PRISONERS FOR PEACE LIST 2020

ACTION IDEAS

Set aside time on 1st December to write to those imprisoned for their peace work, and get your friends, peace group, student, faith or community group to organise a card-writing session.

Get postcards made up, leaving space for individual messages of support, and set up a street stall around Prisoners for Peace day. For the most up to date Prisoners for Peace list go to: wri-irg.org/inprison

SUPPORT WAR RESISTERS

WRI has publicised the names and stories of prisoners for peace for more than 50 years.

Help us keep showing solidarity, and donating to help fund next year’s research, wri-irg.org/en/donate

A list of some of those currently in prison for their work for peace. We include those whose addresses we can obtain, and who are happy to have their names and stories made public. In some cases, nicknames are used and 'care of' (c/o) addresses given, where that person is happy to be contacted, but does not want their contact details spread publicly.

AMBAZONIA

Here some of the prisoners for the expression of their conscientiously held belief that the fundamental human rights of the people of Ambazonia, formerly the United Nations Trust Territory of Southern Cameroons under United Kingdom administration, needs to be respected by all — including the French neo-colonial regime in Cameroon and its allies.

- Mancho Bibixy (Sep ’16 —)
- Tsi Conrad (Sep ’16 —)
- Tha Emile Angwe (Sep ’16 —)
- Aselech Martin (Sep ’16 —)
- Tamngwa Martin (Sep ’16 —)
- Guingah Valentine (Sep ’16 —)
- Awah Thomas (Sep ’16 —)
- Penn Terence (Jan ’17 —)
- Mr. Wilfred Tassang (5 Jan ’19 —)
- Mr. Julius AyukTabe (5 Jan ’19—)
- Profesor Augustine Awasum (5 Jan ’19—)
- Dr. Cornelius Njikimpi Kwanga (5 Jan ’19 —)
- Dr. Henry Kimeng (5 Jan ’19 —)
- Dr. Fidelis Ndeh-Che (5 Jan ’19 —)
- Dr. Egbe Ogork (5 Jan ’19 —)
- Barrister Shufai Berinyuy (5 Jan ’19 —)
- Barrister Eyambe Elias (5 Jan ’19 —)
- Dr. Nfor Ngalla Nfor (5 Jan ’19 —)

For all above, write to, Prison Principale Kondengui Yaoundé, B. P 100, YAOUNDÉ, Cameroon
Eritrea continues to imprison conscientious objectors. The below are all Jehovah's Witness, imprisoned for conscientious objection to military service.

Eritrea's military service is indefinite, for men and women, and starts in the final two years of high school, which is in a military camp.

- Ambakom Tsegezab (01 Feb '04 —)
- Aron Abraha (09 May '01 —)
- Bemnet Fessehaye (01 Feb '05 —)
- Bereket Abraha Okba-gabr (01 Jan '06 —)
- Henok Ghebru (01 Feb '05 —)
- Isaac Mogos (24 Sep '94 —)
- Kibreab Fessejaye (27 Dec '05 —)
- Mussie Fessehaye (01 Jun '03 —)
- Negede Teklemariam (24 Sep '94 —)
- Paulos Eyassu (24 Sep '94 —)
- Yosief Fessehaye (01 Oct '06 —)
- Samuel Ghirmay (01 Mar '09 —)
- Yoel Tsegezab (26 Aug '08 —)
- Bereket Habteyesus (26 May '14 —)
- Yosief Tesfamariam (01 May '12 —)
- Samuol Dawit (09 Apr '16 —)

For all above, write to: Mai Serwa Prison, Asmara, Eritrea

Despite the recognition of the right to conscientious objection, there are still conscientious objectors in prison in South Korea. This year, along with 5 COs currently in prison, there is also a peace activist, Song Kangho, who was sentenced to 2 years for his nonviolent protest against the construction of a naval base on Jeju Island, South Korea.

- H.H Park (expected release date 03 Dec '21) Write to: P.O. Box 17, Dongsuwonucheguk Gyeonggi-do, 442-190 Republic of Korea
- J.S Bang (expected release date 10 Sep '21) Write to: P.O. Box 20, Gunpo, Gyeonggi-do, 437-050, Republic of Korea
- Jong-hoon Eun (30 Sep 2019 – 30 Mar '21) write to: 127, Halmi-ro, Okgu-eup, Gunsan-si, Jeollabuk-do, Republic of Korea (zip code: 54172)
- Kang-Ho Song (23 Sep 2021 —) Write to: Jeju Post Office PO Box 161, Jeju City, Jeju Island, South Korea, (zip code: 63166)
- S.B Yoo (Expected release date 27 Oct '21) Write to: 238-12, Seokgyo-ri, Mado-myeon, Hwaseong-si, Gyeonggi-do, South Korea

