

STUDENT CONFERENCE

2023

HUMAN RIGHTS ACTION CENTRE
28-29 January



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#studentconf

AMNESTY
INTERNATIONAL



WELCOME

Welcome fellow students,

For those of you who are first timers, welcome, you're going to love it. For those of you who have attended before, welcome back! This is the Amnesty Student Action Network's biggest event, and we hope you have an amazing weekend. The conference is the perfect opportunity to meet fellow activists, share what you've been up to on campus, learn new skills and hear from inspirational speakers and human rights defenders.

We have a lot of cool things happening this year – workshops on our campaigns, panel sessions on topics we care about, a chance to network with students from across the UK. We'll also be running a Football Welcomes game!

There'll be delicious food and some fantastic entertainment throughout the weekend, including a vegan and gluten-free lunch provided by Kal's Kitchen and performances from the Cocoa Butter Club on Saturday. Sunday will see the Right to Food Campaign action take place, and we'll enjoy a music break from Polina Shepherd, a Siberian refugee.

We hope you have a wonderful weekend and leave feeling inspired and empowered. If you have any questions don't hesitate to speak to a StAN committee member or volunteer (we're in the blue StAN shirts!). For those of you who don't already, remember to follow us on Instagram at @amnestyukstudents. And importantly, please share photos and comments with us over the weekend on the hashtag #studentconf so we can share them.

We hope you have the best weekend with us!

In solidarity,
StAN Committee 2022/23



28-29 January 2023

Amnesty International UK, Human Rights Action Centre, London

#studentconf

ACCOMODATION

This year we'll be using **YHA St Pauls Hostel**, which is just a short bus journey away from the Human Rights Action Centre.

When checking in from **3pm** on Friday you will need to show Reception **your ID** (passport, EU identity card or UK driving license). There is no curfew at the hostel, but please remember that Sunday is an early start with breakfast available from 9am back at the **Human Rights Action Centre**. You'll be able to store your bags at the HRAC throughout both days.

For those checking-in to YHA St Paul's Hostel on Saturday night, we have allotted time in the agenda for you to do this between 6-7.30pm, before the evening entertainment.

On **Saturday and Sunday morning breakfast** will be available at **YHA St Paul's Hostel** at 8am and at the **Human Rights Action Centre** from 9am.

YHA London St Paul's Hostel Address: 36 Carter Ln, London EC4V 5AA

How to get from the Human Rights Action Centre to YHA St Paul's:

It's either a 30-minute walk, or 25-minute bus ride on the 26 or 8 bus from Shoreditch High Street Station. You might even fancy grabbing a Santander bike (if you're feeling brave!).

If you have any issues, please contact **Hannah** (07879 109074).

We advise you to download **Citymapper** on your smartphone to find your way in London. It'll show you the most up-to-date travel times.

You can also **scan the QR** code below to find your way to **YHA St Pauls** from the **Human Rights Action Centre**.



STUDENT ACTION NETWORK COMMITTEE



Lilli Duberley (she/they) Chair of StAN & London

Hello, I'm Lilli the current Chair of StAN and the StAN Committee member representing London! I am currently in my third year studying Philosophy at the New College of the Humanities, where I also run the NCH Amnesty Student Group. I've been involved with Amnesty since 2019, when I was a part of the Rise Up program. I'm super excited for the Student Conference and to introduce all the campaigns that we are running to you and your Groups!

Lilli.Duberley@amnesty.org.uk



Leah Ennis (she/her) Northern Ireland and Wales

Hi! I'm Leah and the new StAN committee member representing Northern Ireland and Wales. I am in my third year studying International Relations and Conflict Studies at Queen's University Belfast. I'm very excited to be talking about the Northern Ireland Legacy Bill with you on Sunday! Looking forward to meeting all of you and enjoying our Saturday evening entertainment!

