

# OUR HUMAN RIGHTS SUCCESSES



2022

AMNESTY  
INTERNATIONAL



# PRESIDENTIAL AND DIRECTOR'S WELCOME

Dear Friends,

2022 was a special year for us.

Through the largest mobilisation campaign in Amnesty's history, co-led by a coalition of NGOs and working with 400 activists, our movement succeeded in getting nearly 1.8 million people to spoil their vote in a propaganda referendum that ostracised sexual and gender minorities in order to invalidate it.

Amnesty's younger activists played a key role in Hungary's education movement of the past year, where they expressed their desire for free education in a free country through a variety of forms of resistance: in addition to demonstrations and live demonstrations, they mobilised Hungarian society by organising sit-ins, bridge occupations, solidarity events and alternative education days.

In the most harrowing moment of the year, when Russia attacked Ukraine, Amnesty researchers were there to document the war crimes committed by the aggressor, and the team helped to care for refugees in Hungary.

The most uplifting moment of the year was the release of Ahmed Samir, a CEU student who had been wrongfully detained in Egypt and for whom we had campaigned for a long time. During the Write for Rights campaign, the movement spoke out 17,500 times against these violations.

In 2022 we developed new e-learning materials, hence by the end of the year we had the largest number ever available in Hungarian, with nine.

The past year has also been a year of organisational development, planning and redesign, during which we have continuously evaluated and shaped Amnesty's strategy, organisation and campaigns. Many of our plans have had to be rethought and we have learned and developed a lot.

This year, our movement has been at its strongest: nearly 40,000 of you have joined us as members, supporters, activists or donors. Our work at home and abroad is made possible by this community, of which you are a part. It is the strength of a community committed to the security, freedom and equality of all people that allows us to continue in any difficult situation.

We stand with you.

We are counting on you.

**Dávid Vig, Director**  
**András Kéri, President**

# OUR 2022 RESULTS

## ► MOVEMENT

### FOR A FREE EDUCATION

**80 000** people protested in October

## ► DEFENDING THE RULE OF LAW

Contributed with **8** other civil society partners to the European Commission's Rule of Law Report with a detailed report

## ► STANDING UP FOR GENDER EQUALITY

More than **50,000** employees from over 40 companies already work in a pay gap transparency workplace

## ► FIGHTING FOR THE RIGHTS OF SEXUAL AND GENDER MINORITIES

Through the work of **400** activists, our movement has succeeded in getting nearly **1.8 million** people to spoil their vote in a propaganda referendum that ostracised sexual and gender minorities, thereby nullifying it.

## ► ACTIVISM

**120** new activists

## ► URGENT ACTIONS, GLOBAL CAMPAIGNS

During the Write for Rights, the movement spoke out **17,500** times against violations

## ► HUMAN RIGHTS EDUCATION

We reached over **1000** students with our school programme

## ► FUNDRAISING

Thanks to our crowdfunding campaigns, **523** young people will get access to knowledge excluded from public education on preventing bullying in schools

## ► COMMUNICATION, MEDIA

Amnesty's human rights work was mentioned **4600** times in the media

## ► HUMAN RIGHTS IN PÉCS

**15** programmes in Pécs

## ► ORGANISATIONAL SUCCESSES

nearly **40,000** people belong to us as members, supporters or activists

# MOVEMENT FOR A FREE EDUCATION

## OUR KEY SUCCESSES:

- ▶ **Our youth activists have been the main organisers of actions such as bridge occupations, sit-ins, demonstrations, live chains**
- ▶ **From Miskolc to Budapest to Pécs, we have helped countless communities exercise their right to assembly and expression**
- ▶ **We reinforced several major actions, including the demonstration of 80,000 people in October**

**During the upsurge in education movements, our youth activists, many of whom had attended our earlier training courses, took a leading role in the national movement.**

On 15 March, the Students for Teachers team organised the first major student demonstration for teachers, with our youth activists reinforcing the team of organisers and Amnesty supporting them in announcing and organising the demonstration.

The next day, two of our Freedom Club activists organised the first alternative teaching day of the year in Kossuth Square, where we also held amnesty human rights sessions for students standing up for their striking teachers. In Pécs, we organised a parallel solidarity day in collaboration with the Power of Humanity Foundation, where our local activists organised an event. In Budapest, on 17 March, Amnesty's human rights education programme staff took part in a roundtable discussion on the situation in education.

In April, we ran a **special edition of our podcast, Scope, exploring the background of the teachers' strike.** With over 80 activists, we secured the biggest-ever solidarity concert for teachers, with Amnesty director Dávid Vig speaking.

At our human rights student competition, Összpont, every year, we emphasise student groups choosing their topics to acquire the knowledge and skills they need to stand up for rights around the issues that matter most to them. **Most of the teams formulated project objectives under the theme of education.** During the competition, the teams also launched their petitions to improve the national curriculum and school conditions, and the mental well-being of students, to fight teacher overwork and to get more financial support for students.

**We joined forces with the Civic Alliance for Teachers and Educators,** a coalition of education unions, teachers, students, parents and civil society supporters to improve the situation of education. Starting in September, we were constantly where the key players in the education movement needed us. We trained and mobilised organisers, people responsible for site security and student spokespeople, and provided amnesty activists ourselves.

Amnesty activists organized the first large student demonstration of the school year and secured demonstrations to make sure that everyone can exercise their right to peaceful assembly safely. In October, we



protested in Budapest and Pécs for the teachers fired from Kölcsey, and on World Teachers' Day, we provided training and insurance for the Grund student group's bridge occupation, which, together with a solidarity concert after the event, mobilised unprecedented crowds of supporters.

