



# AMNESTY

ELY CITY GROUP

**Remembering those experiencing injustice,  
A time for contemplation.....**

**October 2025**

**“Remember those in prison as if you were their fellow prisoners. And those who are ill-treated as if you yourselves were suffering.” Hebrews: 13:3**

*A special time is set aside in Bishop Alcock's Chapel between the two morning services on the first Sunday of each month from 9.00am to 10.15am. Here we can hold in mind or pray for the people whose cases are highlighted for the current month. This meditation is open to those of all faiths and none.*

## **Kyrgyzstan: Human rights defender detained**

Rita Karasartova is a human rights defender and expert in civic governance who has been detained since 14 April, when her home was raided by Kyrgyzstani police. After an investigation, she was charged with “organising mass riots”. When she asked the prosecutor about the nature of the accusations made against her, she was told this information was classified. She was targeted after she published a letter she received from political activist Tilekmat Kudaibergen uulu, who is currently in exile and has recently disappeared. Her trial will be closed to the media, public and independent observers.

Please hold in mind or pray:

- For the Kyrgyzstani authorities to stop using security laws to suppress freedom of speech and the legitimate work of human rights defenders
- For Rita’s immediate and unconditional release

## **Türkiye: Activist detained after Strasbourg speech**

Enes Hocaogulları is a 23-year-old human rights defender and LGBTI+ rights activist who was selected as a youth delegate from Türkiye to a Council of Europe conference in Strasbourg. While there, he made a speech on 27 March referring to the crackdown on mass protests in Türkiye that had taken place the previous week, following the detention and imprisonment of Istanbul Mayor Ekrem İmamoğlu. He was detained on his return home and has since been charged with “inciting the public to hatred and enmity”.

Please hold in mind and pray:

- For the Turkish authorities to cease prosecuting people for peacefully exercising their right to freedom of expression and for speaking out against human rights violations
- For Enes’ immediate and unconditional release

## **Kenya: Spyware installed on film makers' devices**

Film makers Mark Denver Karubiu, Bryan Adagala, Nicholas Wambugu, and Christopher Wamae were arrested by the Kenyan authorities on 2 May, following the release of the BBC documentary Blood Parliament. They were accused of working on the documentary, charges both the BBC and the film makers deny. They were released on 3 May, but their laptops and phones had been seized and were not returned until 10 July. Forensic analysis by the University of Toronto's Citizen Lab revealed FlexiSPY software had been installed on their devices. The film makers are accused of publishing false information and cyber-bullying.

Please hold in mind or pray:

- For the Kenyan authorities to cease targeting film makers and to throw out these spurious accusations

### **Good news: New inquest into Steve Biko's death**

The death of the prominent anti-apartheid campaigner Steve Biko caused outrage in South Africa and around the world 48 years ago. The Black Consciousness Movement founder died from a brain injury aged 30 almost a month after being arrested. Police at the time said he had banged his head against a wall, but after apartheid ended in 1994, former officers admitted to assaulting him - although no-one has been prosecuted. Nkosinathi Biko, who was six when his father died, said the country could not move forward without addressing its violent past.

## Sources for cases: Amnesty International

'I pray for all of us, oppressor and friend, that together we may succeed in building a better world, through human understanding and love, and that in doing so we may reduce the pain and suffering of all sentient beings.'

**Dalai Lama XIV**

*"To clasp one's hands in prayer is the beginning of an uprising against the disorder of the world."*

Please keep this sheet to hand and use it in prayer or meditation, and any action you feel and find possible.

Your local Amnesty group can be contacted at [www.amnestyelycity.org.uk](http://www.amnestyelycity.org.uk)

### **ELY AMNESTY NEWS**

Our monthly planning meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month. Our next two meetings will be held from 7pm on 7 October and 4 November in St Peter's House, Broad Street, Ely, CB7 4AH. Anyone interested in attending to find out more or join our group would be very welcome.

Our annual Ben Jupp Memorial Lecture will be held on Sunday 5 October at 5.15pm in Ely Cathedral. Former journalist and founder of The Forgiveness Project, Marina Cantacuzino MBE, explores the limits and possibilities of forgiveness in a world fixated on binary narratives, inflexible opinions, and toxic othering. Free admission. Retiring collection for Amnesty and The Forgiveness Project.

<https://www.elycathedral.org/events/benn-jupp-memorial-lecture>