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PROTEST IS
A RIGHT

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A RIGHT

حقوق الإنسان في مصر

SAY YES TO
EGYPTIAN
POLITICAL

SAY
EGYPT

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL USA

ANNUAL REPORT 2015

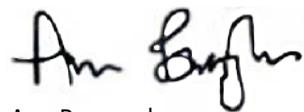
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Dear Friends,

2015 has been a year of highs and lows. As human rights defenders, we have celebrated as we watched marriage equality become the law of the land in both Ireland and the United States, as survivors of police torture in Chicago have been acknowledged and promised reparations, and as the State of Nebraska repealed the death penalty. We have also shared our sorrow and frustration as we saw refugees of war-torn countries turned away from much needed aid, read countless articles on innumerable mass shootings around the United States, and witnessed a continued pattern of people of color dying at the hands of police with little or no accountability. It is often hard to remember our successes in the face of so many tragedies and failures of governments around the world to protect the human rights of their people and the people who turn to them for help. Gun violence; backlash against human rights defenders and peaceful dissenters; discrimination based on race, religion, gender, orientation, and nationality – these problems threaten the lives of people just like us all over the world. It is important, in the face of overwhelming adversity, to remember the impact that you are making as a member of AIUSA. Your voice, your letters, your phone calls, your signatures – these things can, and do, make a difference. Every year, based on your work, we see prisoners of conscience released, we pressure leaders to do what's right, and we push our government to acknowledge and protect the human rights of all people. As a life-long defender of human rights, I stand with you, and I thank you for all that you do. Change may come slowly, but it does come, and the dedication of Amnesty International members worldwide has the power to help change the world.

In solidarity,



Ann Burroughs
Board Chair

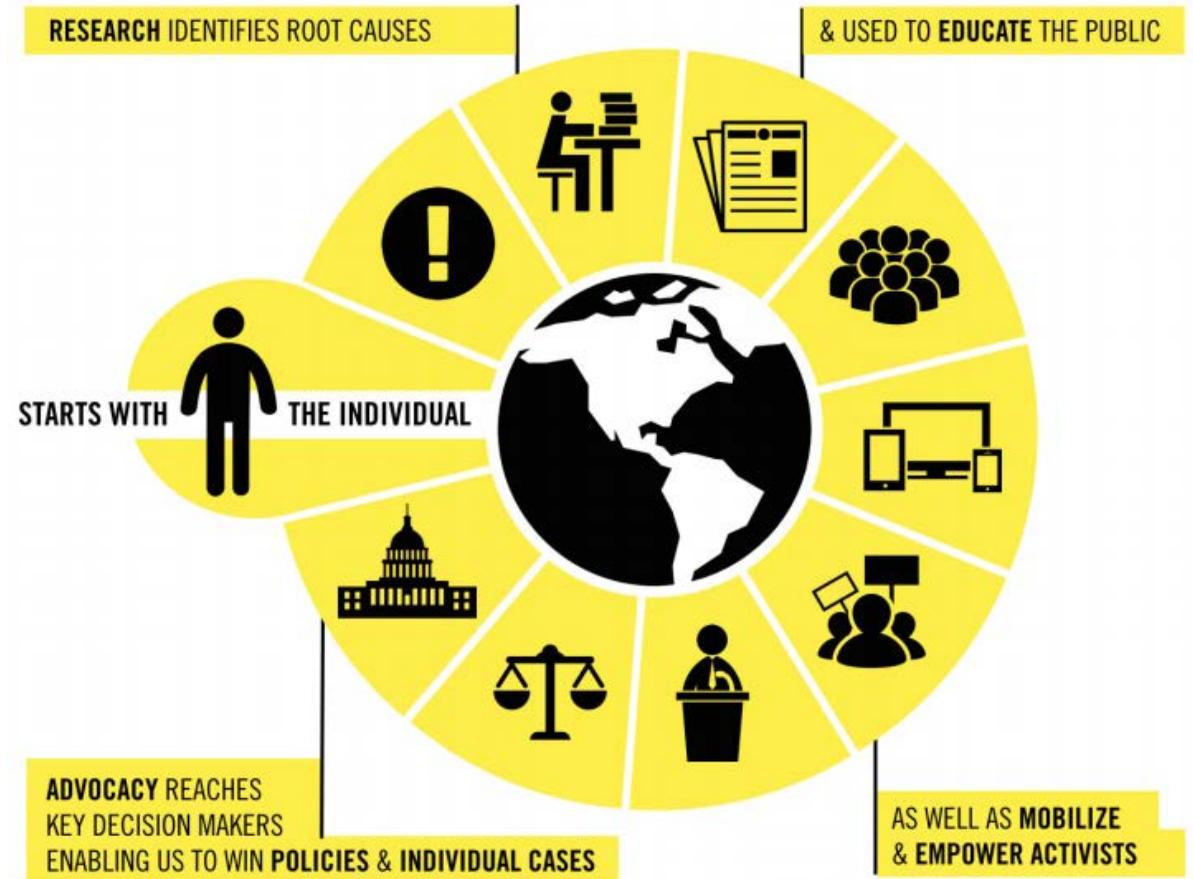
“As a life-long defender of human rights, I stand with you, and I thank you for all that you do.”



