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# CONVICTED FOR PROTECTING THE ENVIRONMENT

Mother Nature Cambodia

📍 Cambodia



យុត្តិធម៌  
ទន្លេ

# CAMBODIA MOTHER NATURE

Cambodia



Chandaravuth Ly, Keoraksmey Phuon, Kunthea Long, Leanghy Yim, Ratha Sun and Ratha Thun share a love of coffee, books and hiking. Above all, they share a deep love for nature. With their campaign group, Mother Nature Cambodia, they have courageously defended the environment from the harmful actions of companies and the government.

In 2015, the group successfully halted the development of a hydroelectric dam which would have resulted in massive deforestation. In 2016, they were behind a ban on sand exports, protecting coastal areas from environmental degradation.

Their commitment to the environment has inspired young people throughout the country. But their activism has come at a high cost. The authorities have repeatedly targeted the group with arrests and prosecutions. In 2020, three of the activists were arrested for peacefully demonstrating against the infilling of a lake. A year later, three more activists were arrested while investigating the pollution of a river.

In June 2024, the activists were sentenced to between six and eight years in prison. Their crime? Protecting the environment they love so dearly. Ratha Sun fled Cambodia to continue their work, but the remaining five activists are enduring harsh prison conditions.

**Demand that the five detained activists are immediately released and all convictions against Mother Nature Cambodia activists are quashed.**

## WRITE TO THE PRIME MINISTER OF CAMBODIA

Demand that the five detained activists are immediately and unconditionally released, and all convictions against Mother Nature Cambodia activists are quashed.

**ADDRESS:** Prime Minister of Cambodia  
c/o Cambodia embassy or consulate in your country, or a country near you  
(Take photos of your letters and post on social media before sending to an embassy or consulate.)

**SALUTATION:** Dear Prime Minister  
**EMAIL:** ocm@cambodia.gov.kh  
**FACEBOOK:** www.facebook.com/p/Hun-Manet-100069511484329/  
**X:** @Dr\_Hunmanet\_PM  
**INSTAGRAM:** dr.hunmanetofcambodia  
**HASHTAGS:** #FreeMotherNatureCambodia, #FreeOurFriends, #W4R25

## SHOW THE MOTHER NATURE CAMBODIA ACTIVISTS THAT YOU'RE WITH THEM

Send your messages of solidarity to show the group that you support them in their fight to protect the environment. You could draw rivers, forests and animals to accompany your messages.

**ADDRESS:** Amnesty International Canada francophone  
Maison du développement durable  
50 Ste Catherine West Street, office 500  
Montréal (Québec) H2X 3V4  
Canada

**FACEBOOK:** www.facebook.com/mothernaturecambodia/  
**X:** @CambodiaMother  
**INSTAGRAM:** mothernaturecambodia  
**HASHTAGS:** #FreeMotherNatureCambodia, #FreeOurFriends, #W4R25



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# ‘FIGHTING TO PROTECT OUR AMAZON, AND YOUR FUTURE’

Guerreras por la Amazonía

📍 Ecuador



# POR LA AMAZONÍA GUERRERAS



## WRITE TO THE PRESIDENT

Demand the Ecuadorian authorities uphold the ruling to eliminate gas flares and ensure the safety of climate defenders.

**ADDRESS:** President of Ecuador  
Palacio de Carondelet  
García Moreno N10-43 entre  
Chile y Espejo  
Quito 170401  
Ecuador

**SALUTATION:** Dear President  
**FACEBOOK:** [www.facebook.com/DanielNoboaOk](https://www.facebook.com/DanielNoboaOk)  
**X:** @DanielNoboaOk  
**INSTAGRAM:** danielnoboaok  
**TIKTOK:** danielnoboaok  
**HASHTAGS:** #EliminaLaMecha, #EnciendeLaVida, #TurnOnLife, #W4R25

*"We are not just activists; we are daughters of the earth, of our communities; we are the warriors of the forest that refuses to die. We are the Amazon that resists the impacts of the oil industry, and for which our communities and our planet are burning."*

The Guerreras por la Amazonía (Warriors for the Amazon) are a group of activists aged 10 to 20 years. They are fighting alongside the Union of People Affected by Texaco's Oil Operations (UDAPT) and the Eliminen los Mecheros, Enciendan la Vida (Remove the Flares, Ignite Life) collective, to protect their communities from the toxic fumes and physical devastation caused by gas flares. Used in the process of extracting oil, gas flares are one of the largest contributors to the climate crisis.

With the support of UDAPT, the Guerreras por la Amazonía joined a lawsuit against the Ecuadorian state in 2020. And won. In 2021, a landmark ruling required the government to eliminate the use of gas flares. Nevertheless, the "fire monsters" continue to burn.

