

Establishment

- Amnesty International was established in 1961 after a British lawyer, Peter Benenson, read a story about two Portuguese students who were jailed for toasting their glasses to freedom.
- Encouraged people to write letters on the behalf of people imprisoned for exercising human rights and it led to thousands of people writing letters to government leaders.
- These groups of letter-writes in different countries became the backbone of the organization that became Amnesty International.

Mission

Amnesty International's vision is of 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 instruments.** In pursuit of this vision, Amnesty International's mission is to **undertake research and action focused on preventing and ending grave abuses of these rights.**



Goals and Tasks

- 1) We work to protect people wherever justice, freedom, truth, and dignity are denied.
- 2) When human rights are denied, Amnesty International finds the facts, exposes what's happening, and rallies people together to force governments and others to respect everyone's human rights.
- 3) Amnesty hold campaigns through a bunch of different format in order to address different global issues. The format includes write for rights, holding monthly meeting as information sessions to address issues, etc.

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL



CG2: Allyson Dobrowalski, Chloe Halprin, Janaye Jones, Lance Ying, Lily Antor, Lisbon Wu, Madeleine Bahorski, Adé Ijidakinro

What We Accomplished

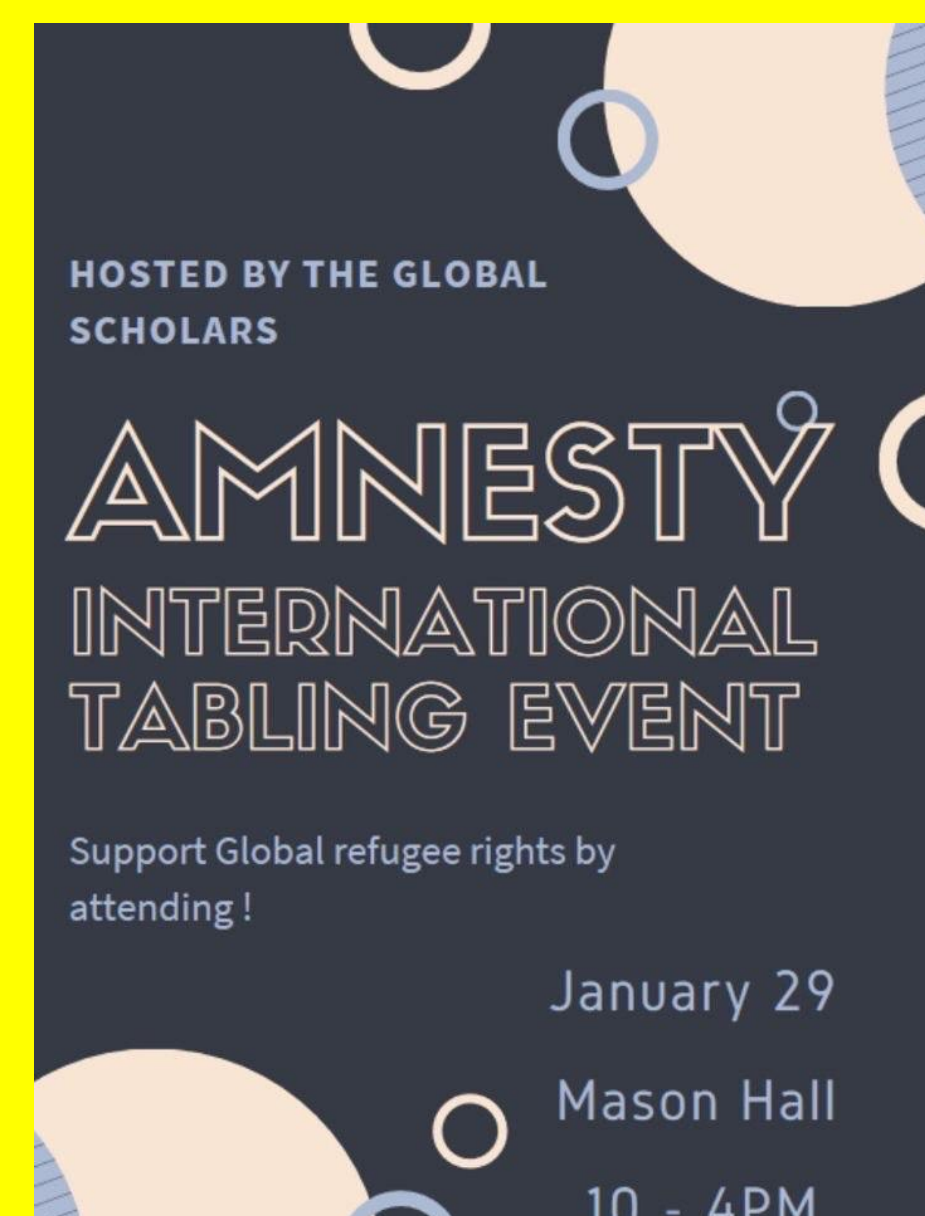


Write for Rights & Urgent Actions

Write for Rights is considered the organization's premier letter-writing campaign, as it features 10 individual case appeals from around the world. We engaged in a similar project during the second semester by once again writing three letters, this time chosen from AI's list of "Urgent Actions" - cases that are under pressing circumstances and need action right away.

Advocacy

Tabled in Mason Hall in order to educate and engage in dialogue with the campus community about the global refugee crisis.



Research

We each choose a topic from one of AI's priority issues to write about for an analysis paper in which we explored root causes, what steps AI was taking to address them, and why it matters to us.



Promoted AI's mission via social media outreach for Human Rights Day

Impact

- Tabling in Mason Hall gave us the chance to have conversations with other students about the mission of Amnesty International and the impacts if refugees in our community.
- The impact of our Urgent Action and Write for Rights letters will likely remain unknown, however, the impact on the writer was educational and empathy-evoking

Future Plans

Our biggest takeaways...

- Increased knowledge of AI focus issues and social justice issues more broadly
 - Write for Rights/Urgent Action → criminal justice knowledge
 - Campus outreach/individual research → AI USA priority issues
- Witnessing the process of a truly grassroots driven international project
 - Local action → global change
- Experience with professional communication, teamwork, and long-term project execution

In the future...

- Strive to use the knowledge of AI issues and professional skills in our careers and political lives
- Start and grow our new AI chapter on this campus, and/or work with other orgs on these causes!