OUR MISSION

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL USA is a 501(c)(3) human rights nonprofit and the largest country section of Amnesty International, with nearly 250,000 members who work for human rights independently; through national online networks; and with high school, college, and community groups. With complete independence from government, corporate or ideological interests, Amnesty International is one of the world's foremost defenders of human rights. With a presence in over 70 countries and the support of 7 million people throughout the world, Amnesty International is a global movement working tirelessly toward fair treatment for people everywhere.

Amnesty International conducts its work with the hope of fulfilling its vision of a world in which every person enjoys all of the human rights enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) and other internationally recognized human rights standards. AIUSA addresses a wide range of human rights issues both domestically and abroad, including prisoners of conscience and other people at risk; the death penalty; national security and counter-terrorism; sexual and reproductive rights; refugee and migrant rights; torture and other cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment; women's rights; children's rights; censorship and free speech; LGBT rights; arms transfers; and international justice. Amnesty International unites people from all over the world to fight for human rights using a signature three-pronged approach.



PROTECTING INDIVIDUALS AT RISK

As a teenager in Nigeria, Moses Akatugba was tortured into confessing that he stole three cell phones, and sentenced to death. In May 2015, after ten years on death row and a campaign by Amnesty International, Moses walked free.

Moses' case was one of 193 highlighted by the Individuals at Risk program that saw positive outcomes in 2015. Amnesty also helped protect Meenakshi Kumari and her sister from rape in India; helped pass an historic law in Chicago providing reparations for Darrell Cannon and other survivors of torture by police; and helped free 144 prisoners of conscience—people jailed for the peaceful expression of their beliefs or identity—including Arif and Leyla Yunus, human rights defenders in Azerbaijan; Danilo Maldonado Machado, an artist in Cuba; and Dr. Tun Aung, who helped protect minorities in Myanmar.

Globally and in the U.S., Amnesty generates pressure on government officials and other decision makers through a strategic mix of research, lobbying, media attention, coalition building, and grassroots activism—including the annual Write for Rights campaign, the Urgent Action Network, the Case Commitment Initiative, and Focus Case Campaigns. In 2015, participants generated over one million actions on cases from AIUSA. 2015's Write for Rights broke records domestically and globally, with AIUSA generating over 300,000 actions on 12 focus cases, while Amnesty International as a whole recorded more than 3.7 million actions, including letters, petition signatures, postcards, and tweets.

In 2016, Amnesty will continue to work on behalf of people at risk like Raif Badawi, sentenced to 10 years in prison and 1,000 lashes in Saudi Arabia for his writings; Teodora del Carmen Vasquez, serving a 40-year sentence for a still birth under El Salvador's abortion ban; and Leonard Peltier, jailed for over 40 years in the U.S. on the basis of an unfair trial.



