**USA**

**US Elections: Press Release issued by Amnesty International following the election of Donald Trump as the next US President**

Amnesty International reminds President-elect Trump and all elected officials across the country today of their obligations to respect, protect and fulfill human rights in their policies and approaches, here at home and around the world. Amnesty International has documented extensively the damage to human rights caused by President-elect Trump’s first administration, including its efforts to redefine human rights, and stands ready to defend human rights in his second Presidential term.

“Donald Trump’s first term as president ushered in policies and actions marked by bigotry, xenophobia, and white supremacist rhetoric, and led to extensive human rights violations,” said Paul O’Brien, Executive Director of Amnesty International USA. “This second term must be different, and Amnesty International will continue to fight for everyone’s human rights to be respected.”

Protecting human rights in the United States means ending gun violence and guaranteeing adequate healthcare for all, including abortion; and it means respecting the rights of protesters, as well as migrants and asylum seekers. Protecting human rights also means demanding that other countries’ governments - including U.S. allies - stop violating human rights, and to make sure that U.S. support does not enable violations of human rights or humanitarian law.

“The Trump administration and all elected officials must meet their international human rights obligations, defined in treaties signed and ratified by the U.S.,” continued O’Brien. “Our members, supporters and activists here in the United States and across the world will work to hold the Trump administration and all newly elected U.S. officials accountable.”

“Amnesty International is no stranger to adversity. For more than six decades, we’ve never backed down, and we are not backing down now,” continued O’Brien\*. “As the oldest and largest grassroots human rights organization in the world, we will continue to work to uncover the truth, take action, and turn despair into hope. The world is watching, and Amnesty will be holding President-elect Trump and the U.S. government accountable to their obligations.”

(\*Executive Director of Amnesty International USA)

As he closes out his term, Amnesty International also urges President Biden to take urgent steps on human rights in the last weeks before his legacy is sealed. This includes commuting the death sentences of all people on federal death row, establishing a commission to examine reparations for slavery, rescinding the asylum ban and border shutdown, granting clemency and freeing Indigenous elder and activist Leonard Peltier, and closing the Guantanamo detention center.

Amnesty International continues its call for President Biden to immediately stop all arms transfers to the government of Israel to protect civilians and ensure U.S. weapons are not being used in violation of international law. President Biden and the current Congress must do everything in their power to bring about an immediate and permanent ceasefire, unhindered humanitarian access, and the safe return of all remaining hostages.

**Defending Abortion Rights**

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| Amnesty International welcomes the passage of eight out of the 11 state-based referendums to protect access to abortion, including in Arizona, Missouri, Montana, and Nebraska.    “The passage of state-based referendums to protect abortions is a win for human rights,” continued O’Brien. “Voters across this country recognize the importance of taking action to constitutionally protect access to abortion, affirming that pregnant people have the human right to make their own decisions about their reproductive health without interference from the government. President-elect Trump has advocated for restricted access to abortion and harsh punishments. Our fight for reproductive rights is now more urgent than ever.” |  | STOP TRUMP'S ANTI-RIGHTS PLANS  **How will the election of Donald Trump effect abortion ?** |

***Abortion in the*** ***USA: The Human Rights Crisis in the Aftermath of Dobbs***. The report highlights widespread harm and discrimination in the US through interviews, emphasizing the need for each pregnant person to have the right to decide on abortion without government interference.

The AIUSA report will live here when the embargo is lifted: <https://www.amnestyusa.org/reports/abortion-in-america-the-u-s-human-rights-crisis-in-the-aftermath-of-dobbs/>

The New York Times is tracking abortion laws in each state after the Supreme Court’s decision in [Dobbs v. Jackson Women’s Health Organization](https://www.nytimes.com/news-event/roe-v-wade-supreme-court-abortion), which ended the constitutional right to an abortion. It has the latest updates.

**TAKE ACTION**

Watch this space.

