



# ABOUT US WHAT WE DO

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INTERNACIONAL 

“LAS MUJERES  
ACCESO A SERV  
ABORTO LEGAL Y

CEDAW 2016

#QueSeaLey

AMNESTY  
INTERNATIONAL



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## SOCIAL MEDIA



AMNISTIA INTERNACIONAL ARGENTINA



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## ABOUT US

Amnesty International (AI) is a global movement composed of more than 8 million people spread across 160 countries and territories who actively seek to put an end to the violations and abuses of human rights, and to defend the full enforcement of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

With 60 years' of work internationally and almost four decades in Argentina, the actions of Amnesty International are framed within the objective that all human beings can live with dignity, without anyone being punished for their ideas, religion, gender, sexuality or place of birth; nor are they the victim of torture, kidnapping or forced disappearances.

In this way, the number of members and volunteers of the organization has increased consistently and we expect that it will continue to do so. In Argentina, numbers have grown exponentially.

The distinguishing aspects of our work include the independence of AI's actions, the mass participation in each one of them, the power of our campaigns, the capacity of advocacy, and the solidity of our denunciations and claims. Each transformation, each step forward, each new partner and each person joining a campaign is one more reason to continue working.

Today more than ever, Amnesty International needs to multiply the support to strengthen and expand its actions worldwide. There is still much to be done in order to transform dramatic and unjust realities, and to stop persistent human rights violations. In addition to that, there is always the ever-present challenge of fighting to get increasingly empowered new generations committed to the defence of human rights.

In the country, our agenda covers a wide range of subjects that Amnesty International Argentina (AIAR) aims to expand and consolidate in the coming years: women and sexual and reproductive rights, legalisation of abortion, human rights education, protecting the rights of indigenous peoples, climate change, refugees, the denunciation of the dire situation for Venezuelans, and the active defence of human rights in Venezuela as well as in Syria and Nicaragua. These are some of the key subjects.

In this publication, AIAR provides details of its organization, structure, and actions in the country as a part of the global movement that shapes Amnesty International.



## FUNCTIONING

Amnesty International makes international decisions. Its pillar is voluntary world membership. International solidarity, effective action in favor of victims, impartiality, independence, democracy and mutual respect are some of its main values.



## CAMPAIGNS

With petitions, letters and protests, activists press for changes. An emblem is the "Write for rights" campaign, whereby, year after year, millions of people write for others whose human rights were violated.



## INVESTIGATION

Human rights abuses are systematically and impartially investigated. Then, the cases go public accurately, quickly and persistently. This allows them to influence governments, companies and other entities, which are urged to end the abuses.



## ACTIVISM

Today you can raise your voice against injustices. How? With actions online, vigil, petitions, community activities and campaigns, among others. Small actions mean a lot.



## URGENT ACTIONS

When one or more people are in an extreme risk situation, a network of thousands of people around the world is activated. They gather their pressure capacity through cyber-actions.



## HUMAN RIGHTS EDUCATION

Beyond the allegations of specific and documented cases of human rights violations, Amnesty International deploys various human rights education activities throughout the world, and encourages their support and respect.

It is a global and independent movement that helps people to enforce their rights throughout the world

# AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL WE ARE 7,000,000 PEOPLE

Thanks to a system based on individual and private contributions, Amnesty International works with absolute independence. It does not accept grants from national governments or donations from political parties. In this way, it preserves its impartiality and freedom of action.

## FUNDING



Founded in 1961 in London by Peter Benenson, Amnesty International emerged after a group of students in Portugal was imprisoned for toasting freedom in their country. Today its Secretary General is the South African Kumi Naidoo.

## INTERNATIONAL SECRETARIAT



Gathered in the Global Council of the International Secretariat, business people, artists and philanthropists such as Richard Brandson, Yoko Ono, Paulo Coelho and Tony Fernández, work to increase public support for Amnesty International's campaigns and also its financial resources.

## INTERNATIONAL ADVISORS



More than 50,000 success stories with prisoners of conscience throughout the world imprisoned for their race, religion, skin color, language, sexual orientation or creed, without having advocated or practiced violence.

## ACHIEVEMENTS



Known people or groups that fight for human rights. Some of them are: the Irish group U2; the former South African president Nelson Mandela; the English musician and humanitarian activist Peter Gabriel; and the Pakistani activist Malala Yousafzai.

## AMBASSADORS



Nobel Peace Prize, United Nations Human Rights Award, Human Rights Award from the Council of Europe, Jaime Brunet International Prize from the Public University of Navarra for the promotion of Human Rights.

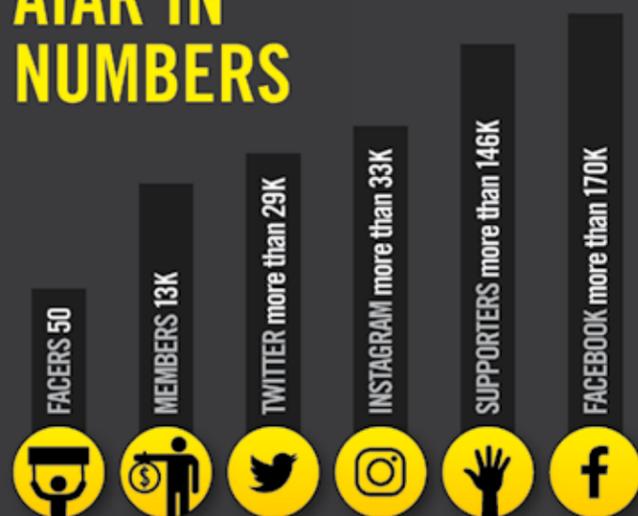
## AWARDS



# AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL ARGENTINA

Like in the rest of the world, in Argentina, Amnesty International acts with the conviction that change is possible, but not in isolation. For human rights violations to be reversed and not to remain unpunished, Amnesty International goes out to the streets, collects signatures, claims and denounces specific cases of violations with extensive documentation.