Instead of being celebrated for their bravery, the young defenders face stigma and violent intimidation. Rather than investigating the threats against them, the Ecuadorian authorities told the group that they will only provide them with protection if they stop their activism.

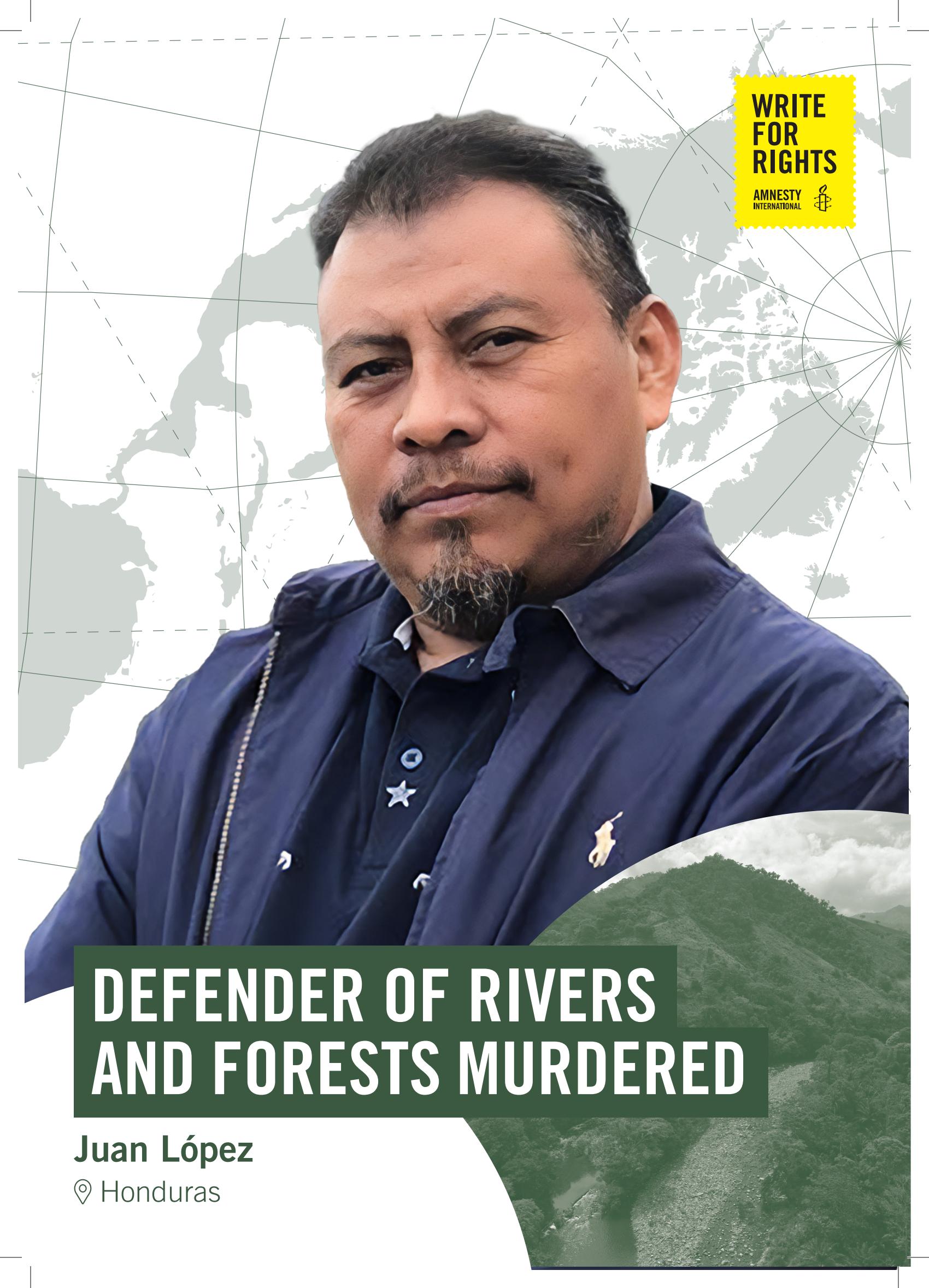
**Call on Ecuador to eliminate gas flares and protect climate defenders.**

## SHOW THE GUERRERAS POR LA AMAZONÍA, UDAPT AND THEIR COMMUNITIES THAT YOU'RE WITH THEM

Send your messages of support to the young climate defenders, letting them know their fight is inspiring action around the world to protect the planet.

