



ISHR

INTERNATIONAL SERVICE
FOR HUMAN RIGHTS



ANNUAL REPORT 2016

SUPPORTING HUMAN
RIGHTS DEFENDERS

STRENGTHENING HUMAN
RIGHTS SYSTEMS

ACHIEVING HUMAN RIGHTS
CHANGE

*Front cover: Elsa Saade, ISHR trainee
and human rights officer with
the Gulf Center for Human Rights*

This annual report covers the period
1 January to 31 December 2015.

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MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRPERSON AND DIRECTOR

ISHR shares a vision with the global community of human rights defenders. It is a vision of truly representative and accountable government, free from corruption and repression; of justice and the rule of law, free from impunity and arbitrary arrest or detention; of responsible business and sustainable development, free from human exploitation and environmental degradation; and of gender equality and empowerment, free from violence and discrimination.

Tragically, not everyone embraces this vision. Corrupt and authoritarian governments maintain power and control through censorship and repression. Religious extremists justify homophobia and the subjugation of women by reference to cultural values and traditions. Unscrupulous corporations profiteer at the expense of impoverished communities. And perpetrators of human rights violations evade justice and accountability at any cost.

Human rights defenders challenge these powerful interests – interests with the motivation and means to put up a brutal fight – and in doing so they face grave risks. They suffer defamation and smear campaigns when they speak up; excessive force when they protest; strangling regulation and closure when they associate and organise; arbitrary detention when they expose injustice; and disappearance or even death when they demand accountability.

It is the importance of defenders' work and the gravity of threats they face that makes the mission of ISHR so vital. Armed with a strong theory of change – supported by over 30 years of research, frontline experience and a proven track record – ISHR protects human rights defenders from risks and reprisals, provides them with an international platform and advocacy tools to expose and counter powerful interests, and connects them with allies who can help them to thrive.

There is reason to be proud of the impact ISHR has had over the last year: with your support, we have trained and assisted more than 150 human rights defenders from 70 countries; substantially strengthened international, regional and national laws and mechanisms for defenders' protection; helped secure justice for defenders and their release from arbitrary detention; and built coalitions with the capacity to successfully challenge powerful interests.

This annual report is a record of these impacts, which would have been impossible without you – fellow defenders, decision-makers, diplomats and donors who share our vision and who contribute the resources, expertise and influence necessary to make it a reality.

Thank you for sharing this vision and for supporting ISHR and the defenders with whom we work. Your contributions are vital to our collective human rights impact and success.



*Rosemary McCreery,
Chair of the ISHR Board and
Philip Lynch, ISHR Director*

Rosemary McCreery
Chairperson

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rosemary McCreery".

Philip Lynch
Director

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Philip Lynch".



United Nations Special Rapporteur on human rights defenders Michel Forst and women human rights defenders discuss the development and implementation of national human rights defender protection laws in Africa. Abidjan, May 2015

OUR THEORY OF CHANGE

Our theory of change is founded on a proven formula, supported by over 30 years of research, frontline experience and a track record of impact.

Human rights defenders, the essential agents

+

international and regional human rights laws and systems, the powerful levers

=

national-level change

Building on this formula, ISHR achieves human rights impact in five key ways:

Empowering human rights defenders – ISHR’s comprehensive training, information products, strategic advice and advocacy accompaniment ensure that national-level human rights defenders can use international and regional human rights mechanisms in the most powerful and effective ways

Strengthening human rights laws and systems – ISHR’s expert policy research and advocacy, together with our access to high-level decision-makers and diplomats within the UN and regional systems, help make those systems more accessible, effective and protective for human rights defenders and the victims they represent

Promoting accountability for violations – ISHR’s unparalleled experience at the UN and with regional bodies means we can use those mechanisms in the most rapid and strategic ways possible to prevent attacks and violations against human rights defenders, and to ensure justice and accountability where they occur

Securing implementation at the national level – ISHR’s unmatched expertise on international human rights defender standards and resolutions, together with our deep partnerships with national human rights networks and organisations, enable us to play an influential role in securing implementation of these standards and resolutions on the ground

Building powerful partnerships for change – ISHR’s strong relationships with key governments, progressive businesses and leading NGOs mean we can build and mobilise powerful partnerships for human rights change

Supporting those who are most at risk

Our work focuses on those human rights defenders who are most at risk, where our support can protect and strengthen them as agents of change.



Women human rights defenders



Defenders of the rights of lesbian, gay, bi-sexual, trans and intersex people



Defenders working on business and human rights



Defenders working to promote democratic freedoms and to end impunity, particularly in countries undergoing transition



Jean-Daniel Vigny

Ele

ISHR's Eleanor Openshaw speaks at the launch of our 'Practical Guide to the UN Committee on NGOs'. Geneva, April 2015

OUR RECORD OF IMPACT

In 2015, working in close partnership with our network of human rights defenders, diplomatic allies and financial supporters, we contributed to significant human rights progress and helped prevent or slow damaging human rights regress.

Over the last year we:

Empowered human rights defenders

- Provided intensive training, advice and advocacy support to more than 150 frontline human rights activists from over 70 countries
- Developed and shared tactics and strategies to enhance the protection and effectiveness of human rights defenders and organisations in some of the world's most repressive countries
- Assisted and advised a wide range of NGOs and human rights defenders to access and gain accreditation to the UN and have their voices heard on the international stage
- Published three major manuals for human rights defenders in multiple languages, with our website and information products reaching more than 150,000 people worldwide



ISHR training participants and the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights' Rapporteur on human rights defenders discuss the situation of defenders in Latin America. Geneva, June 2015

Strengthened human rights laws and systems

- Established a legal duty on the UN Human Rights Council, formally recognised by more than 65 States, to prevent intimidation and reprisals against human rights defenders and to ensure accountability where they occur
- Secured the passage of a landmark resolution through the UN General Assembly leading to national human rights institutions being granted the right to participate in UN meetings and processes
- Worked with the UN human rights treaty monitoring bodies to develop and adopt the historic San José Guidelines on combating reprisals, and with the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights to effectively implement a resolution to address reprisals
- Defeated an attempt by China to censor the work of the UN Committee on NGOs
- Successfully lobbied for at least 70 percent of ISHR recommendations on the protection of human rights defenders and civil society space to be formally made by States through the Universal Periodic Review



UN Photo, Jean-Marc Ferré



ISHR co-sponsored a side event on 'Torture and the Chinese Government' during the 30th session of the UN Human Rights Council. Geneva, September 2015

Promoted accountability for violations

- Contributed to successful international efforts to secure the release of human rights defenders from arbitrary detention in countries including Angola, Bahrain, Egypt and Kuwait, among others
- Worked with Chinese human rights defenders and democratic States to expose torture, ill-treatment and widespread civil society repression in China and to increase international political pressure for change in the country
- Mobilised action by the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights and several UN Special Rapporteurs to safeguard the independence of the Maldives National Human Rights Commission
- Worked with local and international NGOs to push the UN Human Rights Council to address the rapidly deteriorating human rights situation in Burundi and prevent further atrocities



ISHR was part of a mission with the African Commission Working Group on Extractive Industries, meeting with activists to discuss human rights and natural resource industries. Lubumbashi, July 2015