## AIAR IN NUMBERS



**FACERS:** Persons spreading the work of AIAR in the streets who seek to capture new members.  
**MEMBERS:** Persons making a monthly donation to the organisation.  
**SUPPORTERS:** Participants of one or more online or off line actions.

## DEMOCRACY

Like in the rest of the countries and territories, **Amnesty International Argentina** is a democratic organisation: the authorities of the Board of Directors are elected at Assembly and the posts are partially renewed every three years.



## FUNDING

Most of our revenue comes from individual donors. This allows having complete independence from any government, political ideology, economic interest or religion. **Amnesty International** counts 13,000 members in Argentina. Accepting or requesting funds from governments or political parties for human rights research is not allowed. We only accept the support from companies which were subject to thorough reviews in human rights related aspects. This ethical fund-raising method originating in donations from individuals allows an unwavering stance in the defence of human rights.

## A BIT OF HISTORY

1976

A mission of **Amnesty International** arrives in Argentina to investigate the situation of human rights as a consequence of the large number of reports of detentions and kidnappings by the military regime.

2008

**Amnesty International** publishes the report "*Muy tarde, muy poco. Mujeres desprotegidas ante la violencia de género en Argentina*" [Too late, too little. Women unprotected from gender violence in Argentina] which denounces the inaction of the State and demands the creation of a plan to address the issue, in line with the international obligations assumed by the country.

1977

After one year of the 1976 coup, the report derived from that visit is presented in London, with a list of 365 missing persons, verified by **Amnesty International**. It was the first denunciation of that kind, stating the full names of the victims.

2012

The report about victims of civil war and Franco's dictatorship in Spain "*Casos cerrados, heridas abiertas: el desamparo de las víctimas de la Guerra Civil y el franquismo en España*" is delivered to the Judiciary of Argentina, where the only current investigation of those crimes is heard, in application of the universal justice.

1984

The Argentine Section of **Amnesty International** started working in the 1980's in Córdoba. Since 1996 it served as a civil association with its headquarters in Buenos Aires city. Throughout the years, there are increasingly more volunteers involved in our actions for the defence of the human rights.

2017

In a joint advocacy action agreed with other organizations and with indigenous referents and communities, we succeed in getting the National Congress to extend the validity of *Law number 26,160 of Indigenous Territory Emergency* for four years, which is vital to guarantee the rights of indigenous peoples.

1988

The concert *Human Rights Now!* is held in Mendoza and Buenos Aires. A world tour comprising twenty concerts with the participation of renowned singers, such as Bruce Springsteen, Sting, Peter Gabriel and Tracy Chapman, among others. The idea was to raise awareness and expose the situation of the human rights in Argentina and around the world.

2018



Active campaign for the approval of the legalization of abortion. **#LegalAbortionNOW** [**#AbortoLegalYa**].

1996

**Amnesty International** publishes a report entitled *Investigaciones criminales en el ataque al Tercer Regimiento de Infantería de La Tablada* [Criminal investigation of the attack to the Third Infantry Regiment of La Tablada], in which we demand an impartial investigation on the claims of human rights violations.

2019

**#ESenLaEscuelaYA** [Sexual Education in school now!] Influencers, journalists, female actors and other public personalities take part in this campaign to demand the urgent implementation of the Comprehensive Sex Education Law.

# CHALLENGES AND ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE WOMEN'S MOVEMENT

## LEGAL, SAFE, AND FREE ABORTION

The complications arising from abortions made in risky conditions are the single main cause of maternal mortality.

### MAIN ACTIONS

In Argentina, Amnesty International fought for the bill regulating the Voluntary Interruption of Pregnancy. Although the bill did not pass, there was significant progress in the installation of the problem and empowering the women's movement.

In the framework of the debate for the legalisation of abortion and together with the Centro de Estudios de Estado y Sociedad (Cedes), AIAR carried out a public opinion survey on the issue in 2018: 98% of the population knew of the existence of the debate and 60% of respondents were "somewhat" or "very" in agreement with pushing a law.

Through AIAR's Executive Director, Mariela Belski, we had an active participation in different instances of the parliamentary debate on abortion, both in the House of Representatives and in the Senate.

In collaboration with other organisations of the civil society, AIAR participated in the creation of a digital platform containing didactic and accessible information about abortion in Argentina.

*"No precaricen nuestros derechos. Queremos aborto legal y educación sexual integral ¡ya!" [Do not make our rights more precarious. We want legal abortion and comprehensive sex education. Now!].* Secondary school students from

Buenos Aires city participated in the approval of the law and the effective enforcement of the Comprehensive Sex Education Law. AIAR participated in the action as a member of the Colectivo de Juventudes por los Derechos Sexuales y Reproductivos.

In an action of high impact and global projection, Amnesty International published a full-page advertisement on the back cover of the New York Times. On a green background there is the single image of a metal clothes hanger, a symbol for clandestine abortions and a legend warning legislators that "the world" is watching them.

*"Aportes de Amnistía Internacional al debate sobre la Despenalización del Aborto" [Contributions of Amnesty International to the debate on the decriminalization of abortion].* AIAR produced a series of documents based on human right standards and statistical data containing arguments defending the legalisation of abortion and the responses to the main objections to that stance.

Amnesty International succeeded in getting 60 Irish members of Parliament debating the legalisation of abortion in their country to send a letter to Argentine senators in which they stressed their significance in "stopping the injustice against women and girls".

The threat of criminal sanction forces thousands of women in Argentina to choose between their lives or jail whenever they suffer from complications following an abortion. Amnesty International understands that the criminal tool shall never be a State policy aimed at regulating a public health issue. Therefore, Amnesty considers that legalising the interruption of pregnancy is an unavoidable step towards the full exercise of the sexual and reproductive rights of women, young women, and persons of childbearing potential.

