

**AMNESTY
INTERNATIONAL**



Amnesty International Ghana

Newsletter

January - December 2025

A global movement of more than 10 million people in over 150 countries and territories who campaign to end abuses of human rights.

**Fighting bad
guys since
1973**



Bringing together the year's activities, achievements, and contributions toward advancing human rights across Ghana

Table of Content

04 **Year In Review**

03 **Activity Highlights**

Campaigns & Communications ~ Human Rights Education ~ Growth and Mobilization ~ Youth Engagement~ Regional Activities ~ Governance

09 **Features**

National Youth Coordinating Team (NYCT) ~ Chapter Launch ~ Women's Network ~ Add-On

14 **Spotlight**

15 **Call to Action**

What a year it's been!

From impactful actions to strategic collaborations, this year reminded us of the strength in collective effort and the power of staying committed to human rights. Across communities, campuses, and coalitions, we have mobilized, learned, challenged injustice, and created space for voices that matter. This annual roundup brings together the milestones, stories, and people that shaped our journey. Whether you showed up on the frontlines, engaged online, or supported quietly from the side-lines, this is our year in review. Let's rewind.



“It Is Better To Light A Candle Than Curse The Darkness”

-Eleanor Roosevelt

1

 **Connect with us!**



Message from the Country Director

Genevieve Partington

As I conclude my tenure as Director, I want to express my deepest gratitude for the trust, solidarity, and commitment you have shown throughout this journey. Leading this organisation has been one of the greatest honours of my career, and together we have advanced human dignity, justice, and equality in meaningful ways.

From strengthening our campaigns and amplifying the voices of the most vulnerable, to building a more engaged and connected membership, our collective work has made a measurable difference in the fight for human rights in Ghana.

Thank you for your energy, and the belief that a more just and inclusive society is possible. I leave confident that Amnesty International Ghana remains in strong and capable hands with you, the members, at its heart.

A portrait of Francis Nyantakyi, a middle-aged Black man with a short beard and mustache, wearing a brown and white striped shirt. He is looking slightly to the right of the camera with a neutral expression. The background is a light, textured grey.

Message from the Board Chair

Francis Nyantakyi

This year, Amnesty International Ghana recorded meaningful progress in advancing human rights nationwide through key campaigns, research, and advocacy initiatives. From the Protect the Protest campaign to Women's Empowerment programmes and landmark reports on the death penalty and witchcraft accusations, our movement showed strength and resolve. These achievements reflect the collective courage, resilience, and solidarity of our members and supporters. On behalf of the Board, we extend sincere appreciation to all members, volunteers, partners, and allies. Your contributions, whether in advocacy, research, community mobilisation, or operational support were vital to our impact. Together, you helped raise public awareness, deepen civic participation, and influence institutional responses to human rights concerns. Despite these gains, significant human rights challenges persist across our society. Restrictions on civic space, gender-based violence, discrimination, and harmful practices continue to undermine human dignity. These challenges demand sustained vigilance and collective action. Guided by Amnesty International's global strategy, we remain committed to principled and coordinated advocacy. As a movement grounded in solidarity, we will continue to hold duty bearers accountable and support vulnerable communities. Together, we reaffirm our commitment to a Ghana where human rights are respected, protected, and fulfilled.

Year In Review

Mission

Pursuant to the mission of AI, AI Ghana's mission is to create a viable and sustainable nationwide membership with a view to championing the cause and promotion of human rights and beyond.

Vision

To ensure that the fundamental human rights and freedoms of all persons are protected, promoted, and fulfilled in line with national, regional, and international human rights standards.

The year 2025 saw a focus on expanding the scope of Amnesty International Ghana's priority areas:

PRIORITY AREA 1: FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION AND CIVIC SPACE

PRIORITY AREA 2: EQUALITY AND NON – DISCRIMINATION

Under these broad areas, a number of initiatives were spearheaded including the *Protect the Protest* campaign, *Branded for Life* among other initiatives surrounding the death penalty, menstrual health and more. Looking through a broad lens, the year has proved to be promising so far. Significant strides have been made towards the flagship protect the protest campaign, the branded for life campaign and other flexible areas. By utilizing avenues like the Nanolearning HRE Series on Ending Witchcraft Accusations and GBV as well as several regional workshops and activism initiatives, it has been observed that the course towards achieving the end goals for each priority area is well in progress.