Secured national implementation

- Played a leading role in developing and promoting the effective implementation of national laws on the protection of human rights defenders in Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire and Honduras
- Lobbied Ireland, the United Kingdom and the United States to develop National Action Plans on business and human rights, with the potential to lead to greater protection for human rights defenders
- Partnered with the Human Rights Law Centre in Australia to repeal excessive police 'move on' powers and to defeat proposed laws restricting the right to freedom of expression and protest
- Contributed substantially to a major report adopted by the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights giving guidance to States on how to protect the rights to freedom of assembly and association in national law



The Inter-American Commission on Human Rights' first public hearing on the situation of defenders working on land and environmental rights. Washington, October 2015. Flickr, Comisión Interamericana de Derechos Humanos

Built powerful partnerships

- Worked with the Business and Human Rights Resource Centre towards the establishment of a coalition of leading multinational companies committed to protecting human rights defenders and civil society space
- Launched a successful global campaign with Amnesty International and 180 other NGOs for the UN General Assembly to adopt a landmark resolution on the protection of human rights defenders, defeating attempts by China, Russia and others to weaken the text
- Coordinated a coalition of 39 national, regional and international NGOs to push the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights to conduct its first-ever public hearing on the situation of defenders working on land and environment rights
- Convened a group of leading national-level human rights activists from around the world to jointly strategise on and document ways to protect and safeguard civil society space



*Participants of ISHR's
Human Rights Defender
Advocacy Programme.
Geneva, June 2015*



*Trainees, Erik-Aimé Semien
of Côte d'Ivoire and Luana
Coelho of Brazil, during
ISHR's Human Rights Defender
Advocacy Programme. Geneva,
June 2015*

EMPOWERING HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS

We provide human rights defenders with intensive training, strategic advice, advocacy support, inside intelligence and information products, together with access to our vast network of diplomats and decision makers, making them the most powerful advocates possible for human rights change.

Building the international expertise of frontline human rights activists



While international and regional human rights mechanisms provide key avenues for human rights advancement, the systems can also be complex, overwhelming and difficult to navigate. During 2015, we provided intensive training, mentoring and advocacy support to more than 150 frontline human rights defenders, substantially building their capacity to use these mechanisms to push for change. Among them, 20 defenders – from Burma to Burkina Faso, China to Venezuela – participated in our renowned two-week Human Rights Defender Advocacy Programme. 100 percent of the participants reported being either ‘satisfied’ or ‘very satisfied’ with the training, and more than half said it had substantially assisted them to ‘fully achieve’ their human rights advocacy objectives.

The fact that the ISHR programme receives more than 200 applications each year and attracts the support of expert and high-standing trainers, such as UN Special Rapporteurs and senior diplomats, is evidence of both its reputation and continued high demand.

In addition to our Geneva-based programmes, ISHR also provided targeted and in-depth training to defenders in the regions, including in Africa, Asia and Latin America, together with thematically tailored courses, including for those working in the areas of women’s rights, LGBTI rights and, business and human rights.



‘The UN is really important, and civil society should know how to use it, what tools can help them push Indonesia from the grassroots level to do what the UN recommends. But a lot of socialisation and capacity building needs to happen first. Training is key.’

Muchamad Darisman, Indonesian human rights defender



100%



TRAINEES
who reported they were

‘satisfied’ or ‘very satisfied’

with ISHR’s training and advocacy support

56%



TRAINED HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS

who consider they fully achieved their advocacy objectives with ISHR’s support



100%



TRAINED HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS



who consider they at least partially achieved their advocacy objectives with ISHR’s support





“

‘Navigating the ins and outs of the Human Rights Council is quite an art. The ISHR training helped demystify many of the processes and practices of the Council and gave me opportunities to deliver NGO statements, participate in side events and undertake advocacy on issues of concern in Australia. The networks of human rights defenders I built during the training have also been invaluable to my ongoing work.’

Anna Brown, leading LGBTI human rights advocate and ISHR trainee



Strengthening the resilience and impact of those working in the most restrictive environments



In environments where fierce opposition to human rights progress exists, developing strategies to improve the resilience and effectiveness of human rights organisations is essential. In October 2015, ISHR brought together a group of 15 human rights defenders working in highly restrictive and dangerous environments. The defenders came from States including Bahrain, Belarus, Burma, China, Ecuador, Egypt, the Gambia, Iran, Russia, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Syria, Venezuela and Zimbabwe. They worked on a diverse range of issues, including women’s rights, LGBTI rights, the protection of journalists, the release of political prisoners, accountability for war crimes, peacebuilding, minority rights, labour rights, the rule of law, and protection of the rights to freedom of expression, association, assembly and protest, among others. Many had faced imprisonment, defamation and other violations in connection with their work, in some cases extending to the death, detention or ill-treatment of family members and associates.

Meeting over a number of days, the defenders worked to identify, develop and document strategies and tactics to ensure the relevance, resilience and effectiveness of their organisations and movements. Now back in their countries, many of them report that applying these lessons has helped ensure the survival of their organisations and enhance their impact, even in the face of worsening crackdowns.



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‘Given the Government’s move to restrict civil society space, we need to act immediately to protect our civil rights before they are further restricted. To do this effectively, we need help from the international community.’

Lira Ismailova, human rights defender from Kyrgyzstan and ISHR trainee





'The Middle East and North Africa are suffering from unprecedented levels of violence and rights violations. Human rights defenders within the Middle East are under attack like never before. The Human Rights Council has become a critical tool for these defenders to ensure visibility and international pressure at a time when effective national institutions of accountability and protection of rights are almost non-existent.'

Salma Amer, *Advocacy Officer, Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies*



Securing access for human rights defenders to the UN



Throughout 2015, ISHR continued to assist and advise a wide range of human rights defenders and NGOs to gain UN accreditation, enabling them to have their voices heard on the international stage, such as at the UN Human Rights Council. In addition to providing one-on-one advice to organisations like Freedom Now and the International Dalit Solidarity Network, ISHR also produced the first-ever comprehensive guide to obtaining consultative status through the UN Committee on NGOs. The launch of this guide at high-level events in Geneva and New York, where it was described by the President of the UN Human Rights Council as 'of critical significance' to enabling civil society access to the UN, has also catalysed the development of an agenda and coalition for reform of the Committee. Such reform is vital to ensure NGO access to the UN is afforded on a basis that is transparent, expeditious and non-discriminatory.



'We welcome ISHR's 'Practical Guide to the UN Committee on NGOs' as a specific and valuable contribution to facilitating NGO participation at the UN.'

Joint statement by Chile, Mexico and Uruguay to the *UN Economic and Social Council*, July 2015



Providing essential information



The provision of information in accessible formats and a diversity of languages is vital to ensure it reaches human rights defenders on the ground. In 2015, ISHR’s website – which provides a rich repository of news, handbooks and briefing papers – received over 130,000 visits, representing a 25 percent increase on the previous year. This growth reflects ISHR’s efforts over the year to provide key content not only in English, but also in French, Spanish and Chinese. The initiative was rewarded with an increase in site visits from human rights defenders in Colombia of over 95 percent, Venezuela of more than 110 percent, Côte d’Ivoire of more than 160 percent and China of over 170 percent! Our Chinese language webcast of a key UN Torture Committee review of the country attracted more than 2,500 views alone.

In addition to publishing the Practical Guide to the UN Committee on NGOs, in 2015 ISHR also published a fully revised Simple Guide to the UN Treaty Bodies in English, French and Chinese, an innovative new Toolkit for Human Rights Defenders on Promoting Business and Human Rights in English, French and Spanish, together with our renowned monthly Human Rights Monitor and our periodic Monitors on the Human Rights Council, General Assembly and the African Commission on Human and Peoples’ Rights.