# COMPREHENSIVE SEX EDUCATION

Approved in 2006, Law number 26,150 establishes the mandatory nature of Comprehensive Sex Education (CSE) nationwide for all educational levels in all public and private schools.

Amnesty International Argentina carries out various actions to demand its effective implementation, in the face of resistances that persist in different jurisdictions of the country. According to official information from the Programa Aprender 2017, eight out of ten students claim not to have received CSE in their school trajectory. Even in the cases they did receive it, they criticise it due to the scarce or inadequate information.

According to UNICEF, the content offered predominates a centrally biological criterion of sexuality. Through CSE, boys, girls and adolescents should also have access to the information protecting them from situations of abuse. For this, it is vital to promote the care of privacy, respect for diversity, and knowledge about different alternatives of contraceptive methods, as well as the prevention of sexually transmitted diseases. It is also essential that young people understand their rights and that they are equipped with the tools to demand compliance.



## MAIN ACTIONS

**#ESlEnLaEscuelaYA** [Sexual Education at school now!]. In 2018, Amnesty International Argentina started a successful dissemination campaign, collecting signatures and raising awareness to demand the effective implementation of CSE. Videos with testimonials from adolescents and “influencers” narrating their experiences in sexual education boosted the task.

Requests of information to the Ministry of Education of Argentina and of the City of Buenos Aires for the effective implementation of the CSE law were submitted.

Encuentro Nacional de Jóvenes por los Derechos Sexuales y Reproductivos [National Meeting of Youth for the Sexual and Reproductive Rights], gathers young persons from the city and province of Buenos Aires and the provinces of Córdoba and Tucumán.

Participation and advocacy in the definition of the second action plan of the Alliance for the Open Government of the city of Buenos Aires, which incorporates CSE as a core subject.

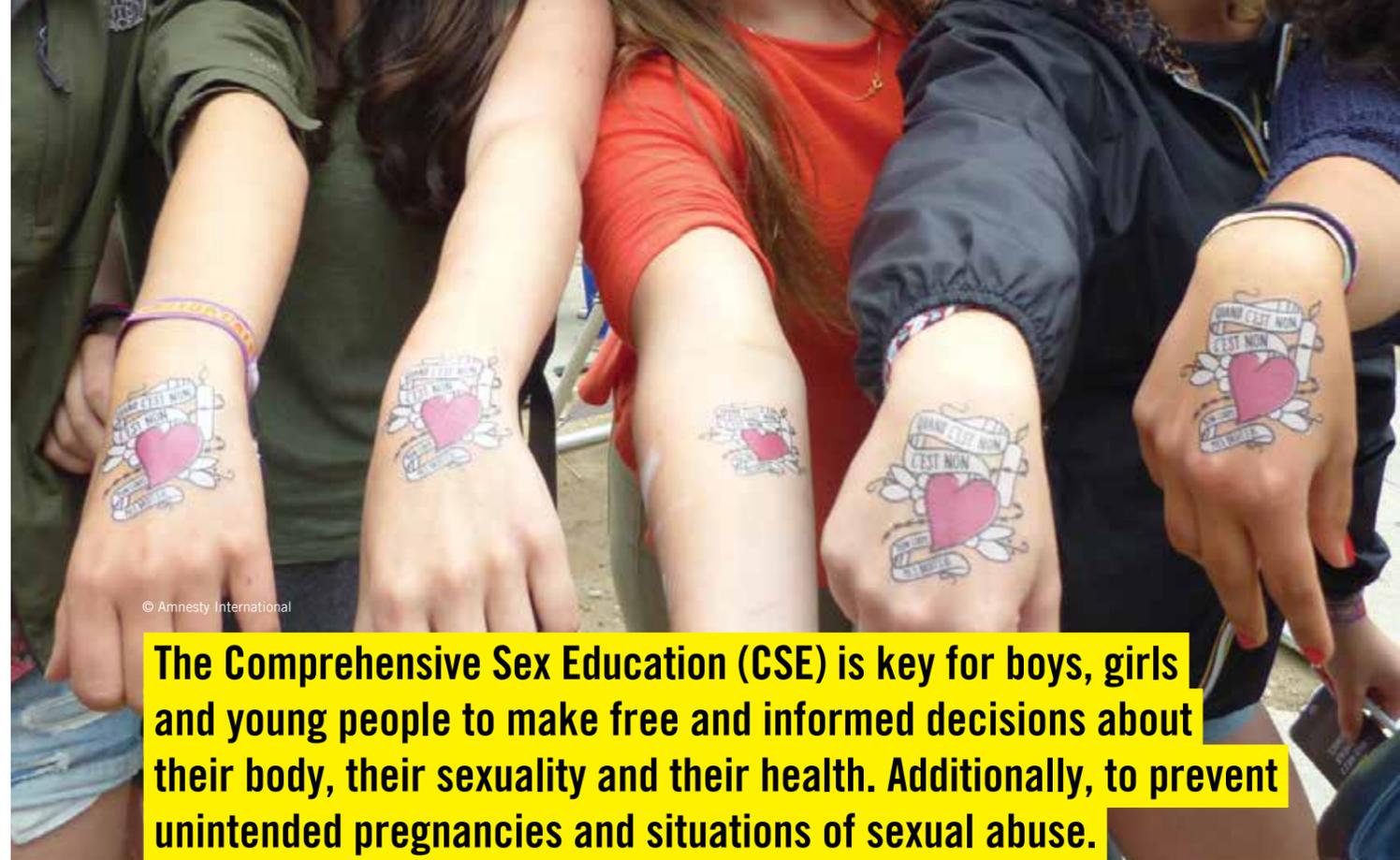
Presence of a member of the AIAR’s Youth area in a hearing on sexual and reproductive rights of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights of the Organization of American States.

