



AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL

HUMAN RIGHTS EDUCATION 2018

**AMNESTY
INTERNATIONAL**



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“We want young people and schools and communities to learn about human rights and put them into practice as effectively as they can.”

— **KUMI NAIDOO**

**Secretary General,
Amnesty International**

INTRODUCTION

Amnesty International works with and through its worldwide network to inspire and equip people to get active for human rights. Every year, the Human Rights Education (HRE) team at the global level at Amnesty International works with its colleagues to report on the achievements of Human Rights Education around the globe. This year, the report reveals a diverse range of impact within HRE activities –

A young human rights defender from Egypt that participated in the Freedom of Expression Lab of the Amnesty Human Rights Academy in Beirut tells me afterwards that the network she has gained in this learning space is crucial for her to navigate in a challenging environment for human rights work. Colleagues from Moldova, Ukraine and Peru report that through the integration of human rights education into the national curricula, Amnesty student groups have been reported across the country, allowing students to solve various problems and improve their school lives; while students from Bermuda to Kenya told Amnesty that they feel more safe in their school environment due to the implementation of a human rights friendly school approach.

These are just a few examples of successes in 2018. This report provides an overview from 61 Amnesty entities and shows the impact of 181 HRE projects that have engaged more than one million people through a variety of initiatives with diverse approaches. In 2018, we reached people in more than 160 countries to take action for positive human rights change.

Best,

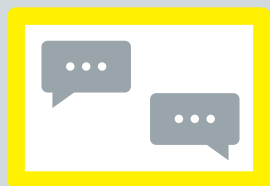
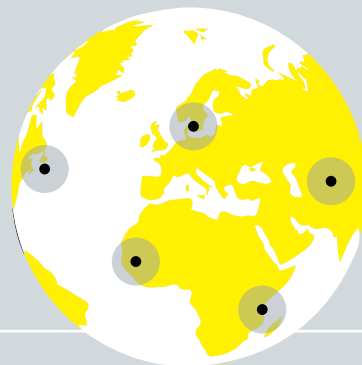


Barbara Weber
Global Director,
Human Rights Education
Amnesty International

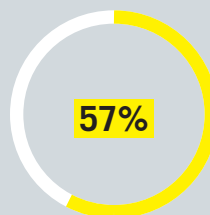
KEY TRENDS

Globally in 2018, HRE projects:

Engaged over **1 000 000** people and led more than **720 000**¹ to take action to defend human rights in **167 countries**.



Launch of **7** new online courses and translations in **9 languages**.



57% of projects move beyond knowledge, and mobilise people to take action.



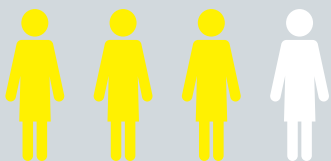
181 projects in 58 countries.



72 467 online learners from 167 countries.



50% of our reach is female, achieving gender parity.



75% of our reach is youth.

The programme has an overwhelming engagement with youth – in 2018, HRE projects reached over **700 000 youth**, this year seeing youth-led initiatives and workshops.