Some highlights of the year include the launch of the 2024 death penalty report on May 21st, the successful commemoration of the 2025 Menstrual Hygiene Day on May 28th, the launch of the witchcraft accusations report dubbed "Branded for life: How witchcraft accusations lead to human rights violations of hundreds of women in North Ghana" and the onset of the second season of the 'WE ALL DEY INSIDE' X spaces HRE series.

In addition to these achievements, cross-collaborative efforts with grassroots organizations and regional human rights defenders have continued to amplify the impact of the year's initiatives. Strategic partnerships have enabled the rollout of community-based education programs, policy dialogues, and public awareness campaigns that are rooted in lived experiences and locally-driven solutions. As the year progresses, continued emphasis will be placed on intersectionality, inclusivity, and adaptability to ensure that all priority areas and efforts remain responsive to emerging challenges and opportunities on the ground.



Activity Highlights

Section



Launch of the witchcraft accusations report dubbed "Branded for life: How witchcraft accusations lead to human rights violations of hundreds of women in North Ghana."



Hon. Dr. Agnes Naa Momo Lartey (Minister of Gender, Children and Social Protection) at AI Ghana's International Women's Day Forum.



AIG meets with the Attorney General to discuss strengthening legal frameworks and advancing the protection of human rights.



Participants at the first-ever blended learning training, enhancing skills and knowledge to advance human rights advocacy.



Amnesty International Ghana Strengthens Media Collaboration on Human Rights Advocacy and Reporting.



Meeting with the Human Rights Committee of the Parliament of Ghana to strengthen collaboration between government and human rights NGO's and advance legislative oversight.



A three-day visit to the Gambaga, Kuku, and Gnani camps in the Northern and North East Region to engage and advocate for the protection of vulnerable individuals and their human rights.



Group photo of participants after completing the Leadership Development Training Workshop.



Basic school students engaged in a creative activity, designed to help them learn about human rights, reflect on its importance and take positive action



Amnesty Ghana joins the global Write for Rights campaign, writing messages of solidarity and urging authorities to uphold justice for individuals at risk.

These highlights showcase the key activities, initiatives and engagements undertaken throughout the year. They reflect the collective efforts of members, volunteers, and partners in advancing human rights, raising awareness and strengthening community participation across Ghana. From the milestones reached, the lessons learned and the impact achieved this year, Amnesty International Ghana will continue to demonstrate its unwavering commitment to advocacy, education and public engagement.

PROTECT THE PROTEST

Documentary examines enforcement of Ghana's rights to peaceful assembly

AM SHOW II NIGHT SECURITY GUARD KILLED IN WA, RESIDENTS DEMAND ACTION II FOLLOW M, 5PM ON ADOM TV, AND 9PM, YOU CAN PLAY MULTIPLE TIMES A DAY! AND FOR THE BOLD PLAYER

The 'Protect the Protest' documentary goes live on television

Campaigns & Communications

Throughout the year, Amnesty International Ghana advanced a broad range of advocacy initiatives aimed at strengthening human rights protections and deepening engagement with communities, institutions and national decision-makers. Our support for the 53 Patriots detained for protesting illegal mining highlighted ongoing restrictions on civic space and raised concerns about freedom of expression and peaceful assembly. Engagement with state institutions remained central, including a strategic meeting with the Human Rights Committee of Parliament to present emerging issues and explore avenues for collaboration. Advancing gender equality was also a priority, demonstrated through a multi-stakeholder workshop on International Women's Day focused on practical strategies for implementing the Affirmative Action Law. Evidence-based advocacy was reinforced through the annual death penalty report and other publications addressing systemic human rights challenges. These were complemented by press statements on prison feeding conditions, the anti-witchcraft accusations bill and the presidential amnesty for 998 inmates. Communications activities further amplified these interventions. The Protect the Protest documentary was screened across five media houses, expanding awareness of restrictions on civic space. An editorial meeting with senior media editors strengthened partnerships and enhanced reporting quality. Press conferences supported the launch of major publications, ensuring accurate dissemination and strong media uptake. Regular press statements shaped public discourse, while social media campaigns promoted key initiatives, events and organisational milestones, sustaining visibility, mobilising audiences and deepening public engagement throughout the year.

