



# Update on Activities

South Australia and Northern Territory

**AMNESTY**  
INTERNATIONAL



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# Key Activities and Achievements

- **Julian Assange is Free** – Celebrated the release of Julian Assange after years of sustained campaigning.
- **Protests for Palestine** – VOTE AGAINST GENOCIDE – Mobilised Adelaide grassroots activists to protest demanding an end to the genocide and occupation. **SA Gaza Representative**- Kate from the ALC has represented SA in AIA's Gaza Crisis Action Group. Kate also hosted an **Anytime Amnesty Podcast Episode** with SA University encampment protestors
- **Palestine Documentary Fundraiser**- Organised and held in partnership with Australian Friends of Palestine Australia with over 170 tickets sold to send aid to Gaza.
- **Refugee Week Speaking Engagements**- Partnered with Australian Migrant Resource Centre to speak on refugee rights and raise money for refugee and asylum seekers.
- **Meet Your MP for Palestine** – Have been actively securing meetings with South Australian MPs.
- **Youth Action Group (YAG)** – Supported the leadership and political engagement of young activists.
- **Disabled Action** (led by Kate) – Championed disability rights through advocacy and accessible campaigning as well as partnerships and panels with Citizen Advocacy SA.
- **Ride for McBride: Protect Whistleblowers** – Coordinated a national ride and awareness campaign for military whistleblower David McBride. A **Podcast episode on Anytime Amnesty** saw Kate speak with David on whistleblowers in Australia.
- **Protest for Richard Boyle** – Advocated publicly for whistleblower protections and justice for ATO whistleblower Richard Boyle.



# PROTECTING FREE SPEECH AND AUSTRALIAN WHISTLEBLOWERS

## JULIAN ASSANGE

In June 2024, Julian Assange was finally released from Belmarsh Prison – a historic victory after 2.5 years of weekly protests outside Penny Wong’s office.

This was a major achievement for Amnesty SA & NT and a testament to grassroots coordination & persistence.

While Amnesty did not name Julian a **Prisoner of Conscience**, a disappointing decision, we stood firm in our advocacy and continue to push for stronger protections for journalists and whistleblowers.

We also protested for media freedom consistently, often with Julian Assange’s Australian lawyer Stephen Kenney.

## DAVID MCBRIDE

In May 2024, Australian military whistleblower David McBride was sentenced to 5 years and 8 months in prison for exposing **war crimes** in Afghanistan.

We led a national **Ride for McBride** protest and marked **World Whistleblower Day** with a public rally demanding justice. Kate from the ALC spoke to David before his unjust incarceration regarding whistleblowers in Australia on Anytime Amnesty’s [podcast](#).

Amnesty SA & NT is committed to protecting whistleblowers and the public’s right to know.

We are calling on the broader Amnesty International movement to support David McBride’s release and take a firm stand for truth, accountability, and protections for Australian Whistleblowers.

## RICHARD BOYLE

Australian Tax Office whistleblower Richard Boyle is still facing criminal prosecution for exposing unethical debt recovery practices that targeted vulnerable small businesses.

We have spoken out and attended protests in support of Richard, standing with those who risk everything to tell the truth.

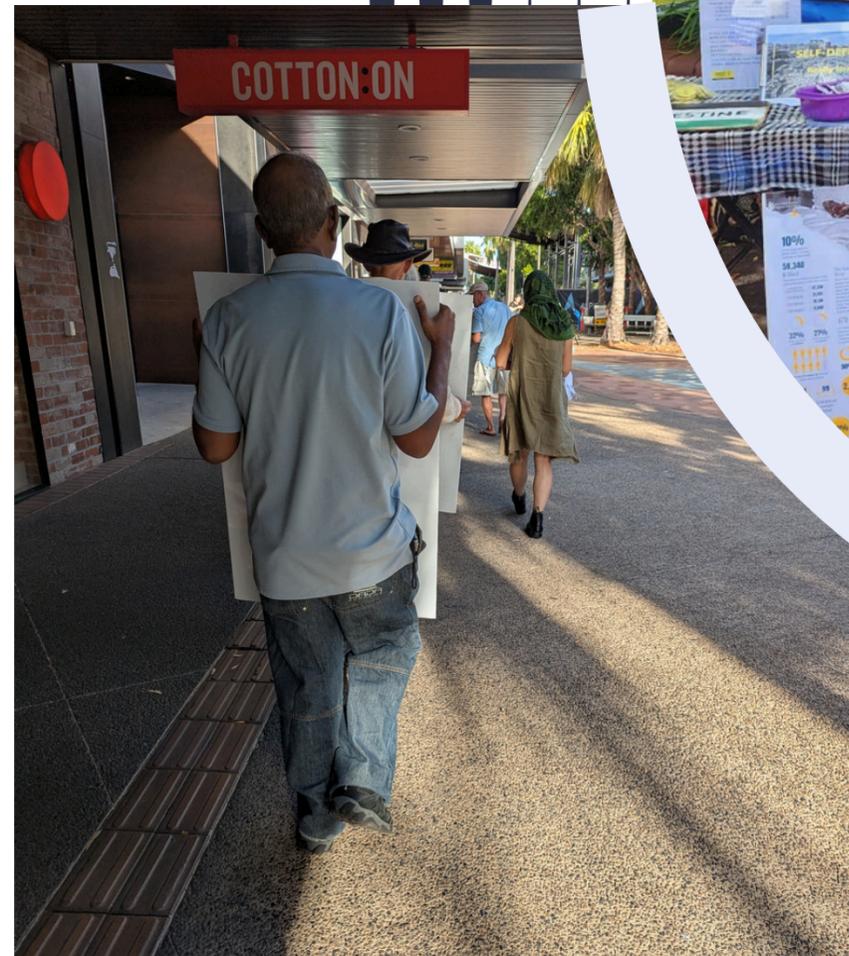
Amnesty SA & NT calls on Amnesty International to advocate for stronger whistleblower protections in Australia and to speak up for Richard Boyle.