Leah.Ennis@amnesty.org.uk



Becca Tyler (she/her) North West England

Hiya my name is Becca! I am the StAN representative for North West and I just graduated from the University of Liverpool studying History and Politics. Being on the StAN committee allows me to collaborate with peers who have similar passions and interests as me, working together to make differences within the university space and larger. I'm really excited to meet all of you at the Student Conference and am particularly looking forward to the workshop on anti-racism!

Rebecca.Tyler@amnesty.org.uk



Laura Gent (she/her) South East England

Hey, I'm Laura, the South East Rep on the StAN committee. I study Nutrition at the University of Newcastle. I am passionate about creating a fairer world where we all live equally, and I have recently launched my activist-led food campaign on the Right to Food. I'm really excited to organise the big action for this campaign with you all on Sunday afternoon (and also for all the yummy food!).

Laura.Gent@amnesty.org.uk



Raina Singh (she/her) [South West England](#)

Hi! My name is Raina and I am the South West Representative on the Student Action Network (StAN) Committee. I am a final year Law student at the University of Exeter and one fun fact about me is that I love cats. I am particularly passionate about women's rights and equality for all. I'm super excited for the workshops we have this weekend on abortion rights and the End Israeli Apartheid Campaign!

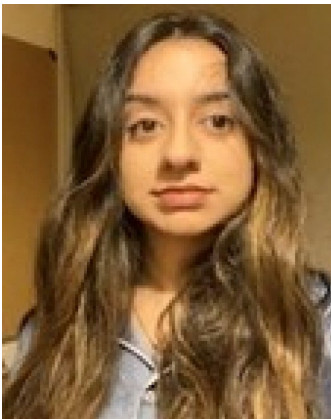
Raina.Singh@amnesty.org.uk



Alba Andrés Sánchez (she/her) [Scotland](#)

Hi! I'm Alba the StAN member representing Scotland! I have just graduated from International Relations student at the University of Edinburgh, where I was the Stop Killer Robots campaign coordinator and co-president. I am really excited to meet everyone at the Student Conference and I can't wait to lead the Stop Killer Robots workshop for you all!

Alba.AndresSanchez@amnesty.org.uk



Simran Kapoor (she/her) [Midlands](#)

Hey! My name is Simran and I am the StAN Committee member representing the Midlands. I recently completed my undergraduate degree at the University of Warwick in History. I'm looking forward to the Student Conference so I can meet likeminded individuals and learn more about some of the inspiring campaigns Amnesty International UK are working on!

Simran.Kapoor@amnesty.org.uk



Athina Bohner (she/her) [Scotland](#)

Hi everyone! My name is Athina and I am the StAN representative for Scotland. I feel particularly passionate about feminism and refugee rights, and study International Relations student at the University of Glasgow. I'm excited to meet so many young activists from across the UK and to be inspired by the insightful speakers and workshops on offer!

Athina.Bohner@amnesty.org.uk



Poppy Skelton (she/her) [North East England](#)

Hi! I'm Poppy and I'm the StAN representative for the North-East of England. I've been part of the Amnesty International Newcastle University Society for 3 years. I did an undergraduate in History, and I am particularly passionate about climate justice. I can't wait to be part of some really exciting and inspiring workshops at the Student Conference – I'm doing a talk with some amazing refugee musicians!

Poppy.Skelton@amnesty.org.uk

What is StAN and what do they do?

The Student Action Network committee - known as 'StAN' - is a committee of elected (by you!) student activists. Many of you have probably been in touch with the StAN committee representative of your region before – they're a lovely bunch!

STAN committee organisers support the running and development of Amnesty International UK's student groups around the UK. The committees' aims are to support Amnesty Student groups to win human rights victories on campuses, identify and train leaders within our movement, and to grow our student network.

Each committee member oversees a particular region of the country also leading on specific projects and campaigns.

If you've ever got a question, want some advice or suggestions about planning and running an event or campaign, just reach out to them – they'd be happy to chat!

How can I join the StAN Committee?

If you're interested in joining our Student Action Network Committee for 2023/4, we will be recruiting for new representatives later this academic year with the elections taking place in June 2023! For those interested in these positions, we recommend you attend the StAN Q&A on Sunday morning to hear more about what the roles entail from StAN Committee members themselves!