**ADDRESS:** Guerreras por la Amazonía  
c/o UDAPT  
Av. Venezuela y Progreso  
Lago Agrio, 210150  
Ecuador

**FACEBOOK:** [www.facebook.com/GuerrerasxAmazonia](https://www.facebook.com/GuerrerasxAmazonia)  
**X:** @GuerrerasxAM  
**INSTAGRAM:** guerrerasxamazonia  
**HASHTAGS:** #EliminaLaMecha, #EnciendeLaVida, #RemoveTheWick, #IgniteLife, #W4R25



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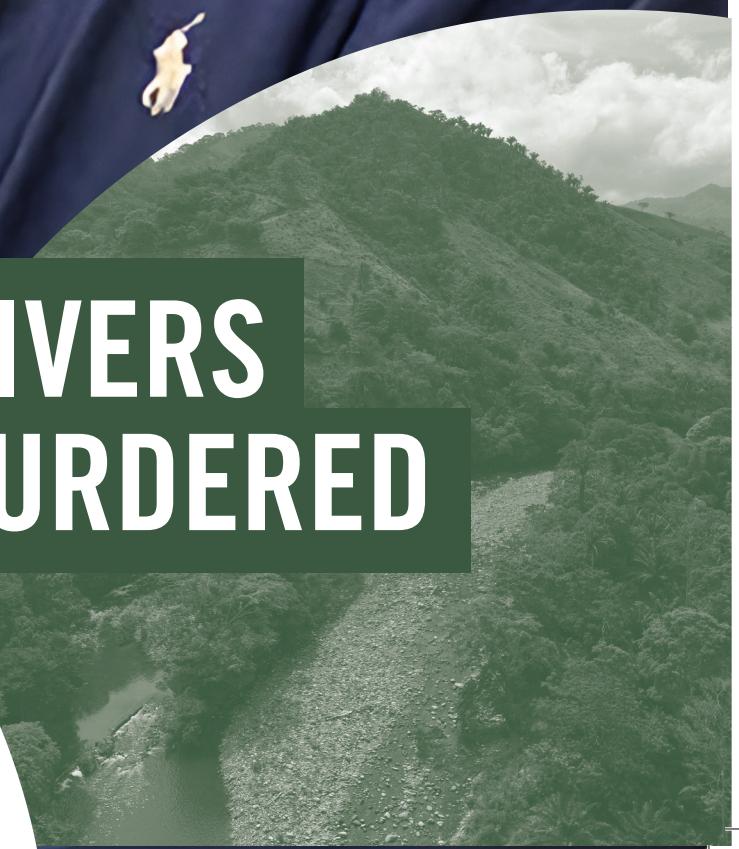
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# DEFENDER OF RIVERS AND FORESTS MURDERED

Juan López

📍 Honduras



# JUAN LÓPEZ



Honduras

Juan López was a loving father and husband. A spiritual leader, he practised his faith by serving his community, always supporting the most vulnerable. He loved chatting with friends over coffee, dancing and spending time by the sea with his family. Friends described him as a dreamer.

Since 2015, Juan tirelessly defended his local environment in northern Honduras from mining and energy projects which have threatened local rivers, forests and the Carlos Escaleras Mejía National Park. Local communities fear that the projects put the surrounding ecosystem and water quality at serious risk.

Juan and fellow activists founded the Tocoa Municipal Committee for the Defence of Common and Public Goods to peacefully challenge the legality of the projects. But their efforts have been met with harassment, threats and criminalization. Many committee members have been arrested and imprisoned. Some have been killed.

On 14 September 2024, Juan was shot dead in his car by a masked gunman as he left church. The alleged shooter and two alleged accomplices have been charged with murder and are being held in pretrial detention. Those who ordered Juan's murder have not been held accountable.

**Demand justice for Juan López.**

## WRITE TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

Demand that they ensure a prompt, independent and impartial investigation into the killing of Juan López to identify all those responsible for the crime, including those who ordered the murder, and to bring them to justice in fair trials.

**ADDRESS:** Attorney General  
Public Prosecutor's Office  
Avenida República Dominicana  
Colonia Lomas del Guijarro  
Tegucigalpa M.D.C  
Honduras