‘It is vitally important for human rights defenders at the national level to engage with the regional and UN human rights mechanisms if they want to strategically advance their domestic objectives’.

Tilder Kumichii, woman human rights defender from Cameroon and participant in ISHR consultations in Abidjan, Côte d’Ivoire in 2015



130,963



VISITORS TO
www.ishr.ch

8,397



Twitter
FOLLOWERS

7,240



Facebook
FOLLOWERS



170%
Icon representing 170% increase, shown as a group of stylized human figures.

Increase in use of
ISHR information products by
CHINESE HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS



ENDER TOOLKIT
BUSINESS
RIGHTS

A SIMPLE GUIDE TO THE
UN TREATY BODIES

ISHR | INTERNATIONAL SERVICE
FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

CATALOGUE
POUR DÉFENS
DROITS DE L
POUR LA PROMOTION DE
DROITS DE CHÔMEUR PAR LES

ISHR | INTERNATIONAL SERVICE
FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

MOVIMIENTO
DE LAS EMPRESAS
DERECHOS PARA
UNA GUIA PARA
EMPRESAS DE



Mona Rishmawi, UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, reflects on the relationship between human rights defenders and the rule of law during a discussion hosted by ISHR and the UK Mission. Geneva, June 2015

STRENGTHENING HUMAN RIGHTS LAWS AND SYSTEMS

Our expert policy research and advocacy, together with our access and influence with high-level decision-makers and diplomats, help make human rights standards and systems more accessible, effective and protective for human rights defenders and the victims they represent.

Establishing an international legal duty to prevent and address reprisals



Defending human rights can be dangerous work. From defamation to detention, enforced disappearances to executions, and travel bans to torture, reprisals against those who speak out and seek accountability for violations remain a persistent risk.

In 2015, however, ISHR started to turn the tide. From the very beginning of the year, ISHR worked with the president and vice-presidents of the Human Rights Council to develop and institutionalise a systematic approach to preventing and following up on cases of reprisals. The implementation of this approach helped to secure the release of Kuwaiti human rights defender Nawaf Al-Hendal from arbitrary detention, and to increase pressure for an investigation into the death of Chinese human rights lawyer Cao Shunli.

Later in the year, in June, following sustained advocacy and submissions by ISHR and others, all ten UN treaty bodies came together to adopt a comprehensive policy to combat reprisals, known as the San José Guidelines.

Finally, in September, ISHR worked intensively with Ghana and 64 other States to draft and deliver a statement to the Human Rights Council articulating that the Council has a 'legal duty to address reprisals'. This marked the first time that a body of States has explicitly recognised that the UN has a positive duty to prevent and promote accountability for reprisals as a matter of international law; a position advocated by ISHR, based on pioneering legal advice we commissioned from Freshfields and former judges of the European Court of Human Rights, Sir Nicolas Bratza and Professor Egbert Myjer.

2015 was thus the year in which accessing the UN became a little safer for human rights defenders and victims, and committing reprisals became a little more dangerous for their perpetrators.



A discussion co-hosted by ISHR during the Human Rights Council's 29th session addressed the issue of ending reprisals and attacks against human rights defenders. Geneva, June 2015



Kuwaiti human rights defender Nawaf Al-Hendal was released from arbitrary detention



Flickr, US Mission Geneva



'It is difficult to overstate how crucial the engagement of civil society is to the work of the UN human rights system. Simply put, without the engagement of civil society there would be no UN human rights system, and while impunity for intimidation and reprisals continues, the integrity of the system as a whole suffers and its work is undermined.'

Madeleine Sinclair, *ISHR Legal Counsel*

Opening the door for national human rights institutions to participate at the UN



Independent national human rights institutions (NHRIs) have a vital role to play in promoting and protecting human rights at the national level and ensuring that State law, policy and practice comply with international human rights law. They are the bridge that can close the gap between international human rights standards and their national implementation.

Despite this, the door to NHRIs participating in the work of most UN bodies remained firmly shut – until 24 November 2015. On that day, the UN General Assembly passed a historic resolution calling for NHRIs to be granted the right to participate in UN bodies and processes. The landmark adoption of this resolution marked the successful culmination of an intensive ISHR campaign, a contribution that has been explicitly recognised. Ambassador Harald Braun of Germany, who introduced the resolution to the General Assembly, said 'From the drafting of the resolution to its adoption, we profited from the input of civil society and the International Service for Human Rights has been a particularly important partner throughout'. In a similar vein, Mabelde Lourence Mushwana, Chairperson of the International Coordinating Committee for NHRIs, wrote, 'I wish to extend my sincere gratitude to ISHR for the invaluable support and cooperation leading to the adoption by the UN General Assembly of its resolution on national human rights institutions. The resolution is a groundbreaking step forward for the participation of NHRIs at the UN, and ISHR contributed in many meaningful ways to the success of the initiative.'



'I express my sincere appreciation for the work of the International Service for Human Rights in advocating for the development of formal participation rights for NHRIs in the work of the United Nations General Assembly. The support of ISHR has been of critical importance to NHRIs. The development of an authoritative ISHR report on NHRI participation rights clearly had a considerable influence on the drafting of the United Nations Secretary General's report on the same issue. In addition, ISHR's work in liaising and advocating with representatives of Member States in both New York and Geneva significantly assisted in raising the profile of NHRIs in the General Assembly and the importance of securing their participation in UN processes and mechanisms.'

Kieren Fitzpatrick, *Director of the Asia Pacific Forum of National Human Rights Institutions*

Ensuring transparency in the work of the UN and protecting NGOs from arbitrary attack



In January 2015, the Chinese Government initiated moves to have the UN censor the names of countries that criticise or ask repetitive questions of NGOs in the reports of meetings of the UN Committee on NGOs. Such a move would have further weakened transparency in this vital UN body. It would have also emboldened States that routinely seek to use the proceedings of the Committee to critique or defame NGOs or to arbitrarily and unfairly delay or block their applications for accreditation. Human rights NGOs, especially those working on minority rights, women's rights and LGBTI rights, are particularly targeted, and the public reports of the meetings produced by the UN are one of the few protections against capricious conduct.

Several days after announcing the proposal, however, China withdrew it – and the UN confirmed that official reports would continue to record the positions of different countries. This welcome result followed a coordinated campaign by ISHR, including an open letter to States, engagement with key allies on the matter, such as the United States, far reaching social media advocacy and wide press coverage.

China Proposal on NGOs Raises Transparency Concerns at U.N.