15k Followers

across all social media platforms



Panel discussion on how witchcraft accusations lead to human right violations of women



Press coverage in full swing, ensuring the event's highlights reach the public.



The Country Director and Board Chair in a media engagement session, highlighting critical human rights issues and sharing insights from Amnesty's work.

7

Connect with us!



Human Rights Education

Through smartphones screens, school clubs and workshop circles, human rights advocacy saw a thrive in Ghana this year. We reinforced our role as a national hub for learning by creating platforms for communities to engage with pressing human rights issues. A major milestone was expanding Ghana's participation in human rights conversations, reflected in Amnesty's Human Rights Academy, reaching 1,776 learners since 2017, with 181 new registrations in 2025 alone.

We delivered awareness sessions on harassment prevention and sexual and gender-based violence to students and teachers. Our flagship "We All Dey Inside" X Spaces series brought critical conversations to communities via studio recordings, YouTube livestreams, and X Space conversations covering topics like constitutional reform, civic space protection, youth leadership in achieving SDGs, and technology-facilitated gender-based violence. Highlights included insightful engagement with the #53Patriots on civic action, legal experts on constitutional gaps, and key discussions on the realities of digital violence against women. Communications activities were pivotal in amplifying human rights advocacy and maintaining

strong visibility across media and digital platforms. To broaden public understanding of restrictions on civic space, the Protect the Protest documentary was screened on five media houses, reaching diverse audiences. This was complemented by an editorial meeting with senior editors aimed at strengthening partnerships and improving the quality and consistency of human rights reporting. Throughout the year, Amnesty Ghana launched press conferences of major reports, including the Amnesty International Report, Death Penalty Report, and Witchcraft Accusations Report: Branded For Life, ensuring accurate dissemination and robust coverage. Press statements addressed emerging issues and reinforced advocacy messages. Social media remained a key engagement tool, driving awareness, education, and mobilization around campaigns, events, milestones, and urgent calls to action, sustaining digital visibility and public participation throughout the year.

39 Workshops
3500+ People Engaged
across the nation



Participants engaged in hands-on exercises during a human rights learning session



Participants of the blended learning journey present their insights and key takeaways from the training.

We All Dey Inside X Space Episode 7 Featuring Youth Activists from Amnesty Germany





Growth & Mobilization

Amnesty International Ghana began 2025 with renewed energy, prioritizing coordination and strengthened membership engagement nationwide. The Growth and Mobilization office led training and outreach initiatives to empower old and new activists and leaders for impactful human rights work. Ten newly appointed Regional Coordinators received comprehensive training on Amnesty's focus areas, planning, budgeting, and reporting. Additional zonal trainings in the Middle, Northern, and Southern regions enhanced skills in facilitation, documentation ethics, and reporting, while deepening knowledge on Human Rights Education topics such as Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV), Menstrual Hygiene Management (MHM), and the Right to Protest. Expanding engagement in Western-North Region, Amnesty Ghana hosted three major engagement sessions between 4th and 6th September. Trainings were held at Enchi College of Education, Aowin, and Bibiani, targeting students, educators, youth groups, and newly formed adult groups. The initiative boosted membership in this emerging zone, despite challenges posed by long travel distances and poor road networks.

696 Groups
11,281 Members
across the nation



Capacity-building workshops where members are engaged in practical learning activities designed to enhance their effectiveness and strengthen their involvement in the movement.



Members actively discussing and exploring diverse perspectives at the Blended Learning Program



Participants of the Blended Learning Program presenting on insights and key takeaways from the training.