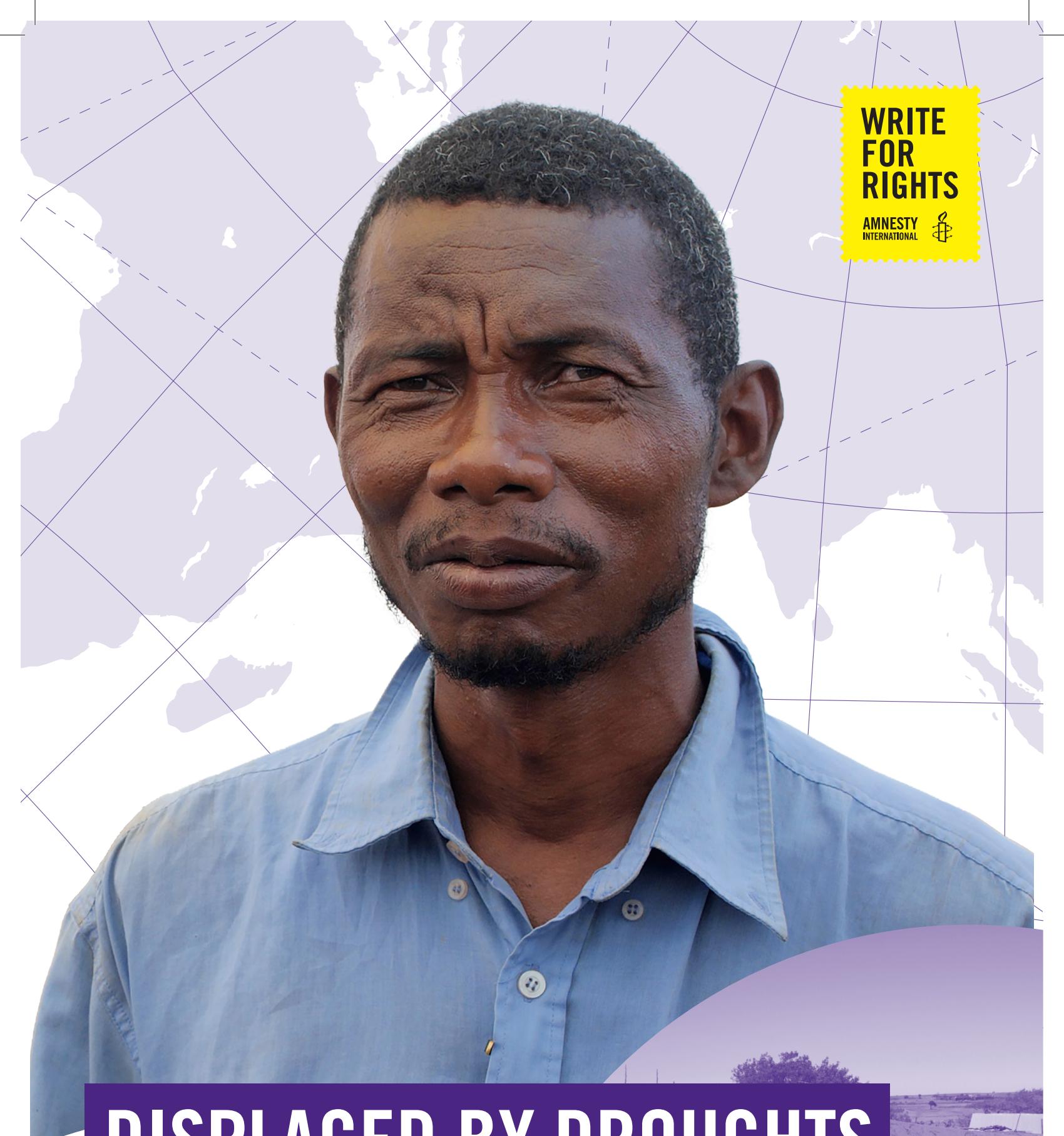
**SALUTATION:** To the attorney general  
**EMAIL:** [fiscaligeneralhnd@gmail.com](mailto:fiscaligeneralhnd@gmail.com) /  
[mprelacionespublicas@gmail.com](mailto:mprelacionespublicas@gmail.com)  
**X:** @MP\_Honduras /  
@johelzelaya  
**HASHTAGS:** #JusticiaParaJuanLópez, #W4R25

## SHOW JUAN'S FAMILY AND COMMUNITY THAT THE WORLD IS WITH THEM

Send messages of solidarity to show Juan's family and community that you support them in their fight for justice. Rivers and nature were so important to Juan – you could include drawings of these alongside your messages.

**ADDRESS:** Family and community of Juan López  
c/o Amnesty International  
Americas Regional Office  
Central America Team  
Calle Luz Saviñón 519  
Colonia del Valle  
Benito Juárez  
03100 Mexico City  
Mexico

**FACEBOOK:** [www.facebook.com/people/Comité-Municipal-en-Defensa-de-los-Bienes-Comunes-y-Públicos/100082713284780/](https://www.facebook.com/people/Comité-Municipal-en-Defensa-de-los-Bienes-Comunes-y-Públicos/100082713284780/)  
**X:** @guapinolre  
**HASHTAGS:** #JusticiaParaJuanLópez, #W4R25



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# DISPLACED BY DROUGHTS AND FACING STARVATION

Damisoa

📍 Madagascar



# DAMISOA



Madagascar

In 2021, Damisoa and his family were forced to leave their home in the Androy region, southern Madagascar. Droughts worsened by climate change meant there wasn't enough food to survive.

