


Candidate	Statement
<p data-bbox="123 263 304 311">Ili Anuar</p>  <p data-bbox="62 611 365 646">Member for 3 years</p>	<p data-bbox="392 263 2033 347">As an official Amnesty member since May 2023 and a current member of the QLD/NNSW Activism Leadership Committee, I am deeply committed to Amnesty’s values and priorities.</p> <p data-bbox="392 368 2105 719">I bring experience from being in the ALC for almost 3 years, working with other members to plan events and support local activists. I also have strong experience in stakeholder engagement and co-design, with a strong foundation in monitoring and evaluation. With ALC, I enjoy engaging with the local group through supporting events and having conversations with different activists to hear about their activism. Working with the current members of ALC to plan face-to-face activists catch-up, school conferences, and other activists/ALC-led events has strengthened my skills in working with a diverse group of people. I hope to continue my service for Amnesty through being a member of ALC for the next two years.</p> <p data-bbox="392 790 743 825">Reason for nominating:</p> <p data-bbox="392 842 2123 1137">I would like to become a General Meeting Voter as I am passionate about human rights. By being a voter, I can contribute my voice to the board members and hope that Amnesty Australia would continue to be led by people who have human rights as their priority. I am continuously educating myself on how to become a better activist, and with my Masters in International Relations and work experience with underprivileged communities, I have learned so much more about civil society organisations, international law, and human rights advocacy, which I hope to apply to my activism with Amnesty.</p>

**Carole
Cooper**



Member for 1.5
years

I have spent my career working at the intersection of leadership, culture and social impact and have always believed that organisations and individuals have a responsibility to stand up for human rights and dignity. My commitment to justice began early. Growing up in South Africa during apartheid, I experienced firsthand the impact of systemic discrimination. At 14, I was protesting and campaigning against apartheid. That belief in speaking up when something is wrong has stayed with me throughout my life and career. Today, I am the founder of Carole Cooper Consulting, where I work with organisations to build strong, ethical and inclusive cultures. I also serve as Chair of a domestic and family violence service in Brisbane and sit on the Board of Amnesty International Australia. I joined Amnesty because I believe the protection of human rights requires collective action and courageous voices. Amnesty's work gives people a way to turn concern into action, and I am proud to contribute to that movement.

Reason for nominating:

I want to play an active role in supporting Amnesty International's work and ensuring the organisation continues to be strong, courageous and effective in defending human rights. Becoming a General Meeting Voter allows me to contribute and vote on important decisions about Amnesty's direction while standing alongside others who believe in justice, accountability and the power of collective action.

Lee Bennett

Member for 2 years

I have been involved with Amnesty International for 15 years as a secondary school teacher at Brisbane Boys' College. I joined the school's group in 2011 as a Coordinating staff member and have run the club since 2015 up to the present day. In that time, I have planned, organised and run 4 Amnesty schools conferences with assistance and support from the Northern NSW/Qld chapter of Amnesty Australia, most recently with Bronwen Kippen. We also produce a magazine twice yearly called The Voice, which covers contemporary and historical human rights issues.

Reason for nominating:

After 36 years of teaching and having spent 15 years involved with the organisation I am interested in continuing my association in another capacity. I also have a major interest and concern in human rights, mainly in relation to Palestinian rights in Gaza and the West Bank. I have been to a number of demonstrations and rallies and written letters expressing my disgust and dismay at the way the Palestinian people have been treated since 1948.

Paige Garland



Member for 10
years

I am a former member of the Amnesty International Australia National Board. I was a member during a period of significant organisational change which included Constitutional change; the development of a sustainable Operational model; and a range of Board reforms to make it more productive. Prior to that appointment, I was on the Queensland and Northern New South Wales Branch Committee and am a current member of the Activism Leadership Committee. I have a strong focus on youth development and work with schools and university students to further human rights education. I am a regular at the Brisbane Schools Conference and I successfully nominated Brisbane Boys College for their June Fassina Award. In 2026 I participated in Mardi Gras. I am a Strategic Planner and spend significant time on researching international issues. I am also a member of the network, Women's Environmental Leadership Australia. I have tertiary qualifications from Monash University in Management and Mass Communication. I have been an activist since primary school, when my family helped save Currumbin Estuary on the Gold Coast. I am from an intergenerational family of activists.

