

Guidelines for the Submission of Motions and Constitutional Amendments to Amnesty International Ireland Annual Conference 2020

Please note the deadline for the submission of motions and amendments is 11 November 2020.

Proposing a motion or a constitutional amendment to the Annual Conference both follow the same format and are subject to the same guidelines.

The definitions for motions and amendments are below.

Constitutional Amendments seek to change, repeal or add to the Amnesty International Ireland Constitution, as it currently exists. Motions seek to steer the work programme of the Irish Section

To submit a motion or constitutional amendment, please be advised of the following guidelines:

Amendments/motions must be submitted to the Conference Agenda Committee (CAC) in writing no later than 11 November 2020.

Please send motions/amendments to the CAC care of Bernadette Morris by email to annualconference@amnesty.ie. Please note due to the public health measures to minimise the spread of COVID-19 we are unable to accept proposals for constitutional amendments or motions by post for Annual Conference 2020.

Amendments/motions may be submitted by any Amnesty International Ireland member who has been a member for a minimum of six months and whose membership is paid in full.

Emergency constitutional amendments/motions must be submitted by the opening day of the Annual Conference, Tuesday 09 December, 2020. Emergency motions are motions which could not have been submitted by the notified deadline, as the issues which they seek to address had not yet arisen prior to the closing date for submission.

Amendments/motions must be submitted with the name of the member proposing it and the name of the member seconding it, who has also been a member for a minimum of six months and whose membership is paid in full.

Amendments do not need to be submitted in legal language. If you would like to receive copies of example motions or amendments for the purposes of drafting your text, please email annualconference@amnesty.ie

Following consideration of a motion or amendment, should its format require further drafting or amendment for constitutional or procedural reasons, the CAC will work with its proposers to help them phrase their proposal in the most appropriate way.

Annual Conference is the primary governance body of Amnesty International Ireland and as such is of critical importance to the proper functioning of our movement.

Annual Conference operates under our core principles of accountability, transparency and democracy.

Amnesty International Ireland has a long-standing practice of working to ensure that all motions and amendments submitted by its members are facilitated and brought to full and open discussion at Annual Conference in the first instance.

Proposers of motions are requested to show due consideration and respect for Annual Conference deliberations. Motions and constitutional amendments are publicly notified on amnesty.ie not less than 14 days prior to Annual Conference. Proposers of motions and constitutional amendments are reminded that seeking media or external comment on a motion or constitutional amendment prior to conference undermines the integrity of our membership led democratic processes.