Activist festival for the sexual and reproductive rights organised in the city of Buenos Aires together with the Colectivo de Juventudes por los Derechos Sexuales y Reproductivos.

Workshops and webinars geared to the youth to incentivise the development of projects aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals of the 2030 Agenda, connected with health and wellbeing, quality education and gender equality.

“Jóvenes x la ESI [Young People for the CSE]” hackaton, organised together with other organisations at Universidad Tecnológica Nacional with the aim of creating content for a CSE platform.

“No la cuelguen con la ESI [Do not hang the CSE]” Campaign, aimed at demanding the full implementation of CSE and based on the metal clothes hanger symbol, which identifies the struggle in favour of the legal, safe and free abortion.

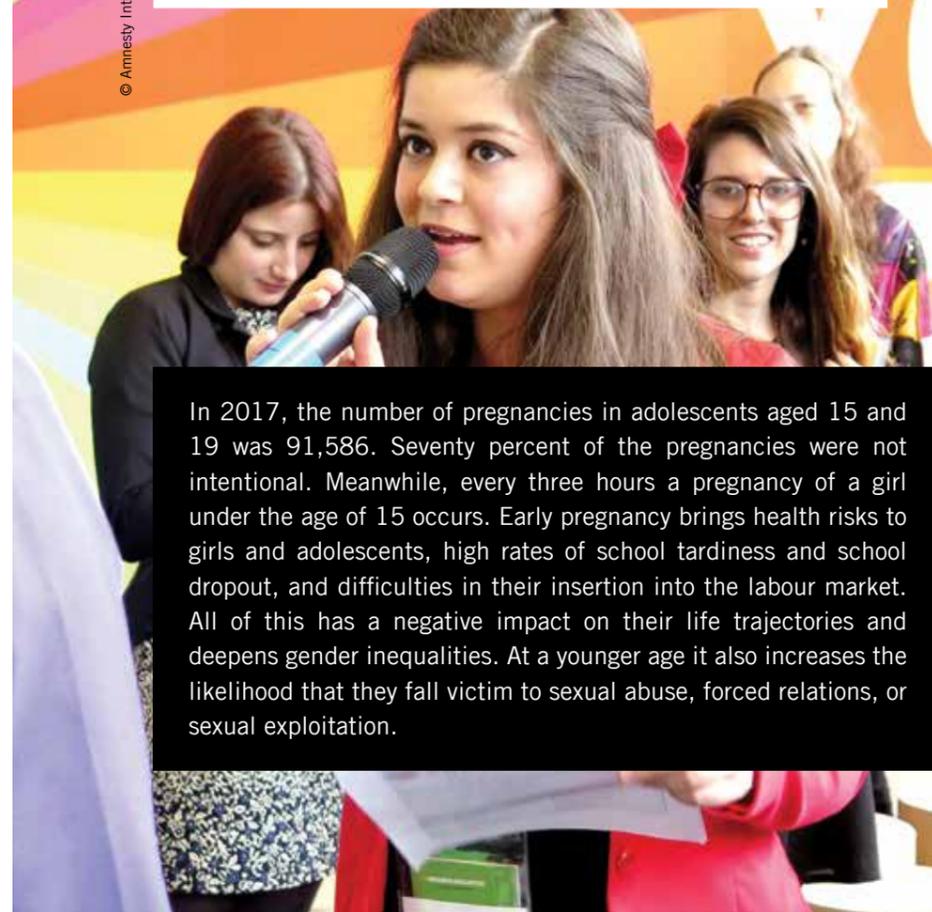


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**The Comprehensive Sex Education (CSE) is key for boys, girls and young people to make free and informed decisions about their body, their sexuality and their health. Additionally, to prevent unintended pregnancies and situations of sexual abuse.**

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**In Argentina the unintended pregnancy rates in childhood and adolescence are alarming. The geographical distribution is closely linked with the socio-economic level of the different regions: the provinces with the most economic difficulties (North East and North West of Argentina) are the ones with the most alarming numbers.**



In 2017, the number of pregnancies in adolescents aged 15 and 19 was 91,586. Seventy percent of the pregnancies were not intentional. Meanwhile, every three hours a pregnancy of a girl under the age of 15 occurs. Early pregnancy brings health risks to girls and adolescents, high rates of school tardiness and school dropout, and difficulties in their insertion into the labour market. All of this has a negative impact on their life trajectories and deepens gender inequalities. At a younger age it also increases the likelihood that they fall victim to sexual abuse, forced relations, or sexual exploitation.

## ADOLESCENT PREGNANCY

### MAIN ACTIONS

Participation in the “Consejo Consultivo del Plan Nacional de Prevención y Reducción del Embarazo No Intencional en la Adolescencia”, and in planning meetings of the National Programme of Comprehensive Health in Adolescence.

“Mostrá tu poder” [Show your power] ([www.mostratupoder.org.ar](http://www.mostratupoder.org.ar)), a campaign fostered by organisations committed to the rights of adolescents, aimed at dispelling myths and offering information for adolescents to be able to enjoy their sexuality.

“Embarazo en la adolescencia en la Argentina” [Pregnancy in adolescence in Argentina], a report containing figures and contributions to the debate on sexual and reproductive rights.

Presentation of a report to the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child in June 2018, which compiled the main concerns of AIAR in connection with sexual and reproductive rights, and the access to CSE.

# EDUCATION AND HUMAN RIGHTS

Human Rights Education transforms and empowers people to claim their rights. This contributes to creating a demand for change and modifies attitudes and conducts. It also allows them to acquire tools and knowledge, and transmit them to others to develop skills aimed at promoting equality, dignity and respect for these rights in communities and societies.

