

The Front Line Defenders Award - Timeline Human Rights Defenders Board Game





The annual Front Line Defenders Award was established in 2005 to honor the work of Human Rights Defenders (HRDs) who are courageously making outstanding contributions to the promotion and protection of the human rights of others, often at great personal risk to themselves. The Award focuses international attention on the work and struggles of HRDs, providing a greater national and international platform to speak about and advocate for the human rights issues they are defending.

This game was inspired by a project session that took place in the municipality of The Hague, where participants learned about Shelter City is a global movement that offers safe and inspiring spaces to human rights defenders at risk where they can reenergize, receive tailor made support and engage with allies in order to reinforce their local actions for change. The Hague was the first city ever to participate in Shelter City, founded in 2012 by Justice & Peace with support of the municipality of The Hague, as a concrete and accessible way to support human rights defenders at risk. The Hague's multicultural community and diverse network of organizations, policy makers, students and justice workers made The Hague an inspiring space for human rights defenders. Participants were inspired from the stories discussed and the manner in which the city is promoting Human Rights. That stimulated them to create a Timeline for the Toolkit, referring to The Hague as a Shelter City for Human Rights defenders.

Instructions:

The game contains 18 double-sided cards and Time-line board. On one side of the card is the photo of the award-winner, their name and country of origin. On the other side is shown the year in which the award was received and some information about the awarded project. Print out page 3 and 4 and connect them together to make the Timeline board. Print out the cards. Cut the cards from each page and glue the matching cards so that you have eighteen double-sided cards.

The game starts by placing on a table or on the floor the Time-line board. Next each player takes a card from the deck so that the players do not see the side of the cards with the year printed on them.

A card is then taken from the deck and turned over in the center of the Time-line board to show the year and placed on the time card. Players then have to decide where to place their card in the timeline and when they place it they turn it over to show the year.

If they are correct, the card stays in place and the next player takes their turn. If the card is in the wrong place, the player sets it aside. After everyone has placed their card, players can draw a new card from the deck.

The first player to place the most cards in the correct place wins.

2007
2006
2005

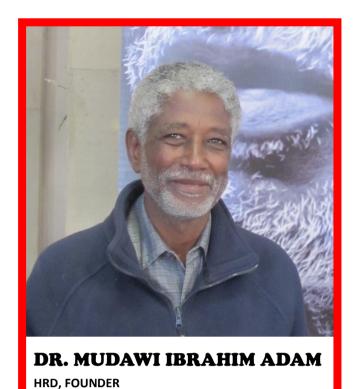
2010
2009
2008

2013
2012
2011

2016
2015
2014

2019
2018
2017

2022
2021
2020



Sudan Social Development Organization (SUDO)

Dr. Mudawi Ibrahim Adam is the Chair of the Sudan Social Development Organization, an organization that monitors human rights abuses in Darfur, Sudan and reports on the Sudanese government's role in the slaughter and carnage there. In an attempt to silence Dr. Mudawi, the Sudanese authorities have jailed him three times in the past 18 months — at times in solitary confinement — without access to a lawyer, his family or medical attention. While Dr. Mudawi is currently out of jail continuing his human rights work, the charges against him — including espionage, which carries a possible death sentence — have not been dropped.

2005



Uzbekistan (NOPCHU)

Ahmadjan Madmarov is a regional Chairman of the Independent Human Rights organisation of Uzbekistan (NOPCHU) – one of the few registered human rights organisations in Uzbekistan.



Solidarite des Femmmes Activistes pour la

Defense des Droits Humains

HRD

Gégé Katana is a leading human rights defender working in Uvira, Eastern Democratic Republic of Congo. She is the president of Solidarite des Femmmes Activistes pour la Defense des Droits Humains, SOFAD (Solidarity Movement of Women Human Rights Activists) an organisation that works through a grassroots network of 625 women to research and campaign against sexual violence, and provide counselling and help to rape survivors. SOFAD also educates local communities on women and children's rights, and lobbies the government to deliver justice and reform discriminatory laws.

2007



ANWAR AL-BUNNI

HRD, LAWYER
Syrian Centre for Legal Studies and Research

Anwar Al-Bunni is a prominent Syrian human rights lawyer. He is one of the founders of the Syrian Human Rights Association and of a centre for the defence of journalists and political prisoners. As a lawyer, al-Bunni was particularly involved in defending people who were prosecuted for expressing their opinions in non-violent ways, including intellectuals and human rights activists who were arrested when the 'Damascus Spring' of 2001 was suppressed. Al-Bunni also fights against torture in Syrian prisons and advocates democratic reforms.