We have been approached by several parents and student teams when they needed support and coaching. We secured a demonstration organised by parents in front of the Inner-Pest School District and supported demonstrations in front of the Outer-Pest School District, where our youth activist Enikő Németh was one of the main organisers and speakers. **On 23 October, we organised the largest-ever march of the education movement**, from Kálvin Square across the Szabadság Bridge to the Budapest University of Technology and Economics and ensured the safe assembly of nearly 80,000 people.

**17 November „17.17.” we organised a demonstration with PONT in Pécs.** On the same day, we participated in a solidarity

torchlight demonstration with our activists in Miskolc, and the next day, the activists of the youth team in Miskolc co-organised a live demonstration around the Földes High School. After the live chain, they continued with solidarity action in the schoolyard and then prevented teaching with a sit-in demonstration - speaking out alongside their striking teachers. The students standing up for their teachers in Miskolc generated a huge response, and their action was followed by student-organised sit-ins across the country.

Meanwhile, in Budapest, we participated in the organisation of an alternative school day, similar to the one in the spring, with human rights programmes for students supporting the strike day by staying out of school. For the Hungarian Public Education Day, we prepared a photo campaign - the photos were used as a way for participants in the education movement to express their solidarity and opinions on the state of education. In December we continued to support the protests with training, equipment and mobilisation.

# DEFENDING THE RULE OF LAW

## OUR KEY SUCCESSES

- ▶ We have provided the public with regular, credible and understandable information
- ▶ Our research findings and recommendations are reflected in national and international professional debates on the rule of law
- ▶ We argued in favour of judges' freedom of expression in a Constitutional Court petition

Building on our research, we have contributed a detailed report to the **European Commission's Rule of Law Report**. In our submission, written jointly with eight civil society partners, we provided an overview of the situation of the judiciary, independent institutions, corruption, the press and civil society organisations, and highlighted that all areas under review had deteriorated compared to the previous year. The Commission's July report, in line with our submission, found serious shortcomings in each of these areas and for the first time made concrete recommendations to the government.

In October and November, in connection with the Rule of Law Report, we organised discussions in Szombathely and Debrecen,

together with other civil society experts, on the most serious problems in the areas of corruption, media and judicial independence, and whether the new laws to be adopted in exchange for EU funds could bring any real improvement. In each of these venues, we had interesting and valuable discussions with participants and contributed to a fact-based social dialogue on the rule of law.

We have regularly highlighted serious shortcomings and abuses in our research and made recommendations on what laws should be changed to ensure that all our cases are heard by impartial and independent judges. The **end of 2022 marked a turning point in this area** after it emerged that the **government could only access suspended EU funds in exchange for significant changes to strengthen the independence of the courts**. While it is disheartening to see such consequences of the government's





deliberate dismantling of the rule of law over the years, it is good to see that our research and expert papers have become important reference points for policy makers and experts.

For years we have been trying to force the government to fully implement the European Court of Human Rights' decision **in the case of former Chief Justice András Baka**. An important step forward was taken in March, when **the Ministerial Committee monitoring the implementation of the judgments adopted a stronger procedural instrument than before, an interim decision**. The findings of which were very much in line with those we had drawn attention to in our submissions jointly with the Hungarian Helsinki Committee.

One long-standing systemic problem is the restriction of Hungarian judges' freedom of expression, and the self-censorship and fear among them of speaking up in public. The judges' self-governing body therefore adopted a clearer definition of „political activity” in last year's new Code of Ethics, which gives much less scope for restricting their freedom of expression. However, András Zs. Varga did not let the matter rest and

asked the Constitutional Court to annul the Code of Ethics. Together with three of our NGO partners, we prepared a petition to the Constitutional Court, in which we pointed out the unfoundedness of Varga's arguments and **defended the freedom of expression of judges**.

The Hungarian courts are a matter of common concern for all of us. So, in 2022, in addition to research, expert material and court submissions, **we felt it was important to report widely on the measures threatening the courts and to encourage people to take action**. We have regularly covered the issue on our blog, trying to explain in a clear way the changes that often seem impossible to follow at first sight. And in the summer, we launched a new thematic newsletter, Verdikt, which summarises the most important developments in the rule of law in a clear and accessible way and provides details and workshop secrets about our work to our more than 1500 subscribers.

# STANDING UP FOR GENDER EQUALITY

## OUR KEY SUCCESSES:

- ▶ More than 50,000 employees from over 40 companies already work in a pay gap transparent workplace
- ▶ We have developed a complex programme for equality at work
- ▶ With our petition, we helped to increase the number of days of paternity leave in Hungary to 10

We continued our One Step Closer campaign to get employers to disclose their gender pay gap data. In 2022, more employers joined - such as LUSH Hungary - and now more than 50,000 employees from nearly 40 companies and municipalities can say they work in a place that makes its pay gap data transparent, and thus publicly advocates for gender equality in the workplace.

From January, our six-module One Step Ahead training course, developed with the help of workers, employers and experts, will be available to all to equip **participants with the knowledge and practical skills to stand up for their rights and those of their colleagues in the workplace.**

A new element has been added to our training portfolio, the Complex programme, which offers tailored support to companies that want to become a truly equal workplace. The **programme involves, among other things, assessing individual needs and problems and developing an action plan to address them.** We also pay close attention to awareness-raising, which we deliver to employees and employers through our own e-learning and online and face-to-face training. We have revamped our dedicated sub-page on our website, making it much easier for individuals, companies and interested parties to find the right information.







In May, we organised a conference for employers called Diversity and Inclusion, where we talked about steps to promote and implement inclusive workplaces. In September, in the framework of Pécs Pride, we organised an event for inclusive workplaces in Pécs together with the Háttér Support Society and the Power of Humanity Foundation, where we held an interactive workshop on the inclusiveness of sexual and gender minorities in the workplace and on the recognition and prevention of microaggression, in addition to eliminating negative discrimination against women in the labour market. Gender equality was also an important theme of **our festival presence during the summer, for example, we presented our new board game at Kolorado**, which was an instant favourite with festival-goers.