By BREE FENG FEBRUARY 3, 2015 9:28 AM 2 Comments



Members of the United Nations Security Council. Last week, China moved that the United Nations no longer name individual countries in its reports of meetings concerning the accreditation of nongovernmental organizations. *Lucas Jackson/Reuters*

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- A proposal by China that would have withheld the names of countries that criticize nongovernmental organizations at the United Nations has drawn condemnation from diplomats and rights groups, citing concerns about transparency.
- China made the proposal last week during a session of the United Nations committee that oversees accreditation for nongovernmental organizations to participate in United Nations

ISHR in the news:

Bree Feng, 'China proposal on NGOs raises transparency concerns at UN', *The New York Times*, 3 February 2015

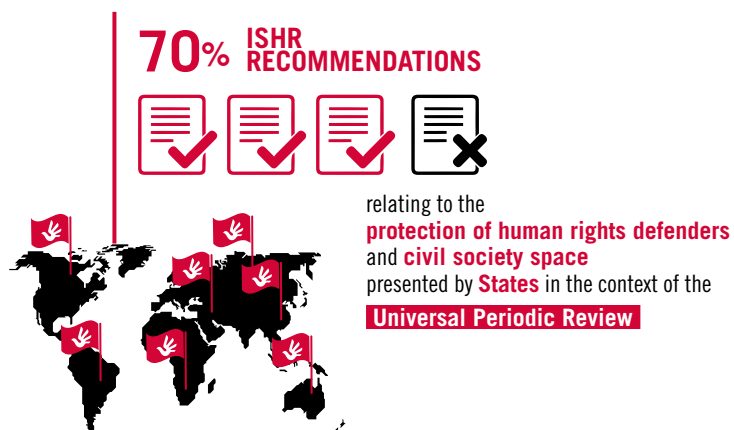


Using the UPR and treaty body reviews to advance the protection of defenders in all regions



Recommendations advocated by civil society and then made to States by UN treaty bodies or through the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) can frequently contribute to legislative or policy change at the national level. In 2015, ISHR worked with national human rights defender organisations to submit UPR and treaty body reports on the situation and protection needs of defenders in more than 20 States from all regions, including Australia, Burma, China, Guatemala, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Laos, Libya, the Maldives, Nauru, Oman, Rwanda, Spain, Turkey, and the USA.

The impact of these reports on recommendations was significant. For States in relation to which ISHR submitted a second-cycle UPR report, there was an increase of more than 60 percent in the number of recommendations made to that State on issues such as the protection of defenders, journalists and civil society space, together with protection of the rights to freedom of expression, association and assembly, when compared with the first cycle. Moreover, more than 70 percent of the recommendations proposed by ISHR in each of our UPR briefing papers were made by States, while there was a similar uptake in questions and recommendations proposed by us to treaty bodies.





Former political prisoner Golog Jigme testifies at an event co-hosted by ISHR about the torture and ill-treatment to which he was subject during periods of detention in China. Geneva, September 2015

PROMOTING ACCOUNTABILITY FOR VIOLATIONS

We use the UN and regional human rights bodies to prevent, expose, remedy and seek accountability for attacks and restrictions against human rights defenders.

Securing the release of human rights defenders from arbitrary detention



In many countries arbitrary detention of human rights defenders is used both to prevent and punish their vital work. From social media activist Nabeel Rajab in Bahrain, to rights lawyer Wang Yu in China, to democracy campaigner Razan Zaitouneh in Syria, defenders frequently face arbitrary arrest and detention, often incommunicado, in connection with their work. In such cases, the use by NGOs of UN and regional human rights bodies as platforms from which to call for freedom and forums within which to lobby and mobilise influential States to speak out, can make the difference between a defender being arbitrarily detained or allowed to walk free.

Working in coalition with other NGOs such as Amnesty, Human Rights Watch and FIDH, ISHR's international advocacy – including press statements, open letters, urgent appeals, and closed door lobbying – helped ensure that a number of defenders walked free in 2015: women human rights defenders Azza Soliman and Yara Sallam and independent journalist Hossam Baghat in Egypt, minority rights campaigner Nawaf Al-Hendal in Kuwait, former ISHR trainee Mohammed Al-Maskati in Bahrain, and anti-corruption activist Rafael Marques in Angola, to name a few.

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‘The campaigns around individual cases by some international organisations helped a lot to keep such issues alive. I myself was a direct beneficiary of such a campaign, and am certain that the immediate and intense campaigning around the world was a crucial element that brought about my release a couple of days after being detained under the anti-terror laws, in March 2014.’

Ruki Fernando, Sri Lankan human rights defender and participant in ISHR's convening in October 2015



Flickr, Maina Kiai



ISHR in the news: Syria: Disclose whereabouts of detained freedom of expression advocate', *The Syrian Observer*, 8 October 2015



ISHR in the news: Sui-Lee Wee and Stephanie Nebehay, 'At UN, China uses intimidation tactics to silence its critics', *Reuters*, 6 October 2015



Countering the civil society crackdown in China



2015 bore witness to the most sustained and targeted crackdown against the human rights movement in China in recent history, with NGOs forced to close down, repressive national security and counter-terrorism legislation adopted, and over 300 human rights defenders harassed, detained or disappeared.

Building on our decade-long relationship with Chinese Human Rights Defenders, ISHR worked throughout the year to advise, protect and support defenders within the country, and to use the international platforms available to raise awareness of the crackdown and increase its political cost to China. In August, ISHR coordinated an open letter and briefing to States in Geneva on the human rights situation in China, on behalf of Chinese Human Rights Defenders, Human Rights in China, Human Rights Watch and FIDH, among others. Subsequently, at the September session of the Human Rights Council, a record number of States – including the United States, the United Kingdom, Switzerland and Germany – expressed grave concern about the human rights situation in the country, while the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights Zeid Ra'ad al Hussein condemned the widespread crackdown in his opening statement to the session.

In addition to using the Council to increase pressure on China, ISHR played a key role in supporting Chinese activists to give evidence to the UN Committee against Torture. We informed and influenced the report of that Committee through advocacy and a major report of our own. In line with ISHR submissions and advocacy, the Committee's Concluding Observations issued in November expressed dismay at 'consistent reports that human rights defenders and lawyers, petitioners, political dissidents and members of religious or ethnic minorities continue to be charged, or threatened to be charged, with broadly-defined offences as a form of intimidation'. The Committee called on China to ensure that such broadly-defined offences as 'picking quarrels and provoking troubles' or 'gathering a crowd to disturb social order' are not used or abused to restrict or prosecute 'human rights defenders, lawyers, petitioners and others for their legitimate activities'. As well as addressing systemic issues, and again as pressed by ISHR, the Committee also called on China to conduct transparent and impartial investigations and ensure accountability in individual cases of reprisals against human rights defenders, including lawyer and ISHR trainee Cao Shunli. 14 March 2016 marks the second anniversary of Cao Shunli's death in Chinese custody and ISHR will continue to press for justice in her case.



'We have used international and regional human rights systems and standards to document, expose, denounce and seek accountability for human rights violations and to seek resolutions and recommendations for national-level human rights reform. Used and leveraged effectively, the outputs of international mechanisms can contribute to change on the ground and, in many cases in our countries, have been essential elements of such change. In the context of particularly restrictive States – such as China – the mechanisms themselves may also provide a platform for the empowering exercise of fundamental rights to freedom of expression, association and dissent that is not possible or is even criminalised at the national level.'

Communique from a group of 15 human rights defenders working in highly restrictive and dangerous environments (October 2015)



Ensuring violations are documented, exposed and pursued in Burundi



Throughout the second half of 2015, the human rights situation in Burundi deteriorated significantly, with opposition activists, independent journalists, human rights defenders and their family members murdered and disappeared. Government forces responded violently to peaceful protesters and forced the closure of independent media outlets.

