrote letters to government officials, demonstrating the power of collective action.
  - Since then, AI has released tens of thousands of wrongly imprisoned individuals, has grown to encompass 7 million members in 150 countries, and was awarded the 1977 Nobel Peace Prize for their actions.
- **Vision**
  - AI is independent of any government, political ideology, economic interest, or religion.
  - Its vision is a world in which every person enjoys all of the human rights enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other international human rights standards.
- **Mission**
  - To achieve its vision, AI sees it as its mission to undertake research and take action focused on preventing and ending grave abuses of human rights. AI carries out a wide range of educational activities, promoting the values contained in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other international agreed human rights standards.
- **Values**
  - AI is a global movement of seven million members, supporters and activists across the world standing up for humanity and human rights. AI's purpose is to protect individuals wherever justice, fairness, freedom, and truth are denied. With these values at our heart, AI has stopped torture, freed prisoners, prevented executions, and saved homes.

AMNESTY  
INTERNATIONAL



## Our Internship Work

### Goals:

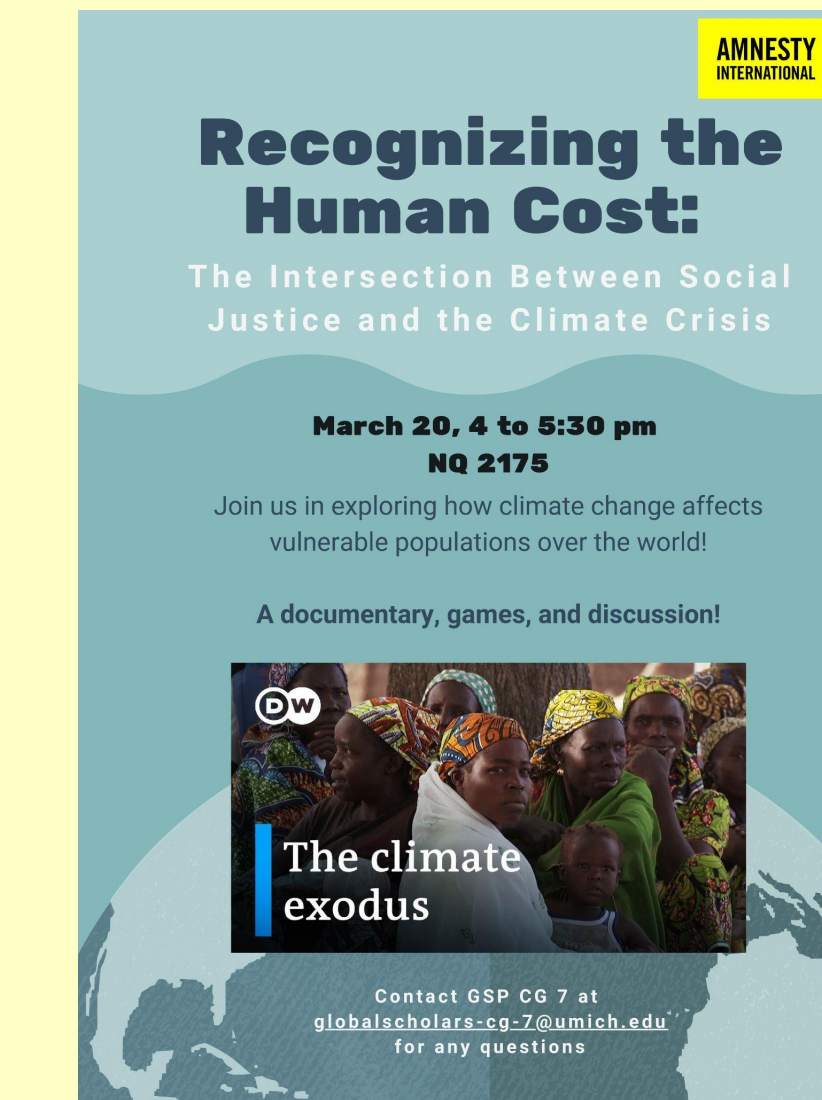
1. To understand AI purposes and methods that would help with the rest of our projects.
2. To be part of the force in releasing unfairly imprisoned individuals. We furthered this goal by sharing the W4R campaigns with GSP members, helping us receive many signatures to add to our letters of protest.
3. Encourage us to familiarize other students and faculty with Amnesty and a human rights issue at an informal level.
4. Enabling us to take action for the human rights of those unfairly imprisoned.
5. Bring a new perspective to AI's work and possibly new improvements. This would also be beneficial to us as students, furthering our own human rights knowledge and activism.