Amnesty International Argentina organises workshops with a participatory methodology, which foster critical thinking and youth empowerment in formal and informal education spaces. Additionally it develops activism and political advocacy, by exposing human rights violations.

In turn it fosters spaces of active participation with youth as protagonists and promotes environments of dialog with authorities at a local, national and international level so that their opinions are heard and considered.

## MAIN ACTIONS

Workshops for the defence and promotion of sexual and reproductive rights, centred on the social construction of gender and sexualities, roles and stereotypes.

Participation in the Colectivo de Juventudes por los Derechos Sexuales y Reproductivos, an alliance of organisations which carry out political advocacy actions and strengthening the youth participation on this issue, all across the country.

*“Mi decisión” [My decision]* ([www.midecision.org](http://www.midecision.org)), a web-page containing tools for the development of workshops on sexual and reproductive rights using participatory methodologies.

*“Comprometidos” [Committed]*, a sharing platform with youth initiatives which seek to create a positive social impact, geared to young persons of 18 to 29 years of age in Latin America. It is active in conjunction with Socialab, Ashoka and UNESCO.

Human Rights education through games: using on-line games, this action fosters an approach through dynamic and attractive proposals.

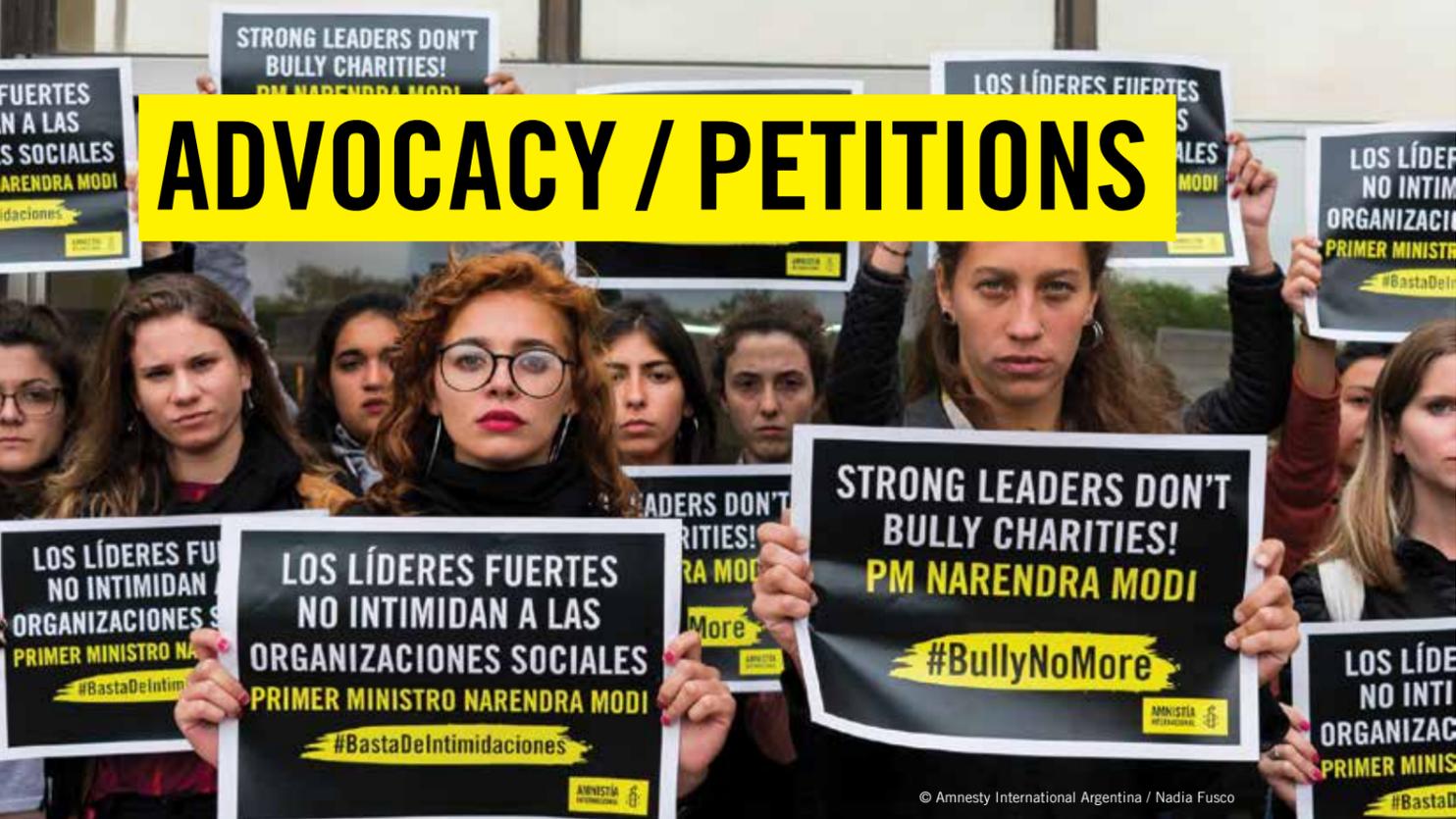
On-line courses: Four open courses without enrolment restrictions and available the whole year round are aimed at providing tools for the defence and promotion of human rights.

*“Escribí por los derechos” [Write for rights]*, is a world campaign to send letters to demand the respect of human rights in specific cases. In Argentina, the 2018 edition focused on attacks suffered by women promoting the legalisation of abortion.

Network of schools and educators for the promotion and protection of human rights.

**Human Rights Education creates a nourishing environment for reflection on one’s own values and attitudes, and, from there, to modify conducts. It also helps prevent abuses, combat discrimination, promote equality and foster the participation of citizens in decision-making processes.**

# ADVOCACY / PETITIONS



Thousands of people joining the same cause succeed in stopping countless injustices. Action is key. And it is possible to do it now, just a click away.