After a challenging four-month, 1,500 km journey, they reached Boeny in the northwest, hoping for a better life. But conditions remained harsh. In 2023, they were allocated a tiny 5m<sup>2</sup> hut at a resettlement site. Each rainy season the nearby Kamoro River swells, encircling the site with often fast, crocodile-infested waters. This makes it dangerous for residents to leave. The site's land is barren, and access to food, clean water, and healthcare is limited. In early 2025, Damisoa's newborn niece died after her mother, weakened by hunger and thirst, could no longer breastfeed. As the government-appointed site manager, Damisoa spends much of his time advocating for the site's residents who are living in degrading conditions. However, his pleas have gone unanswered.

People displaced by famine and now living in Boeny, including Damisoa and his fellow residents, urgently need humanitarian assistance. But aid is currently almost exclusively concentrated in drought-stricken southern Madagascar.

**Demand that the government takes urgent steps to address the hunger, homelessness, poor healthcare and other hardships faced by Damisoa and others displaced by drought across Madagascar.**

## WRITE TO THE DIRECTOR GENERAL OF THE NATIONAL OFFICE OF RISK AND DISASTER MANAGEMENT

Call on the authorities to take urgent steps to guarantee the human rights of people displaced and now living in Boeny and across Madagascar. Ask them to actively seek the support of humanitarian agencies and other relevant actors to do this.

**ADDRESS:** Director General  
National Office of Risk  
and Disaster Management  
Avaratra Antanimora Route Mausolée  
Antananarivo 101  
Madagascar

**SALUTATION:** Dear Director General  
**EMAIL:** [bngrc.gov.mg/contact](http://bngrc.gov.mg/contact) &  
[elackandriakaja@yahoo.fr](mailto:elackandriakaja@yahoo.fr)  
**FACEBOOK:** [www.facebook.com/BNGRCMID](http://www.facebook.com/BNGRCMID)  
**X:** @BngrcMada  
**INSTAGRAM:** [bngrc\\_madagascar](http://bngrc_madagascar)  
**HASHTAGS:** #W4R25

## SHOW DAMISOA AND HIS COMMUNITY THAT THE WORLD IS WITH THEM

Send a message of support to Damisoa and his community. Given the language barrier, sending drawings would be great. You could draw plants and flowers, since Damisoa is closely connected to nature through his work.

**ADDRESS:** Damisoa  
c/o Lot 84bis secteur 5 Manjarisoa  
401 Mahajanga I  
Boeny  
Madagascar

**HASHTAGS:** #W4R25



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# LOCKED UP AND BEATEN FOR HIS JOURNALISM

**Sai Zaw Thaike**

📍 Myanmar



# SAI ZAW THAIKE



## WRITE TO THE MYANMAR MILITARY JUNTA

Demand that the military release Sai Zaw Thaik immediately. He has been sentenced to 20 years in jail solely for his work.

**ADDRESS:** Myanmar military junta  
c/o Myanmar embassy or consulate in your country, or a country near you

**SALUTATION:** To the Myanmar military junta  
**EMAIL:** sacministry1234@gmail.com  
[www.sacministry.gov.mm/en/contact-us](http://www.sacministry.gov.mm/en/contact-us)  
[www.seniorgeneralminaunghlaing.com.mm/en/contact/](http://www.seniorgeneralminaunghlaing.com.mm/en/contact/)

Journalism is an extremely dangerous profession in Myanmar. More than 200 journalists have been imprisoned by the military since they took power in 2021. At least seven have reportedly been killed. Media outlets have been banned and forced into exile.

Despite this danger, when Cyclone Mocha slammed into Myanmar in May 2023, photojournalist Sai Zaw Thaik travelled undercover to Rakhine State, determined to report on the devastation.

He embedded himself with a relief team. But after a week there, Sai Zaw was arrested. He was interrogated, beaten and in September 2023, sentenced by a military tribunal to 20 years in prison with hard labour. His trial lasted just one day.

Sai Zaw should be able to report freely. He should also be at home, spending time with his family and doing the things he loves, like playing football, watching Manchester United and seeing friends. He should be caring for his cats who he adores.

Instead, he is locked up. He has endured beatings by prison staff and periods of solitary confinement.

**Demand that Myanmar's military immediately release Sai Zaw Thaik.**

## HELP KEEP SAI ZAW'S SPIRIT STRONG

Send him your messages of friendship and hope. You could include drawings of cats (Sai Zaw has several to accompany your message).