Because of his work, al-Bunni has been the target of repressive measures by the authorities. He and his family members were systematically threatened and followed by the authorities.



Yuri Melini

HRD Centro de Acción Legal-Ambiental y Social de Guatemala (CALAS Yuri Melini has worked for over 20 years to protect the environment and to ensure the rights of indigenous peoples in Guatemala. He is the founder of Centro de Acción Legal-Ambiental y Social de Guatemala (CALAS). He has been targeted for assassination, surviving a shooting attempt on his life in 2008. He continues to face threats and intimidation and requires full-time security.

2009



SORAYA RAHIM SOBHRANG

HRD, COMMISSIONER
Afghan Independent Human Rights Commission

Dr. Sobhrang is the Commissioner responsible for Women's Rights at the Afghan Independent Human Rights Commission(AIHRC). As Commissioner for Women's Rights, she is responsible for the monitoring, protection and promotion of women's rights throughout Afghanistan. Dr. Sobhrang, like many prominent women human rights defenders in Afghanistan, has faced constant harassment, defamation and death threats since taking up her post. In 2010 Dr. Soraya Rahim Sobhrang received the 6th Annual Front Line Award for Human Rights Defenders at Risk.



JOINT MOBILE GROUP

Human Rights Organisation

The Joint Mobile Group consists of legal and communications experts from different parts of the Russian Federation who travel to Chechnya whenever there is an incident of human rights abuse. They travel with video cameras which enable them to collect evidence and interview survivors and witnesses for use in subsequent prosecutions.

In the climate of total impunity currently prevailing in Chechnya the Joint Mobile Group plays a crucial role in collecting evidence before it is either contaminated or destroyed by the local police and security forces who have in the past tried to block investigations by either destroying or forging evidence. For many of the family members who have lost loved ones the Joint Mobile Group is their last hope of achieving justice.

2011



RAZAN GHAZZAWI

HRD, Syrian Centre for Media and Freedom of Expression (SCM) Razan Ghazzawi is a Syrian human rights defender and blogger who has been at the forefront of promoting freedom of expression and a free media in her country. Following several threats she was arrested for the first time on 4th December 2011 at the Syrian-Jordanian border as she was on her way to attend a workshop on media and freedom of expression in the Arab world. She was released after two weeks.



BIRAM DAH ABEID

HRD, FOUNDER & PRESIDENT
Initiative pour la Résurgence du Mouvement
Abolitionniste (IRA)

Biram Dah Abeid is a Mauritanian human rights defender and President of the anti-slavery NGO Initiative pour la Résurgence du Mouvement Abolitionniste (IRA). He is targeted by the authorities because of his work and criticism of the seeming lack of effort by the government to end slavery and trafficking.

The human rights defender is a descendant of former slaves, and has worked all his life to change the culture of impunity regarding slavery in Mauritania. Although slavery was officially abolished in Mauritania in 1981, it still exists in all but name. According to Biram Dah Abeid, descendants of former slaves are subject to unfair treatment and poor working conditions where they are deprived of their basic human rights.

2013



SAWERA

HRD

A women-led, grass-roots NGO, Pakistan

Society for Appraisal & Women Empowerment in Rural Areas (SAWERA), a women-led, grass-roots NGO dedicated to empowering women and girls in the Federally Administered Tribal Areas of Pakistan.

In 2012, Ms Farida Afridi, one of the co-founders of SAWERA was shot dead while on her way to work and in 2013 the SAWERA offices were bombed, causing extensive damage to the infrastructure of the office building and the organisation's technical equipment. The staff at SAWERA continue to receive threatening telephone calls demanding that they cease their work but, despite the risks, they continue to work on issues pertaining to women's rights in one of the most traditional and culturally sensitive regions in Pakistan.



GUO FEIXIONG

HRD China Guo Feixiong is a well known figure in China's rights defence movement and, as of September 2022, has served two prison sentences - amounting to a total of 11 years - for his human rights activities. In 2005, the human rights defender provided legal assistance and organisational support to residents in Taishi village in Guangdong province who were seeking to remove their village chief whom they accused of corruption. Due to his involvement in this case, he was held by the police for three months without any charges. During that time he went on hunger strike to protest against his ill-treatment.

2015



ANA MIRIAN ROMERO

HRD Movimiento Indígena Lenca de la Paz, Honduras (MILPAH), Consejo Indígena San Isidro Labrador Ana Mirian Romero is a prominent Honduran human rights defender. She is a member of Movimiento Indígena Lenca de La Paz Honduras – MILPAH (Lenca Indigenous Movement of La Paz, Honduras) and the Consejo Indígena San Isidro Labrador (San Isidro Labrador Indigenous Council). The human rights defender has been fighting for the recognition of the land rights of indigenous communities since 2010, when MILPAH and the Consejo Indígena San Isidro Labrador filed an adjudication lawsuit for the recognition of their ancestral lands in the municipality.