THE DEATH PENALTY

The death penalty is the ultimate, irreversible denial of human rights. It violates the rights to life and to be free from cruel, inhuman, and degrading punishment, as proclaimed in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other international human rights standards. Amnesty International opposes the death penalty in all cases without exception, regardless of the nature of the crime, the characteristics of the offender, or the method used by the state to kill the prisoner.

Amnesty's campaign to abolish the death penalty in the U.S. is conducted on a state-by-state basis through a network of dedicated State Death Penalty Abolition Coordinators (SDPACs). These volunteer leaders work with the help of AIUSA staff to lead local coalitions and mobilize Amnesty International members and other activists in their state to take action against the death penalty.

In 2015, the Delaware SDPAC organized and implemented a Witness to Innocence tour with death row exoneree Nate Fields, engaging members in Delaware's anti-death penalty campaign. In Nebraska, Amnesty members played a crucial role in the state legislature passing a bill to abolish the death penalty, even overturning the governor's veto. AIUSA activists also rallied around the case of Kelly Gissendaner, who in September became the first woman to be executed in Georgia in 70 years. In a significant success, the Missouri Supreme Court vacated the death sentence of Reggie Clemons after many years of advocacy by dedicated Amnesty activists. Other successes in 2015 include the stays of execution for Rodney Reed and Richard Glossip, and the moratorium on executions implemented by Pennsylvania Governor Tom Wolf.



SECURITY WITH HUMAN RIGHTS

AIUSA's Security with Human Rights program campaigns to end human rights abuses committed in the name of national security, ensure accountability for them, and demand they be replaced by measures that effectively ensure both security and human rights. Our work areas include torture and Guantanamo, U.S. drone and other air strikes, and surveillance.

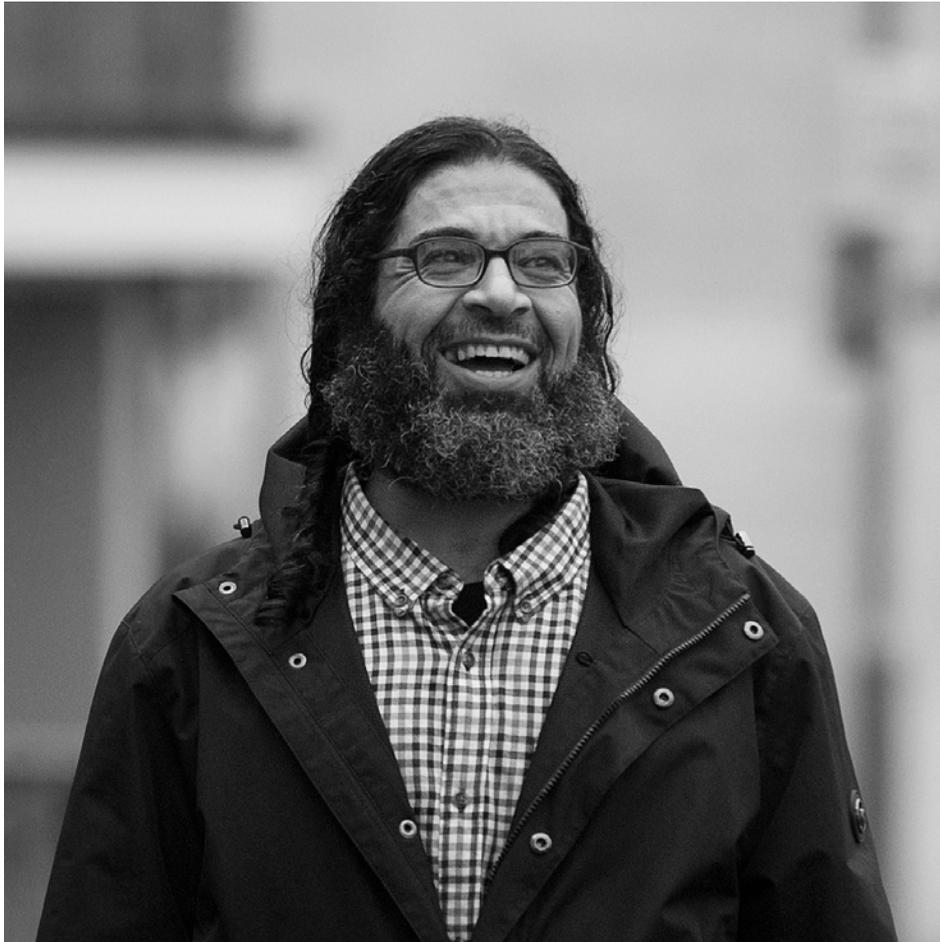
In 2015, Amnesty's Stop Torture campaign focused on ensuring accountability for torture committed in the name of national security and closing the U.S. Guantanamo Bay detention camp. Over the course of 2015, 24 prisoners at Guantanamo were released, including Shaker Aamer, who was featured in global Amnesty campaigning. In its first vote on U.S. torture in several years, Congress voted to strengthen the ban on torture and ensure it applies to the CIA. This is one of Amnesty's biggest wins against torture in the last eight years. Amnesty supporters sent more than 44,000 emails to senators and made phone calls to senators in key states.