**ADDRESS:** Sai Zaw Thaik  
c/o Amnesty International  
East and Southeast Asia and  
the Pacific Regional Office  
M. Thai Tower  
All Seasons Place  
87 Wireless Road  
Lumpini, Phatumwan  
Bangkok 10330  
Thailand

**FACEBOOK:** [www.facebook.com/myanmarnownews](http://www.facebook.com/myanmarnownews)  
**X:** @Myanmar\_Now\_Eng  
**INSTAGRAM:** myanmar\_now  
**HASHTAGS:** #FreeSaiZaw, #FreeSZT, #W4R25



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# FIGHTING TO PROTECT THEIR ANCESTRAL LANDS AND CULTURE

**Ellinor Guttorm Utsi**

📍 Norway



# ELLINOR GUTTORM UTSI



Norway

Ellinor Guttorm Utsi is an Indigenous Sámi woman, and a passionate leader fighting to protect her community's ancient reindeer-herding way of life in northern Norway. As a spokesperson, she speaks out for her family and her people who have followed seasonal migration routes across the Arctic for generations. They rely on summer grazing lands in Corgaš, lands now under urgent threat.

Reindeer herding is central to the Sámi food system, which depends on migratory grazing across the Arctic landscape to produce sustainable food, clothing and crafts. Ellinor leads efforts to defend her community's rights to land and culture, highlighting the ongoing struggle of Indigenous Peoples caught between climate change, land rights and renewable energy development.

In 2023, several hundred wind turbines were suddenly proposed across Sámi territory, with many planned directly on Ellinor's summer grazing lands. These huge projects would bring hundreds of turbines, roads and power lines that would break up the land, disrupt reindeer migration and destroy a way of life deeply connected to nature.

Despite fierce opposition, Norwegian authorities are rushing approvals. Ellinor is tirelessly working to ensure Sámi voices are heard and their rights respected, but time is running out.

**Call on Norway to listen to Ellinor and the Sámi People, and help them protect their land, livelihoods and culture.**

## WRITE TO THE PRIME MINISTER

Demand that the rights of the Sámi reindeer-herding communities are protected by ensuring industrial wind-power projects that threaten their lands and way of life do not proceed without the free, prior and informed consent of the affected Sámi.

**ADDRESS:** Prime Minister of Norway  
Office of the Prime Minister  
PO box 8001 Dep  
0030 Oslo  
Norway

**SALUTATION:** Dear Prime Minister  
**EMAIL:** postmottak@smk.dep.no  
**FACEBOOK:** www.facebook.com/regjeringennorge  
**X:** @Regjeringen  
**INSTAGRAM:** regjeringen  
**HASHTAGS:** #ProtectSámiRights, #W4R25

## SHOW ELLINOR, HER COMMUNITY AND ALL SÁMI REINDEER HERDERS THAT YOU STAND WITH THEM

Send your messages of support to amplify their voices and defend their culture, land and future.

**ADDRESS:** Ellinor Guttorm Utsi  
c/o Amnesty International Norway  
PO box 702 Sentrum  
0106 Oslo  
Norway

**FACEBOOK:** www.facebook.com/ellinor.utsi  
**INSTAGRAM:** davvielle  
**HASHTAGS:** #ProtectSámiRights, #W4R25



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**LOST HIS LIFE  
WHERE HE SHOULD  
HAVE BEEN SAFE**

**Unecebo Mboteni**

South Africa



# UNECEBO MBOTENI



South Africa

Unecebo Mboteni was a lively three-year-old boy who enjoyed making friends and playing with his toy cars. You could always tell when he was in the room.

On 18 April 2024, Unecebo fell into a pit toilet at his pre-school in the Eastern Cape province of South Africa. He died the next day.

Two other children have also died after falling into pit toilets in the Eastern Cape since 2018. However, the tragic loss of these young lives hasn't been enough to ensure the eradication of all pit toilets in schools, including day care centres. Sadly, a child's experience of education in South Africa still depends on where they are born, their wealth, and the colour of their skin. As Unecebo's father said, "My son died in a death trap set up for poor people."

One year on and the family has had no word from the pre-school or Department of Basic Education about whether the pit toilet that Unecebo fell into has been removed, let alone any progress on the investigation into his death. Instead of answers about how this tragic incident happened, Unecebo's family have been met with silence.

Unecebo lost his life in a place where he should have been safe.

His family deserve answers.

**Demand justice for Unecebo Mboteni.**

## WRITE TO THE MINISTER OF BASIC EDUCATION

Demand that the investigation into Unecebo's death be expedited, the outcome made public and that those responsible are held accountable.