HRD & LAWYER

Ukraine

Emil Kurbedinov is an outspoken human rights lawyer in Crimea. Since the occupation of Crimea by the Russian Federation, he has been actively involved in defence of the Crimean Tatars, who have become one of the major targets for the authorities, as well as civil society activists and journalists. Emil Kurbedinov has been providing people with legal assistance through conducting observations of searches at activists' homes. He has also drawn attention to human rights violations in Crimea using social media, international conferences and reporting before international human rights mechanisms.

2017



NURCAN BAYSAL HRD & JOURNALIST Turkey Nurcan Baysal is a Kurdish human rights defender and journalist based in the southeastern province of Diyarbakır. In 2015 and 2016, she visited villages and documented human rights violations committed in the context of the military operations conducted in the region. As a journalist and columnist for various news outlets and periodicals, she particularly writes about the Kurdish issue and covers development and poverty issues. Besides her work as a journalist, she also co-founded several civil society organisations and involved in many civil society studies regarding forced migration, poverty, development and gender issues in the context of the Kurdish issue. Nurcan is also the advisor of various non-profit foundations.



BADR BAABOUHRD, FOUNDER & DIRECTOR DAMJ, Tunisia

Badr Baabou is a Tunisian human rights defender from the city of Gabes in the southern Tunisia. He is the co-founder and Chairman of the organisation Damj (the Tunisian Association for Justice and Equality) and the co-chair of the M-Coalition, a regional HIV/AIDS advocacy network devoted to the needs of LGBT+ community in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region. Since 2002 he has dedicated himself to working for the LGBT+ community in Tunisia and as a direct result of his human rights work, Baabou has been the target of physical and online threats and attacks. In 2018, his home which doubles as a meeting point for Damj, was raided and vandalised, his belongings and property containing sensitive Damj information were stolen.

2019



Fatima Al-Bahadly
HRD & FOUNDER
Al-Firdaws Society Iraq

Fatima Al-Bahadly is an Iraqi woman human rights defender from the city of Basra in southern Iraq. She is the founder of Al-Firdaws Society, an organization focused on protecting women and girls affected by war and strengthening their role in peace building. Al-Firdaws provides literacy, education and skills workshops and works to bring an end to violence against women in areas where women are most marginalised, including rural areas. Fatima and her organisation raise awareness among community members about the impact of child marriage and early school leaving on women and girls, calling on religious clerics and tribal leaders to recognise the important role that women play in society.



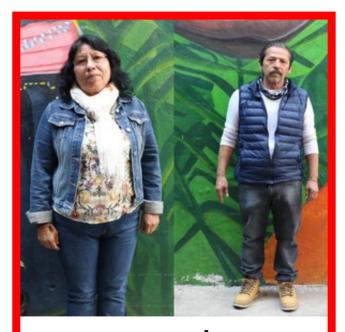
Aminata Fabba

Malen Affected Land Owners Association (MALOA) ,Sierra Leone

Aminata Fabba is the Chairlady of the Malen Affected Land Owners Association (MALOA), a farmer and a grassroots land rights defender in the southern provincial district of Pujehun. MALOA is a community movement resisting SOCFIN and other biofuel capitalists in Sierra Leone.

With the inception of the large scale land investment in Malen Chiefdom in 2011, Aminata stood against the Chiefdom Authorities to protect her family land; for that she was arrested by police and taken to Sahn, the chiefdom headquarters, and locked in a cell for one week. She was only released with the help of national and international pressure with payment of bail fee. Upon her release she became resolute to continue the fight.

2021



JAVIER AND MARÍA DEL TRÁNSITO

HRDS, TEACHERS Salvatierra, Guanajuato, Mexico Javier and María del Tránsito, teachers and human rights defenders from Salvatierra, Guanajuato, Mexico, had dedicated their lives to teaching. When the crisis of disappearances – a widespread phenomenon in Mexico whereby people are taken/disappear without warning – increased in their area, and personally affected them, they shifted their time and energy to activism on the issue of disappearances.

According to data from the National Search Commission (CNB), this year 372 people have been reported as disappeared in the state of Guanajuato. On 29 February 2020, Maria and Javier's daughter Guadalupe, also a teacher, went missing. In February 2021 Guadalupe's body was identified in a clandestine grave along with 80 other bodies.