Reason for nominating:

I am passionate about human rights. The position of General Meeting Voter is one of influence in shaping the policies and priorities of Amnesty International Australia. As a General Meeting Voter I can apply my knowledge, skills, networks and experience to make Amnesty International Australia reflect and respond to the many contemporary challenges it faces and the people it supports face.

Ruth Gould



Member for 10 years

My name is Ruth Gould, member of the Amnesty QLD / NNSW Activism Leadership Committee since 2021 supporting human rights activities across our region. I have been part of the Amnesty Chermside action group in Brisbane/Magandjin since 2015 (Co-Convenor 2018-22).

I am passionate about equality and freedom for all people. Human rights initiatives I have supported include events and actions for campaigns such as Write for Rights and a Human Rights Act for Australia, advocacy to Government and representing our region at national forums.

An event I am proud of is working with the Eritrean and Ethiopian communities in Brisbane for a Women’s Day dinner for families impacted by the Tigray conflict. I also have a strong interest in Indigenous youth justice. I have been involved in three Amnesty Schools Conferences in Brisbane. I work in a non-profit writing tenders and grants. I have participated in Amnesty’s AGM as a General Meeting Voter five times in 2019-25. As a GMV I carefully consider board nominations and proposed resolutions to make well-informed decisions. I listen to diverse activist perspectives, and I support collaboration in our movement.

Reason for nominating:

I would like to become a General Meeting Voter again in 2026 to represent activists across QLD / NNSW in this important role where grassroots members can participate in Amnesty’s organisational decisions such as electing board members and considering resolutions for governance reform. I am open to taking feedback from members in our region within the scope of the GMV role and as such will seek input through local networks such as the Amnesty QLD / NNSW Activism Leadership Committee and action groups. I aim to share information and knowledge from the AGM to local activist and member networks.

Peter Hanley



Member for 30
years

Peter has been a member of Amnesty International Australia since 1993 and soon after joining became convenor of the Townsville AI Action Group – a role he has held off and on ever since. He joined the Queensland NNSW Branch Committee of AIA in 2004 and was Queensland NNSW Branch President from 2005-2008. In 2009 at the National Annual General Meeting (NAGM), Peter was awarded the national June Fassina Award for his extensive contribution to the defence of Human Rights.

Peter's participation in the Townsville Amnesty International Action Group is an important part of his life. Activities of the group include organising the annual Palm Sunday Walk for Peace and Justice for Refugees, regular film nights, Refugee Week Activities, stalls at community events, and lots more.

Reason for nominating:

Peter believes one of AIA's great strengths is that it is a member-led organisation and members do have a say. Peter attended his first Amnesty National AGM in 2003 and has been an enthusiastic participant in AGMs since that first experience.

The AGM is an important part of AIA governance and that is why Peter is nominating for the position of GMV at the 2026 AGM.

**Bronwen
Kippen**



Member for 10
years

I have been an active member of Amnesty for many years in the QLD and NNSW region. This includes being a member of a local community group, and a member of the QLD and Northern NSW Activisms and Leadership Committee. I particularly enjoy participating in community engagement events to support raising awareness of the human rights and human rights issues in the community, as well as working with youth activists to hold events like our annual school conference in Brisbane.

Reason for nominating:

I want to be a general member voter as I believe engaging in governance processes is important for ensuring member and activist perspectives inform organisational priorities and ways of working. I also believe I have a strong understanding of activist priorities and issues impacting activists in Queensland through my role on the QLD and NSW ALC.