



## AI Group 48 June 2025 Newsletter

Next Meeting June 12th On Zoom

### Amnesty International Guidelines for No Kings Protests

On Saturday, June 14th, there will be nationwide (and global) protest in response to new policies and practices implemented by the Trump's Administration under the banner of No Kings!

AIUSA is not a sponsor, but we'd like to encourage you to attend if you are able.

Can Amnesty groups attend the No Kings protests? Yes. Of the protests' three key messaging prongs, one resonates with some of our own calls:

"They've gone too far: This is bigger than political disagreement. They've defied our courts, deported American citizens, disappeared people off the streets, and slashed our services— all while orchestrating a massive giveaway to their billionaire allies. Enough is enough."

BUT, not all the messaging aligns with ours, so as always, remember to stick to Amnesty's messages and policies.

Please see the updated attached guidance for more information. You can learn more about the protest [here](#).

# Tiananmen 36th Anniversary Solidarity Action

See Page 2 for details

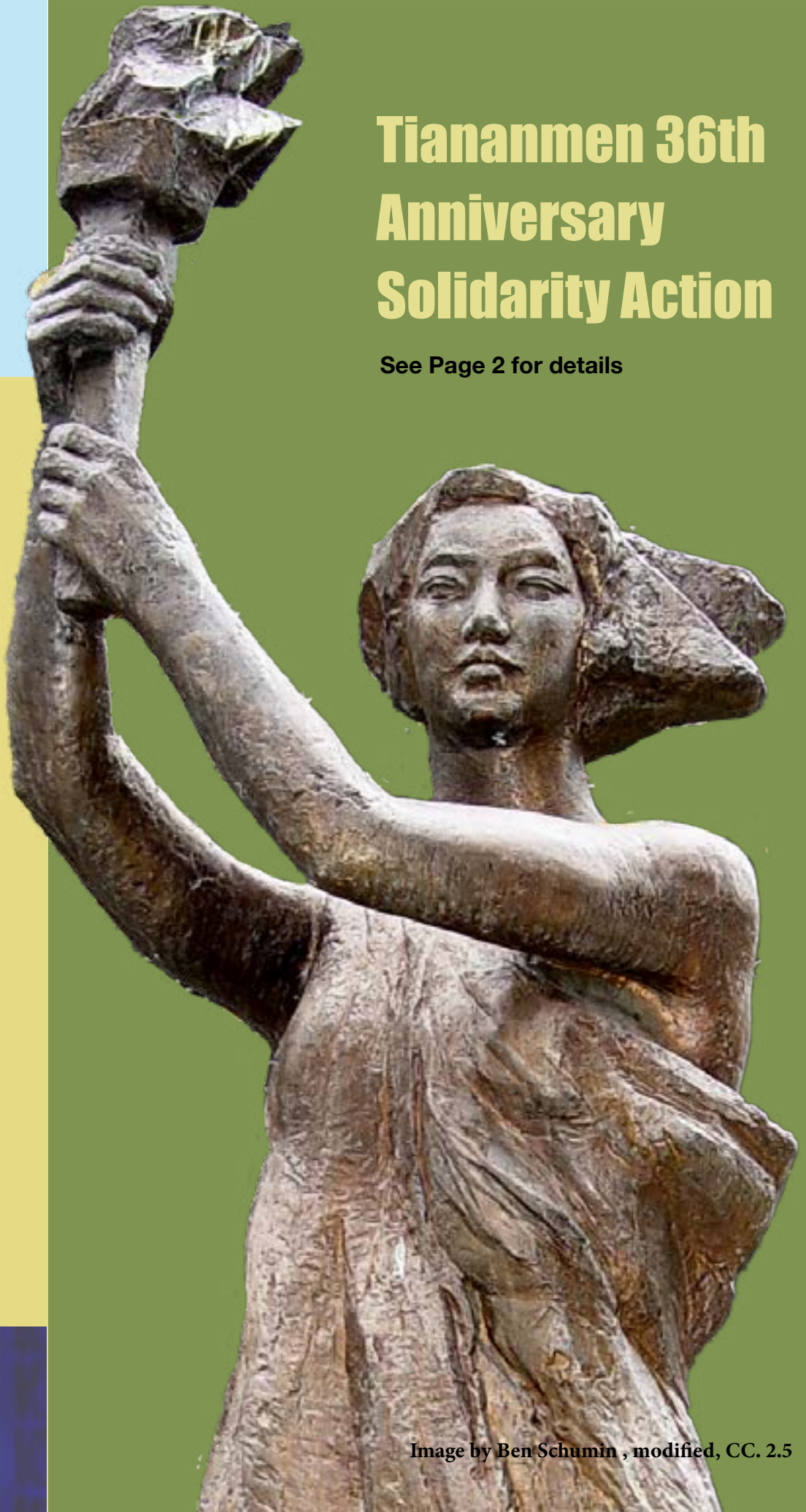


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## Tiananmen 36th Anniversary Solidarity Actions

This year marks 36 years since the 1989 Tiananmen Square (or June Fourth) crackdown, a pivotal moment in modern Chinese history where thousands of peaceful pro-democracy demonstrators, many of them students, were met with brutal force.

Nowadays, many young people have become active voices in the broader democratic and human rights movements, including efforts to remember the Tiananmen Crackdown. And they do this despite the ongoing and systematic criminalization of dissent, which has put hundreds of more seasoned activists behind bars for their effort to call for institutional change, respect for human rights and access to information, including in relation to June Fourth.

Amnesty International is campaigning for the release of those who have been imprisoned for their roles in the Chinese human rights movement. On the occasion of the Tiananmen anniversary, Amnesty launches solidarity actions for film director Chen Pinlin and citizen journalist Huang Qi.