The campaigns and the research organised by Amnesty International are fact-based. To that end, we interview local authorities, engage in dialog with the victims, and attend court proceedings as an observer, among other tasks. Once these injustices are detected, they are made visible and actions are taken to pressure governments, political groups, companies and intergovernmental bodies to stop the occurrence of these situations. Cyber actions (which consist of signing urgent actions and petitions, and the mass sending of emails) seek to make joint claims to achieve concrete changes.

## MAIN ACTIONS

Meeting between Amnesty International General Secretary and President Mauricio Macri on 11 April 2018. AI voiced the challenges and opportunities of Argentina in terms of Human Rights and pointed out the key role of the country in regional and global issues.

Legal abortion. In addition to the active participation in the parliamentary debate, AIAR collected 220,000 signatures claiming its legalisation.

*#NiñasNoMadres* [*#GirlsNotMothers*]. A campaign to collect signatures and cyber action to call on authorities of the province of Tucumán to ensure the enforcement of the current legislation and to allow the practice of abortion to an 11 year old girl victim of a forced child pregnancy resulting from a rape, detected at the nineteenth week of gestation.

*"Tres horas por la selva para acceder a la educación"* [*Three hours across the jungle to access education*]. Signature collecting action to ask the government of the province

of Misiones and the national government to build a bridge and a safe path so that students of a school reach the classroom free of any risks. After the campaign and the claims, a pedestrian bridge was erected; however, AI and the community still call for a vehicle bridge.

Venezuelan refugees. Millions of persons have fled Venezuela in recent years. Amnesty International collected signatures to call on the Argentine government to take urgent measures to protect Venezuelan citizens seeking a safe haven in the country.

A "letter marathon" takes place at the same time and at a global level. It seeks to collect signatures supporting the claims and denunciations in cases of human rights violations.

Urgent international campaign to call on the Argentine authorities to authorise the return to the country of a mother of Peruvian origin -with more than 15 years' residence in Argentina- who was expelled and separated from two of her three Argentine minor children.

Amnesty International analysed the effect of attacks on different actors on social media and how this affects the political debate. As the world becomes more interconnected, the importance of digital platforms also grows. According to the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights of the United Nations, it is the responsibility of companies to respect the right of nondiscrimination and the freedom of expression and opinion, and to take concrete measures to prevent the violation of the rights of the users. On the other hand, social mobilisations are an exercise of freedom of expression and association, and the right of assembly, all them recognised by the National Constitution and the international treaties signed by Argentina. Additionally, such protests are the only way vulnerable sectors can have their voices heard on many occasions.

## HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS

A human rights defender is the person who individually or collectively takes action to defend or promote human rights locally, nationally or internationally, without resorting to hate, discrimination or violence, or promoting its use.

These actors play a significant role to ensure that States meet their obligations and claim responsibilities for the abuses inflicted by non-state agents.

In this framework, they are usually the target of actions coming from governments, armed groups and companies who seek to silence them and repress them through personal attacks, smear campaigns, surveillance methods or criminalising their activities.

One of these cases in Argentina is that of Javier Chocobar, a member of a Diaguita community. He was gunned down in 2009 when he, together with other community members, peacefully defended their territory in front of a landowner who claimed to own the place.

After many years of struggle, a businessman (who received 22 years imprisonment) and two former policemen (18 and 10 years imprisonment, respectively) were sentenced for the crime. However, the judge's decision is not final.

## MAIN ACTIONS

**#ToxicTwitter.** A report on violence and abuse against women on the Internet.

Green scarves. During the debate on the bill for the Voluntary Interruption of Pregnancy in the National Congress, those defending the initiative were subject to threats, insults and stigmatising remarks.

Trolling and aggressions to the freedom of expression on Twitter. Amnesty International Argentina carried out a study on cyber attacks against nine renowned journalists and two human rights activists. It revealed the existence of a concerted activity of aggressions when criticism or positions inconveniencing the Government are voiced.

Social protest. AIAR voiced its concern in the face of alarming signals connected with the right to protest and the freedom of expression in the country. Heavy handed police activities, including arbitrary detention and excessive use of force increased after security issues were prioritised.

AIAR warned that while the official discourse favours the dialogue with the civil society, many human right defenders and organisations of the civil society denounce a growing stigmatisation and the presence of smear campaigns.

Social media has become a central space for debate and the construction of public opinion, but it also provides fertile ground for aggression and abuse.

# FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION

# INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

In its National Constitution and through international treaties, Argentina recognises the human rights of indigenous peoples: the right to territory and natural resources; the right to self-determination and the right to decide their own priorities of development and to have their culture respected. However, there has been a wide gap between them and their effective application.

Currently there are 200 conflicts in which indigenous communities demand the fulfilment of their rights to governments, companies, and before judges and prosecutors, who disregard current legislation. The cases surveyed were publicised by the communities themselves and by different organisations accompanying them.

On 12 April 2018, during a meeting with President Mauricio Macri, the then General Secretary of Amnesty International, Salil Shetty, requested the observance of urgent human rights problems, including those of the indigenous peoples.

## INDIGENOUS TERRITORY

Creation of the platform [www.territorioindigena.com.ar](http://www.territorioindigena.com.ar), jointly with other Organisations of the Civil Society. Two hundred cases are only a part of the conflicts existing in the country, focusing on the claim to hold ownership title of ancestral lands. The information shared is public and seeks to be a starting point to make the challenges and problems experienced by the indigenous people more visible in the country.

## SALINAS GRANDES

In the last 20 years, a significant increase was evidenced in the extractive model in activities such as agribusiness, mega mining, oil and forestry. Policies such as the elimination of export taxes for mining and agricultural products and the creation of incentives for oil and lithium extracting companies deepened this growth, without the participation of or the consultation with the affected communities. A prominent example is the exploitation of lithium in Salinas Grandes, which impacts at least 33 indigenous communities of Salta and Jujuy provinces.