### Projects:

1. The completion of an "Introductory Worksheet," after reviewing the website for the USA sector for Amnesty International (AI).
2. Write for Rights (W4R) campaign.
3. Plan a public event on an AI issue. We decided to show a documentary about the relationship between climate change and refugees, followed by discussions on how the participants' views changed or not.
4. Responded individually to three Urgent Action (UA) cases.
5. Research and write a paper individually about one issue from "Our Core Work" on the Amnesty International USA website.



This is us with our wonderful supervisors, Ken and Geraldine Grunow!



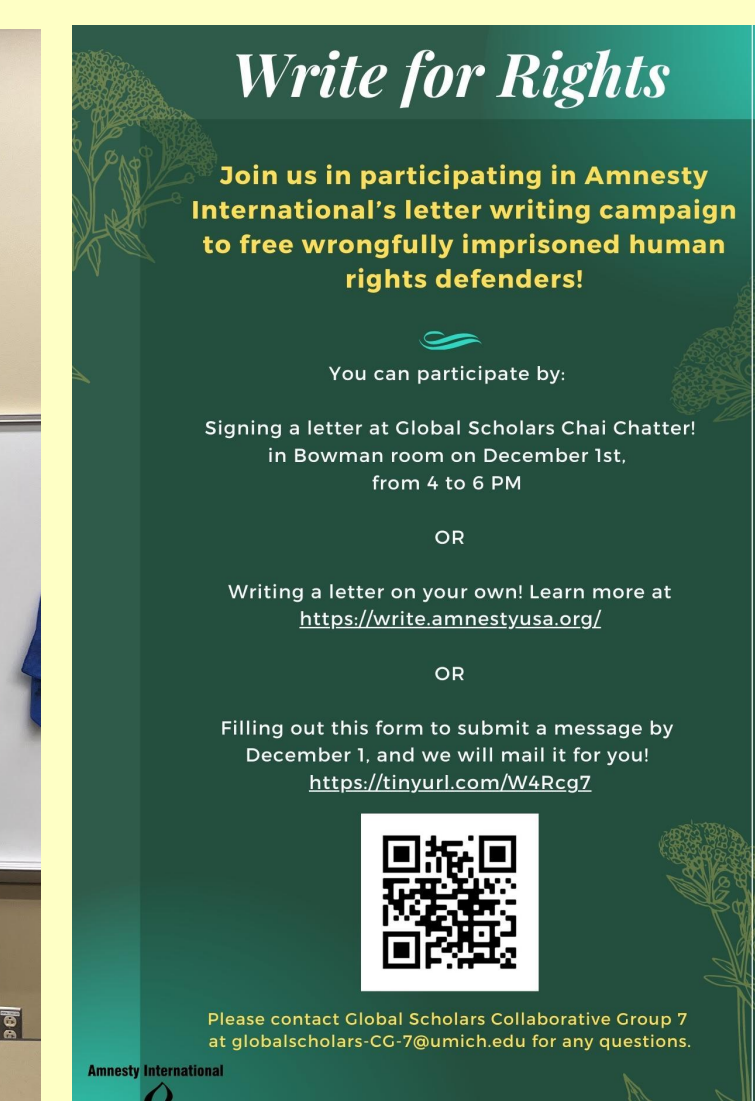
The poster we created for our event!



Everyone that attended "Recognizing the Human Cost: The Intersection Between Social Justice and the Climate Crisis!"



This is us with the letters we wrote for the Write for Rights campaign and a poster we created to promote it!



## Reflections

### What we learned:

- **Improved and developed our skills in...**
  - Communication and organization to achieve shared goals and learn from each other
  - Researching and finding credible information about human rights and social justice issues
  - Event planning for campaigns, including logistics and advertising
- **Broadened our knowledge in...**
  - Social justice campaigns and human rights work
  - Climate justice efforts and impact
  - Strategies for succeeding as a team
- **Affected our attitudes towards...**
  - Sense of hope for a better world as inspired by human rights defenders
  - Greater appreciation for Amnesty International and other NGOs that take a stance against injustice
  - Confidence in the impact that we can have as part of a collective action in making a difference

### How we were impacted:

- **How we go about creating change...**
  - Uniting with others who have similar goals/interests to effectively and quickly make a difference
  - Gained the confidence and skills necessary to create change
- **Our experiences have inspired us to continue fighting for human rights in the future**

## References

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