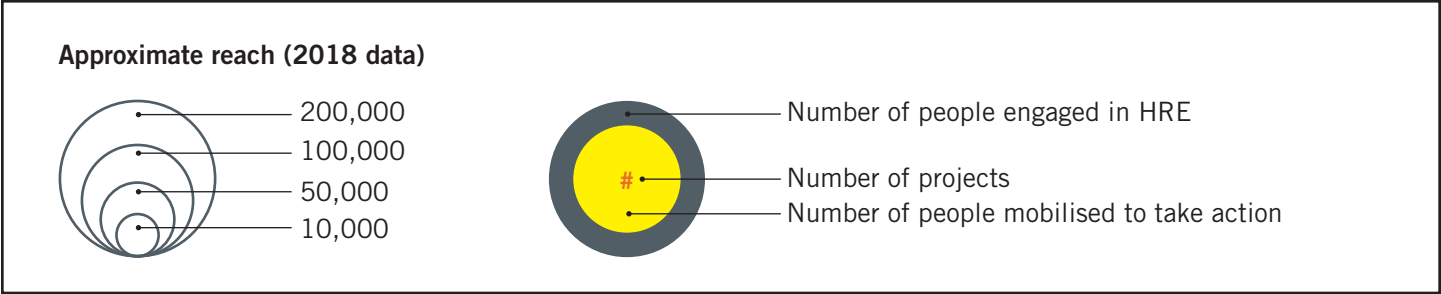
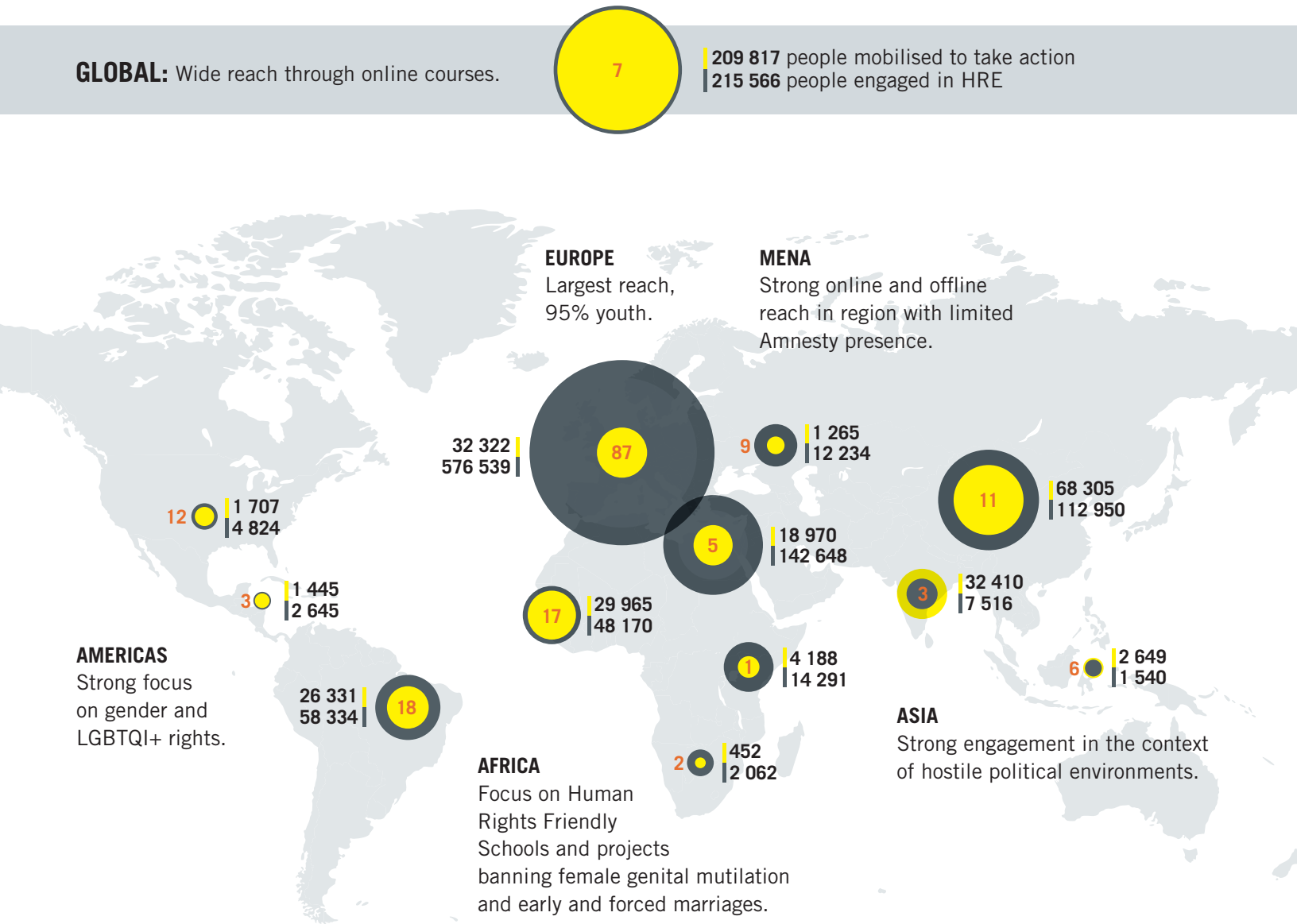
HRE appears to **contribute significantly** to Amnesty's worldwide campaigning work on Human Rights Defenders. These include, *Stand up for the Brave*, the annual letter writing campaign *Write for Rights* and the work on refugee rights *I Welcome*. HRE ensures informed activism and mobilizes people to take part in these global campaigns. HRE projects contribute to increasing engagement,

awareness of human rights issues and in building participants knowledge and skills to take action.

The Amnesty **Human Rights Academy**, a space for learning online and offline, is becoming more and more popular to offer free, quality HRE to people interested in human rights learning.

¹This represents the total number of people engaged in HRE projects rated as working at or above "transition to action", it does not reflect individual assessment of HRE participants.