In its ongoing work on the use of drones by the U.S. government, AIUSA provided analysis that was cited in the New York Times, CNN, Washington Post, and two dozen other outlets in the aftermath of President Obama's April acknowledgement and apology for the killing of American and Italian hostages in a U.S. drone strike. Amnesty International expressed concern that accountability must extend to non-Western families who have lost loved ones to unlawful drone strikes.

Taking on the issue of mass surveillance, AIUSA joined a lawsuit brought by the ACLU (Wikimedia v. Clapper) challenging NSA surveillance and arguing that it undermines our ability to document and campaign against human rights abuses. Senior Obama administration official James R. Clapper responded to a letter from the AIUSA Board of Directors, providing explicit assurance that the U.S. will take steps to ensure that its surveillance data does not end up in the hands of foreign governments that would use it to repress human rights activists. In order to support activists and communities at risk of unlawful surveillance, AIUSA has begun conducting education and empowerment work at the local level.



CASE STUDY: Shaker Aamer



“ I promise all of you good people – those whose names I know, and those whose names I do not know – that my heart and spirit feel your thoughts and justice. We will work hard together to close Guantanamo and every unlawful facility run by any government worldwide. ”

– Shaker Aamer

On October 30, 2015, after over 13 and a half years of detention and alleged torture, 48-year-old Shaker Aamer was released from Guantanamo. Aamer, a citizen of Saudi Arabia, was being held without charge in the U.S. detention camp.



POLICE ACCOUNTABILITY AND GUN VIOLENCE

Amnesty released a groundbreaking report in June 2015, “Deadly Force: Police Use of Lethal Force in the United States,” highlighting the lack of oversight and reporting mechanisms in all 50 states and the District of Columbia, none of which meet international human rights standards on the use of deadly force by law enforcement officials. Using this report, AIUSA worked to enact reforms at the local, state, and federal levels.

In an important case locally and nationally, AIUSA staff and members helped secure justice for people who survived torture by the Chicago Police Department in the 1970s through 1990s. In May, survivors were awarded restitution, compensation, and rehabilitation. The first financial installment was disbursed in January 2016, and plans are underway to open the first center to serve survivors of torture committed by U.S. authorities.

In January, legislation addressing use of lethal force by police officers was introduced in Missouri. AIUSA also helped persuade the City of St. Louis to create a Civilian Oversight Board.

AIUSA deployed a delegation to observe protests in Baltimore in April following a shooting by police there. In June, AIUSA joined coalition leaders in Washington, DC, to commemorate the 1976 Soweto uprising, drawing connections between the treatment of Black South Africans and African Americans, calling for police accountability and aiming to tackle systemic racism.



IDENTITY AND DISCRIMINATION

AIUSA's Identity & Discrimination unit is dedicated to ending human rights violations and discrimination based on identifying features such as gender, orientation, race, religion, and nationality. The team works with AIUSA's researchers, advocates, activists, and members to combat racism, sexism, and other discrimination around the world.

