

CAMPACC

CAMPAIGN AGAINST CRIMINALISING COMMUNITIES

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DEFEND HUMAN RIGHTS AND CIVIL LIBERTIES

NATIONAL LOBBY OF MPs

Friday 11th March to Saturday 12th March 2005

"The real threat to the life of the nation, in the sense of a people living in accordance with its traditional laws and political values, comes not from terrorism but from laws such as these." Law Lord Hoffman, 18 Dec 2004

Under the so-called 'war on terror', the UK government has waged illegal war abroad and systematically terrorised migrants and Muslim communities at home. 'Anti-terror' laws have broadened the definition of 'terrorism' to include normal political activities. They authorize searches and even detention in the name of 'suspicion' or 'association' with terrorism. Under the 2001 law, the government has detained foreign nationals without trial. Now, to avoid discrimination, it is proposing to extend these 'anti-terror' control measures to British nationals. Furthermore, to justify detentions it is using the pretext of proportionality by introducing house arrests and control orders. Under the pretext of a fake 'emergency', it is planning further steps towards a police state.

WHAT WE ARE ASKING FOR

1. Stop the politics of fear and state culture of 'suspicion'
2. No detention – including imprisonment, house arrest, control orders, etc. – without a fair jury trial.
3. No derogation from the European Convention on Human Rights. We must guarantee the ancient right of habeas corpus, i.e. no imprisonment without trial and due process of law.
4. No acceptance of evidence obtained through torture under any conditions.
5. The British government should demand the closure of the illegal detention centre at Guantanamo Bay and end its complicity. The government must investigate fully the allegations of torture in all these cases, especially the role of MI5.
6. No extradition or deportation to any country (including the USA) where human rights, fair trial and freedom from torture are not guaranteed.
7. Stop criminalising Muslim, refugee and minority communities under the anti-terror laws.
8. No bans on political organisations and or crimes of 'association' with them.
9. No further powers that further erode civil liberties and the right to jury trial. These powers include ID cards and restrictions on the right to peaceful protest, as well as the anti-terrorism powers.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

1. Send a letter by email or fax to press your MP for an undertaking to sign EDM 426 of 20.12.04 (by 20 February) and an undertaking to vote against any renewal or extension of 'anti-terror' powers. A draft letter is on our website.
2. Take an active part in the lobby. Book an appointment to see your MP on 11th or 12th March. Be flexible about this but make sure that you do get an appointment before mid March.
3. Inform us about the time and place of lobby in your constituency, with contact details of the coordinator, so that this information can be posted on our website. Our email address is humanrightslobby@yahoo.co.uk
4. Publicise the lobby (in your community, workplace, party, trade union, peace group, women's group, etc.) and ask others to join you for the lobby.
5. Ask your MP to give a public undertaking not to vote for renewal or extension of 'anti-terror' laws, especially the internment powers, which may come up for renewal in March.
6. See Briefing Notes and other documents on our website to help you make your case.
7. Join CAMPACC's email list to keep up with latest legal and political developments. To join our email list by sending an email to estella24@tiscali.co.uk

THIS LOBBY IS SPONSORED BY:

Muslim Parliament; Voices in the Wilderness; Haldane Society of Socialist Lawyers; CND; Liberty; Stop Political Terror; 1990 Trust; Respect - The Unity Coalition; Stop the War Coalition; Scotland Against Criminalising Communities; Red Pepper; The Green Party; Kevin McNamara MP; John McDonnell MP; Tony Benn; Bruce Kent; Gareth Peirce; Louise Christian; Lord Rea; Victoria Brittain; Corin Redgrave; Liz Fekete; Mike Marqusee; Jean Lambert MEP; Baroness Sarah Ludford MEP.

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Honorary Chair; Michael Mansfield, President of Haldane Society of Socialist Lawyers
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