If you'd like to know how to get involved, please contact Hannah.Stokes@amnesty.org.uk or keep your eyes peeled on your emails and our social media ([@amnestyukstudents](#)) for more information closer to the time.

PROGRAMME

SATURDAY 28 JANUARY		
WHEN	WHAT	WHERE
09.00	REGISTRATION Breakfast, teas and coffees available	Foyer
10.00	WELCOME The Student Action Network Committee welcome you to the 2023 Student Conference!	Auditorium
10.30	PLENARY: BEN SMOKE Ben was one of 15 UK human rights defenders called 'Stansted 15' who stopped a deportation flight at Stansted airport in 2017. Ben will discuss his experience of protesting against deportations and will explain why we must continue to exercise our right to protest even in the face of hostile government policies.	Auditorium
11.30	WORKSHOPS Stop Killer Robots Should technology have the power to decide who lives and who dies? Join us to learn more about lethal autonomous weapons, the campaign, and how you can (continue!) to take action on campus. Trans Rights in Paraguay: The case of Yren and Mariana Trans rights are human rights but protesting for these rights in Paraguay (and anywhere) can prove dangerous. Learn more about human rights defenders Yren and Mariana and their fight to get the Paraguayan State to give legal recognition to the identity of trans and non-binary people. Football Welcomes Match Our 'Football Welcomes' campaign celebrates the role football can play in bringing people together and creating more welcoming communities for refugees. Celebrate the success of the campaign with a 5-a-side game – no experience required!	Auditorium Conference Room Powerleague Pitches
12.30	LUNCH Take your food wherever to chat with other delegates and activists, or head to the Action Rooms for placard making.	Atrium
13.30	RIGHT TO PROTEST AND THE HISTORY OF ACTIVISM Learn more about one of the major global campaigns Amnesty is working on: Protect the Protest. We'll discuss the history of protest and hear about what protesting on campus entails and why it's important.	Auditorium
14.30	WORKSHOPS Abortion Rights: Demanding Medical, Trans-Inclusive Knowledge on Campus Abortion is healthcare and a human right. Amnesty International calls for evidence-based, non-biased abortion-related information free from discrimination. We want to hear from you, and how you think this right manifests on campus. Climate Justice This workshop seeks to identify the link between climate justice and human rights from a moral and ethical standpoint, whilst using the science and data to support this. Join us for a lively debate!	Auditorium Conference Room

	<p>Art and Activism This spring, Amnesty International UK is celebrating the art and activism of Dan Jones. Dan is known across human rights and Amnesty communities as an activist, artist and educator, and assisted the launch of Amnesty in 1961. Join this workshop exploring some of Dan's creative campaign materials and have a go at creating your own!</p>	Action Rooms
15.30	<p>COMFORT BREAK Drinks and snacks available.</p>	Atrium
16.00	<p>WORKSHOPS Prevent is Racist: Introducing our new Anti-Racism Network The government's Prevent strategy is one strand of its overarching counter-terrorism strategy, and seeks to pre-empt acts of terrorism by identifying those at risk of committing attacks. Muslim communities have been disproportionately targeted by this racist strategy. Join us to learn more about how racism is embedded in our counter-terrorism strategy and institutions.</p> <p>Pride is a Protest Pride is a celebration, but it is also a protest. In this session, learn more about the history of Pride and why it must continue to be understood as a protest for LGBTQ+ rights everywhere.</p> <p>Getting the Government you want - Organising for a General Election The next general election will be crucial in setting the governments agenda for human rights in the UK. We need to start influencing all political parties locally before an election is called. Join this session to explore how we can make human rights an election defining issue.</p>	<p>Auditorium</p> <p>Conference Room</p> <p>Action Rooms</p>
17.00	<p>RIGHT TO FOOD CAMPAIGN PANEL Did you know that you have a human right to food? Learn more about this right and hear what it means to the activists working in this field. We'll discuss how the current cost of living crisis is the failure of the UK Government to follow its human rights obligations.</p>	Auditorium
18.00	<p>EVENING BREAK/CHECK-IN TO YHA ST PAUL'S For those of you who need to check-in to the hostel or want time to freshen up before the evening sessions – now is the time to do so! Or join us in the Conference Room for board games, movies and loads of goodies whilst fuelling up for the evening ahead!</p>	Conference Room
19.30	<p>DINNER AND EVENING ENTERTAINMENT Come back to join us for a delicious evening meal and a night of entertainment. We'll be joined by DJ Hamilton for a night of incredible music, and we'll have performances from a drag artist, a hooper, and a chair performer provided by The Cocoa Butter Club!</p>	Atrium/Auditorium