The Identity & Discrimination unit's main priority in 2015 was the continuation of the My Body, My Rights campaign. Amnesty International's global campaign to help ensure that everyone has access to their sexual and reproductive rights and to stop criminalization of sexuality and reproduction by governments. This year, the campaign focused on Ireland, Burkina Faso, and El Salvador, three countries where women's access to their sexual and reproductive rights is severely restricted by their governments. AIUSA staff joined an Amnesty delegation to Burkina Faso to meet with government and international organization officials, securing commitments from multiple high-level officials regarding protection of sexual and reproductive rights and women's human rights in the country. A publicity push highlighting the cases of 17 women imprisoned in El Salvador under the total abortion ban, referred to as "Las 17," led to over 24,000 petition signatures from the U.S. alone in the first quarter of the year. In the fall, AIUSA launched a human rights education toolkit with information on Ireland and Burkina Faso, and led sexual and reproductive human rights education workshops across the country.

In addition to its three focus countries, the My Body, My Rights campaign addressed issues of reproductive rights and women's rights in several other countries. After heavy campaigning - including a strong effort from the U.S. government - harsh laws meant to severely curtail women's rights to abortion in Spain were defeated. In the U.S., AIUSA arranged and led a meeting with the Office of the Vice President and our Maze of Injustice Tribal Council to discuss justice and services for rape survivors on tribal lands. In October, the Indian Health Service made long-overdue changes mandating emergency contraception in Indian Country.



CASE STUDY: El Salvador



In El Salvador, a total abortion ban criminalizes abortion in all circumstances, even when the life of the woman or girl is at risk. What's more, the total abortion ban has led to the imprisonment of women who have suffered miscarriages—in the most extreme cases, women have been incarcerated on charges of aggravated homicide, which carries a penalty of up to 50 years in prison. During 2015's Write for Rights campaign, AIUSA activists wrote 11,617 letters to the Salvadoran government and took 25,465 online actions to urge the release of Teodora del Carmen Vasquez, who was sentenced to 30 years in prison for "aggravated homicide" after suffering a still-birth, and to advocate for a change in the country's abortion laws.

Portrait of Teodora del Carmen Vasquez at her prison in El Salvador. She was sentenced for 30 years after having a stillbirth because authorities suspected she had an abortion.

ADVOCACY

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL USA STAFF AND MEMBERS ADVOCATE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUES AROUND THE WORLD TO U.S. GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS AND FOREIGN AMBASSADORS. ACTIVISTS PARTICIPATE IN LOBBYING AND DEMONSTRATIONS, WHILE STAFF AND VOLUNTEER EXPERTS TESTIFY BEFORE KEY STAKEHOLDERS TO ENSURE THAT THESE IMPORTANT ISSUES ARE BROUGHT TO LIGHT.



ASIA & EUROPE

In January, AIUSA was joined by a survivor of the Bhopal industrial disaster for a rally in remembrance of the 30th anniversary of the catastrophe, which killed more than 20,000 people. AIUSA worked with key officials to help ensure the release of prisoner of conscience Dr. Tun Aung, who had been detained in Myanmar since 2012. The Asia Advocacy Director met with senior State Department officials, briefed Senate staff ahead of the annual Security and Economic Dialogue with China, and testified before

the Tom Lantos Human Rights Commission on Cambodia and Laos.

Upon the release of a Stop Torture report on Uzbekistan, AIUSA representatives testified before the Tom Lantos Human Rights Commission. AIUSA staff held Congressional meetings on the deteriorating human rights situation in Azerbaijan, and briefed U.S. officials on prisoners of conscience.

ADVOCACY

AFRICA



Amnesty's report, which outlined human rights abuses committed by the Nigerian military, was cited as a key factor preventing the resumption of security assistance by the U.S.

Additionally, AIUSA helped lobby the White House prior to President Obama's visit to Kenya and Ethiopia and helped pressure the President to press for reforms leading to the release of some prisoners of conscience prior to the President arriving in Addis Ababa. One of AIUSA's Business and Human Rights Specialists presented at Georgetown and Harvard events commemorating the 20th anniversary of the execution of noted environmentalist Ken Saro-Wiwa in Nigeria, briefing participants on Shell's false claims about oil spills in the Niger Delta.