FIGURE 1. Global snapshot of projects, reach and actions by region, 2018.



Top three projects mobilizing people to take action, 2018:

Amnesty Academy in MENA

Reach: 154 560

The Academy has continued to see large growth in 2018, successfully engaging with learners in the region both online through the courses as well as in-person through workshops and trainings. This project provides an inclusive and comprehensive social learning space bringing together students, activists, and human rights defenders throughout the region and providing them with the tools and resources to take action and defend human rights.

The Netherlands – Programma Mensenrechteneducatie

Reach: 134 251

Through this project, Amnesty Netherlands works with students on children's rights and human rights. Since human rights is not part of the national curriculum, this is for many their first encounter with the topic. The ambition is to reach every child in the Netherlands at least once with human rights.

A highlight last year was the visit of athlete and activist Colin Kaepernick to one of the schools where Amnesty Netherlands works in. In the 2016 pre-season of the NFL, Kaepernick knelt during the US national anthem, as a respectful way of calling for the country to protect and uphold the rights of all its people.

Taiwan – Write for Rights

Reach: 76 576

Through this project, over 76 000 people were mobilised to write letters of solidarity calling for justice for those whose basic human rights are being attacked as part of Amnesty's yearly Write for Rights campaign. Thanks to Taiwan's huge teacher base who take part in the campaign every year, school participation is the main force for their campaign. Beyond this, students began to host their own Write for Rights parties and as a result there were more than 76 000 students, 650 teachers from over 390 schools taking action.

“For me, human rights education is about creating a community of people who know their rights and can create change.”

– **MERYEM KHAYAT**

**Executive Board Member,
Amnesty International Morocco**



MEASURING ACHIEVEMENTS

Amnesty International asks its network of educators to assess their projects every year against outcomes on a scale. The achievement scales Amnesty has developed for this focuses on two major outcomes; **1)** people worldwide have the knowledge and skills to take action to defend and

promote human rights, and **2)** governments are held to account on human rights education; with recommendations implemented. 103 of the 181 projects engaged learners through transitions into action, mobilisation and informed participation.

Of **181** total projects in 2018:

FIGURE 2.

Number of Projects, Achievement Scale Outcome 1, 2018.

Learners have knowledge and skills to take action to defend and promote human rights worldwide.

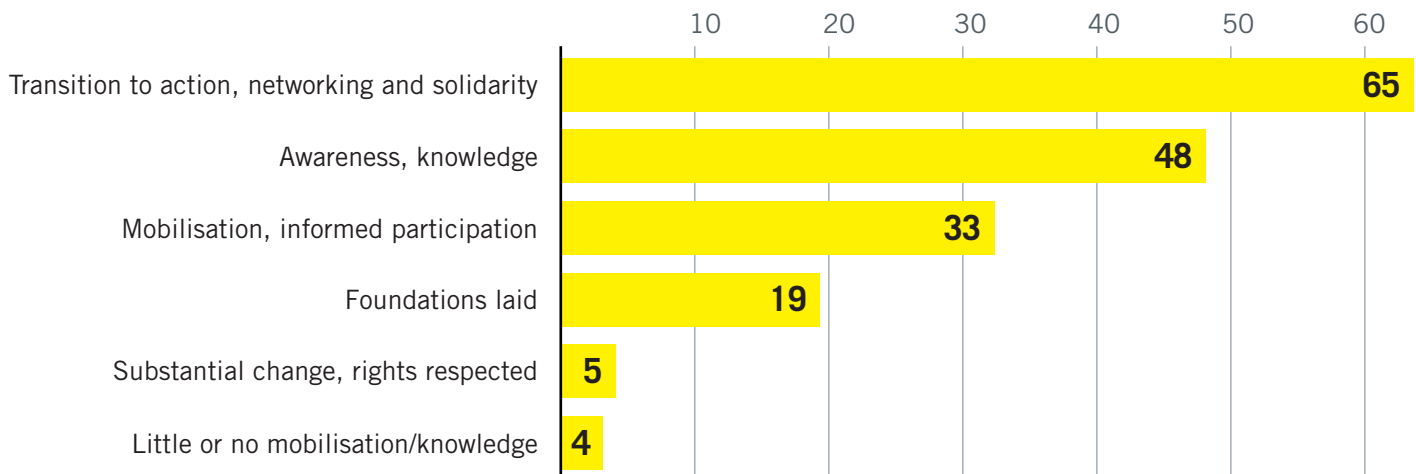
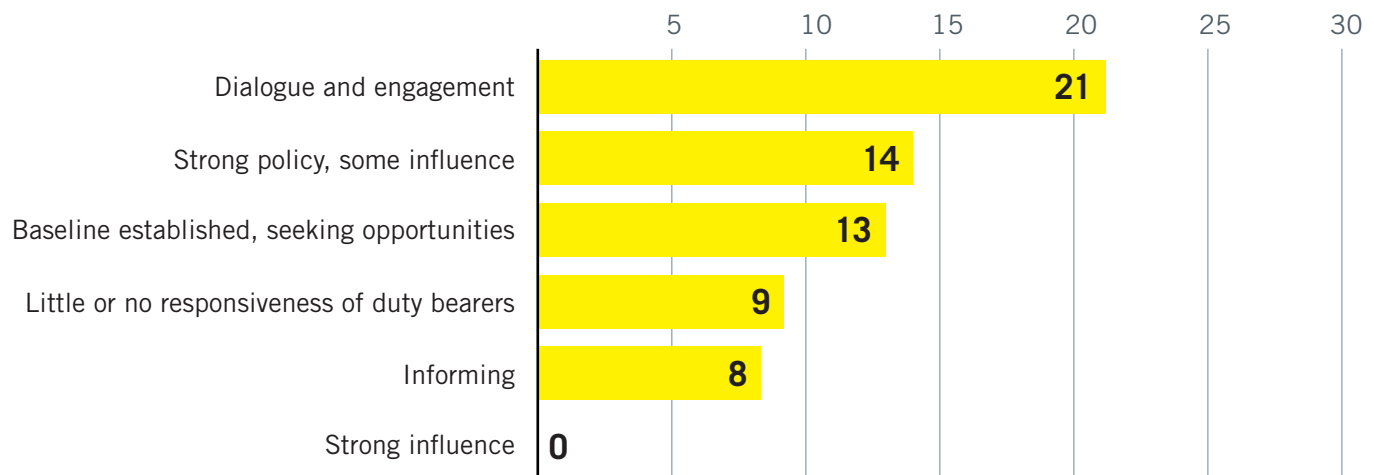


