

Brazilian President
Praça dos Três Poderes, Palácio do Planalto
Brasília (DF)
CEP 70150-900
Brazil

Dear President,

Today, I demand that you ensure a prompt, thorough, impartial and independent investigation into the killing of human rights defender Marielle Franco.

This must identify both the shooters and the people who ordered her killing, as well as the motivation for the crime. All those responsible must be brought to justice through a fair trial that meets international standards.

I also urge you to take all necessary measures to prevent further threats and attacks against human rights defenders like Marielle, including by restoring the programme of protection for human rights defenders in Brazil.

Yours sincerely,

Director General of Police, Chhattisgarh,
Police Headquarters
Naya Raipur,
Chhattisgarh,
India – 492001

Dear Sir,

Pavitri Manjhi, the Adivasi leader of the Bhengari village council in Chhattisgarh, faces continued threats, intimidation and harassment for her peaceful activism. She is a human rights defender, protesting the actions of two private companies who allegedly defrauded Indigenous Adivasis of their land in Raigarh district.

I urge you to consult with Pavitri Manjhi and other Adivasi villagers in order to give them adequate security and protect them from further harassment.

I also urge you to investigate complaints of the harassment of Adivasi villagers and of the unlawful dispossession of land and bring those responsible to justice.

Yours sincerely,

Head of the Judiciary Ayatollah Sadegh Larijani
c/o Permanent Mission of Iran to the United Nations in Geneva
Chemin du Petit-Saconnex 28
1209 Geneva
Switzerland

Your Excellency,

I urge you to release Atena Daemi immediately and unconditionally, and to quash her sentence and conviction. She is a human rights defender who has done nothing more than peacefully campaign against the use of the death penalty in Iran.

She is a prisoner of conscience who has been imprisoned for seven years solely for peacefully exercising her right to freedom of expression, association and assembly.

Atena Daemi has been in poor health while imprisoned. Therefore, I call on you to ensure that she is granted access to the specialized medical care she requires outside prison. She must be released today.

Yours sincerely,

Uhuru Kenyatta
President of Kenya
Harambee House
PO Box 62345 - 00200 Nairobi
Harambee Avenue, Nairobi, Kenya

Your Excellency,

I urge you to remove all restrictions so the Sengwer people can live freely and peacefully on their ancestral land in Embobut Forest. In particular, I urge you to stop the house burnings, arrests and forced evictions.

I also urge you to engage with them and obtain their consent for a new approach to conservation, which recognises their role as owners and custodians of the forest and your partners in protecting the environment.

Yours sincerely,

Speaker of Parliament
Chui Prospekti, 205
Bishkek
Kyrgyzstan 720000

Dear Speaker,

I urge you to listen to the concerns of Gulzar Duishenova and other defenders of the rights of people with disabilities and to help ratify the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities as soon as possible.

People with disabilities face extreme levels of discrimination in Kyrgyzstan that affect women in particular, and the implementation of legislation addressing this discrimination should be a priority, including improving access to health, buildings, jobs and public transport.

Yours sincerely,

Head of Government
Department of the Head of Government
Palais Royal Touarga
Rabat, Morocco

Excellency,

Nawal Benaissa is a 37-year-old human rights defender who has done nothing more than exercise her rights to freedom of expression and assembly.

Yet since June 2017 she has faced harassment by security forces, surveillance and repeated arbitrary arrest, just for speaking out for peaceful change in the Rif, northern Morocco. A court in Al Hoceima, her native city, served her with a 10-month suspended sentence once again purely in relation to her peaceful and legitimate campaigning.

I urge you to do all in your power to end the harassment of Nawal Benaissa and her family, so she can be free to campaign for social justice for her community.

Yours sincerely,

Cyril Ramaphosa
President of the Republic of South Africa
Union Buildings
Private Bag X1000
Pretoria, South Africa
0001

Mr. President,

I urge you and your government to protect Nonhle Mbuthuma, the Amadiba community leader in the Eastern Cape. She is a peaceful human rights defender standing up for her community to protect the land they rely on.

Please also conduct a full and proper investigations into the harassment and intimidation targeted at her and other activists as they stand up to the actions of the mining company Transworld Energy and Mineral Resources (TEM).

Yours sincerely,

Minister of Interior
Vul. Akademika Bohomoltsa, 10
Kyiv, 01601
Ukraine

Dear Minister,

I urge you to publicly recognise and support the vital work of Vitalina Koval and others like her who peacefully defend the rights of women and LGBTI people in Ukraine. Please ensure they can exercise their right to freedom of expression and assembly without fear of attacks and reprisals.

I also urge you to ensure prompt, effective and impartial investigations are carried out into all attacks on activists by far-right groups which have been on the rise in Ukraine since 2017. And to ensure that any discriminatory motives are taken into account during the investigation. Those responsible for the attacks must be brought to justice.

Yours sincerely,

Mr. Thomas H. Goldberger
Chief of Mission and Chargé d'Affaires
U.S. Embassy Cairo
5 Tawfik Diab Street
Garden City, Cairo
Egypt

Dear Mr. Goldberger,

I urge you to do everything in your power to expedite processing for the resettlement of Awad, a human rights defender who fled Sudan in 2012 for Egypt. She faces urgent protection needs.

Despite her UNHCR refugee status, Egyptian authorities have threatened to deport Awad back to Sudan because of her continuing human rights activism. Sudanese authorities have also directly threatened Awad while in Egypt for her work defending human rights. She founded the Sudanese Women Human Rights Project before she fled Sudan, and continues her advocacy on human rights in Sudan.

Please help Awad resettle to safety in the United States as soon as possible to protect her from further threats to her safety in Egypt and the risk of deportation to Sudan, where she would be in jeopardy because of her human rights activism.

Yours sincerely,

Fiscal General de la República
C/O Embassy of Venezuela
1099 30th Street, NW
Washington DC 20007

Señor Fiscal General / Mr Attorney General,

I urge you to formally close the case against Geraldine Chacón and grant her unconditional freedom. She is a peaceful human rights defender who has not advocated violence at any stage.

Geraldine was arrested, detained in appalling conditions for four months and intimidated solely on the basis of her peaceful work with young people in Caracas.

Though conditionally released in June 2018, she can't leave the country and could be arrested again at any time for no reason. A passionate and active young member of society should be celebrated, not silenced.

Yours sincerely,

GOOD NEWS! Me Nam was released in Vietnam on October 17th, 2018! No further action on her case is requested at this time.

Prime Minister
Nguyen Xuan Phuc
Prime Minister's Office
Ha Noi
Vietnam

Dear Prime Minister,

I urge you to release Nguyen Ngoc Nhu Quynh, otherwise known as Me Nam, immediately and unconditionally. She is a prisoner of conscience who is being held solely for her peaceful activities defending and promoting human rights.

I also urge you to end the arbitrary arrests and convictions of peaceful human rights defenders and activists under the vague pretext of "national security". Me Nam and others are simply exercising their rights to freedom of expression, association and peaceful assembly.

Yours sincerely,