LATIN AMERICA & CARIBBEAN



AIUSA advocacy opposing the U.S. economic embargo against Cuba gained traction; as a part of the initial negotiations, all Amnesty-designated prisoners of conscience in Cuba were released. In response to the human rights situation in Mexico, a portion of U.S. foreign assistance to Mexico was suspended for the first time.

AIUSA representatives met with the Mexican Ambassador to the U.S. to deliver 24,219 actions from AIUSA members requesting an overhaul of forensic examination of torture survivors. After years of inaction, this publicity helped pressure the government of the Dominican Republic to announce that 55,000 individuals would be able to regain access to their identity documents and nationality.

MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRICA



In 2015, AIUSA pushed the White House and Congress to address human rights violations by key U.S. allies in the Middle East; including a bipartisan letter to the new King of Saudi Arabia, and coalition efforts to pressure the U.S. Secretary of State to address violations against Palestinian children.

AIUSA lobbied for a cutoff of U.S. bombs to Saudi Arabia and pushed for legislation that would stop certain U.S. weapons sales to Bahrain, and called for a denial of arms transfers to Iraq. Amnesty participated in a nine-day mission to Israel and the Occupied Palestinian Territories in October. AIUSA social media education and actions around the global refugee crisis had high levels of engagement.

CASE STUDY: Member Advocacy



Working as Amnesty International's volunteer Legislative Coordinator for New York since 2011, Anita Teekah has helped advance a number of key human rights issues in Congress. She is a co-organizer for the NYC-Young Professionals of Amnesty International and is a member of the Amnesty NYC Women's Human Rights Action Team. Anita has volunteered with various anti-human trafficking groups based in New York and is passionate about human rights, with special focus on women's human rights, economic empowerment, and education.

Like dozens of volunteer leaders nationwide who serve as Legislative Coordinators, Anita links AIUSA's grassroots membership with state and federal policymakers and their staff in order to advance policies that protect human rights.

RESEARCH

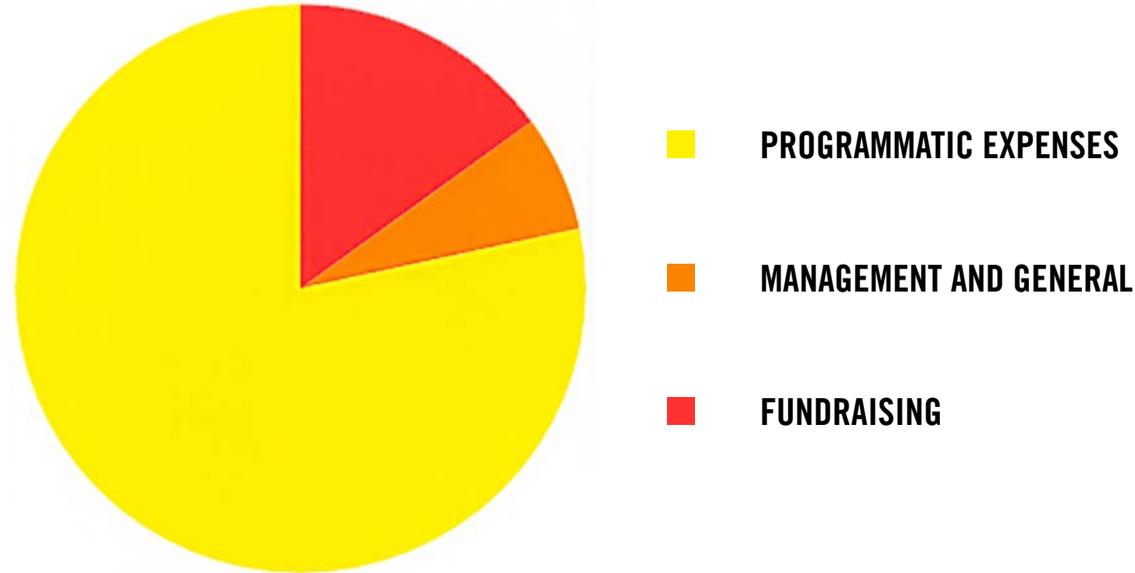
This year, AIUSA researchers released the widely read report on lethal force by police, “Deadly Force: Police Use of Lethal Force in the United States.” This work has led to the introduction of legislation on lethal force in Missouri and pending legislation in Maryland, as well as draft federal legislation. The team began developing case studies on police use of deadly force to be used in state-based campaigning in the aftermath of the report.

