



Amnesty International

Group 524

June 2026



Action Updates

Family Detention/ "Alligator Alcatraz" Report on Palestinian "Erasure" Mexican Journalist Threatened

Welcome

Welcome to the heat of summer! The focus this month is on updates, immigration detention issues and a threatened journalist. We hope to see you on Tuesday **June 16** 6pm at the Commons.

Updates

We have updates to cases we have worked on. See page 2.

Family Detention/Alligator Alcatraz

We have actions to end the human rights violations occurring at detention centers. Pages 3-4 and 8-9.

Amnesty Report on Israel's actions in the West Bank

Amnesty has released a new report on Palestinian "erasure" in the West Bank. See page 5. We wrote letters last month concerning legislation that would help curb these actions.

Mexican Journalist Threatened

Alberto Jordan has been threatened with death for his work. See pages 6-7.

Amnesty International Group 524

Meeting Schedule: Third Tuesday of the month, at 6:00 p.m.

Meeting Location: The Commons Residence Providence Heights
9000 Babcock Blvd.



Contact John Belch (joheb@aol.com or 412-766-1894) for more information on material in this mailing, or visit the Amnesty USA web site (www.amnestyusa.org)

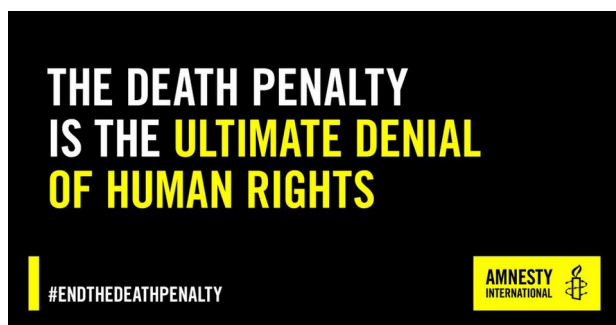


USA: Execution Would Violate International Law

Last month Tony Carruthers, a 57-year-old Black man with a mental disability, was scheduled to be executed in Tennessee. After several failed attempts to administer a lethal injection, Governor Bill Lee halted the execution and granted Tony Carruthers a one-year reprieve.

This botched execution underscores that the death penalty is cruel, inhuman, and degrading. It should not be used. Governor Lee should commute Tony Carruthers' death sentence.

Thank you for taking action and making your voice known to Governor Bill Lee! We will keep you updated and let you know about any additional action once we have more information to share.



Last spring we wrote cards of support for Narges Mohammadi

Iran: Life of Tortured Nobel Laureate at Risk in Prison

Thank you for your rapid action in support of Narges Mohammadi. On May 10, following global advocacy, Iranian authorities temporarily suspended her sentence and released her on bail. She is now in intensive care in a Tehran hospital. Amnesty International continues to call for her unconditional release.





Enough is enough, **family detention remains a central tool of the Trump administration's mass immigration enforcement, trapping more than 6,200 children in inhumane conditions**. It is deployed as a routine policy, not a rare exception, and it routinely violates the Flores Settlement Agreement, which prohibits the detention of children for more than 20 days. Detainees face limited or no access to counsel and due process, with many deported without real opportunity to seek asylum. Coercive family separation, medical neglect, and unsafe living conditions -- including poor nutrition and contaminated water -- are widespread. International law prohibits migration-related detention of children, and humane, community-based alternatives exist.

Amnesty has documented cases where children as young as five-years-old threatened with removal from their family; a teenager pressured to abandon their claim under threat of separation upon turning 18; and a breastfeeding mother separated from her United States citizen baby for more than 100 days.

These situations illustrate the use of fear and separation as a method of enforcement rather than isolated incidents.





Secretary Markwayne Mullin
Department of Homeland Security

300 7th St SW,
Washington, DC 20024,

Dear Secretary Mullin,

I am deeply concerned about the **children and families that are detained in the South Texas Family Residential Center (Dilley)** in Dilley, Texas, where ICE is detaining hundreds of parents and children under inhumane conditions:

- Families have been held for weeks on end, violating the Flores Settlement Agreement, which sets out minimum standards for the treatment of migrant children in government custody, including limits on the length of time that children can be detained;
- Most families never get to speak with an attorney or appear before a judge before they are deported, and many are sent back to dangerous, life-threatening conditions;
- People with chronic health conditions or medical emergencies have been denied necessary care and infants and children are experiencing alarming weight loss;
- Families have been denied access to adequate clean drinking water, forced in many cases to drink tap water that is foul-smelling and known to cause upset stomachs;
- Children frequently are not allowed access to educational opportunities or even crayons to play with.

Detaining children under any circumstances violates international law. The Dilley detention facility is cruel, dangerous, and inhumane. I urge you to end these abuses immediately: shut down Dilley and release all those detained there.

Yours sincerely,



'The Erasure Of Anything Palestinian': Israel's Ethnic Cleansing Of Palestinian Bedouin And Herding Communities



The report exposes how Israeli authorities have accelerated a state-sponsored program of ethnic cleansing in the occupied West Bank, uprooting, dispossessing, and forcibly transferring Palestinian communities.