Youth Engagement



University of Cape Coast wins the first ever National Debate on Human Rights: Voice For Rights



Youth delegations from Amnesty Ghana and Amnesty Germany exchanged visits, building collaboration and shared learning experiences through camps and activities



Participants at the "Orange Your Campus" workshop in Tamale engaging in discussions and activities to raise awareness on gender-based violence

Youth Engagement in 2025 showcased exceptional leadership, collaboration and innovation across Amnesty International Ghana's youth network. Young activists consistently demonstrated commitment to advancing human rights, driving community awareness and shaping public dialogue on key national issues. Their contributions positioned them not just as participants, but as central actors in the movement.. A major highlight was the Inter-tertiary Campus Youth Debate Competition, which brought students together to discuss issues such as gender equality, gender-based violence and unemployment. The event strengthened critical thinking, built peer networks and encouraged youth-led advocacy. The Ghana-Germany Youth Twinning Program offered a unique cross-cultural learning experience through workshops, institutional visits and shared activism, reinforcing global solidarity. Youth capacity was further strengthened through a Digital Rights Training focused on online safety, privacy, digital violence and Ghana's Cybersecurity Act. The "Orange Your Campus" activity in Tamale mobilized students during the 16 Days of Activism, using creative activities to promote conversations on safety, justice and gender-based violence. Amnesty Ghana also expanded Human Rights Clubs, creating dynamic learning spaces in schools for campaigns, awareness sessions and peer education. Together, these initiatives deepened collaboration, enhanced leadership skills, and amplified youth voices nationwide.

1,015 Youth Activists
55 Youth Groups
across the nation

University of Cape Coast wins the first ever National Debate on Human Rights: Voice For Rights



Regional Activities

Our members across the regions played a vital role in advancing our mission this year. Through community forums, school engagements, outreach programs, and local campaigns, they brought human rights conversations closer to the grassroots. These member-led initiatives not only extended our reach but also ensured that the movement remained inclusive, participatory, and responsive to the realities on the ground.



Northern Zone

Key activities in the Northern Zone (Northern, North East, Savannah, Upper East, and Upper West) focused on addressing harmful practices and strengthening community engagement. Members organized dialogues on witchcraft accusations, held sensitization programs in schools, and collaborated with local leaders to promote justice and protection for vulnerable groups.



Middle Zone

In the Middle Belt (Bono, Bono East, Ahafo, Ashanti, Eastern, and Oti), members carried out campaigns and trainings that highlighted equality, non-discrimination, and civic participation. Activities included youth-led forums, awareness-raising events, and partnerships with community groups to foster inclusion and respect for rights.



Southern Zone

The Southern Belt (Greater Accra, Central, Western, Western North, and Volta) saw members leading advocacy campaigns, school outreach programs, and public engagements. With strong media and social presence, they amplified key human rights messages and built connections that strengthened solidarity across communities.



Annual General Meeting

As the highest decision-making body of the Section, the 2025 Annual General Meeting (AGM), held under the theme “Resilience in a Restricted Civic Space,” highlighted the critical need for steadfast advocacy in the face of growing constraints on civic freedoms in Ghana. The meeting provided a platform for members to engage in substantive dialogue on current human rights developments, review progress on ongoing campaigns, and reflect on the organisation’s achievements and challenges over the past year. This year’s AGM took place in Sunyani and brought together members from all 16 regions of Ghana, reinforcing nationwide commitment to defending human rights. The meeting also welcomed key partners and stakeholders, including representatives from the Commission on Human Rights and Administrative Justice (CHRAJ), the Ghana Police Service, and the University of Energy and Natural Resources. A central highlight was the keynote address delivered by Erastus Asare Donkor, an investigative and environmental journalist, on “Resilience in a Restricted Civic Space: Perspectives of an Investigative Journalist.” Drawing from his extensive work on illegal mining and environmental justice, he underscored the pressing need to safeguard civic space and protect individuals who speak out against human rights abuses. The AGM programme featured a series of statutory and deliberative activities. Members adopted the Standing Orders and received comprehensive reports from the Board, Country Director, Treasurer, and Auditors, followed by discussions and approval of the reports. A plenary session was convened to consider both AGM and Global Assembly motions, ensuring alignment with broader organisational priorities. The first day concluded with a Dinner Dance and Raffle Draw, providing an opportunity for members to network and strengthen solidarity within the movement.



