

# **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 systematically waged war abroad and terrorised migrants and Muslim communities at home. 'Anti-terror' laws have introduced imprisonment without trial. They 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. Further restrictions on the right to protest are now being planned.

### **WHAT WE ARE ASKING FOR**

1. Stop the politics of fear and state culture of 'suspicion'
2. End all detention without trial including imprisonment, house arrests and control orders. Release all the 'suspects' arrested under the 2001 law or give them a fair jury trial.
3. End the UK derogation from Article 5 of the European Human Rights Convention, which guarantees 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. Immediate release of British residents held in Guantanamo. End UK government complicity in detentions there. The government must investigate fully the allegations of torture in all these cases, especially the role of MI5.
6. No extradition or deportation of suspects to USA and other countries 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

### **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](mailto: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](mailto: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; 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.

### **CAMPAIGN AGAINST CRIMINALISING COMMUNITIES**

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