Over 26 months, Amnesty crisis investigators conducted extensive research to bring these atrocities to light, collecting evidence through field research, interviews, and policy analysis.

We've concluded that Israel has committed serious violations of international human rights and humanitarian law, including the war crime of unlawful transfer and the crime against humanity of forcible transfer.

Here are three key findings that are highlighted:

- Israeli authorities and forces have condoned, failed to prevent, facilitated, and directly participated in settler violence against Palestinians for decades — this support has reached new levels under the current government.
- The implementation of this horrific policy has included the deliberate destruction of the livelihoods of Palestinians in the West Bank— including the deliberate destruction of their farmland and livestock as well as water tanks and electricity lines in order to force Palestinians to leave their land.
- The governments of most countries, like the U.S., have failed to take any action towards ending support for Israel's illegal occupation of Palestinian territory.
- The **Block the Bombs Act** (H.R. 3565) would prohibit the president from selling or transferring some of the very weapons Amnesty has documented being used by Israel to kill and maim entire Palestinian families.

The bill started with 22 original co-sponsors and has jumped to 74.

Last month we wrote letters in support of this legislation.



MEXICO: JOURNALIST RECEIVES DEATH THREATS



On May 4, 2026, journalist Alberto Amaro received a threatening message through Facebook warning of an attempt on his life and the lives of his family members. This latest threat adds to a long pattern of intimidation, harassment, and violence he has faced since 2019, and that forced him to leave the country for a year in 2024, because of his journalistic work.

Call on the authorities ensure his safety, a thorough investigation on the attacks and threats against him and his family, and demonstrate through concrete actions that freedom of expression and the defense of human rights will be protected.



Lorena Cuéllar Cisneros
Governor of Tlaxcala

Plaza de la Constitucion 3, Centro
CP. 9000 Tlaxcala de Xicohténcatl, Tlaxcala.
Tel: 2464650900
X: @LorenaCuellar/ @GobTlaxcala

Dear Lorena Cuéllar Cisneros,

I am concerned about the safety of journalist **Alberto Amaro Jordán**, director of the Mexican news outlet La Prensa de Tlaxcala.

As a result of his work, Alberto has been the target of several serious attacks previously reported by Amnesty International. Due to the concerns for his safety, Alberto was forced to leave Mexico and seek temporary refuge from September 2024 to September 2025.

Alberto Amaro has reported numerous failures in some of the protection measures assigned to him by the Federal Protection Mechanism, in a context that is one of the most dangerous in the world for journalists. The continued threats, attacks, and intimidation against him are unacceptable and cannot remain unaddressed. Silence, inaction, or inadequate protection only deepen the climate of fear faced by journalists in Mexico.

Therefore, I call on the Government of Tlaxcala to assume its responsibility in the protection of journalists and to act with urgency and determination in the case of Alberto Amaro Jordán.

I urge the authorities to ensure his safety and investigate the attacks and threats against him and his family and demonstrate through concrete actions that freedom of the press and the defense of human rights will be protected in Tlaxcala.

Yours sincerely,

Send a copy of your letter to the address below

CC: Mexican Embassy in the United States
Ambassador Esteban Moctezuma Barragán
1911 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW,
Washington DC 20006
Email: mexembusa@sre.gob.mx



USA: SHUT DOWN “ALLIGATOR ALCATRAZ” FOR GOOD



The Everglades Detention Facility, also known as “Alligator Alcatraz”, opened in the state of Florida in July 2025 to detain migrants and asylum seekers. It has operated as a deliberate system of dehumanization and abuse: there are cruel and degrading conditions there, including overflowing sewage, shackling, denial of medical care, sleep deprivation, and punishment practices that amount to torture. The Florida governor has recently announced his intention to close it down, but the federal government insists it will remain open.

Demand Florida governor Ron DeSantis close “Alligator Alcatraz” immediately.



Governor of Florida Ron DeSantis

State of Florida
The Capitol, 400 S. Monroe St.
Tallahassee, FL 32399, USA
Email: GovernorRon.Desantis@eog.myflorida.com

Dear Governor DeSantis,

I am writing to demand that you move immediately to shut down the Everglades Detention Center in Florida, also known as “Alligator Alcatraz”, which is currently housing migrants and asylum seekers.

I am concerned about conditions at “Alligator Alcatraz”. Amnesty International’s reports that people are arbitrarily detained in inhuman, unsanitary conditions, including overflowing toilets near where people are sleeping, limited access to showers, exposure to insects, lights on 24 hours a day, poor quality food and water, and lack of privacy – including cameras above the toilets. Access to medical care is inconsistent or denied. Detainees are shackled outside their cages, and some have been subjected to treatment amounting to torture, including confinement in a small “box” with restraints.

This facility’s cruelty is intended to criminalize and intimidate immigrant communities. It is also located in the Everglades, a fragile and ecologically sensitive area. This raises concerns about the impact of pollution, water quality, and efforts to restore the Everglades and protected endangered species.

“Alligator Alcatraz” is a human rights disaster. You must close this facility immediately, release those detained so they can pursue their cases with legal support, and end Florida’s criminalization of immigrants and its role in President Trump’s mass deportation machine.

Yours sincerely,