Features

This year was marked by powerful stories and bold initiatives that shaped our work and strengthened our impact. From the launch of our landmark report on witchcraft accusations to nationwide campaigns led by members and youth, these moments demonstrated the reach and resilience of our movement. Each feature highlighted here captures not only the outcomes achieved but also the creativity, courage, and commitment that continue to drive our human rights advocacy forward.

National Youth Coordinating Team

The National Youth Coordinating Team (NYCT) proudly reflects on a transformative 2025, marked by the unwavering dedication of Ghana's youth in advancing human rights. This year, over 100 young individuals joined a vibrant youth dialogue meeting, engaging in meaningful discussions on pressing issues that shape our communities. Our efforts have focused on fostering leadership, amplifying voices, and driving advocacy across the nation, with initiatives that have sparked creativity and strengthened our collective resolve. Through a series of impactful events and campaigns, we've built a strong foundation for change, uniting young leaders and activists in a shared mission. Regional activities have extended our reach, while educational sessions and community

engagement have empowered participants to take action. The passion displayed at various gatherings, both in-person and online, has inspired a movement that resonates far beyond our borders. As we look back on this remarkable year, let's harness our energy to push forward, dreaming bigger and acting with purpose. Together, we will continue to build a future where every voice is valued, and human dignity prevails for all.



Youth members connected online to share ideas, reflect on their work and strengthen their role in advancing human rights.

Chapter Launch

The Amnesty Ghana Student Chapter at the University of Ghana, launched in October 2025, growing from 40 to 130 members across six sub-sections. The chapter advances Amnesty Ghana's vision through campus and online advocacy, raising awareness on human rights issues. Members participate in initiatives such as the Orange Your Campus campaign, Voice for Rights Debate, and Menstrual Hygiene Day observation, while engaging in peer education and collaboration with other campus groups. Their efforts continue to empower students and expand the chapter's impact on campus and beyond.



Chapter Launch: University of Ghana official inauguration of first Amnesty Student Chapter (Amnesty UG)

Women's Network



Women's Network participants during a training session aimed at strengthening leadership and advocacy skills.

The Women's Empowerment Program serves as a platform to inspire, educate, and equip women with the skills and knowledge to assume leadership roles and drive positive change within their communities and beyond. The program addresses the underrepresentation of women in leadership by providing participants with practical leadership skills, confidence-building strategies, and knowledge of their rights. Through interactive workshops, mentorship sessions, and networking opportunities, the program creates a safe and inclusive space for women to share experiences, raise awareness of systemic barriers, and explore actionable solutions.

Branded For Life

#I'mNotAWitch



The Coalition Against Witchcraft Accusations on a three-day visit to the Gambaga, Kukuio, and Gnani camps in the Northern and North East Region



Stakeholder engagement on witchcraft accusations aimed at fostering collaboration and developing sustainable solutions to protect the rights and dignity of affected individuals.

Amnesty International Ghana's Branded For Life campaign confronts harmful witchcraft accusations that primarily target older women, leading to discrimination, violence, and lifelong stigma. The campaign highlights victims' experiences through online advocacy, survivor storytelling, and engagement with policymakers and communities. This year, some activities held towards the cause included the International Women's launch and panel discussion on the **Branded For Life: How Witchcraft Accusations Lead To Human Rights Violations Of Hundreds Of Women In North Ghana' report** ([Read more...](#)), a visit to the camps to interact with victims, as well as various actions and activities on the membership level such as various community dialogues.

Spotlight

Celebrating Dedication and Impact

Acknowledging our colleagues who served at the Section this year for their dedication, hard work, and invaluable contributions to advancing Amnesty International Ghana's mission and supporting our teams.