SUNDAY 29 JANUARY

WHEN	WHAT	WHERE
09.00	REGISTRATION Breakfast, teas and coffees available	Foyer
09.30	Q&A WITH StAN Interested in joining the StAN Committee, or just want to learn about what they do? Bring some questions to us!	Auditorium
10.00	PLENARY: ANGEL ARUTURA Angel is an anti-racism educator, social activist and sustainability-focused content creator. Named by Irish Times as one of the '50 people to watch in 2021', hear from Angel about how climate change is a major human rights issue and learn more about the intersection between climate justice and anti-racism.	Auditorium
11.00	SPEAK UP MINUTES Your conference, your time to take the mic...	Auditorium
11.15	WORKSHOPS Northern Ireland Legacy and Reconciliation Bill Panel Murder is murder, no matter when it happened. Through this Bill, the UK Government is trying to grant impunity to those who committed violent crime during the Northern Ireland Troubles. Join this panel to hear directly from those most affected by this Bill. End Israeli Apartheid Taking place nearly one year after the launch of Amnesty's report, this workshop will define the crime of apartheid within the context of Palestine/Israel and will debunk common misconceptions. Fundraising for Change This workshop will give you the skills you need to organise a fundraising event at your university. We'll cover general principles, examples of interesting/successful fundraising events and how you can incorporate campaigning messaging into your fundraising events.	Auditorium Conference Room Action Rooms
12.15	LUNCH Take your food wherever to chat with other delegates and activists, or head to the Action Rooms for placard making.	Atrium
13.15	REFUGEE POETRY AND MUSIC We'll be joined by musician Polina Shepherd for a moving performance.	Auditorium
14.00	ACTIONS 101 We've discussed the right to protest throughout this weekend, now it's time to learn how to run an action on your campus! Join us for this creative session to learn how to make an impact at your university and prepare for this afternoon's action.	Auditorium
15.00	RIGHT TO FOOD CAMPAIGN ACTION Join us on the streets of London to perform an action for the Right to Food campaign! For those of you who wish to stay behind, a craftivism session will run in the Action Rooms.	Liverpool Street Station/Action Rooms
16.30	GOODBYES/PHOTO ACTION Thank you for coming along!	Auditorium

CONFERENCE GUIDELINES

At the 2023 Student Conference, we want you to leave holding the tools to be an activist within your student communities and beyond. To do this, we all hold the responsibility to make this event a safe and welcoming space for everyone in attendance. Please read these guidelines carefully to understand what is expected of each and every one of us this weekend.

- **Please be respectful and mindful** with the questions you ask of speakers and workshop facilitators. Our lived experience or that of others may make speaking on this topic difficult.
- **Please Identify yourself.** So we can get to know each other, before you start to speak, please state your name and pronouns. Only if you feel comfortable – this is not a requirement.
- **Speak slowly and clearly.** When participating in a group activity, please try not to talk over another person and let them finish their point in its entirety.
- **Please ask for clarification.** If there is something that you don't understand, please ask for clarification. If you don't understand the issue or solution, seek the guidance of those that do.
- **We have a zero-tolerance policy on hate speech.** If you display repeatedly hateful actions you will be asked to leave the event.
- **Attack the problem, not the person.** There will be differences of opinion. You will not agree with everything that is discussed. But please be open to hearing other people's perspectives. If you don't agree, respectfully challenge the idea – not the person. Blame and judgement gets us further from the solution, not closer. Honest and constructive discussions are needed to obtain the best results.
- **Please keep confidentiality.** We are so proud of the fact our student activists create a safe space for other students to share their personal experiences and private information. However, anything personal disclosed at this event should not be shared outside of it – please help us to keep this a safe space for everyone.
- **Provide feedback.** At the end of the weekend there will be an opportunity to feedback. This only takes a few moments so please use this opportunity.
- **We're here to support you.** If you have found any of the content during this discussion triggering or upsetting, please speak to an events team member and they can guide you to a support person or quiet space.