Chen Pinlin is the director of the documentary “Urumqi Middle Road”, which captures scenes from the nationwide “White Paper Movement”, a series of peaceful protests against three years of rolling lockdowns under China’s zero-COVID policy and the harsh environment of censorship and surveillance in China. Chen uploaded the documentary to the Internet around the one-year anniversary of the White Paper Movement. He was arrested on January 5, 2024 and is being held in the Baoshan Detention Center in Shanghai on charges of “picking quarrels and provoking trouble”. Chen faces five years in prison if convicted.

Huang Qi is the founder and director of Sichuan-based human rights website “64 Tianwang” (named after June Fourth), a website that published reports of human right violations investigated by citizen journalists in China. Huang is currently serving a 12-year sentence in Sichuan Bazhong Prison for peacefully exercising his right to freedom of expression. Huang was known to suffer from chronic kidney disease and hydrocephalus, as well as other conditions affecting his heart and lungs, before being detained. It has been reported that Huang could not access proper medical care. He has limited access to the account where his friends and family deposited money for him to purchase additional supplies in prison. His health has deteriorated following his diagnosis of hyper-

thyroidism in July 2022 and has become very frail. Huang’s elderly mother Pu Wenqing is under heavy surveillance and cannot meet with her son. Detained since 2016, Huang was able to see his mother through video call on September 17, 2020 and November 24, 2022.

### Take Action

Send letters or cards to Chen Pinlin and Huang Qi to uplift their spirits.

- Use positive, uplifting messages focused on solidarity, resilience, and creativity.
- Feel free to include simple art, an inspiring line from a movie (non-political), or cultural expressions.

#### DON’T:

- Mention Amnesty International or other political/human rights organizations.
- Reference China’s human rights record, detention conditions, or political criticism.
- Mention their case details, charges, or the broader human rights defenders or civil society situation.
- Criticize the authorities in the letter.