By the beginning of August, it became clear that Parliament had failed to meet the deadline for transposing the EU directive on work-life balance, so **we launched a petition to introduce a minimum of 10 days of paternity leave (instead of the previous 5 days) and to make caring responsibilities compatible with paid work**. Finally, at the end of the year, the government tabled a bill to comply with EU requirements but was only willing to incorporate them into law from January 2023 with minimal conditions and without encouraging equal sharing of childcare and caring responsibilities.

In September, we stood up against the change in the abortion regulation and co-sponsored a demonstration and petition calling for the decision to be withdrawn. We gave interviews to the national and international press and wrote articles on the issue. At the request of Mozinet, we produced an informative spot that was shown in cinemas before for the French film “The Event”, which won the Golden Lion at the Venice International Film Festival.

In 2022, we continued to make the promotion of gender equality everyone’s business, so we’ve made it a priority on our blog, with posts on topics ranging from invisible work to women’s career opportunities and paternity leave. In September, hundreds of people signed up to our quiz, ‘Let’s close the gender pay gap’. By answering the questions, you can find out a wealth of information about the gender gap in the workplace, while also gaining insight into how the pay gap can be closed. And for those who like to dig deeper into a topic, we have continued our Conscious Steps newsletter, which already has over 800 subscribers.

# FIGHTING FOR THE RIGHTS OF SEXUAL AND GENDER MINORITIES

## OUR KEY SUCCESSES:

- ▶ A national campaign involving 400 activists to defeat the homophobic and transphobic referendum
- ▶ We successfully challenged decisions in retaliation to the referendum campaign
- ▶ We were finalists for the Council of Europe's prestigious Václav Havel Prize for Human Rights
- ▶ Referendum film won the Berlin Indie Film Festival's „Best Documentary” award
- ▶ We paraded Europe's biggest rainbow balloon at Budapest Pride and Pécs Pride
- ▶ The European Commission has challenged the exclusionary propaganda law in the Court of Justice of the European Union

## TRANSPHOBIC AND HOMOPHOBIC REFERENDUM ANNULLED

The government has been regularly attacking sexual and gender minorities for years and called for a referendum on election day to legitimise its propaganda law passed in the summer of 2021. As the leader of a coalition of 14 NGOs, together with the Háttér Support Society, we launched a nationwide campaign called **Invalid Campaign** to convince people to spoil their vote on all four manipulative and stigmatising questions. Our aim was to invalidate the homophobic and transphobic referendum and take a step towards the abolition of the propaganda law.

**We produced and shared four videos and ten photo stories on social media**, featuring LGBTQI+ people and their parents, siblings, colleagues and friends, talking about the

impact of the government's exclusionary policies and the negative consequences of the referendum campaign on their loved ones and their lives. The videos have been viewed by more than 2 million people. **We also produced an online educational course on the rights of LGBTQI+ people and specifically on the impact of the referendum**, which was uploaded to a dedicated website along with videos, photos and Q&As. Here you could also join the campaign as an activist or supporter.

We published advertisements in national, local and tabloid newspapers, news portals, and even encouraged people to invalidate their vote on a TV spot on ATV. We had 115 billboards and other public ads all over the country for a month and appeared in the Hungarian press more than 200 times. The campaign mobilised more than 400 activists



across the country, who helped to achieve the goal by organising local actions and flash mobs, sticking 70,000 stickers and posters and persuading their friends. On 31 March we light painted the main campaign message on the Parliament building. We travelled nearly 2,000 kilometres in 10 days, visiting 20 Hungarian towns and cities, and persuading people to spoil their vote through stalls, leafleting and face-to-face meetings. **We closed the offline part of the campaign on 1 April with a speech in front of tens of thousands of people at a jointly held concert with Tanítanék and noÁr.** A documentary film about the campaign, 'You have to be here to believe it', was also produced and is being shown in cinemas in Berlin and Amsterdam, as well as in cinemas in Germany.

**The successful campaign resulted in the highest-ever number of spoiled votes on 3 April, with all four questions being invalidated.** In total, more than **1.7 million people invalidated their votes**, with 42% of voters supporting and 58% opposing the government's homophobic and transphobic policies. In comparison, the 2016 quota referendum had a 6% invalid vote rate,

while last year's referendum had between 21% and 22%.

After the referendum was overturned, the National Election Committee fined us, and other NGOs involved in the campaign a total of HUF 9 million in five cases. When, **together with our NGO partners, we challenged the illegal decisions in the Curia, the Supreme Court ruled in our favour in three out of five cases, making it clear that our campaign was legal and that it was possible to encourage vote spoiling.** And in the remaining two cases, after the Constitutional Court refused to deal with them We appealed to the European Court of Human Rights in Strasbourg, together with the Háttér Support Society.

Thanks in part to the invalid referendum, the further restrictive legislation that had been pushed through has not yet been tabled, and the number of statements stigmatising LGBTQI+ people has also fallen dramatically in recent times. The large number of responses we received also showed that for many people in 2022, the 'Invalid' campaign alone gave them some

hope and comfort, while many members of the LGBTQI+ community reported that they received a lot of love and support during the campaign, which made them feel much less alone and vulnerable in the face of the government's exclusionary policies. In December 2022, we achieved an important goal when the European Commission took the case of Hungary's propaganda law to the European Court of Justice, on the grounds that it violates EU law and human rights.