Earlier research on the survivors of Chicago police torture achieved results as the Chicago City Council passed an ordinance providing reparations to the men and women of color who were systematically tortured by officers from the Chicago Police Department decades prior.

AIUSA researchers also released a toolkit demonstrating the drivers of mass incarceration in the United States through individual case studies. One case study highlighted the expansion of immigration detention in the U.S. and featured an action on two Guatemalan refugees, Celia and her infant son, who after having fled violence and instability in Guatemala, were detained for more than seven months in a family detention center in Texas until being granted asylum in April and released. A second case study illustrated the issue of charging juveniles as adults in criminal cases in New York and supported the Raise the Age Campaign to raise the age of criminality in New York from 16 to 18.



FINANCIALS



Thanks to the generous support of our donors, 2015 was a strong financial year for Amnesty International USA (AIUSA), allowing us to expand our human rights work and lay the groundwork for long-term financial growth. Revenues increased by \$5.7 million over 2014, \$2.6 million of which was made up of increased support by our individual members. A corresponding \$3.6 million increase in expenses resulted – the additional donations allowed for increased spending on programs and the launch of AIUSA’s new in-house street canvassing program, which engages with thousands of new potential human rights activists every month. This diverse and dedicated new team is helping to grow our membership and share information on human rights issues like refugee rights, gun violence,

and police accountability in cities around the U.S. Over 78% of AIUSA’s spending goes directly toward advancing our programmatic goals, including freeing prisoners of conscience, fighting discrimination, and pushing for public policies that respect the human rights of people around the world.

Due to the substantial increase in donor support in 2015, we were able to both increase our programming and fundraising efforts in 2016. The Statement of Financial Position showed an overall asset increase of \$1.2 million, with both cash holdings and investment portfolio positions strengthening. We are grateful to all our donors, whose financial support and dedication to human rights makes our work possible.

SEE OUR WEBSITE FOR THE FULL SET OF AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Amnesty International of the USA, Inc.

Statement of Financial Position

	12/31/15	12/31/14
Assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	5,270,613	4,909,255
Investments and restricted investments	15,350,306	14,928,666
Contributions and bequests receivable	747,336	287,713
Supplies inventory	14,717	54,116
Prepaid expenses and other assets	3,174,848	3,057,449
Fixed assets, net	327,568	372,890
Total assets	\$ 24,885,388	\$ 23,610,089
Liabilities and Net Assets		
Liabilities:		
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	684,697	2,548,675
Payroll and payroll taxes payable	857,152	510,490
Charitable Gift Annuities payable	2,675,421	2,847,264
Total liabilities	4,217,270	5,906,429
Net assets:		
Unrestricted net assets	16,883,310	14,203,082
Temporarily restricted net assets	1,569,949	1,285,719
Permanently restricted net assets	2,214,859	2,214,859
Total net assets	20,668,118	17,703,660
	\$ 24,885,388	\$ 23,610,089

Statement of Activities for the Years Ending

	12/31/15	12/31/14
Operating Revenues:		
Contributions, grants and bequests	37,447,820	31,785,589
Donated services	170,990	128,358
Other revenues	403,455	386,321
Total operating revenues	38,022,265	32,300,268
Expenses:		
Program services	28,055,610	26,087,685
Management and general	2,345,368	2,370,780
Fundraising	5,378,167	3,655,430
Total expenses	35,779,145	32,113,895
Increase in net assets before other income	2,243,120	186,373
Rental Income	620,319	319,344
Interest, dividends, realized and unrealized gains	101,019	313,654
Change in net assets	2,964,458	819,371