**Death Penalty**

**Richard Moore**

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| Richard Moore, a 59-year-old Black man, scheduled to be executed in South Carolina on 1 November 2024 for the murder of a white convenience store clerk. |  | Richard Moore was unarmed when he entered the store, demonstrating a lack of premeditation that raises serious questions as to whether the crime rose to the level for which the death penalty is reserved in US constitutional law. Both men were shot, the clerk fatally, after the clerk pulled two firearms on Richard Moore. At the 2001 trial, the prosecutor dismissed the only two prospective Black jurors, resulting in an all-white jury. We urge the South Carolina governor to grant clemency and commute Richard Moore’s death sentence. |

South Carolina executed Richard Moore on 1st November, despite widespread calls for his life to be spared, including from the judge who originally condemned him to death.

**Carey Grayson**

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| In 1996, he became the last of four young males to be convicted of a 1994 murder. At the four separate trials, the prosecutor used mutually incompatible theories, claiming each defendant was the most culpable. In 2004, Alabama told the US Supreme Court that Carey Grayson was not the most culpable. His is the sole death sentence to survive on appeal. He was 19 at the time of the crime, emerging from a childhood marked by abuse, neglect and bipolar disorder. |  | I am sad to say that he was executed on 21 November. |

## Guantánamo Detention Centre

**APPG to close Guantánamo**

Because of the elections we have had to reconsider the composition of the APPG. The good news is that Chris Law has agreed to continue to lead the APPG.

The Aims of the APPG had been agreed by all members, as follows:

1) To urge the UK government to use its influence as a key ally of the USA to call on the US government to finally secure the closure of the facility;

2) To urge the UK government to work internationally on the urgent and humane resettlement of detainees unanimously approved for release from Guantanamo by high-level US government review processes;

3) To urge the UK government to use its influence to call on the US government to ensure that the detainees receive adequate care for their long-standing physical and mental health needs, as required under international humanitarian law.

**VERY URGENT ACTION The UK Guantánamo Network is collecting signatures from** UK parliamentarians, people who are involved in human rights advocacy in NGOs and academia in this country, and individuals in the UK who have a high public profile and who may be sympathetic to this appeal to call on President Biden to take urgent action to free 16 men who have long been approved for release from the prison at Guantánamo Bay before Donald Trump takes office. (The Executive Director of Amnesty UK has signed the appeal). The We aim to send the appeal by 4th December.

If possible, [email](https://www.whitehouse.gov/contact/) us (https://www.whitehouse.gov/contact/)! This is the fastest way to reach the White House.

If you write a letter, The White House, 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20500

Amnesty USA [Online Action](https://act.amnestyusa.org/page/96987/action/1?ea.tracking.id=spgcowst). (<https://act.amnestyusa.org/page/96987/action/1?ea.tracking.id=spgcowst>)

**The Guantánamo Network**

It includes the following organisations:  Amnesty International, Close Guantánamo, Freedom from Torture, Guantánamo Justice Campaign and London Guantánamo Campaign.

Join the Guantánamo Network: we have an online one-hour meeting every second week to update the information, discuss lines of action and organise the work involved among ourselves.

**Volunteers urgently needed for the following vigils:**

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We hold a vigil every first Wednesday of the month. The next vigil will take place on:

**4th December 2024 and 1 January 2024 (to be confirmed) from 13:00 to 15:00 (or any time you can spare) on Parliament Square.**

**Exhibition of art from Guantánamo detainees**

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| The UK Guantánamo Network, in collaboration with Amnesty International UK, proudly presents “Don’t Forget Us Here”, an exhibition of art created by former Guantánamo Bay detainees, shedding light on the injustice of indefinite detention without trial or charge. |  |  |

**Immigration**

Things will change with Donald Trump.

## Leonard Peltier

**VERY URGENT ACTION**

**Join us to push Biden to grant him clemency once and for all before his presidential term is over!**

In June 2024, Leonard had his first parole hearing since 2009. Now that it has been rejected, the campaign has reverted back to our other call on President Biden to grant him clemency on humanitarian grounds and as a matter of justice. We have reverted the Urgent Action back to this request, [here](https://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/amr51/8258/2024/en/) is the new version.

President Joseph Biden

The White House

1600 Pennsylvania Ave NW

Washington, DC 20500

USA

Also please keep sending **Leonard Peltier a solidarity letter**: Leonard Peltier, #89637-132, USP Coleman 1, US Penitentiary, PO Box 1033, Coleman, FL 33521, USA. It was his **80th birthday** on 12 September. Do wish him a belated birthday.