FIGURE 3.

Number of Projects, Achievement Scale Outcome 2, 2018.

Governments held to account on human rights education; Recommendations implemented.



GLOBAL PROJECTS

HUMAN RIGHTS EDUCATION WITHIN SCHOOLING

Of the 181 projects reported in 2018, 50 of the projects took place within schools and universities, engaging students within a school environment. 9 of these projects are the Human Rights Friendly Schools project, which is a sustainable all-encompassing approach to integrating human rights within the school environment. Beyond this, most of these projects focus on students, as well as target teachers, lecturers and other educators to deliver classes, workshops and trainings to bring human rights into the classroom. These projects ultimately work towards building a human rights culture within the school environment.

Human Rights Friendly Schools

The Human Rights Friendly Schools (HRFS) approach encourages and supports the development of a global culture of human rights by empowering young people, teachers and the wider school community to create human rights friendly school communities across the world. Participating schools work towards developing a whole-school approach to human rights, integrating human rights values, principles and knowledge into key areas of school life such as curriculum, school environment, school relationships and school governance.

Qualitative impacts for students themselves include:

- Increased awareness, critical thinking, and knowledge and understanding of students among students of Human rights issues.
- Building empathy among students in general, but also for marginalised groups, e.g. refugees.
- Students taking actions and participating in campaigns (their own and Amnesty campaigns)

Bringing HRE into the classroom provides major benefits to the school environment including:

- Improvements in the relationship between students, teachers, parents and school administration, and improvements in school governance through participation of students in decisions.
- More 'open discussion' of human rights issues, including sensitive topics in schools.
- Progress towards 'human rights culture' in schools: for example, reduction in bullying, abolition of corporal punishment.
- Improvements in inclusion, gender disability.
- A key takeaway is that there appear to be mutual benefits for students, teachers and school administrators from the development of a 'human rights culture' in their school environment.



SPOTLIGHT

HRFS in Côte d'Ivoire

"Our HRE activities integrate all social groups: people with albinism take part in workshops with members of the community. Women sit alongside men and sometimes religious guides. The School Administration agrees to publicly discuss sensitive topics with students, and offer us the school premises for teacher training and to conduct our activities. In addition, the General Inspectorate for Education for Human Rights and Citizenship (EDHC) is requesting Amnesty International to train its educational supervisors."