Genevieve Partington
Country Director

As Country Director, Genevieve provided focused leadership that strengthened Amnesty Ghana's advocacy, partnerships, and public voice. Her guidance supported key human rights priorities, deepened institutional relationships, and helped position the organisation as a reliable actor in national conversations. Her commitment and steady direction have left a meaningful impact, here a few achievements under her leadership for 2025:

- Provided strategic leadership that strengthened Amnesty Ghana's advocacy impact, partnerships, and standing as a trusted human rights actor. Led sustained advocacy for the implementation of the Affirmative Action (Gender Equity) Act, working with civil society actors to advance gender equity commitments.
- Advanced national advocacy on period poverty, reinforcing policy dialogue following the removal of taxes on sanitary products.
- Oversaw the Branded for Life report and campaign, exposing severe human rights abuses against women accused of witchcraft, amplified through a high-profile partnership with actress Cynthia Erivo.
- Strengthened organisational systems by digitalising membership through a CRM and revamping Amnesty Ghana's digital presence and storytelling.

“ As I prepare to exit leadership, my hope is that you will continue to walk this path of human rights holding government, institutions, and society to high standards of inclusion and justice. You've been supportive during my journey with Amnesty International. I have woven good friendships with some of you, which I intend to continue. I remain committed to human rights in every arena and look forward to what comes next for us all. ”

~Genevieve Partington



Belinda Adike Asamanyuah
Campaigns and Communications Coordinator

Belinda led the planning and execution of public campaigns and managed the organisation's communication strategy, including media engagement and digital outreach. She developed and coordinated major national campaigns, strengthened public engagement, and ensured that Amnesty International Ghana's messaging remained clear, timely, and aligned with human rights priority areas. Her creativity, strategic communication skills, and commitment to impactful storytelling enhanced the Section's presence across digital and traditional media. Her dedication and commitment will leave a strong and lasting mark on our campaigns, partnerships, and member mobilisation. We extend our appreciation to her for her dedication to advancing human rights in Ghana.



LEWIS AMPEM-DARKO OSAE

GLOBAL YOUTH COLLECTIVE REPRESENTATIVE

This year, my journey with the Global Youth Collective (GYC) strengthened my capacity as a youth leader and deepened my understanding of Amnesty International's global governance. The network provided a platform to amplify young voices within the movement. A major highlight was participating in the 2025 Global Assembly, where I engaged in plenaries, contributed to climate justice workshops, served as a panellist, and delivered a spoken word performance emphasizing resilience in human rights work. Throughout the year, I collaborated with peers to advance youth inclusion, digital rights advocacy, and movement-building initiatives. These experiences continue to shape my leadership, expand my network, and reaffirm the critical role of youth in driving meaningful human rights impact.

Staff Recognition



In recognition of exceptional commitment and service to the organisation, staff members were honoured for their contributions to advancing Amnesty International Ghana's work. The awards highlighted excellence in leadership, teamwork, dedication, and positive workplace culture.

From left to right: Edmund Adu, acknowledged for his dedication and service as Best National Service Person; Hannah Osei, recognised for Five Years of Service; Richmond Afful, honoured with the Outstanding Staff Award alongside Five Years of Service Recognition; Mabel Hlordzi, recognised for her teamwork, positivity, and long-standing service through the Best Team Player Award, Sunshine Award, and Five and Ten Years of Service Recognition; Marilyn Selorm Adzo Ecklu, celebrated for her positive impact with the Sunshine Award; and Stephany Abra Boateng, recognised for exemplary leadership through the Leadership in Action Award.

Call to Action



We extend our heartfelt appreciation to all members, activists, volunteers, and partners whose unwavering dedication has strengthened our work and amplified our impact throughout the year. Your commitment has driven successful campaigns, supported evidence-based advocacy, and ensured that pressing human rights issues remain visible and addressed across the country. As we look to the year ahead, we call on everyone to remain actively engaged, participating in initiatives, lending their voice to ongoing campaigns, and helping to raise awareness on critical issues affecting our society. We also warmly invite new supporters who share our vision for a just and inclusive Ghana to join Amnesty International Ghana, and become part of a growing movement committed to protecting human rights for all. Together, through sustained action, collaboration, and shared purpose, we can deepen our impact, influence positive change, and continue building a Ghana where dignity, freedom, and justice are upheld in every community.

One House, One Amnesty!