ISHR was one of the first NGOs to call attention to this deteriorating situation at a special informal meeting of the Human Rights Council in May. Informed by our partners on the ground – some of whom are former ISHR trainees – ISHR used the Council to call on Burundian authorities to end attacks against defenders, journalists and peaceful protesters and restore respect for the rule of law. As the situation worsened, ISHR joined a group of 10 other leading NGOs – including FIDH, Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch, and the East and Horn of Africa Human Rights Defenders Project – in calling on States to convene a special, emergency session of the Council to address the rapidly deteriorating human rights situation and prevent further atrocities in Burundi. The December 2015 Special Session of the Council, which culminated in the adoption of a strong resolution mandating the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights to deploy a mission of independent experts to visit the country to investigate human rights violations, represents an important step to ensuring greater accountability in Burundi.



Staff, panelists and participants at a discussion co-hosted by ISHR on the human rights situation in Burundi. Geneva, December 2015



Following civil society pressure, the UN Human Rights Council held an emergency session on Burundi. Geneva, December 2015. Flickr, UN Geneva



'I was struck by the impact of civil society concerning the grave human rights situation in Burundi, which was a real test case of the Council's ability to act preventively. The joint letter you sent to our governments requesting a special session on Burundi helped to move the lines and to raise awareness among members and observers of the Council. This led ultimately to a strong and decisive resolution, which includes the decision to send an expert mission to the country.'

Bertrand de Crombrughe, *Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Belgium and Vice-President of the UN Human Rights Council*



UN Photo, Jean-Marc Ferré



ISHR in the news: 'Regional Indigenous activists slam corporate abuses at IACHR', TelesUR, 21 October 2015

Coordinating action at the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights to protect land and environment defenders



Defenders of land and environment rights, together with those who work to oppose major development projects, are among the most exposed and at risk in the world. The situation is particularly acute in the Americas, which leads the world when it comes to the criminalisation, surveillance, kidnapping and even murder of indigenous rights campaigners, land and environment activists, and others who protest business activities.

In response to this worsening situation, in 2015 ISHR convened a coalition of 39 national, regional and international NGOs to push for the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights to hold its first-ever dedicated public hearing on the role of businesses in violations against land and environment rights defenders. The bid was successful and the public hearing was an opportunity for defenders and victims to testify to the Commissioners in Washington DC and articulate the steps and measures that States, business enterprises and other actors must take to ensure a safe and enabling environment for their vital work. Calling the failure of governments to ensure accountability and an end to impunity for attacks a 'total disgrace', the President of the Commission pledged to make the protection of land and environment defenders and corporate accountability activists an 'absolute priority' for the Commission's work.



'Our broad coalition presented evidence to the Commission of a pattern of attacks against defenders of the rights of land, territory and the environment across the Americas, with examples of clear collusion between businesses, the State and even organised crime groups aimed at silencing defenders.'

Ben Leather, *ISHR Advocacy Manager*

*María Isabel Jiménez,
Asamblea de los
Pueblos del Sur, testifies
at a public hearing on
the role of business
in violations against
land and environmental
human rights defenders,
at the Inter-American
Commission on Human
Rights. Washington, October
2015. Flickr, Daniel Cima,
Comisión Interamericana de
Derechos Humanos*





Together with the Human Rights Law Centre, ISHR contributed to the repeal of excessive police 'move on' powers in Victoria and to the reform of proposed laws in Tasmania that threatened the right to protest or criticise companies.
Flickr, Rainforest Action Network

SECURING IMPLEMENTATION AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL

We work in genuine partnership with national human rights networks to ensure that governments fulfill their duty to protect human rights defenders under international and regional law.

Enacting, strengthening and securing the effective implementation of national laws on the protection of human rights defenders



The legal recognition and protection of human rights defenders is crucial to ensuring they can work in a safe and supportive environment and be free from attacks, reprisals and unreasonable legal restrictions.

Throughout 2015, ISHR worked to ensure that international and regional human rights bodies developed progressively stronger standards, resolutions and recommendations on the protection of defenders. We also advocated for States including Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Honduras and Mexico to enact and effectively implement national laws and policies to give effect to these norms.

In Burkina Faso, ISHR continued to work with the Government to finalise a law on the protection of defenders, expected to be put before parliament in early 2016. In Côte d'Ivoire, having secured the passage of such a law in June 2014, ISHR worked with the national coalition of human rights defenders (CIDDH) to draft a decree to ensure the law can be effectively implemented and to advise the Government on how the protection mechanism can best respond to the situation and protection needs of women human rights defenders. With high-level political support and adequate resourcing being indispensable to the effective implementation of national human rights defender laws, ISHR also worked with CIDDH to secure a formal recommendation from the UN Human Rights Committee to the Government of Côte d'Ivoire to 'take all necessary measures to ensure the effective implementation of the human rights defender law'.

In a similar vein, having contributed at the national level to the research, analysis and campaign culminating in the successful adoption of a 'Law for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders, Journalists, Social Communicators and Legal Practitioners' in Honduras in July 2015, ISHR worked with local partners to use international mechanisms to push for effective implementation. Consequently, States including Argentina, Chile, the Czech Republic, the Netherlands, Sierra Leone and Switzerland all used the opportunity presented by the Universal Periodic Review to make recommendations to Honduras on ways to ensure the effective implementation, resourcing and evaluation of the law. All of these recommendations were ultimately accepted by Honduras, thus providing national and international civil society with the tools to push for and monitor progress.

“

'Many human rights NGOs were involved in the process. We had several meetings with parliamentary representatives and even at the National Assembly. We had to explain who human rights defenders were and why protecting them is important. I am proud of Côte d'Ivoire that we have adopted this law, which is the only law of its kind on the African continent. Now, whenever we have a problem with authorities, we can show them this law and they will see that we are protected. This is making our work much easier and less dangerous.'

Erik-Aimé Semien, lawyer and human rights defender at *Observatoire Ivoirien des Droits de l'Homme*. Mr Semien was an ISHR trainee in 2015 and worked closely with ISHR on the successful campaign leading to the enactment of Africa's first-ever human rights defender protection law



Strengthening protection of defenders working on business and human rights



In his October 2015 report to the UN General Assembly, Special Rapporteur on Human Rights Defenders Michel Forst identified defenders working in the field of business and human rights as among those most at risk. The development and effective implementation of National Action Plans (NAPs) on Business and Human Rights is one of the measures necessary to address these risks, particularly where those plans contain specific initiatives, incentives and commitments for governments and businesses to engage, consult, respect and protect defenders.

In 2015, ISHR stepped up its work to ensure that NAPs are developed in proper consultation with defenders, and that they contain concrete and targeted measures to protect and support activists. These efforts included major submissions to the United States, the United Kingdom and Ireland. Consequently, when the draft Irish National Action Plan was released in late 2015, it was the first ever to contain an entire section dedicated to human rights defenders. In line with ISHR advocacy, it explicitly recognised the duty of the State to ‘ensure a safe and enabling environment for civil society organisations and human rights defenders working in relation to business and human rights’, and made clear that ‘corporations must respect civil society actors and human rights defenders in their work, including by not interfering directly or indirectly with defenders in the exercise of their rights to freedom of expression, association, assembly or protest’. It also committed the government to take action to ensure that Irish companies operating abroad ‘adopt good practice with regards to consultation with human rights defenders and civil society in local communities, particularly on environmental and labour conditions’.



UN Photo, Jean-Marc Ferré



‘It is imperative that human rights defenders are actively engaged in the process of elaboration of a National Action Plan on Business and Human Rights and that any such action plan contains concrete commitments and measures to facilitate and protect defenders’ work.’