As a result, Human Rights Friendly School teachers and supervisors have discovered what it means to be a "Human Rights Defender." Amnesty International's communication on human rights defenders has allowed teachers to discover that they are also human rights defenders."

"I will protect my rights and the rights of others. I became an ambassador for human rights."

– Teacher at a HRFS, Côte d'Ivoire

MASSIVE OPEN ONLINE COURSES (MOOC's)

Across all courses we reached 42 378 learners in 167 countries.

Amnesty International's Massive Open Online Courses provide top quality content, engaging new audiences through large-scale free access to HRE. Thousands of human rights learners worldwide are connected through our free Massive Open Online Courses on edX, a partnership with MIT and Harvard founded online learning platform edX. In 2018 the programme expanded, creating another partnership with Europe's leading online social learning platform, FutureLearn to provide a course on the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

Top three countries for courses in the following languages are:

ENGLISH**ENGLISH**

1. United States
2. United Kingdom
3. India

عربي**ARABIC**

1. Egypt
2. Saudi Arabia
3. United States

FRANÇAIS**FRENCH**

1. United States
2. United Kingdom
3. India

ESPAÑOL**SPANISH**

1. Mexico
2. Colombia
3. Spain

“I found this course more than anything, beautiful. The possibility of sharing ideas and thoughts with people around the world and also the empathetic exercises made me feel like the world is still full of love.”

– ONLINE LEARNER

Refugee rights course on edX



THE AMNESTY HUMAN RIGHTS ACADEMY

The Amnesty-owned online learning space provides free access to quality human rights education for everyone, everywhere. The multilingual platform enables free access to bite-sized sessions (20 minutes) as well as deep dives (15-hour courses) in different human rights topics. The platform provides learning on the go using mobile devices for a wide audience through in-depth, self-paced online human rights courses. Collaboration with local, national and regional educators opens up opportunities to take the online learning experience offline and to develop blended learning journeys, combining online and offline learning. These blended learning journeys enable further face-to-face engagement with online learners, and conversely to encourage on-ground supporters to further their learning journeys by joining the online Academy.

Growth of the Academy in 2018

In 2018, the Amnesty Human Rights Academy expanded in terms of people reached, number of courses and number of learners. The Academy currently offers 36 courses in six languages to more than 50 000 learners overall. The widely popular **'An Introduction to Human Rights'** course has been taken up across the movement and is now available in English, Arabic, Spanish, Russian, Korean, Ukrainian and will soon be available in Portuguese as well. In 2019, the Academy will also have courses in Chinese. We have seen expansion within the America's with over 5000 learners taking part in 2018, thanks to many courses being available in Spanish.

In the Middle East and North Africa region, the Academy continues to receive large success by engaging with learners both online and in-person through workshops and trainings. Through this 'blended learning' approach, the region has reached a total of 154 560 people in 2018.

“As a human right defender in a third world country it is difficult to access vital materials/ education that will prepare me for the task ahead. With the help of your academy I have been able to learn the roles and risks involved in taking part in the course of human right defence. And also, how to control and mitigate against the risks.”

– IDEHEN ENOHENSE FRIDAY
Human Rights Activist, Nigeria





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SPOTLIGHT

Write for Rights in Asia

Write for Rights is a strong campaign in Asia-Pacific with Taiwan leading the way. Some examples of impact of this campaign include senior high school students in Taiwan stating that they could relate to Geraldine Chacon (one of the people Amnesty focused on for the 2018 write for rights campaign) a lot because they are almost of the same age, and they are inspired by what she's doing. The students are willing to take actions and follow Amnesty to make a change. In Thailand, more than 80% of Write for Rights actions are from Human Rights Education classes.

Write for Rights in Germany

In Germany, more than 579 schools took part in the campaign, they wrote 125 785 letters (of a total of 264 746 letters written in Germany). The number of participating schools increased by 50%, the number of letters written at schools by 62% compared to 2017.

STRENGTHENING AMNESTY'S GLOBAL CAMPAIGNS

HRE projects contribute significantly to Amnesty's global campaigns by increasing engagement, awareness of campaign issues and in building participants knowledge and skills to take action. The contribution to global campaigns includes the creation of resources, materials and support within schools to raise awareness and engagement across regions. Overall, HRE appears to contribute significantly to *Stand up for the Brave* and *Write for Rights*. Various entities have reported that HRE projects ensure informed activism and mobilize people to take part in these global campaigns.