## OPEN, FREE, HAPPY – AMNESTY AT BUDAPEST AND PÉCS PRIDE

Two of the highlights of the summer and early autumn period for us were the Budapest and Pécs Pride parades and the events surrounding them. During Pride Month we launched our **Rainbow Summer competition, which ran until Pécs Pride**. More than 1500 people played with us between June and September, many of them winning valuable Amnesty prizes.

**We organised 7 events in total**, and we were delighted that our activists in Pécs and Budapest led the way in making last summer truly open, free and happy for everyone by organising their own events. Of course, we were represented in large numbers at both parades, and in Budapest and Pécs we had with us Europe's biggest rainbow balloon. Taking care of our planet, we recycled the balloon material and made cool rainbow bags from it. 2022's Pride Month will also be remembered for **the first screening of the documentary 'You have to be here to believe' about the referendum campaign at the Apollo Cinema in Pécs on 15 July**, followed by a sold-out screening at the Tabán in Budapest.

In June, we created the Coming out course specifically linked to the Pride parades in Budapest and Pécs. The 20-minute mini-tutorial is about coming out and how to provide a safe space for people from sexual and gender minorities. Nearly 1200 people registered for this course.



# URGENT ACTIONS, GLOBAL CAMPAIGNS

## OUR KEY SUCCESSES:

- ▶ We have documented violations during Russia's war of aggression and occupation of Ukraine with more than a dozen research reports
- ▶ Egyptian Ahmed Samir Santawy was freed from prison after 18 months of campaigning
- ▶ In the month of the Write for Rights, our supporters spoke out 17,500 times against violations

## OPPOSITION TO THE BLOODSHED OF THE PROTESTS IN IRAN

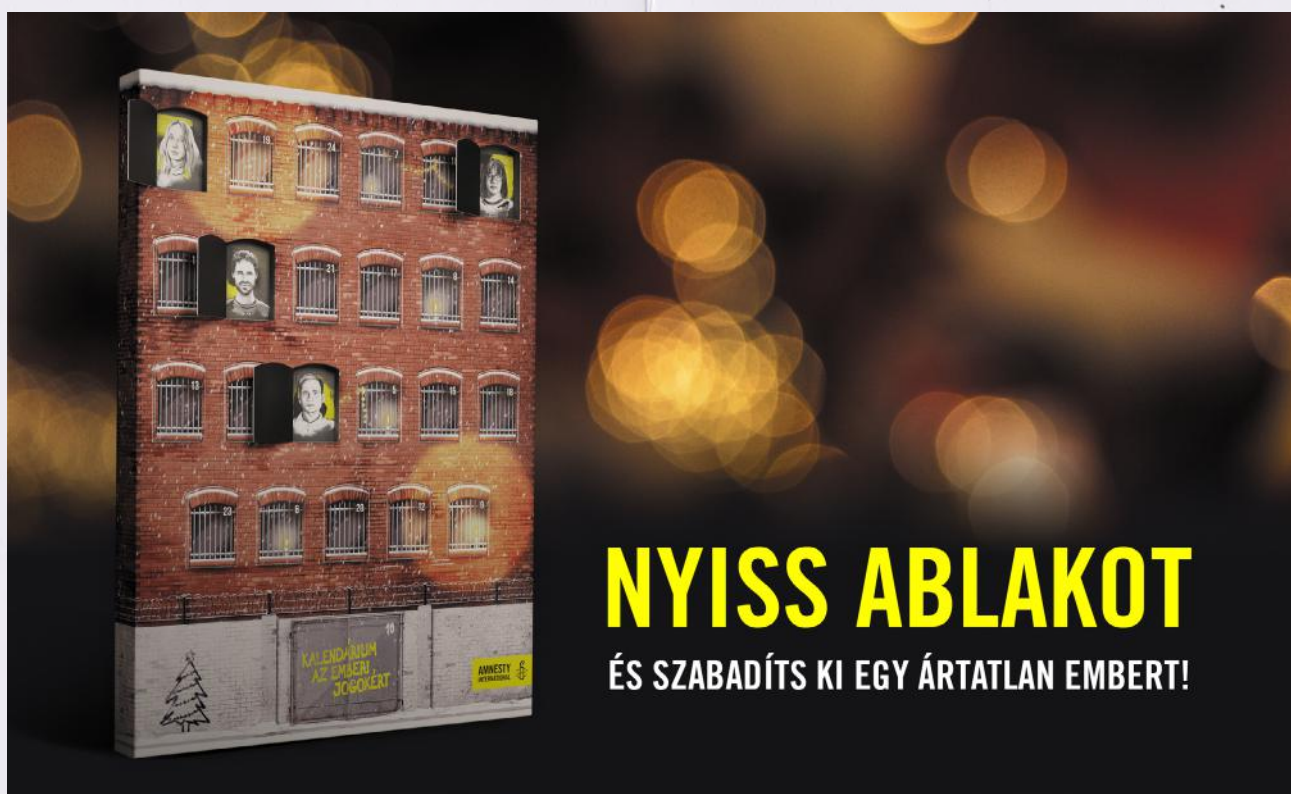
In 2022, the expansion of the team has allowed us to increase our capacity to deal with international infringements and campaigns. We launched 14 Urgent Actions for victims of violations. **We worked with Iranians in Hungary to get the Parliament to condemn the bloodshed of protests in Iran, joined the campaign to demand the return of Ukrainian civilians deported by the Russian military, and spoke out against the US Supreme Court's decision to remove federal protections for safe and legal abortion.** We've covered international issues in a variety of ways, including on our blog, to get these stories out to as many people as possible and to get more people to stand up for victims of rights violations.