**ADDRESS:** Minister of Basic Education  
Ministry of Basic Education  
Private Bag X9034  
Cape Town, 8000  
South Africa

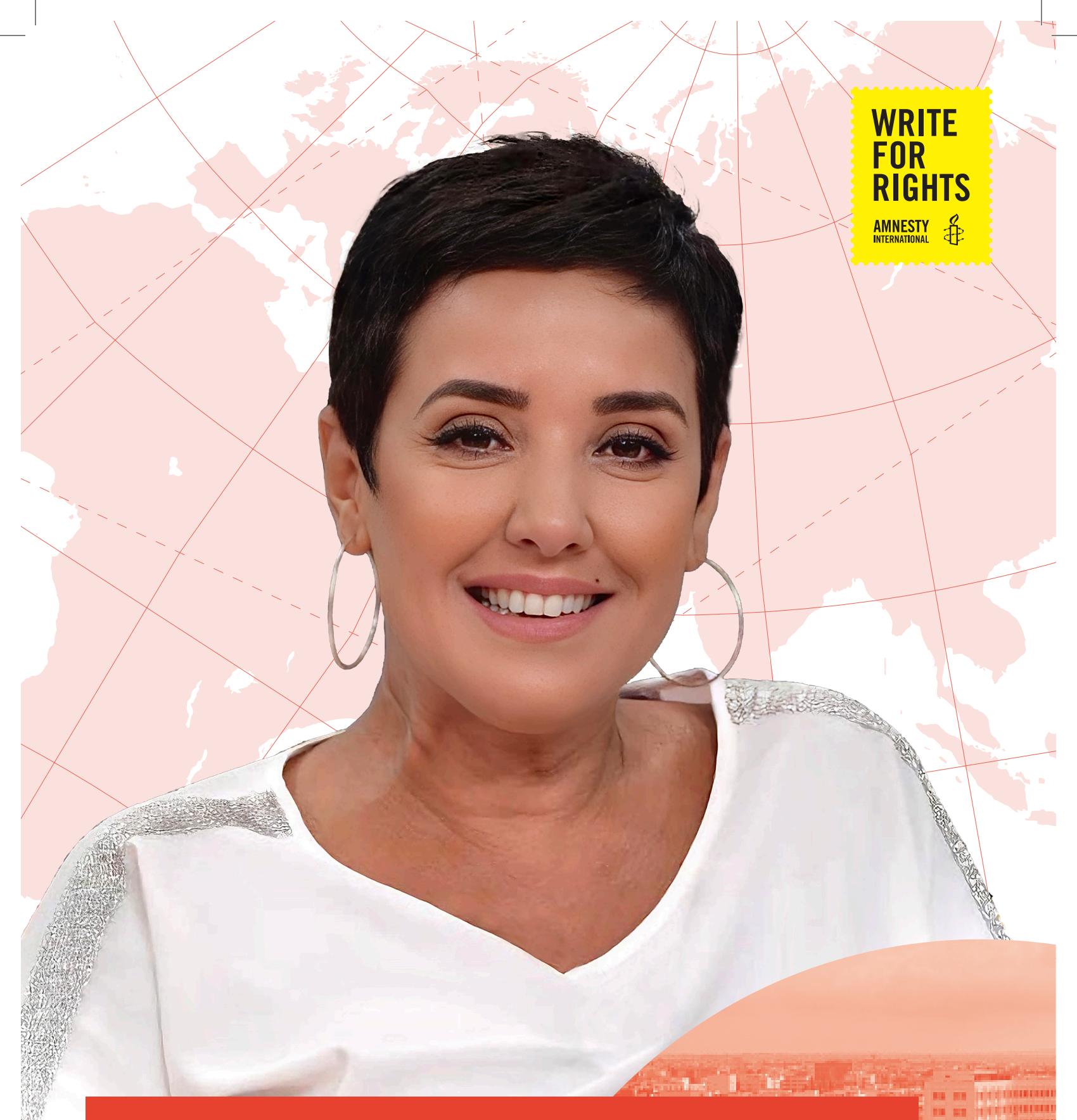
**SALUTATION:** Dear Minister  
**EMAIL:** Dlanga.S@dbe.gov.za /  
Vangqa.L@dbe.gov.za  
**FACEBOOK:** www.facebook.com/SiviweGwarubeMP  
**X:** @Siviwe\_G  
**INSTAGRAM:** siv\_gwarube  
**HASHTAGS:** #JusticeForUnecebo, #W4R25

## SHOW UNECEBO'S FAMILY THEY ARE NOT ALONE IN THEIR FIGHT FOR JUSTICE

Send them messages of hope and solidarity to show them you stand with them in their battle for justice.

**ADDRESS:** Unecebo's family  
c/o Amnesty International South Africa  
97 Oxford Road Rosebank  
Johannesburg, 2916  
South Africa

**HASHTAGS:** #JusticeForUnecebo, #W4R25



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# LOCKED UP AND SILENCED FOR SPEAKING OUT

**Sonia Dahmani**

📍 Tunisia



# SONIA DAHMANI



## WRITE TO THE PRESIDENT

Call on the Tunisian authorities to immediately and unconditionally release Sonia Dahmani, quash the sentences and drop all charges against her as she is detained solely for exercising her right to freedom of expression.