CAMPAIGN	PROJECTS
Contributes to a global campaign	130
<i>I Welcome</i>	64
Global Campaign for Refugees	
<i>Stand up for the Brave</i>	70
Global Campaign on Human Rights Defenders	
<i>Write for Rights</i>	74

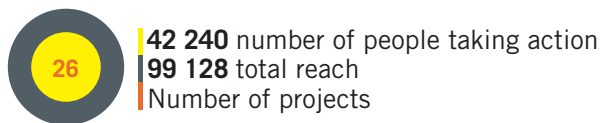
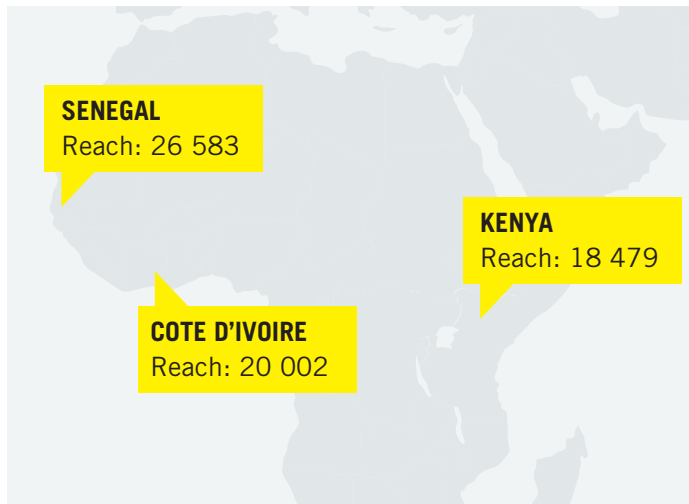
Note: projects may contribute to more than 1 campaign, so data for individual campaigns does not total up.

“Now I know how I can become a human rights defender. I want to be as brave as Geraldine (human rights defender) and stand-up for the rights of others who are treated unfairly.”

— **STUDENT,**
Austria

REGIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

AFRICA



49% female

71% youth

Amnesty's HRE work in Africa focuses to a large extent on on-ground work with communities and schools to promote human rights and affect change in local contexts. The Human Rights Friendly Schools project remains a significant project in the region in 2018 with eight countries implementing it. Another key regional project with Sierra Leone, Burkina Faso and Senegal is aimed at reducing levels of Female Genital Mutilation and Early and Forced Marriage.

"Identifying and understanding what human rights are and respecting those human rights is actually making students feel at home in school. This helps to spark academic excellence in the school environment."

– **ENOCK ARABU,**
Teacher, Kenya



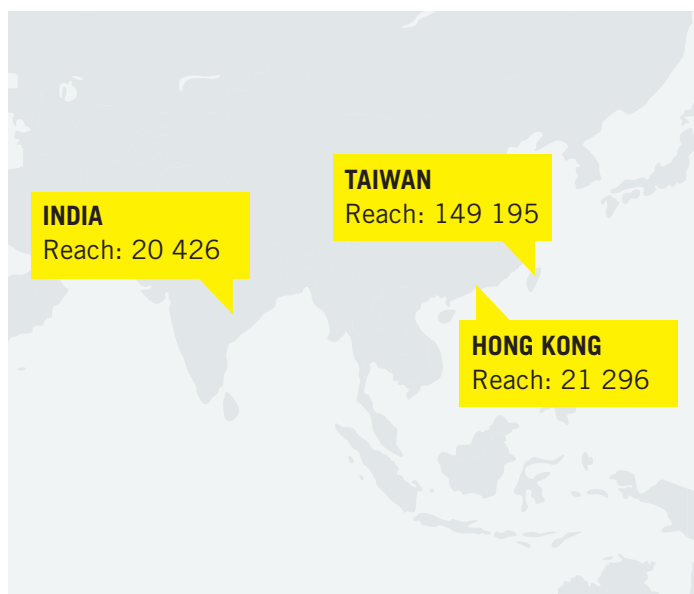
SPOTLIGHT

Human Rights Friendly Schools in West Africa

Four HRFS project in Ghana, The Gambia, Côte d'Ivoire and Mali reached more than 70,000 people. In The Gambia, HRFS is implemented in six schools in six regions. HRE is not included in the curriculum, but Amnesty has an agreement with the basic and secondary Ministry of Education and has a strong partnership at official level to support long-term progress towards integration of HRE in the curriculum. Changes observed in the schools include:

- Students are more confident to speak in public; participation of girls in decision level. For example, in the Karoumbou, for the first time a girl is a president of school government.
- Increased knowledge of Human Rights issues
- Good governance in most of targeted schools
- Better relations between administration, students and teachers

In Côte d'Ivoire, the General Inspectorate of Education to human rights and citizenship (EDHC) invited Amnesty International for the training of its academic supervisors. Inclusion is also an important theme in the observed changes: people with albinism are taking part in workshops with community members and women sit alongside men and sometimes religious guides. School administrations now allow discussion of sensitive topics with students.