## AHMED SAMIR SANTAWY RELEASED

One of the most uplifting moments of the year was when, after 18 months of hard work, the Egyptian authorities released **Ahmed Samir Santawy**, a student at CEU who had been unlawfully imprisoned. Our activists demand his release in May in



front of the embassy in Budapest, and in early July we received the shocking news that he had been sentenced to three years in an unfair trial. **However, thanks to international campaigning and our protests, he was finally pardoned by the President and allowed to leave prison at the end of July.** Ahmed Samir's story was also told in detail on our blog.



# NYISS ABLAKOT

ÉS SZABADÍTS KI EGY ÁRTATLAN EMBERT!

## WRITE FOR RIGHTS CAMPAIGN

Since November, our international work has focused on the world's largest human rights movement, the Write for Rights campaign, for which we organised a bigger domestic campaign than before. Together with the creative agency feat. we created a concept in which this year's nine cases were placed in the windows of an advent calendar, which we made available online and offline. We promoted the campaign through public billboards, newspaper ads, podcasts and social media with influencers, and we also paid close attention to mobilising as many people as possible, holding training sessions and community writing events, as well as promoting the campaign to university and school groups. The result was an unprecedented **17,500 actions across the nine cases**.

## LEGAL DEFENCE AGAINST RUSSIA'S WAR OF AGGRESSION

On 24 February 2022, when Russia began its invasion of Ukraine, all our lives changed. The war also affected our work, with a

particular focus on war crimes, crimes against humanity and other violations committed during Russia's war of aggression and occupation of Ukraine throughout the year. Since February 2022, Amnesty researchers have documented hundreds of instances of violations of the laws of war by the Russian armed forces and have confirmed dozens of instances of Russian soldiers deliberately targeting civilians, committing war crimes and other crimes.

Members of our team, like many others, took an active role in welcoming the arriving refugees: helping at train stations, border crossings and helping to house them. We conducted interviews at border crossing points and in Budapest as part of a regional research project to document the experiences and violations of refugee people and to suggest how the Hungarian state could improve their situation.

Amnesty's International Crisis Response Team was the first human rights organisation to document, through field investigations, weapons experts, satellite imagery and video analysis, that the Russian army used cluster munitions in the bombardment of Kharkiv's residential areas that were banned because

of their inaccuracy and indiscriminate destructive effects. Our researchers were also in Bucha and other settlements near Kiev where the Russian army had previously killed and executed civilians. Based on evidence found on the ground and interviews with survivors, Amnesty researchers were even able to identify which Russian units were in the town at the time. Amnesty experts were also the first to produce a detailed report on how people, including children and people with disabilities, are forcibly trafficked to Russia, while being subjected to violent due diligence processes (‘screening’) that often involve torture, arbitrary detention and abuse.

**One of the aims of our investigations is to give as many people as possible an accurate picture of the horrendous violations committed in Ukraine, and another is to use the vital evidence we capture and preserve to bring people committing war crimes and other crimes to international prosecution.** In 2022, €17.5 million was raised globally, to which we actively contributed through our collection in Hungary.

## OUR EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES ON THE WAR IN UKRAINE

After the outbreak of the war in Ukraine, **our education team provided two lesson plans to support teachers who were often left to deal with the fears and questions of young people.** For younger children, we created a session that both help children to articulate their fears about the war and supports them to find ways to reassure themselves and their environment.

For professionals working with older people, **we have translated into Hungarian the one-and-a-half-hour session „Human Rights in the Ukrainian War”, put together by our Polish Amnesty colleagues.** The session explains how armed conflicts violate human rights and touches on the topic of war crimes and crimes against humanity and the criminal responsibility that goes with them. The lesson plans have been distributed to our contact teachers and presented to interested professionals in high-profile online presentations.



# HUMAN RIGHTS EDUCATION

## OUR KEY SUCCESSES:

- ▶ In total, we now have 9 e-learning courses available on Amnesty Academy and on our own platform
- ▶ The winners of the Összpont competition implemented their own projects about paternal freedom and the Rainbow Bench in Miskolc
- ▶ We reached over 1000 students with our school programme

## E-LEARNINGEK

**Our aim is to inform as many people as possible about human rights issues that affect all of us and whose development, we can all contribute to.** In 2022, we have put more emphasis on creating online courses to help more people find reliable, systematic content on important human rights issues. The e-learning courses are free of charge, in Hungarian and can be taken at your own pace, in several parts, and in your own time. We have also created several 20-minute mini-courses, which cover the basics of a current topic in plain language. For example, our course on the rule of law.

As part of the Stand By Me international consortium project, we have produced two e-learning courses on gender-based violence. One course is about gender-based violence and its prevention on online platforms, social media, and the other is about gender-based violence and its prevention directly in the offline, physical world. These will be published in Hungarian in the first months of 2023.

Throughout the year, we have developed a growing number of e-learning materials, which can be accessed [via this link](#).

During the summer, the first self-developed course, available only in Hungarian, was added to the Amnesty Academy. The course, called Step Ahead Training, teaches about gender inequality in the workplace, including the pay gap and the glass ceiling. Together with this, 5 Hungarian language courses are now available at the international Amnesty Academy:

- ▶ Digital security
- ▶ Introduction to human rights
- ▶ Write for rights
- ▶ The corona virus and human rights
- ▶ Step forward







## ÖSSZPONT HUMAN RIGHTS TEAM COMPETITION FOR SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS

Our Human Rights student competition, Összpont, is a three-round competition with teams of two or three students lasting from February to the end of May. **Teams learn in a supportive environment and win the chance to implement their own human rights project with financial and professional support from Amnesty.** Each year, we place great emphasis on the independent choice of topics for the participating student teams, so that they can acquire the knowledge and skills they need to take a stand on the issues that matter most to them.