Free speech matters. Truth matters. Whistleblowers must be protected – not punished.



# Northern Territory Actions

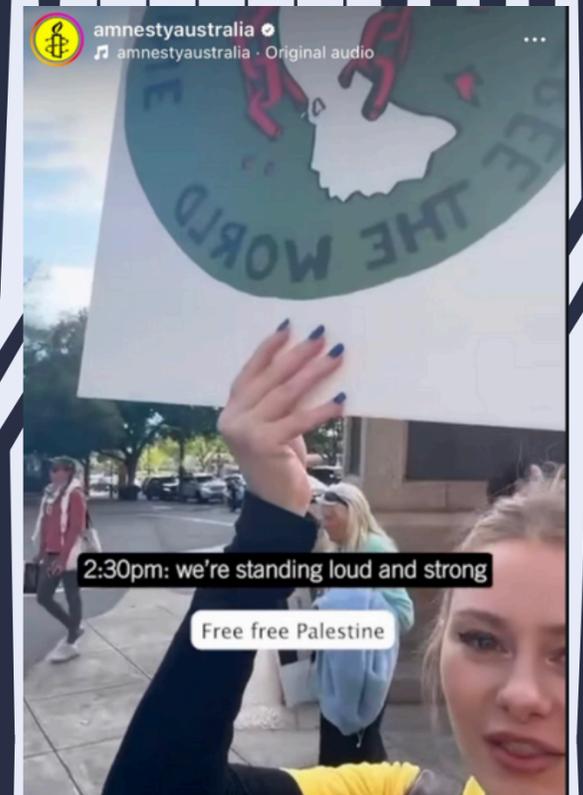
- Advocated for the rights of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples through community engagement.
- Conducted workshops to raise awareness about **human rights violations**.
- Collaborated with local organizations to support mental health initiatives.
- Submitted policy recommendations to improve **housing rights**.
- Northern Territory residents mobilising to **raise awareness** and protest against the genocide and occupation of Palestine. weekly at the markets. **Nakba** awareness was raised by banding together to hold a **silent protest** that gathered on the steps of Parliament house.



**PROTECT**  
**JOURNALISTS**  
**IN GAZA**

# Protests and Advocacy for Palestine:

- Regular mass rallies and marches have taken place through Adelaide's CBD, calling for an immediate ceasefire and an end to the genocide in Gaza, with thousands participating in peaceful demonstrations.
- SA/NT ALC has a dedicated regional representative for AIA's Gaza Crisis Action Group, which meets regularly to support national actions including Silent Vigils, creating social media content of protests and other initiatives like the Documentary Fundraiser held late last year.
- As part of coordinated national efforts, Adelaide has taken part in simultaneous projection displays—illuminating buildings and landmarks with pro-Palestine messages—in conjunction with other states under the **"Hands Off Palestine"** grassroots campaign.
- Each week, local organisers have engaged in creative and varied actions to raise public awareness in the lead-up to the Federal Election, including sit-ins, banner drops, community forums, and vigils.
- Since the election period, organisers in South Australia have continued their tireless work, joining with counterparts in other states to sustain momentum through the **"Meet Your MP for Palestine"** program.
- This program encourages constituents to contact and meet with their local Members of Parliament, urging them to speak out and take action against the ongoing genocide in Gaza and apartheid policies more broadly.
- Collectively, these efforts represent a growing and determined grassroots movement across Australia, united in calling for an end to the occupation and for the Australian Government to uphold international law and human rights for the Palestinian people.



# Advocacy and Education for Marginalised Populations

- The SA/NT ALC partnered with Citizens Advocacy South Australia to host a panel event and fundraiser night called 'Rights, Wrongs, Advocacy and Justice' to raise awareness of the intersection between human rights, a Federal Human Rights Act and people with disabilities, including panel members with lived experience, Kate spoke to AIA's Federal Human Rights Act campaign.
- We also partnered with the Australian Migrant Resource Centre during refugee week, where Kate was invited to speak on the human rights of refugees and asylum seekers, and assisted in supporting a fundraiser quiz night for the rights of refugees, asylum seekers and migrants.



# Free Speech Matters!