ASIA-PACIFIC

64% female

57% youth

A large part of the HRE work in Asia-Pacific focusses on working with schools and universities, especially on Amnesty's Write for Rights campaign. We also see efforts towards integration of HRE in schools through human rights clubs, trainings and collaboration with governments.

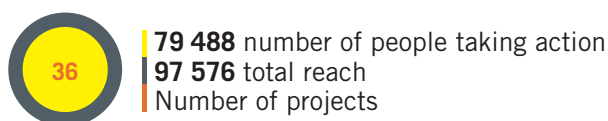
**SPOTLIGHT**

Philippines – Promoting Corporate Accountability and Indigenous Women's Rights

Amnesty Philippines have been actively working with three indigenous communities in the Caraga Region (northeast of Mindanao), particularly indigenous women to promote human rights and Indigenous peoples' rights. Local Women HRE Facilitators are actively engaging the local government units and regional government agencies to promote corporate accountability.

Four Regional and Provincial Consultation Meetings were organized. This is a notable undertaking to assemble government agencies and hold them accountable. Queries and complaints were heard directly from the women and tribal leaders as they demanded their social, cultural and economic rights. It surfaced mostly land rights issues as well as exposed offences of some government officials. As a result, three tribal communities, with at least 300 members were capacitated with inputs on Business and Human Rights, Documentation of Human Rights Violations, Gender and Women's Rights, Basic Human Rights and Indigenous Peoples Rights. Furthermore, the community organizing strategy employed by the project has mobilized the communities to claim their rights from state duty bearers including key government institutions responding to the clamor and issues of indigenous groups within project areas.

AMERICAS



64% female

57% youth

There is a strong focus on equality and sexual and reproductive rights within the region. Youth play a large leadership role within the regional HRE projects, with several planned workshops, trainings and peer to peer collaboration.

The 'It's My Body' programme in Argentina, Chile and Peru engages youth to teach their peers about sexual and reproductive rights and to take action to defend these rights. In Argentina, the youth in one of the project schools were successful with their advocacy claim, and integrated Comprehensive Sexual Education (CSE) into the school curriculum. Furthermore, a programme in Brazil has been empowering women to curb police violence in marginalized areas. Participants were able to connect with each other and could mobilize collectively to claim rights and established dialogues with public authorities within their communities.

"Human rights education not only helped teach students about sexual education, but it also gave us the tools to know what the law said and the possibility to claim our rights from the schools' administration."