Levi, Emma and Ádám, with the help of the Future Shapers, a youth activist group from Miskolc, have created Hungary's first rainbow bench. The team of secondary school students lobbied the municipality all summer not only to paint one of the benches on Miskolc's Europe Square in rainbow colours, but also to renovate all the benches on the square so that the message

„this is a bench just like any other” on the rainbow bench would make sense. The bench raises awareness of the importance of acceptance of sexual and gender minorities and also sends a message to members of the LGBTQI+ community that they are not alone. The project was finally implemented in October, with the participation of the team members, their teacher, members of the Miskolc Amnesty Youth Group and our staff.

Zsófi, Hédi and Barbi, members of the Maxpont team, fought from start to finish to extend paternity leave during their „5 days is not enough” campaign. The project culminated in the team organised a round table discussion with Dávid Szél, psychologist and author of the Apapara blog, Fanni Csernus, gender equality programme officer at Amnesty Hungary, and Hédi and Zsófi. The successful event, held in October, was sold out and at the end of the discussion, the audience flooded the experts with more and more interesting questions.

## INCLUSIVE SPACES

One of the most significant projects of the year 2022 was the Inclusive Spaces project, which was implemented in cooperation with three partner organisations (Háttér Support Society, Labrisz Lesbian Association and the Rainbow Mission Foundation, which organised Budapest Pride). **The research and education project aims to reduce bullying at school and workplace discrimination against LGBTQI+ people.**

Based in part on recent research from schools and workplaces, we have developed a workshop for students, methodological training for school professionals, and training for employers and employees.

The implementation of some elements of the project has been significantly hampered by the chilling effect of the homophobic and transphobic law, which is why we consider the training in schools to be a great success and are proud to work with teachers who feel the weight of their responsibility to put into practice what they have learned in their institutions.

Participants in the methodological training courses in 2022 confirmed that the themes developed with the Labrisz Association provide practically applicable knowledge for professionals working with young people.

## BEFOGADÓ TEREK



**TÁMOGASD**

**A BEFOGADÓ OKTATÁST!**

# ACTIVISM

## OUR KEY SUCCESSES:

- ▶ 120 activists joined us, 65 members joined our Youth and Freedom Clubs, which organised 15 events across the country
- ▶ We have provided support for a fundraising concert, a bridge occupation, parents and students standing up for teachers, 40,000 to 80,000 people demonstrating
- ▶ Our youth group in Miskolc was formed

In 2022, activists were again the driving force behind our movement. Last year, Amnesty's activist community grew to 120 new ready-to-act members and three new members joined the activism staff team.

In 2022 we helped to organise more events than ever before to take place peacefully across the country. We supported fundraising concerts, bridge occupations, parents and students standing up for teachers, demonstrations of 40,000 to 80,000 people for education and live chains in Budapest, Pécs and Miskolc. As well as mobilising Amnesty activists, we were happy to provide on-site training and press briefings for the

education movement's organising and volunteer teams.

We took our activists to 5 festivals with interactive human rights programmes and games. We held nine activist workshops to deepen the involvement of newcomers and to develop the knowledge and skills of more experienced members. Last summer, we trained our activists together with Amnesty Norway activists at the European Youth Centre as part of the „Big Summer Training”. Co-led by human rights education and activism programme staff, the training gave participants a deeper understanding of the wage gap, the rule of law and the LGBTQI+



community, and helped them design their own projects on the issues that matter most to them. We held biannual community-building events in Budapest and Pécs with over 100 activists.

While our activists have often played a key role in the implementation of events organised by staff, many have also organised their own actions throughout the year. Within the Write for Rights campaign, there were some who held gatherings involving family and friends, and some who involved others in the campaign by organising a public event. In the spring, our activists held a self-organised rally outside the Palestinian Embassy to commemorate the journalist Shirin Abu Aqila, who was shot in the head by Israeli soldiers on 11 May. At the event, Dr Fadi Elhousseini also spoke about the murdered journalist and thanked Amnesty activists for their work.

In 2022, our activist community expanded with a new group: there is now a self-organised Amnesty Youth Club in Miskolc. In Miskolc, there is now a Freedom Club of self-organising high school students and university-age activists, the aim of which

is to join forces with other young people like them who are ready to take action and carry out independent actions, events and projects on the human rights issues that are most important to them.

**Last year, the groups grew to 43 youth and 22 Freedom Club members and organised more than 15 events across the country.** Last year, our youth club in Budapest ran a complex campaign called „Vote GenZ”, where young people were encouraged to get informed about the elections and go out to vote. The campaign included educational videos and a website where they shared information about the elections in an accessible format.

The Youth and Freedom Clubs also enriched Pride month with several events organised by the youth themselves, including LGBTQI+ picnics, quizzes, film screenings and community events. Many of our youth activists have also played a vital role in the education movement since its inception, taking every means to stand up for what they believe in.