IMPORTANT

Amnesty International UK has a zero-tolerance policy on vandalism, drugs, excessive alcohol consumption, and physical and sexual assault. Anyone found in breach of these rules will face exclusion from the event and will not be permitted re-entry.

USEFUL INFORMATION

Please have a peruse through this section and take note of the important bits to make sure you're all clued up on this year's Student Conference!

Accessibility

Our building is fully accessible. Lifts operate to all floors and we have an infrared hearing headset available for those who need it. If you haven't mentioned your requirements when booking, please let one of the team know or message Hannah (07879 109074).

How to spot us

All Amnesty UK staff will be wearing lanyards with a yellow pass that says 'STAFF' so please ask them if you need any help over the weekend! If you need help from a StAN Committee member, they'll be wearing lovely blue t-shirts (you won't be able to miss them!).

Information point

If you have a question, no matter how big or small, head over to the info point located in the foyer. This will also be where you first registered for the event.

Bag drop

You will be able to leave your bags and jackets at the HRAC over both days of the weekend. The bag drop will be at the back of the Auditorium and staff will be there to guide you. Any property left at the bag drop will be your responsibility, so please do keep an eye on your belongings.

Food & Drink

Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner is provided throughout the conference. For those staying at YHA St Paul's, breakfast will be served between 8-8.30am at the hostel. If you are not staying at YHA Friday and/or Saturday night, breakfast will be available at the HRAC for you. All other meals will be served at the HRAC.

All of the food and drink provided throughout the conference will be vegan. Gluten-free and nut-free food will be labelled, however if you have any doubts please speak to a member of staff.

After a long day of exciting content, we're sure you'll want to relax and enjoy the evening with us. Food and drinks (alcoholic and non-alcoholic) will be available in the evening alongside our entertainment which includes a cabaret show and DJ!

Workshops

Don't forget to sign up for all the workshops we have over the weekend! Places are on a first come first basis, so don't miss out on securing your spot to learn more about the human rights issues that mean the most to you!

Hostel Check-In on Saturday

For those of you checking-in to YHA for just Saturday night, we have allotted time in the agenda for you to do so (6-7.30pm). Do make sure you're back for 7.30pm to enjoy the delicious evening food we have and an array of entertainment; drag queens, hoopers, DJs, and more!

For those of you who don't have to check-in on Saturday night or don't want to return to your hostel/home for a quick refresh, we'll have some fun activities at the HRAC. Join us for a chilled session of ping-pong, board games and movies whilst we snack on loads of goodies and fuel up for the evening ahead!

Prayer Room

This space is available throughout the conference and is located on the lower ground floor. Please ask a member of staff if you can't locate it.

Toilets

Toilets are located on the lower ground floor and will be accessible throughout the event. Please ask a member of staff if you can't locate it.

Need a quiet moment?

We have a quiet space set up on the lower ground floor next to the Atrium where you can sit and relax on beanbags and have some quiet time. Please ask a member of staff if you can't locate it.

Our photo area!

You can find our photo area in the small café area not far from the conference room. Here you can take some pictures alone or with friends! Please ask a member of staff if you can't locate it.

Contact numbers

If you have a problem with your accommodation or anything else that can't be resolved at the info point, please contact the numbers below:

Hannah Stokes 07879 109074

Victor Ademosu 07879 109039