**ADDRESS:** President of Tunisia  
Carthage Presidential Palace  
La Goulette Road  
Carthage Archaeological Site  
Tunis  
Tunisia

**SALUTATION:** Your Excellency  
**EMAIL:** [contact@carthage.tn](mailto:contact@carthage.tn)  
**FACEBOOK:** [@TnPresidency](https://www.facebook.com/Presidence.tn)  
**X:** [@FreeSonia](https://www.x.com/FreeSonia)  
**HASHTAGS:** #FreeSonia, #W4R25

Sonia Dahmani loves the sea, long days at the beach with friends and quiet evenings spent watching movies. She has a deep appreciation for art in all its forms, from paintings and exhibitions to theatre and music. But what matters most to Sonia is her family, including her beloved dog, Carla.

Sonia is a lawyer and media commentator who has dedicated her life to defending human rights, standing up for the marginalized, and saying what others are afraid to, no matter the cost. She is a vocal critic of inhumane prison conditions and racism, regularly addressing these issues on television and radio shows.

On 11 May 2024, masked policemen violently raided the Tunisian Bar Association in Tunis and arrested Sonia. They detained her in Manouba prison, where she has been held ever since. The Tunisian authorities have convicted and sentenced Sonia for “spreading false news”, with more politically motivated investigations still pending. She faces many years in prison for speaking out against injustices. Her imprisonment is a clear attempt to silence her.

Sonia is being held in inhumane conditions. Her cell is rat-infested. She has endured degrading treatment by prison authorities. She is being denied medical care, including the medication she needs.

**Demand Sonia's release now.**

## SHOW SONIA THAT SHE IS NOT ALONE

Send Sonia messages of hope and solidarity. Let her know you support her in her fight for human rights in Tunisia. You could draw pictures of dogs (Sonia has a dog called Carla) to accompany your message.

**ADDRESS:** Sonia Dahmani  
c/o Amnesty International Tunisia  
5 Rue Zouhair Ayadi  
El Menzah 4  
Ariana, Tunis 1082  
Tunisia

**INSTAGRAM:** [freesoniadahmani](https://www.instagram.com/freesoniadahmani/)  
**HASHTAGS:** #FreeSonia, #W4R25



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# RELEASE DETAINED PROTESTOR

Leqaa Kordia

United States

# LEQAA KORDIA



United States

Leqaa Kordia is a 32-year-old Palestinian Muslim woman in detention in Texas and facing deportation by the Trump administration related to its crackdown on peaceful protesters for Palestinian rights. Freedom of expression, association and assembly are human rights that protect us all from abuse and we cannot let the Trump administration's authoritarian practices continue. Leqaa must be released. She has been detained by U.S. immigration authorities since March 13, 2025. Since 2023, she has actively participated in several protests in New Jersey and nearby areas, advocating against Israel's genocide in Gaza, in which she has lost approximately 175 family members.

At the time of her detention, Leqaa was in the process of securing legal residency. During a voluntary meeting with immigration officials at the Newark ICE Field Office, where she was accompanied by her attorney, Leqaa was immediately detained, despite being found to present a low risk to public safety, flight or criminal history. She was transferred to the Prairieland Detention Facility in Texas. This facility is located far from her attorney and family, and it has a documented history of human rights violations.

Leqaa has experienced repeated violations of her religious rights in detention. She has received only one halal meal in detention and instead has been provided with meals which often do not meet her religious dietary restrictions. As a result, she has lost a significant amount of weight. She has also not been provided with clothing that adequately covers the body for prayer or a clean place to pray as required by her religion. Staff have also repeatedly ignored her requests to provide notice when male staff enter her dorm area when she is without her hijab.

**Call for the immediate release of Leqaa Kordia.**

## WRITE TO THE U.S. SECRETARY OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Call on the U.S. Secretary of Homeland Security to release Leqaa immediately and to ensure that while she is being held in detention that she has rights to practice her religion.

**ADDRESS:** Secretary Kristi Noem  
U.S. Secretary of Homeland Security  
300 7th St SW,  
Washington, DC 20024,  
United States

**SALUTATION:** Secretary Kristi Noem  
**EMAIL:** kristi.noem@hq.dhs.gov

## SEND YOUR LETTERS OR CARDS OF HOPE TO LEQAA

Send your messages of support to Leqaa letting her know that she is not alone. Leqaa has expressed interest in writing back so please include your name and address if you would like.

**ADDRESS:** Leqaa Kordia  
The CLEAR Project  
CUNY School of Law  
2 Court Square, Long Island City, NY  
11101

**HASHTAGS:** #W4R25