Sign up for our CO-Alerts, to hear when COs are imprisoned and send protest emails at wri-irg.org/en/subscribe

For updates on the status of COs, counter-recruitment work and conscription, subscribe to our CO Update – the newsletter of the Right to Refuse to Kill programme, at wri-irg.org/en/subscribe

SENDING CARDS AND LETTERS

- Send your card in an envelope;
- Include a return name and address on the envelope;
- Be chatty and creative: send photos from your life or drawings;
- Let the prisoners know what you are doing to stop war and war preparations;
- Don't write anything that might get the prisoner into trouble;
- Think about the sort of thing you’d like to receive if you were in prison;
- Try not to begin your correspondence with "You are so brave, I could never do what you have done";
- Remember that the prisoner may not be able to reply.
USA

In October 24, 2019 seven peace activists were found guilty and charged with a range of crimes, including trespassing, depredation of government property for their protest actions at Kings Bay nuclear submarine base in Georgia on April 4, 2018.

This year Carmen Trotta, Clare Grady, Elizabeth McAlister, Martha Hennessy and Patrick O’Neill were sentenced individually and virtually to serve in prison between 10 to 33 months. Mark Colville has not been sentenced as he refuse to give up his right to appear in person in court and until is safe to do so.

Fr. Steve Kelly sentenced to 33 months (which he had already serve) remains in jail in Brunswick waiting to be transported by the U.S. marshals to Tacoma, Washington for a probation violation from a prior trespass conviction at the West Coast Trident base. He refused to comply with supervised probation and was then arrested at Kings Bay.

To know how you can support these peace activists and other updates go to: kingsbayplowshares7.org

To check Stephen Kelly’s address and mail instructions, go to www.nukeresister.org/inside-out/.

SINGAPORE

Singapore does not recognise the right to conscientious objection. Conscientious objectors usually serve two terms in prison, the first up to 15 months and the second up to 24 months - which means that they can serve up to 39 months behind bars. Bellow all Jehovah’s Witness, imprisoned for conscientious objection to military service.

- Donovan Yong (expected release date 31 Dec ’20)
- Edrenz James Do Ramos (expected release date 12 Aug ’21)
- Ganesh Aravind (expected release date 12 Aug ’21)
- Joshua Soon (Awaiting 2nd martial court)
- Kang Yu Ho (Benedict) (expected release date 02 Apr ’21)
- Lie Hao Norman Sek (Awaiting 1st martial court)
- Raj s/o Rajamogn Rohan (expected release date 12 Aug ’21)
- Shao Qi Koh (Awaiting 1st martial court)
- Shawn Jonathan Kumar (expected release date 31 Dec ’20)
- Yi Jie Lucas Lee (Awaiting 1st martial court)

For all above, write to Singapore Armed Forces Detention Barracks, 402 Lor Kebasi, 688791, Singapore

TAJIKISTAN

In Tajikistan, military service of two years is compulsory for almost all able-bodied young men between the ages of 16 and 27. There is no law regulating alternative service for conscientious objectors and those unable to serve in the armed forces on grounds of conscience face prosecution.

Rustamjon Norov, 22-year-old conscientious objector, is in prison at the moment and facing prosecution for refusing compulsory military service on grounds of conscience. He faces two to five years' imprisonment if convicted. Write to: Ya/T 9/2 Investigation Prison, Khujand, Sugd Region, Tajikistan

ISRAEL

Starting from August, 19 year-old refuser Hallel Rabin has spent more than 50 days in military prison in 4 separate terms. She was imprisoned for her refusal to be enlisted. Hallel has recently been released and exempted from military service. However, there might be other Israeli COs jailed for their refusal to be conscripted in the coming weeks and months

For up-to-date info on how to write to COs in prison in Israel, please check wri-irg.org/en/programmes/co_alerts and wri-irg.org/inprison
In Turkmenistan, military service is compulsory for men between 18 and 27, and it is generally two years. Despite repeated calls by the United Nations, the Turkmenistan state doesn't offer any civilian alternative to military service. This year nine conscientious objectors are known to be in prison.

- Eldor Saburov (expected release some time in 2022)
- Azat Ashirov (31 Jul ’19 – 31 Jul ’21)
- Bahtiyar Atahanov (15 Jul ’19 – 31 Jul ’23)
- Eziz Atabayev (19 Dec ‘18 – 31 Dec ‘20)
- Kamiljan Ergashov (expected release some time in 2022)
- Myrat Orazgeldiyev (expected release some time in 2021)
- Sanjarbek Saburov (expected release some time in 2022)
- Serdar Dovletov (expected release some time in 2022)
- Vepa Matyakubov (expected release some time in 2022)

For all above, write to Seydi Labour Camp, 746222 Lebap velayat, Seydi, uchr. LB-E/12, Turkmenistan