# REFUGEES AND MIGRANTS

Millions of women, men, and children flee their homes in attempts that are exhausting, risky, and often fatal to achieve security in their own country or beyond their borders. Many others leave their countries to seek a better life but encounter violations of their most basic rights when they reach their destination. Amnesty International has been working for decades to protect refugees and migrants, in order to guarantee their rights, and to prevent situations of exploitation and abuse.

## VENEZUELAN MIGRATION

Given the scale of the crisis, Amnesty International requested governments of the region to facilitate the protection of persons arriving from Venezuela and to guarantee their rights of health, education, work, safety and free circulation. Likewise, AI published a report called *"Esto no es vida"* (*This is not life*), in which we warn about the use of force by the Venezuelan State against the most vulnerable and socially excluded population, violating their rights and criminalising them. In addition, it calls attention to the mass migration of Venezuelan inhabitants as a reflection of the Human Rights violations suffered in their territory.

## COMMUNITY SPONSORSHIP

Community sponsorship links people worldwide and is based on a simple yet radical idea: ordinary people helping refugees settle down in a new country. Just like in the United Kingdom, Ireland, Australia and New Zealand, Argentina joined this initiative with the "Programa Siria" (Syria Program), through which more than 400 people of that nationality arrived in the country, through community sponsorship. In 2018, the Argentine Network of Support for Community Sponsorship of Refugees was formed, in which Amnesty International Argentina participates ([www.patrociniocomunitario.org](http://www.patrociniocomunitario.org)).

## MONITORING OF MIGRATION POLICIES

Law number 25,871 of migration governs Argentina. It establishes the right to migrate and guarantees the access of basic rights (health, education, justice, social assistance) to all people, irrespective of their migratory status. In recent years, however, there have been setbacks. One of them was Executive Power Decree number 70/2017, which, among other aspects, reduced the time frame for expulsion and removed legal rights and guarantees. AIAR carried out several actions to prevent and expose the violation of rights.

# PRE-TRIAL DETENTION

## FORGOTTEN PRISONER

In May 2019 Amnesty International launched a global request for signatures to request that the General Prosecutor of Argentina and the Supreme Court of Justice of Argentina issue an immediate opinion on the situation of Jorge González Nieva, a man who has been in pre-trial detention for more than 12 years. His case is being studied by the Supreme Court of Justice of Argentina since 2015. The evidence used to incriminate him of a robbery followed by death was irregular according to the defence at the Appeals Court in the province of Buenos Aires, and the International organization Innocent Project.

According to international Human Rights legislation, all persons enjoy the principle of the presumption of innocence unless otherwise proven. Although Law number 24,390 establishes a time limit of two years plus a one-year extension for pre-trial detention, almost half the people deprived of their liberty do not have a final conviction.



# ARGENTINA IN THE WORLD

## MAIN ACTIONS

Report to the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child containing the main concerns of AI with regards to sexual and reproductive rights and the access to comprehensive sex education in Argentina (2018).

Report to the United Nations Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights containing a comprehensive survey regarding pending issues in connection with the compliance of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights in Argentina (2018)

Amnesty International Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Paraguay and Chile denounced the attempt of the governments of these countries to “weaken and handcuff” the Inter American System of Human Rights, and called for changes in the method of action.

The Human Rights Council of the United Nations approved the results of the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) of Argentina. AIAR had submitted a report and recommendations on issues such as the rights of migrants, indigenous peoples, health of women and girls, freedom of expression and assembly, gender violence and gender parity as well as prevention of torture.

Report to the Special Rapporteur on the Right to Privacy of the United Nations regarding the right to health and privacy aimed at providing information about the hindrances experienced by women, girls and persons of childbearing potential to enjoy their sexual and reproductive rights, among them the violation of the professional secret.

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## MAIN ACTIONS

G20 Summit, held in Buenos Aires in December 2018. Amnesty International requested the public recognition of the role human rights defenders play in the fulfilment of the sustainable development goals. Additionally, we requested that in the future the protection of the space of the civil society in that forum be protected.

Feminist report of the civil society in view of the W20. In August 2018, the members of the Women’s Human Rights Defenders for G20 Observatory invited the representatives of Organisations of the Civil Society, and women’s and feminist organizations to inform on the participation in the W20 (Women 20) and C20 (Civil Society 20), prior to the G20 Summit.

Visit of the UN Special Rapporteur on Torture and visit of the UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food in 2018. Amnesty provided information on those issues.

**Marielle Franco Case.** AIAR spearheaded an action in front of the Brazilian Embassy in Buenos Aires, to demand shedding light on the murder of Rio de Janeiro councilwoman Marielle Franco, murdered for daring to defend others.

**#OpenToSyria.** A global campaign to press governments, with the support of the public opinion, to receive more refugees in vulnerable situations in their countries by means of resettlement programmes and admission due to humanitarian reasons.

**#FreeNasrin:** Amnesty International collected more than a million signatures around the world to demand the freedom of Nasrin Sotoudeh, a distinguished Iranian human rights lawyer. Nasrin was sentenced to 38 years in prison and 148 lashes for her work in defence of the rights of women and against the Iranian legislation on the forced use of hijab.