Michel Forst, *UN Special Rapporteur on Human Rights Defenders*

Securing the right to protest in Australia



In recent years there have been a number of laws proposed or enacted in Australian jurisdictions disproportionately restricting the right to freedom of peaceful assembly and protest, particularly in relation to business activities and operations.

Working alongside leading Australian NGO the Human Rights Law Centre, and by submitting complaints to and obtaining interventions and statements from UN Special Rapporteurs, we made influential contributions to the repeal of excessive police ‘move on’ powers that threatened protest rights in Victoria, and to the defeat of proposed laws in Tasmania that would have given companies the right to sue protesters and advocates for defamation.



ISHR in the news: Reissa Su, 'Australia called to repeal excessive restrictions on freedom of speech and expression, other rights', *International Business Times*, 6 February 2015



Contributing to protection of the rights to freedom of association and assembly in African States



Recognition and protection of the rights to freedom of association and assembly are essential to ensure a safe and enabling environment for human rights defenders and the promotion, protection and realisation of all other human rights. Recognising this, ISHR was pleased to contribute substantially to a report adopted by the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights in April 2015 which identifies laws and policies across the continent that unduly infringe on these rights, and provides technical guidance and recommendations to African States on how to secure and implement these rights in law and practice. Introducing the report, the African Commission's Special Rapporteur on Human Rights Defenders Reine Alapini-Gansou explicitly acknowledged the contribution of ISHR and ISHR's Clément Voule, while UN Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Assembly and of Association Maina Kiai described the report as 'vitaly important' for Africa. ISHR was the only international organisation formally mandated by the Commission to contribute to the report, recognising our knowledge of international human rights standards and our expertise and engagement at the African Commission over many years.

*African Commission
Special Rapporteur
on Human Rights Defenders
and ISHR Board member Reine Alapini-Gansou.
Flickr, Maina Kiai*



ISHR hosted a group of 15 inspiring human rights defenders from across the world to exchange successful strategies and tactics, and reflect and learn from failures, in the protection of civil society space. Geneva, September 2015

BUILDING POWERFUL PARTNERSHIPS

We convene powerful networks to push for, influence and achieve human rights impact.

Engaging business in the protection of civil society space



With an increase in the number and severity of attacks against human rights defenders, together with a proliferation of laws that restrict and criminalise their work, the need to engage new allies in protecting civil society space has never been more acute. Recognising this, ISHR worked together with the Business and Human Rights Resource Centre in London throughout 2015 to convene a network of business leaders prepared to speak out in support of human rights defenders.

This innovative approach was endorsed as good practice in the March 2016 report of the UN Special Rapporteur on Human Rights Defenders, Michel Forst, in which he said ‘A key tactic in building local support for defenders should be to expand membership of the support community, beyond defenders and other ‘usual’ allies, including to business leaders... Condemnation of violations by members of the business community not only legitimises defenders’ concerns but also builds opposition to bad business practices.’

The network is being founded on the principle that both corporations and human rights defenders have a shared interest in an environment that respects the rights to freedom of expression, association and assembly, and is characterised by transparent and accountable government, freedom from corruption, and respect for the rule of law. Already this approach has had an impact, with leading jewelry companies Tiffany & Co, Leber Jeweler and Brilliant Earth issuing an influential open statement expressing concern over efforts by the Angolan Government to criminally prosecute award-winning journalist and human rights activist Rafael Marques de Morais for his work to expose corruption in the Angolan diamond industry. Following the statement a number of the charges against Marques were withdrawn or dropped. Similarly, through ISHR, major multinationals Microsoft and DLA Piper issued a joint statement recognising that ‘human rights defenders are crucial in fomenting rights respecting communities’, committing to take action through ‘support programmes which strengthen respect for defenders and the rule of law across the globe’.

“

‘Invisible networks of influential friends and supporters in the business community can be invaluable when things go wrong. We encourage human rights defenders to partner and work constructively with the business sector and foster partnerships and collaboration.’

Owen Larter, UK Government Affairs Manager, Legal and Corporate Affairs, Microsoft and **Nicolas Patrick**, Pro Bono Partner and Head of Responsible Business, DLA Piper



Leading a global campaign for the General Assembly to protect human rights defenders



With the situation for human rights defenders deteriorating in many regions of the world, it was imperative that the UN General Assembly adopt a strong resolution in 2015 reaffirming the vital role of defenders and reiterating the obligations of States to support and protect their work. When Norway presented such a resolution to the General Assembly it faced unprecedented opposition from China, Russia and a number of African States.

Working closely with Amnesty International, ISHR mobilised a similarly unparalleled civil society response, coordinating more than 180 NGOs from all over the world to demand that States support a strong, substantive General Assembly resolution to protect defenders. The influence of the campaign was significant, with African States withdrawing almost 40 hostile amendments. Ultimately, not only was the resolution carried by a very substantial majority of 127 votes in favour to only 14 against, but it includes a number of new and substantive provisions, including on the vital role of advocacy in contributing to sustainable development and the realisation of economic, social and cultural rights, and on the responsibilities of business enterprises to engage, consult and protect defenders.



‘The mobilisation of civil society from all regions in support of this resolution is a testament to the seriousness of violations experienced by human rights defenders around the world and the need for States to take stronger measures to protect and support their work.’

Madeleine Sinclair, *ISHR Legal Counsel*



VOTING RESULT
UN General Assembly resolution
on the **protection of human rights defenders**

Sharing strategies to ensure civil society success



In September 2015, ISHR convened a group of fifteen human rights defenders working predominantly at the national level from Australia, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, India, Kyrgyzstan, Mexico, the Philippines, Sierra Leone, Tunisia and Uganda. The defenders worked in diverse contexts and on a variety of issues, including women's rights, political participation, combating impunity, transitional justice, LGBTI rights, and the fight against torture, amongst others. Crucially, they all had experience in advocating successfully for civil society space at the national level, either in pushing for specific laws and policies for the protection of defenders, or in opposing legislation that would close this space and restrict the rights to freedom of expression, association and assembly.

During their visit to Geneva, the defenders received training and carried out joint advocacy activities, with the support of ISHR. However, the primary purpose of the convening was to discuss and share strategies and tactics to contribute to the protection of defenders. The participants prepared a comprehensive report amounting to a confidential playbook of strategies, tactics and activities to safeguard civil society space. They also produced a public submission, made by ISHR together with 11 national NGOs, which sets out more than 40 recommendations – directed to States, national human rights institutions, the UN, donors, business enterprises, and civil society itself – to ensure that defenders can work in a safe and enabling environment. The report will be considered by the UN Human Rights Council in June 2016, with ISHR urging that its key findings and recommendations be reflected in a resolution on the protection of civil society space.



'We discussed and debated strategies for protecting civil society space, including building and maintaining strong coalitions, engaging with UN human rights mechanisms and other international actors, working with governments and legislatures, strategic litigation, monitoring and reporting, and working with the media and social media. We shared stories of success as well as failure.'

Rachel Ball, *Director of Advocacy with the Human Rights Law Centre and participant in ISHR's September 2015 convening*





*ISHR human rights
defender convening. Geneva,
September 2015*

OUR VISION FOR THE YEAR AHEAD

In 2016 we will work together with our network of brave human rights defenders, progressive business partners, forward-leaning diplomatic allies, and invaluable financial supporters to turn back the tide on civil society repression and to achieve significant and sustainable human rights change.