# FUNDRAISING

## OUR KEY SUCCESSES:

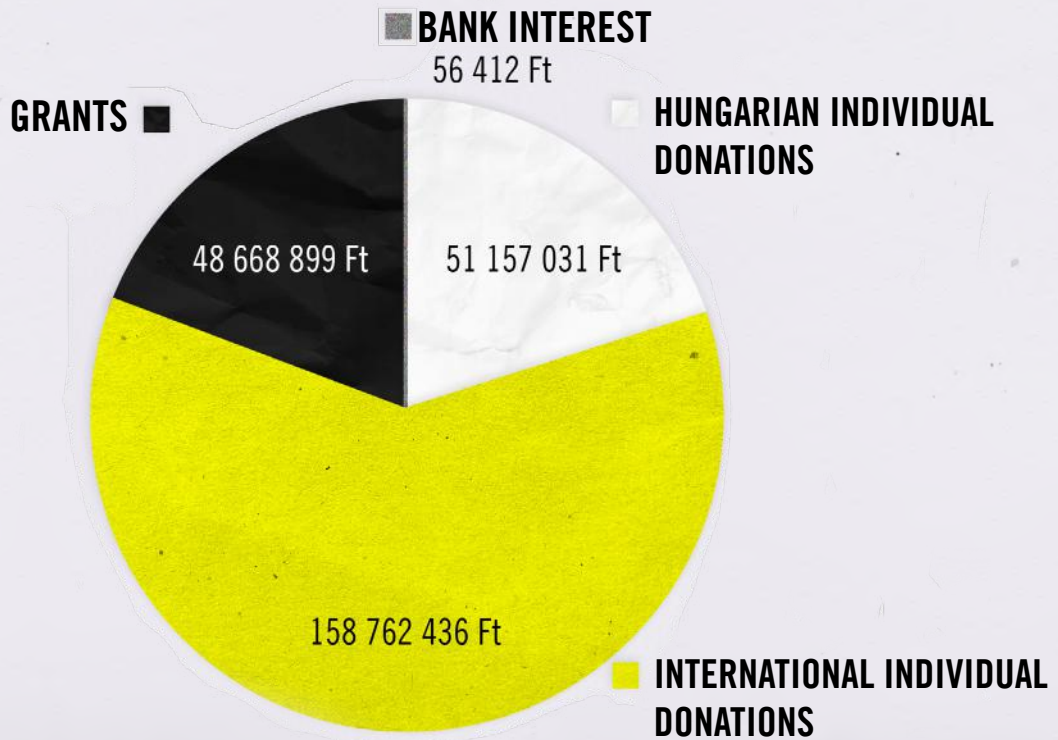
- ▶ Twice as many people donated 1% of their income tax to Amnesty than last year
- ▶ The share of our income from domestic members and supporters continued to grow
- ▶ Thanks to our community fundraising, 523 young people excluded from public education will get access to knowledge on preventing bullying in schools

ENTRIES	Planned 2022	Actual 2022	Rate
(A.) Income from fundraising	60 850 000 Ft	51 213 443 Ft	84%
(A.1) Individual donations	38 700 000 Ft	29 485 830 Ft	76%
(A.2) Membership fee income	1 500 000 Ft	1 528 650 Ft	102%
(A.3) VAT 1%	2 500 000 Ft	5 433 782 Ft	217%
(A.4) Bank interest	50 000 Ft	56 412 Ft	113%
(A.5) Other crowdfunding income	18 100 000 Ft	14 708 769 Ft	81%
(B) Grants aid	61 238 595 Ft	48 668 899 Ft	79%
(B.1) Institutional support	43 858 595 Ft	35 236 281 Ft	80%
(B.2) Private foundation support	17 380 000 Ft	13 432 618 Ft	77%
(C.) Grant from the International Movement	147 477 400 Ft	158 762 436 Ft	108%
<b>SUMMARY</b>	<b>269 565 995 Ft</b>	<b>258 644 778 Ft</b>	<b>96%</b>



**ETIKUS  
ADOMÁNYGYŰJTŐ  
SZERVEZET**

## ENTRIES



We are extremely grateful to our donors, members and supporters who have contributed so much to our work throughout the year. **In 2022, more people than ever before supported our work** (a 26% increase compared to 2021) and the value of individual donations to our human rights work increased by 33%. **Our donors significantly increased the donations from 1% of the personal income tax, which has doubled from previous year.** We have maintained ongoing personal contact with our supporters, especially our telefundraiser team.

More than ever before, 51 donors have pledged to stand up for fundamental human rights as Amnesty Ambassadors and raise funds to support our work. With the help of three student interns and five volunteers, we have completed two fundraising campaigns. In the UltraBalaton campaign, a team of ambassadors ran around Lake Balaton, while in the Human Rights Connect! campaign, each of our ambassadors individually found a theme and awareness-raising

commitment: whether it was making a hot meal for homeless people or crocheting a toy for Ukrainian refugees. We have reached over **800 donors, raised awareness of human**



**rights and raised a total of 7.2 million forints for human rights.**

Our Human Rights Education programme is constantly updated to respond to the latest issues. **Inclusive Spaces reopens the opportunity for teachers and students to engage in professional and relevant dialogue about gender and sexual minorities and bullying.** We launched a community



fundraising campaign to raise the funds for the project, which is a collaboration between several of our NGO partners. Thanks to 120 supporters, more than one million forints were raised, enabling at least 523 students to be reached with an important topic that is excluded from schools.\* The education project will run for at least another year, so targeted support is still available.

This year we have made several improvements to the webshop to make our donation shop even more user-friendly. Our seasonal T-shirts during Pride were a big hit again this year: Open, Free, Happy T-shirt, but the real star was our limited edition Rainbow Backpack, made by recycling Europe's largest rainbow balloon. We managed to almost double our webshop revenue to 3.8 million HUF, significantly increasing the number of people proudly wearing Amnestys t-shirts, bags and accessories.