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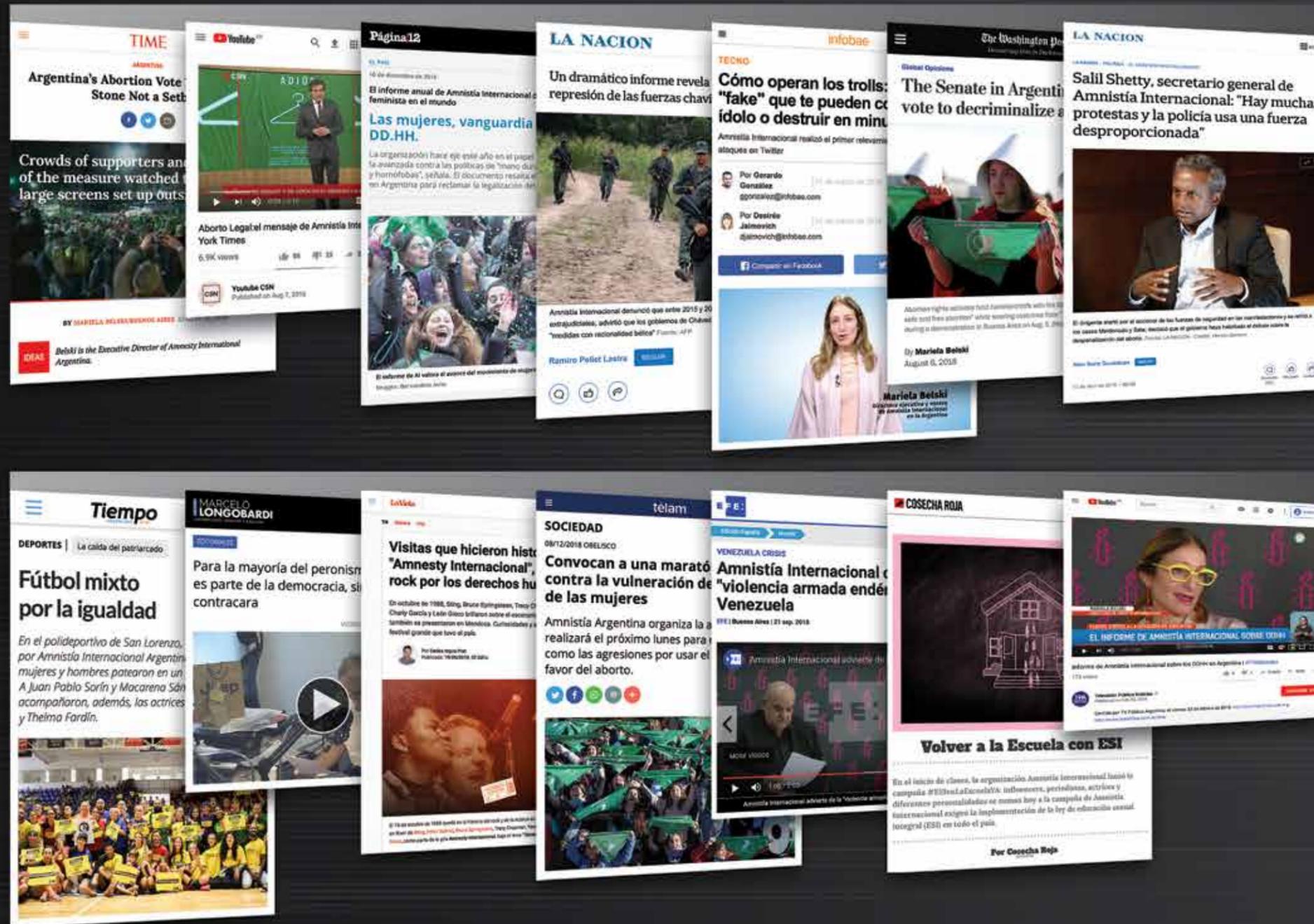
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# THE WORLD IN ARGENTINA



The communication strategy is one of the crucial instruments to achieve impact. Over the years, Amnesty International has been positioning and consolidating itself as a reliable and inescapable source of information on various topics, with a significant presence in the media.

# IMPACT ON THE MEDIA



## #MeJuegoPorLaIgualdad

Amnesty International Argentina organised a mixed football team with referents from different spheres, for gender equality at Club San Lorenzo de Almagro in March 2019.





## PRESENT AND FUTURE

We know that the world may change, but it won't change on its own. That's the reason for our unstoppable willingness to go on conquering achievements and rights. Amnesty International was born 58 years ago with a tough yet powerful objective: for all persons to enjoy their human rights.

We achieved a lot over the years: more than 50,000 cases of success with prisoners of conscience, 133 countries abolished the death penalty, for the commitment to human rights Amnesty International was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize and the United Nations Human Rights Prize, and 153 States voted in favour of establishing an international Arms Trade Treaty.

Amnesty International was a pioneer in making visible the crimes against humanity perpetrated by the last civilian-military dictatorship in Argentina all around the world. Additionally, we contributed in getting the judges to release a woman convicted for having experienced a miscarriage and in sentencing those responsible for the death of the indigenous leader Javier Chocobar.

For almost 60 years ago to the present, we succeeded in being at the forefront of the demands for human rights. In a context of fake news, hyper connection and the unprecedented speed in the flow of information, it is a challenge for us to expand and update our work agenda on a permanent basis. Climate change -which is a compelling issue for the youth- or the austerity measures affecting especially such vital areas such as health and education, are all pivotal points to work on in coming years.

Membership of and activist participation in Amnesty International are increasing exponentially. By mid-2019 we have 13,000 members and close to 150,000 persons interested in knowing their rights and changing the world. We want to be more, we want concrete changes, and we want improvements for us and for coming generations. And we know we are not alone in our mission, because it is the mission of everyone: the respect and effective fulfilment of basic rights.

**Mariela Belski**  
*Executive Director*  
Amnesty International Argentina



**IT IS BETTER TO LIGHT A CANDLE  
THAN CURSE THE DARKNESS**

**GARANTIZAR QUE  
LOS TENGAN  
SERVICIOS DE  
SIN RIESGO”**

AMNISTÍA  
INTERNACIONAL



**AMNESTY  
INTERNATIONAL**