#### Addresses:

##### Chen Pinlin

Shanghai Baoshan District Detention Center  
No. 2101 Yue Luo Road  
Baoshan District  
201908 Shanghai  
People’s Republic of China

##### Huang Qi

Ward 4, Sichuan Bazhong Prison  
No. 9 Xiangjiazhui  
Bazhou District, Sichuan Province  
636000 Bazhong  
People’s Republic of China

#### Postage

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## **USA: Veto of UN Resolution on Lifting Gaza Aid Restrictions and Release of Hostages is Shameful and Inhumane Amid Israel's Ongoing Genocide**

Responding to the US government's decision to veto a draft UN Security Council resolution calling for an immediate ceasefire in the occupied Gaza Strip, the release of hostages, and the "immediate and unconditional lifting of all restrictions on the entry of humanitarian aid," Amnesty International's Secretary General, Agnès Callamard, said:

"This latest shameful US veto – one in a long list – gives Israel the green light to continue its genocide of Palestinians in Gaza. It allows Israel to continue starving Palestinian civilians and creating conditions of life meant to bring about their destruction.

"The US has squandered yet another crucial opportunity to demand that Israel ends civilian bloodshed. What possible justification can there be for blocking action by the UN Security Council that could help to end the harrowing starvation and suffering, free hostages and lift Israel's suffocating aid restrictions?

"The lives of more than 2 million Palestinians are at stake: babies and children hospitalized for malnutrition-related symptoms; tens of thousands of children sleeping on empty stomachs; families unable to access flour for weeks; mothers too malnourished to breastfeed their infants; injured civilians deprived of life-saving medical supplies; and starved and emaciated fathers walking for hours under inhumane conditions to collect a parcel of food, not knowing if they'd even return home to their children.

"As the occupying power, Israel has a clear obligation under international law to ensure the population in the territory it controls has adequate access to food, medicine and other supplies essential to their survival. It has repeatedly refused to do so. All states, including the United States, have an obligation to prevent genocide, cooperate to bring it to an end and punish perpetrators.

"Israel's newly established militarized humanitarian aid scheme, run by the US-backed Gaza Humanitarian Foundation, is not the answer as it is at odds with humanitarian principles and international law. The danger, ineffectiveness, and utter depravity of this scheme became painfully clear as dozens of Palestinians, many of whom are sole providers for their families, were killed or injured while trying to access food. Nothing short of lifting all restrictions on entry of humanitarian aid will do.



"The US can and must do its part to put an end to this manmade catastrophe, which it has contributed to. It must immediately halt arms transfers and military assistance, press Israel to lift all aid restrictions and push for an immediate ceasefire by all parties. The survival of 2.2 million Palestinians in Gaza depends on it."

Paul O'Brien, Amnesty International USA's Executive Director, added: "Once again, the US government, this time under Trump's leadership, is on the wrong side of history. While it's not a surprise the US vetoed this resolution, it's nonetheless devastating. The language is focused on the urgency of the unconditional release of all hostages and unfettered access to humanitarian aid. When children are dying of starvation and the fate of the hostages is uncertain, it's simply unconscionable to stand in the way of this resolution."

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### **Urgent Action: United States Stop Illegal Expulsions to El Salvador**

Following a presidential proclamation invoking the Alien Enemies Act by President Trump, targeting alleged members of the Tren de Aragua (TdA) criminal group, 255 individuals have been illegally removed from the USA to El Salvador and are now being held at the Centro de Confinamiento Contra el Terrorismo (CECOT), a prison notorious for its inhumane conditions. We call on the Trump administration to immediately return those that were illegally removed to El Salvador back to the US and halt any subsequent expulsions or deportations of Venezuelans or other third country nationals, complying with

the decisions of the US Judiciary.

On March 15, 2025, President Trump invoked the Alien Enemies Act, 50 USC 21, claiming that the Tren de Aragua (TdA) criminal group “is perpetrating, attempting, and threatening an invasion or predatory incursion against the territory of the United States” and warning that “Venezuelan citizens 14 years of age or older who are members of TdA, are within the United States, and are not actually naturalized or lawful permanent residents of the United States are liable to be apprehended, restrained, secured, and removed as Alien Enemies.” The Alien Enemies Act is a power granted to the President only in times of actual or imminent war against another country. The Act was last used to detain over 120,000 Japanese Americans in internment camps in the U.S. during World War II.