With your support, we will:

Empower human rights defenders

- Build the skills and impact of more than 100 human rights defenders working on the frontlines, assisting them to use the UN and regional mechanisms to expose violations, secure accountability and push for change
- Produce the first-ever series of comprehensive Chinese-language international human rights training videos, better connecting Chinese activists with the UN system
- Build an innovative, interactive online platform and community to enable human rights defenders from around the world to access the UN Human Rights Council and to strategise and collaborate for greater impact



Strengthen human rights laws and systems

- Launch a comprehensive model national law on human rights defenders, helping to ensure the international Declaration on Human Rights Defenders is incorporated, implemented and enforced at the domestic level
- Work with the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights, supporting it to fully implement its mandate to prevent, investigate and remedy cases of intimidation and reprisals against human rights defenders
- Use the tenth anniversary of the UN Human Rights Council as an opportunity to drive reform to make the Council more accessible, effective and protective for human rights defenders and victims
- Spearhead a campaign to reform the UN Committee on NGOs and ensure the UN accreditation process for civil society is transparent, expeditious and non-discriminatory





Flickr, Marco Fieber

Promote accountability for violations

- Conduct strategic litigation in international courts and tribunals to enhance the protection of human rights defenders globally, including defenders of LGBTI rights in Russia and Uganda, and rule of law defenders in the Maldives
- Produce a comprehensive manual for human rights defenders working in States in transition, equipping them with knowledge to use UN and regional human rights mechanisms in their fight for democracy and an end to impunity
- Continue to push for investigations, accountability and an end to impunity in cases of arbitrary detention, ill-treatment and killings of human rights defenders



Flickr, DFID

Secure implementation at the national level

- Lead the campaign for UN bodies and mechanisms to effectively implement the breakthrough UN resolution on the participation of national human rights institutions
- Work with national partners in Burkina Faso, Mali and Niger to secure enactment of a comprehensive national law on human rights defenders, and with partners in Côte d'Ivoire to establish a protection mechanism which responds to the particular needs of women
- Produce an innovative guide that equips activists to push for the national implementation of key resolutions and recommendations on the protection of women's rights defenders
- Collaborate with the International Corporate Accountability Roundtable to produce comprehensive guidance to States on how to engage and protect defenders through National Action Plans on Business and Human Rights



UN Geneva, Violaine Martin

Build powerful partnerships

- Convene and mobilise a network of leading multinational companies committed to actively protecting human rights defenders and civil society space
- Spearhead a global civil society campaign to enhance the membership of the UN Human Rights Council and ensure that egregious human rights violators are not elected to sit at the human rights high table
- Leverage the expertise and vast resources of some of the world's leading law firms to provide pro bono legal advice and support to protect human rights defenders at risk

We need your support to pursue this ambitious agenda. Whether you are an NGO colleague, a diplomatic partner or a financial supporter, your contribution is essential to achieve collective impact in 2016.



Flickr, Comisión Interamericana de Derechos Humanos

OUR BOARD AND STAFF

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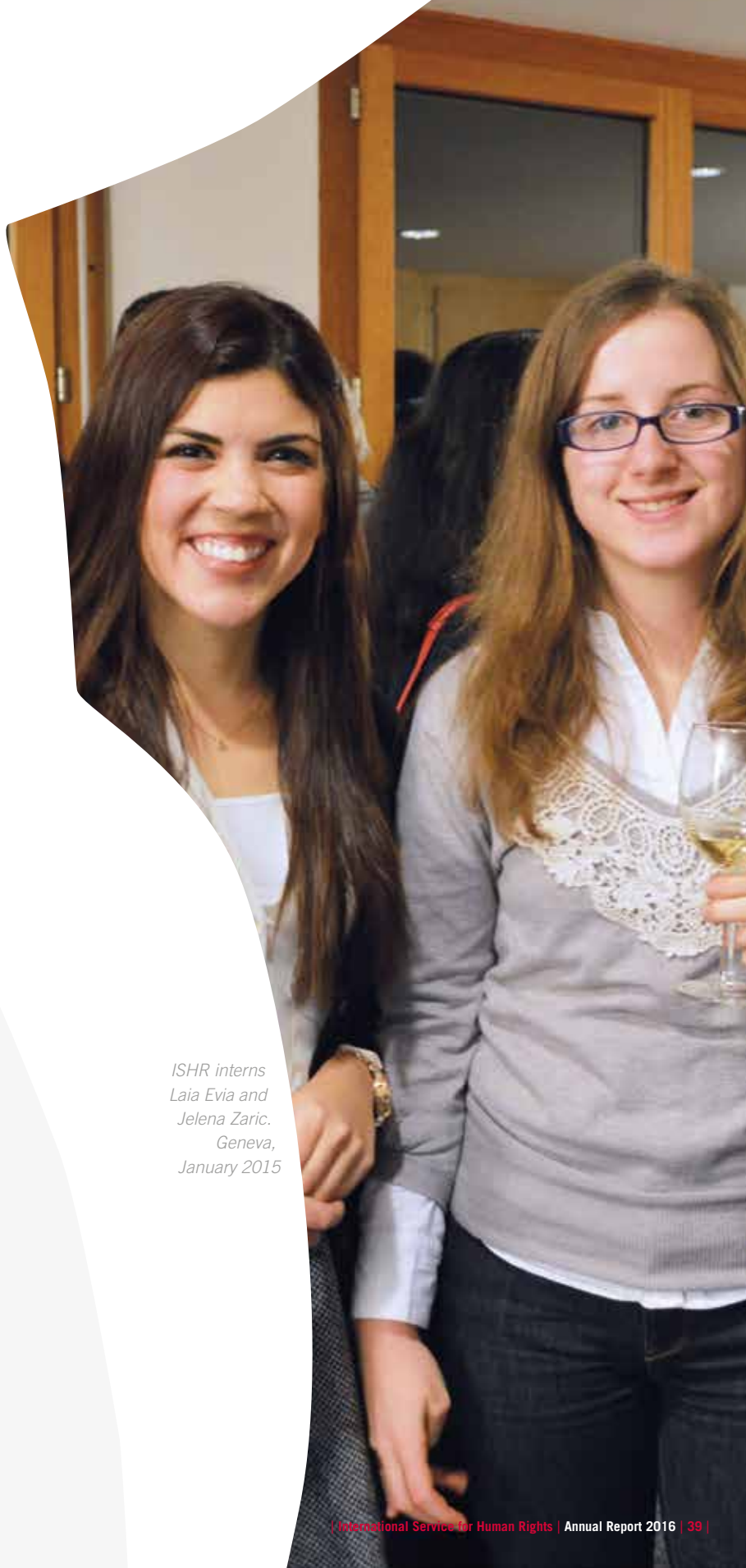
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Communications Manager



Fanny Toutou-Mpondo
Communications Officer



Clément Nyaletsossi Voule
Programme Manager
(States in Transition)
and Director of African
Advocacy



*ISHR interns
Laia Evia and
Jelena Zaric.
Geneva,
January 2015*

We thank our team of talented interns for their essential contribution to the work of ISHR in 2015:

- Laia Evia
- Sarah Burgess
- Aoife Daly
- Thomas Helm
- Gyan Yashan Kothari
- Joel Lazar
- Amanda Lilliefeld
- Mary Lycke
- Ruby Shrimpton
- Jelena Zaric



ISHR's Fanny Toutou-Mpondo with Marguerite Barankitse of Maison Shalom, women's rights defender from Burundi.