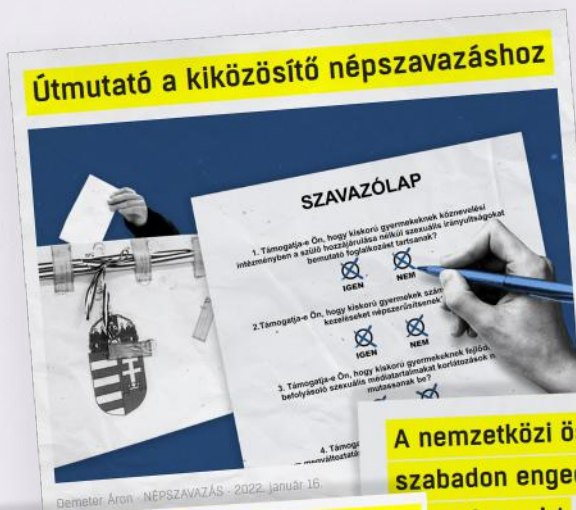
# COMMUNICATION, MEDIA

## OUR KEY SUCCESSES:

- ▶ Amnesty's human rights work mentioned 4600 times in the media
- ▶ The first issue of our print magazine ALAP was published
- ▶ We reached 3 million people on social media

In 2022, we successfully contributed to the public debate on the rule of law, LGBTQI+ rights and education. We had 32% more media coverage than a year earlier, with more than 4,600 mentions in total. This increase was largely due to our successful campaign to overturn the homophobic and transphobic referendum, our investigations into Russian war crimes and our work to protect the independence of the Hungarian judiciary. **We gave more than 60 interviews during the year**, from Hír TV to Tagesspiegel and the Guardian.

At the beginning of the year, we launched a new blog on 444, where last year we published 32 articles on issues related to the rule of law, gender equality, sexual and gender minorities and international violations. Among our most popular pieces was our rebuttal of the government's lies about the propaganda law and referendum, our coverage of abortion regulation, the President of the Kúria who wants to silence the free speech of judges, our story about the CEU student who was released from prison and our interview with the Ukrainian Amnesty director who fled the war.







One of the most exciting challenges of last year began when we decided to **produce a print human rights magazine on important and long-term issues that affect us all**. This became **ALAP** (which means baseline in Hungarian), primarily for those who want a common ground on which to build a freer, safer and more equal country. Well-known authors from Renata Uitz to Zsuzsa Ferge and Imre Kovách have accepted our invitation, and the first article in the first issue of ALAP was the last article written by Miklós Tamás Gáspár entitled “Five Pieces of Advice for the Homeland”. We are particularly proud that the entire graphic design of ALAP was done in-house.

This year, our Political Pride poster was selected for the 22nd ARC Public Exhibition, which was a great success with many visitors to the exhibition.

We continued to strengthen our social media presence, reaching 114% more people (3 million) on Facebook than a year earlier, and the number of reactions to our posts increased by 97% in a year. Instagram page followers exceeded 10,000 in 2022.

**One of the most important innovations of the referendum campaign, which was innovative in the Hungarian civil society sector, was that we consciously conducted a positive, values-based communication, which was based on our earlier national values research.** Based on this, we decided to target the audience we wanted to reach by focusing on the values of security and equality, while the campaign’s look and the specific messages were finalised based on feedback from social surveys. Also innovative in the sphere, we consciously put less emphasis on the brand and visibility of the organising NGOs and built our own image for the campaign so that nothing could distract attention from our message. The success and experience of the campaign will provide ammunition for future human rights NGO campaigns.

# HUMAN RIGHTS IN PÉCS

## OUR KEY SUCCESSES:

- ▶ Dozens of new members joined our activist team in Pécs, who organised 15 events
- ▶ We are a founding member of the Pécs Education Association for free education, we have organised demonstrations and live chains with our activists
- ▶ Europe's largest Rainbow Heart balloon was paraded at Pécs Pride

As a result of the community organising work of our regional coordinator, the Pécs Amnesty activist team has already grown by dozens of enthusiastic members. During the year, 15 events were organised in Pécs on various human rights issues, and we were represented by the Pécs team at several rallies in Budapest.

The referendum campaign bus started in Pécs, where we organised a roundtable discussion, a stand and street forums, and then the bus continued its journey to Komló, Dombóvár and Kaposvár. We celebrated Pride

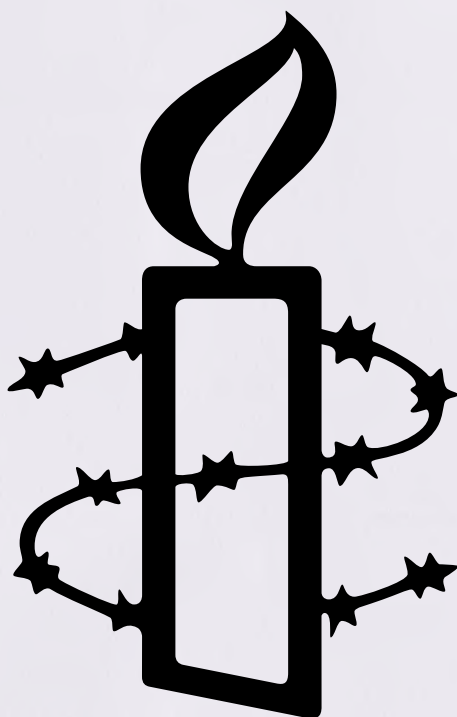
month by organising a number of LGBTQI+-themed events in Pécs, which were a good way to get in the mood for Pécs Pride in September. On the day before Pécs Pride, we held a community event called Rainbow Afternoon, where LGBTQI+ people could enjoy LGBTQI+ quizzes, talks and music. There was also no stopping between the two Pride festivals, as our team of activists from Pécs involved many festival-goers in the Amnesty campaigns with a series of interactive programmes over several days.



On Children's Day, we organised a Fairy Tale Trail for the youngest - and not so young - involving several local NGOs, with a wide range of activities from colouring in, to reading a story together, to human rights activities. We were included in the Capacity Building Programme on Strengthening Community Participation, led by the Power of Craft Foundation, which offers learning

opportunities with a range of NGOs across the country. We are proud of the founding members of the Pécs Education and Training Partnership (PONT), an organisation dedicated to promoting the education movement. Together with our activists, we have participated in and organised demonstrations, live demonstrations and workshops in Pécs in support of teachers.





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