On March 15, a class action lawsuit was filed on behalf of five Venezuelan individuals at risk of removal under the presidential proclamation on the Alien Enemies Act. The District Court in D.C. issued a temporary restraining order (TRO) for the plaintiffs and scheduled a hearing to further address extending this order to the described class. Later that day, the court preliminarily certified a class –extending the TRO to everyone detained who is designated under the proclamation– and ordered the government to turn back any flights on their way to El Salvador. The government appealed the TRO to the D.C. Circuit, which upheld the restraining order. The administration has now appealed to the Supreme Court.

On March 16, after the above orders were issued, the government unlawfully expelled 238 individuals to the Centro de Confinamiento Contra el Terrorismo (CECOT), an infamous prison in El Salvador, under the purported authority of the Alien Enemies Act. On March 30, an additional 17 individuals, both Salvadoran and Venezuelan, were deported to El Salvador. According to available public information, those expelled include individuals who were in

the midst of ongoing court processes, were arrested while complying with their immigration obligations, were already granted protections in the United States including under the Convention Against Torture, and were labelled as gang members for their tattoos or connection to the Venezuelan state of Aragua with no other evidence. In fact, even U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) officials have since admitted “many” had no criminal record at all and

some were removed because of a perception they may commit crimes in the future. Importantly, these expulsions are not deportations, a legal process defined in U.S. law. Those that were expelled on March 16 were expelled without removal orders. The individuals have been removed from the ICE Locator meaning that their current “official” locations are unknown.

Amnesty International has extensively documented the inhumane conditions within detentions centers in El Salvador, including the CECOT, where those removed are now being held.

The principle of non-refoulement unequivocally prohibits states from returning, removing, or transferring individuals to any country where they would face a real risk of serious human rights violations. By removing individuals to El Salvador under these circumstances, the United States has placed them in grave danger and failed to uphold its legal obligations.

### Sample Letter

*Dear Secretary Noem,*  
*I am extremely concerned over the recent unlawful expulsions of individuals from the United States to El Salvador under the purported authority of the Alien Enemies Act.*

*Despite a court order prohibiting their removal, 238 individuals were expelled to El Salvador on March 16, followed by 17 more on March 30. These individuals include people who were engaged in ongoing legal*



proceedings, had no criminal record or ties to a gang, or had already been granted protection under U.S. law, including the Convention Against Torture. Many were expelled without removal orders, a violation of established legal processes. Disturbingly, these individuals have been transferred to the Centro de Confinamiento Contra el Terrorismo (CECOT), a prison notorious for its inhumane conditions. The families of those unlawfully sent to El Salvador have not received any official information about their loved ones' whereabouts.

The United States must uphold the principle of non-refoulement, which unequivocally prohibits states from returning, removing, or transferring individuals to any country where they would face a real risk of serious human rights abuses, including arbitrary detention, torture or ill-treatment. By expelling these individuals to El Salvador, the U.S. government has placed them in grave danger. Further removals, particularly any subsequent transfer to Venezuela, would constitute additional violations of international law.

I urge you to immediately return those that were illegally removed to El Salvador so that they can continue their immigration proceedings in the US, and halt any subsequent expulsions, complying with the decisions of the US Judiciary.

Yours sincerely,



#### Take Action:

Write a letter to the government official listed. Use the sample letter provided as a guide or use your own words.

Click [here](#) to report your actions on UA 34.25 We share this number with the officials we're trying to persuade.

#### The Honorable Kristi Noem

Secretary of Homeland Security  
U.S. Department of Homeland Security  
2707 Martin Luther King Jr. Avenue, SE  
Washington, DC 20528  
Email: [dhssecretary@hq.dhs.gov](mailto:dhssecretary@hq.dhs.gov)

Please take action as soon as possible until July 1st, 2025

#### Group Coordinators

Marty Fromer and Terrie Rodello

Treasurer -- Tena Hoke

Newsletter -- Daniel Webb

OR Area Coordinator -- Marty Fromer

Indonesia actions -- Max White

China / Uyghur actions -- Marty Fromer

Iran POC -- Tena Hoke

Concert Tabling -- Will Ware

Central Africa/ Oregon State Death

Penalty Abolition-- Terrie Rodello

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