

ACTIONS FOR OUR CYBER ACTIVISTS

VERSION1 | DOCUMENT NO.: UH081901

#HumanRightsDefenders



THE SCENARIO

Note: We use in this text virtual names for scenario requirements;

Name of the virtual persecutor: *George (who is at risk)*

The name of the repressive power virtual: *Republic of X*

'George is a journalist who was arrested by the authorities of the Republic of X for his journalistic writings. The regime has a record of torture for political detainees.'

YOU CAN HELP GEORGE ONLINE!

Our struggle for rights is never complete and must always be renewed. As a movement, we educate ourselves and each other to better stand in solidarity with all those facing oppression and discrimination across the world at large.

That's why we provide this guidance to illustrate what to do when it's crunch time [ZERO HOUR].

Follow these simple instructions for coordinated online actions targeting the *Republic of X* authorities. The idea is simple; we will give you a few actions with simple tasks that could help save *George's* life.

We will tell you exactly what to do and when, also you can chat with others around the world who are interested in these issues, to connect and plan ways to support *George* who is at risk.

We have cyber activists from all over the world, while the decision-makers sleep it's time for the defenders of rights to take charge.

Let's flood the internet with the *#UpperHand* hashtag, share the following actions in your circles especially on all social media pages that many of you either manage or have influence over.

You can make a difference. All we need is you!

ACTION 1: GET PEOPLE (INCLUDING YOU!) TO SIGN THE PETITION

ONE-CLICK TO HELP *GEORGE* FROM THE RISK. A question frequently asked, do petitions actually work? They can if they're big!

If every cyber activist gets 10 signatures we can surpass the thousands mark in less than 24 hours! To put the test into practice, follow the steps below:

- Sign it yourself, and get as many others to do the same.
- Share this message on WhatsApp.
- Share the petition on all your social networks.
- Do individual outreach.
- Help those who aren't tech-savvy to fill in the form.
- Follow-up if people have signed to make sure you've hit your target.

Remember, the authorities get alerted when the petition gets new signatures. They are watching!

ACTION 2: SHARE, FOLLOW & RETWEET AND CALL OUT TO ACTION

1. Share videos, posters, or other materials that we publish on WhatsApp and social media.
2. Retweet the video or other materials on your Twitter.

Don't just share on your own pages. Tag people who you think will be interested. Post on various Facebook groups.

Lots of small and bigger actions have taken place outside of the *Republic of X*, but we need to connect the dots.

We are collecting pictures, videos and actions from groups across the world. Rather than bombarding you with content to share here, we will post it all on

the Twitter page. We just need YOU to RETWEET IT ALL.

If you are retweeting with a comment don't forget to tag our account. The more we tweet them the more they'll be aware there's a global online campaign.

If you see an event online that we might have missed tag us.

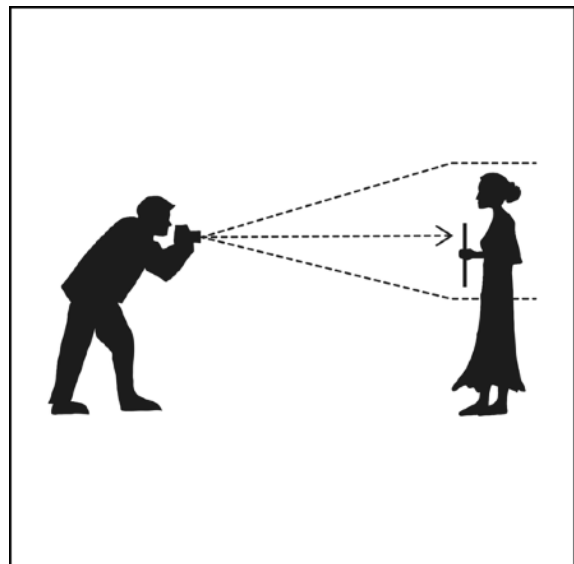
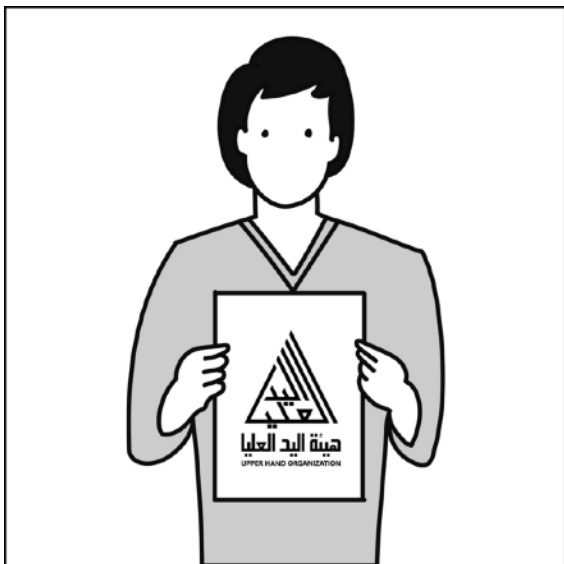
Each little step makes a big difference!