OUR SUPPORTERS AND DONORS

Thank you

The generous contributions of our supporters, including progressive governments, foundations and dedicated individuals, sustain and enable our work to support human rights defenders, strengthen human rights systems and achieve human rights change.

From the development of the international Declaration on Human Rights Defenders to the training and protection of grassroots defenders around the world, none of our impact would be possible without you.


As a registered non-profit association in Switzerland, and recognised as tax exempt in the US under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, your gift to ISHR may be tax deductible. Please support human rights defenders and invest in ISHR.

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International law firms

During 2015, ISHR worked with a number of the world's leading law firms on a pro bono basis, enabling us to leverage substantial legal expertise and resources.

Allens
Ashurst
DLA Piper*
Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer
Winston & Strawn

**Also provided a full-time pro bono lawyer to work with ISHR*

\$500,000



Value of **pro bono work undertaken** for ISHR by leading **international law firms**



“

‘ISHR provides invaluable support to human rights defenders around the world.’

Navi Pillay, *UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, 2008 - 2014 and ISHR Board member*

Navi Pillay with the Ambassador of Finland to the UN, Päivi Kairamo. Geneva, April 2015

www.ishr.ch/donate



*ISHR's Director of
African Advocacy,
Clément Voule*

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

This is an extract of ISHR's audited financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2015.
For additional information, please contact Chris Duckett at c.duckett@ishr.ch.

Profit and loss statement for year ended 31 December 2015

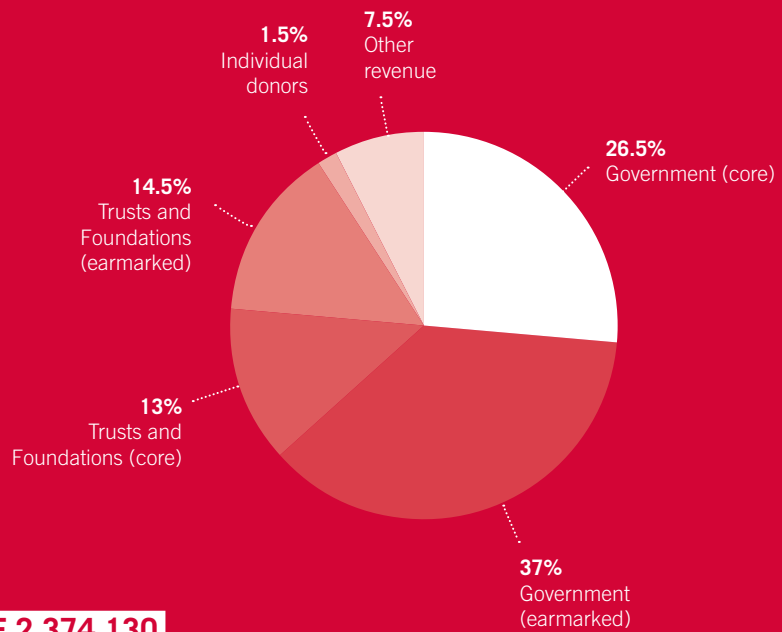
| INCOME | 2015 CHF | 2014 CHF |
|---|------------------|------------------|
| Revenues – Core | | |
| Governmental Agencies | 629 286 | 722 844 |
| Trusts and Foundations | 314 226 | 262 673 |
| Individual Donors | 37 152 | 50 819 |
| Other Revenue | 177 343 | 134 152 |
| Total Core Grants | 1 158 006 | 1 170 488 |
| Revenues – Earmarked | | |
| Governmental Agencies | 870 788 | 392 663 |
| Trusts and Foundations | 345 336 | 197 517 |
| Total Earmarked Grants | 1 216 124 | 590 179 |
| TOTAL INCOME | 2 374 130 | 1 760 667 |
| COSTS | | |
| Personnel and Related Costs | 1 235 741 | 1 121 626 |
| Programme Costs | 572 653 | 233 290 |
| Operating, Administrative and Finance Costs | 504 606 | 333 353 |
| Governance and Strategy Costs | 24 350 | 23 226 |
| TOTAL COSTS | 2 337 350 | 1 711 496 |
| INCOME (CHARGES) FOR THE YEAR | 36 780 | 49 172 |

Balance sheet at 31 December 2015

| ASSETS | 2015 CHF | 2014 CHF |
|---------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Cash and Cash Equivalents | 537 972 | 697 278 |
| Debtors | 59 835 | 51 024 |
| Withholding Tax | - | 1 148 |
| Deferred Expenses | - | - |
| Grants Receivable – Government | 51 062 | 25 279 |
| Grants Receivable – Non-government | 17 258 | - |
| TOTAL ASSETS | 666 128 | 774 730 |
| LIABILITIES AND RESERVES | | |
| Liabilities | | |
| Current Liabilities | 17 722 | 8 412 |
| Provisions | 5 500 | 5 500 |
| Deferred Grants | 264 461 | 419 153 |
| Total Liabilities | 287 682 | 433 065 |
| Reserves | | |
| Reserve Funds | 341 666 | 292 494 |
| Income (Charges) for the Year | 36 780 | 49 174 |
| Total Reserves | 378 446 | 341 666 |
| TOTAL LIABILITIES AND RESERVES | 666 128 | 774 730 |

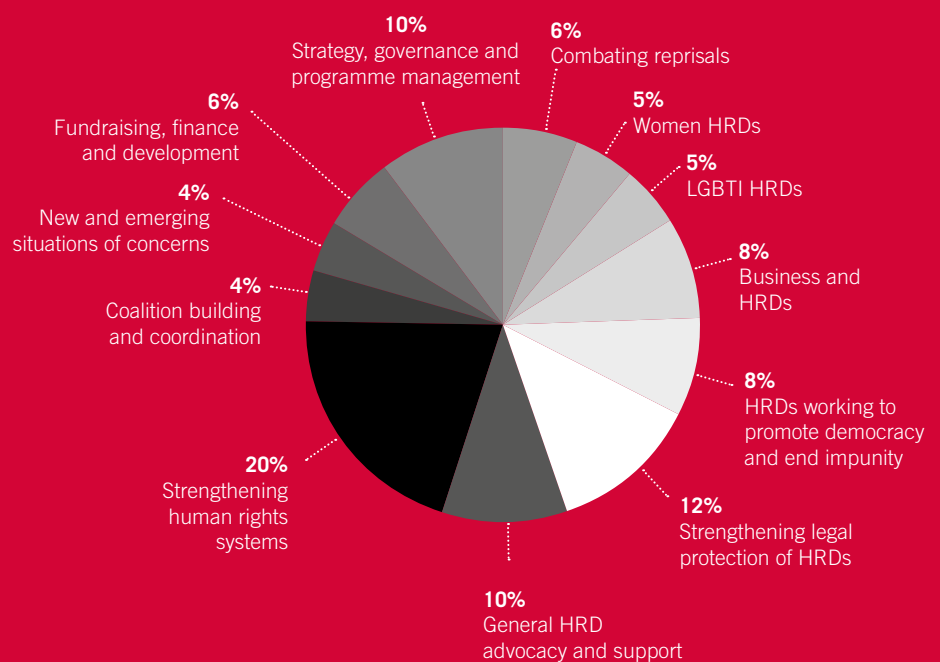
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE BY CATEGORY

Income by Source



Total CHF 2 374 130

Expenditure by Category



Total CHF 2 337 350



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