

Issue 5: December 2006

# **IFEX Advocacy Action News**

*A monthly bulletin for IFEX members to promote campaigns and share advocacy information*

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- Iran: ARTICLE 19, IPA and International PEN protest restrictive publication regulations

## **SPECIAL: EVALUATING *IFEX Advocacy Action News***

With the release of the fifth and final issue of the IFEX Advocacy Action news for 2006, which has been running as a pilot project, the IFEX Campaigns and Advocacy Support Programme is seeking feedback from members. In this abridged version of the bulletin, we'd like to know how *IFEX Advocacy Action News* is being used by members and how it can be enhanced to better promote campaigns and the sharing of advocacy news across the IFEX membership. Please return your evaluation to Sheila Gruner, ([gruner@ifex.org](mailto:gruner@ifex.org)) before Thursday January 11, 2007. Thank you!

### Evaluation of *IFEX Action Advocacy News*

Name (optional): \_\_\_\_\_

Member organisation: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

1. Which aspects of *IFEX Action Advocacy News* do you find helpful?

- \_\_\_ Programme Highlights
- \_\_\_ Rapid and Organised Action Responses (ROAR) / Joint actions information
- \_\_\_ Member Advocacy Focus
- \_\_\_ Topics and Tools

Why do you find these sections useful?

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2. Which aspects of *IFEX Action Advocacy News* do you think could be improved?

- \_\_\_ Programme Highlights
- \_\_\_ Rapid and Organised Action Responses (ROAR) / Joint actions information
- \_\_\_ Member Advocacy Focus
- \_\_\_ Topics and Tools
- \_\_\_ Other

What improvements do you suggest? What are other topics you would like to see covered?

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3. Do you have suggestions for other features or content that you think should be included in the IFEX Advocacy Action News?

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4. How often do you think *IFEX Action Advocacy News* should be distributed?

- Monthly  
 Bi-monthly  
 Quarterly

5. Is your organisation interested in contributing to *IFEX Action Advocacy News* (e.g. being highlighted in the Member Advocacy Focus section or sharing information about your campaigns work?)

Yes, contact me:

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No, thanks.

5. Funding permitting, the IFEX Campaigns Programme will attempt to publish this bulletin in the network's other official languages. In what language would you like to receive the IFEX Action Advocacy News?

- English  
 French  
 Spanish  
 Other

**Please return your response to this evaluation before Thursday January 11, 2007.  
Thanks for your feedback!**

## **RAPID AND ORGANISED ACTION RESPONSES (ROAR)**

Rapid and Organised Action Responses (ROAR) are part of the IFEX Campaigns Programme strategy to support rapid, short-term follow-up actions to free expression violations. Write to Sheila (gruner@ifex.org) if your organisation would like more information or would like to engage in a ROAR activity.

**WATCH FOR JOINT ACTION LETTERS – YOUR SIGNATURE IS NEEDED!!**

### **Joint actions that need IFEX member support NOW:**

**China:** The Hong Kong Journalists' Association (HKJA) has initiated a worldwide signature campaign calling on the Chinese government to grant imprisoned journalist Ching Cheong an early release under medical parole due to his deteriorating health. See the letter:  
[http://www.ifex.org/doc/download/en/HKJA\\_AppealDec2006.doc](http://www.ifex.org/doc/download/en/HKJA_AppealDec2006.doc)

Sign on to the joint action by writing HKJA at [chingcheong@hkja.org.hk](mailto:chingcheong@hkja.org.hk) before 20 December 2006.

### **Joint actions issued this month:**

**Tunisia:** The Tunisia Monitoring (TMG) issued a 4 December joint action letter calling on the Tunisian president to cease harassment of human rights defenders and journalists who continue to face persecution. See: <http://www.ifex.org/en/content/view/full/79616/>

**Philippines:** The Southeast Asian Press Alliance (SEAPA) and the Center for Media Freedom and Responsibility (CMFR) lead a joint action signed by 10 IFEX members' and other organisations in South East Asia to support 42 journalists' class action suit against Jose Miguel Arroyo, husband of Philippine president Gloria Macapagal Arroyo. The journalists have been sued for libel by Arroyo. See: <http://www.ifex.org/en/content/view/full/79420/>

**Maldives:** Reporters Without Borders, ARTICLE 19 and International Federation of Journalists, along with International Media Support, South Asia Press Commission and other members of the International Mission for Press Freedom in the Maldives, issued a joint statement to express their concern that the government has failed to meet its own deadline for pluralizing the broadcast media and that journalists working with opposition media are still being wrongfully arrested. See: <http://www.ifex.org/en/content/view/full/79685>

**Iran:** ARTICLE 19, the International Publishers Association (IPA) and International PEN issued a joint action regarding the Procedural Guidelines for Publication issued by Iran's Ministry of Culture and Islamic Guidance (MCIG), which prevent local writers and publishers from issuing new books. See: <http://www.ifex.org/en/content/view/full/79664>

***Call to IFEX members:***

**~ Want to start a campaign? Need advice or support?**

**~ Tell us about your organisation's campaigns and advocacy efforts**

**~ Share articles, websites and campaigns tools**

**Contact Sheila Gruner, IFEX Campaigns Coordinator at [gruner@ifex.org](mailto:gruner@ifex.org)**