ACTION 3: CHANGE YOUR PROFILE PICTURES

Changing your profile pictures across your social media platforms (such as Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram) is not only a symbol of solidarity but also a quick way to raise awareness about *George* to people around the world.

ACTION 4: WE ARE MILLIONS: PHOTO CAMPAIGN

Show your support in a defiant way; use a white wall as your background, and print out your message on an A4 sized paper.



ACTION 5: RECORD A SHORT VIDEO AND POST ONLINE

Using your phone or any other device, record a video of up to 30 seconds highlighting why the *Republic of X* regime must release *George*.

Once you have recorded the video, upload it to Youtube, Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram.

SCRIPT EXAMPLE:

My name is _____ and I Live in _____ I urge the *Republic of X's* authorities to release or stop oppression *George* instantly; by refusing him this medical attention the regime is killing him.

Note: It is preferable if you relay the message in your own words.

Don't forget to use the campaign hashtag when you upload the video online.

ACTION 6: USE HASHTAG

Each time you use the hashtag you help bring attention to an issue online. The authorities around the world are monitoring the issue picking up international attention.

ACTION 7: TWEET DECISION MAKERS

Activists are requested to go to Twitter and comment on the last 5 tweets of the president, governor, or any concerned person of the *Republic of X*; Say which city you are from, show your solidarity with *George*, that you are struggling for, and conclude the hashtag with all of that.

ACTION 8: TARGET THE GOVERNOR ONLINE

Tweet the president, governor, or any concerned person of the *Republic of X*; tell him where in the world you are and to help or free *George*, then go to his Facebook page and write comments on as many of his posts as you can (this really disrupts the visuals on their page)

This makes a lot of difference because it disrupts his social media. Even if it's not visible or trending, every time his team logs on they won't be able to avoid this issue!

Make sure you share to get more people involved.

ACTION 9: CALL THE EMBASSY / HIGH COMMISSION

Call and email your local embassy of the *Republic of X* government, and demand the release of *George*.

Don't hesitate to call, nothing to be shy for or to be ashamed of! It's the most effective strategy because it disrupts their work!

Make sure you state that *George* is in a critical condition and if he is not released, or helped, he may die.

Don't be intimidated! If they end the call whilst you're speaking, then call back.

Please don't be shy to call, these are very quick ways we can get our message across without being ignored!

Find your local embassy here: embassypages.com.

You will also find some contact numbers online.

ACTION 10: CONTACT THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS IN YOUR COUNTRY

Cyber activists must demand the Foreign Offices to immediately intervene in particular situations.

This action is extremely important.

Please dedicate 3 minutes of your time to send this email whilst the offices are open.

EMAIL TEMPLATE:

Subject: Immediate Intervention in the Deteriorating Situation of *Republic of X*

Dear [insert the name of your Minister for Foreign Affairs here]

The continued violence used by the *Republic of X* against *George*.

I write to ask your office to make immediate interventions with the *Republic of X* demanding they cease their actions. Your office must seriously consider what punitive actions you can take unilaterally as well as part of international organisations, if necessary, in order to facilitate *Republic of X's* compliance with basic human rights standards.

I trust you will make immediate representations.

I look forward to your response.

Yours sincerely,

[Your name]

ACTION 11: WRITE TO OTHER HUMAN RIGHTS ORGANIZATION AND UNION

Amnesty International and Human Rights Watch are among the prominent organizations. All human rights organizations should be encouraged to voice their support for the defence of international law, free speech and freedom of the media which arises in the case of *George*.

You can write to human rights, refugee, free speech organizations, journalist unions and bodies asking them where they stand on *George*, and urging them to be more vocal.

ACTION 12: WRITE TO YOUR MP

If you're in the UK, writing to your MP is an important way you can help people in their fight against those who want to rob their rights.

An email written in your own words will be noticed. Your opinion matters. Regardless of what your MP thinks about this issue, they should pass on your concerns to any department of the government if you request it. For everyone who takes the time to write a letter, the UK government knows there are dozens more who think similarly – so even a couple of hundred letters can make a huge difference.

Need your MP's contact details? You can find them at theyworkforyou.com.

Share any response you get with us via e-mail: info@uhorg.com.

ACTION 13: CHALLENGE FALSE REPORTING IN THE MEDIA

Many oppressed people are the subject of regular false claims and smears in the media – a consequence of challenging those in power.

Media outlets which should support truth-tellers, often choose to side with the powerful, which can be seen as a form of corruption.

You can write to media outlets and individual journalists who report false news, pointing out the truth. You can use individual newspapers' complaint mechanisms to challenge editors and press them to issue apologies and retractions. You can use your online social media presence to inform others about false media reporting.

ACTION 14: DONATE TO SUPPORT HIS CASE

Do not feel ashamed if the amount of charity you give is small, because to refuse the needy is an act of greater shame.

Your donation will help *UHO* to invest in protecting, investigating, exposing George case and others, as well as educating people and communities about their rights, and how to demand these rights and how to campaign to protect the basic human rights we should all enjoy.

Don't be delayed, visit our website now, and take these action from there, share with us your achievement: uhorg.com.

THANK YOU ALL FOR YOUR EFFORTS