– **JOACO HERRERO**,
Human Rights Defender and Educator, Argentina

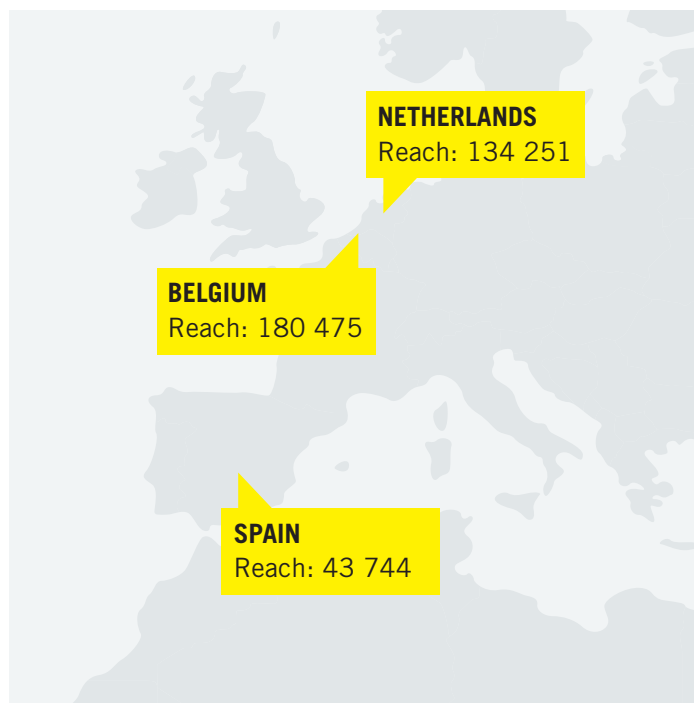


SPOTLIGHT

Defending the Defenders

Defending the Defenders works with rural communities in Guatemala, Honduras and Brazil. Its goal is to develop the capacity of young activists through HRE workshops to provide tools and skills for the participant to take action and raise awareness about environmental rights and human right defenders throughout their communities. The workshops were designed to empower the young activists to feel more confident in identifying human right violations and are able to facilitate dialogue and raise awareness in their communities through HRE and mobilization activities. In Brazil, the project has been implemented in partnership with Greenpeace and is known as "Banana-Terra". The project has developed a toolkit and training manual for young defenders as well as provide training workshops focusing on changing the narratives about human rights defenders through the participation of young human rights defenders in different spaces. The comprehensive use of digital media tools such as social media, radio and online podcasts has ensured the project reaches new audiences.

Youth participating in this project have replicated the workshops with and within their groups and communities by organising their own actions and activities which has increased their knowledge, skills and changed their behaviour.

EUROPE & CENTRAL ASIA

51% female

95% youth

Compared to previous years, this region continues to work with schools and universities (Amnesty Netherlands, Denmark, UK, etc.) while Eastern European entities tend to work more in the non-formal sector through trainings of trainers, living libraries, and workshops for activists (Amnesty Slovenia, Slovakia, Czech Republic, Moscow Office, etc). The latter approach often shows deeper engagement and mobilization, while having less reach.

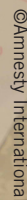


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SPOTLIGHT**Start the Change! Project**

This is a regional project that includes Italy, Slovakia, Slovenia, Czech Republic and Poland. This project aims to raise European citizens' awareness of the importance of a joint effort to contribute to ending poverty, protecting the planet and ensuring peace and prosperity for all, as stated in the Sustainable Development Goals by the United Nations. With the collaboration of teachers and educators, Start the Change! proposes a replicable educational model to increase the engagement of students and young people within their communities. At the same time the project aims to strengthen networks among schools, organizations and local authorities. The proposed "citizenship paths" invite young people aged 15 to 24 to explore the reality in which they live to reflect on the relationship between migration and global inequality as well as to actively participate in starting the change and supporting sustainable development.

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The Amnesty Human Rights Academy in MENA

In MENA, The Academy has engaged more than 30 000 learners, reaching course completion rates of 59%, exceeding the industry average. Some of these learners have reflected a transition to action by taking action in the online courses; others used the platform as a network (we see this especially on the social media spaces). Other learners have committed to finishing courses and thus are equipped with more detailed knowledge and skills and are aware of the causes of human rights violations and the way in which its impacts are varied.

One of the most relevant stakeholders' empowerment in 2018 was the involvement of youth in leading on a project from its design to its implementation. This **youth-led project** was designed in partnership with Amnesty Norway and was led by 4 youth activists from Lebanon, Morocco and Norway (Core group). The Youth Lab on Freedom of Expression was aimed at enabling participants to effectively use HR standards and practical experience in activism and campaigning in a more creative way. As part of the follow up, a youth group from Lebanon organized **a story telling night** by migrant workers followed by an open discussion with the audience in order to bring attention the country's restrictive Kafala system.

ACHIEVEMENTS AT A GLANCE

- The numbers and insights into projects suggest that the **portfolio of HRE projects overall is progressing towards significant growth.**
- HRE has enabled Amnesty entities around the world to **mobilise supporters, in particular youth** and grow the human rights movement.
- More than 50% of the work is geared towards building enhanced capacity of Civil Society Organisations and Human Rights Defenders to address human rights violations or claim their rights by:
 - ♦ **Building a new generation of human rights defenders and activists.** Increasing young people's knowledge and understanding of human rights and using this to demand change in their community and/or take action for Human Rights Defenders around the world.
 - ♦ **Building Civil Society Organisation's capacity to monitor and report human rights abuses** and/or participate in international review processes.
- HRE has supported **shifts in perceptions towards Human Rights Defenders, and what it means to be a Human Rights Defender.**
- HRE outcomes are around **connecting human rights defenders** from different places both online through various online courses, and on-ground through various workshops and trainings.
- Very few, but interesting results achieved are around **enhancing the capacity of institutions** (eg Ministries) through training of judges, prosecutors, police officers and lawyers of human rights standards.
- **Structural change** – In spite of the worldwide deteriorating political environment, in some countries, we see HRE integration in curricula, successful collaborations with governments and Amnesty presence in national education committees.
- **Overall, more than 60%** of Amnesty colleagues reporting say that human rights changes resulting from their project would not have happened without Amnesty's involvement.

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