

VENEZUELA

Geraldine Chacón: Harassed for educating youth



Women human rights defender Geraldine Chacón grew up wanting to defend other people. She dreamed of being a lawyer at age 9. At 14, she stood for her local youth government. And at university, she started a network of Amnesty International activists pushing for change. Her mother says “Any injustice she saw, she fought against.”

This passion inspired Geraldine to work for an organization which empowers young people in some of the poorest areas of Caracas, her home city. But then, in February 2018, this young, enthusiastic member of her community was arrested in her home by armed officials.

The authorities wrongly linked her with “resistance” groups they accused of organizing violent anti-government demonstrations. In fact, her persecution is part of a wider government crackdown on those who criticize the authorities and champion human rights during the current Venezuelan crisis.

After four months in jail in appalling conditions, Geraldine was conditionally released in June 2018. But she can't leave the country and her case is still open. That means she could be arrested again at any time for no reason.

Women human rights defenders in Venezuela may be targeted because of their gender and what they are advocating for. Geraldine and many peaceful activists face daily intimidation just for trying to make their country a better place.

Ask Venezuela to stop harassing Geraldine now.

*Everyone has the right to
freedom of movement, of
expression and of
association.*

*Articles 13, 19 and 20
Universal Declaration
of Human Rights*

**WRITE
FOR
RIGHTS**

**AMNESTY
INTERNATIONAL**



To take action, go to the next page.

Unleash your pens and keyboards!

Please write to the Attorney General.

- ♦ Start with Dear Attorney General.
- ♦ Describe who you are and what concerns you about the persecution Geraldine Chacón has endured.
- ♦ Ask him to close the case against her and give her unconditional freedom so that she can continue her advocacy for young people.

The Venezuela postal system is unreliable so please send letters to Amnesty for delivery in January to

Tarek William Saab, Attorney General
c/o Amnesty International
3-1992 Yonge Street
Toronto ON M4S 1Z7

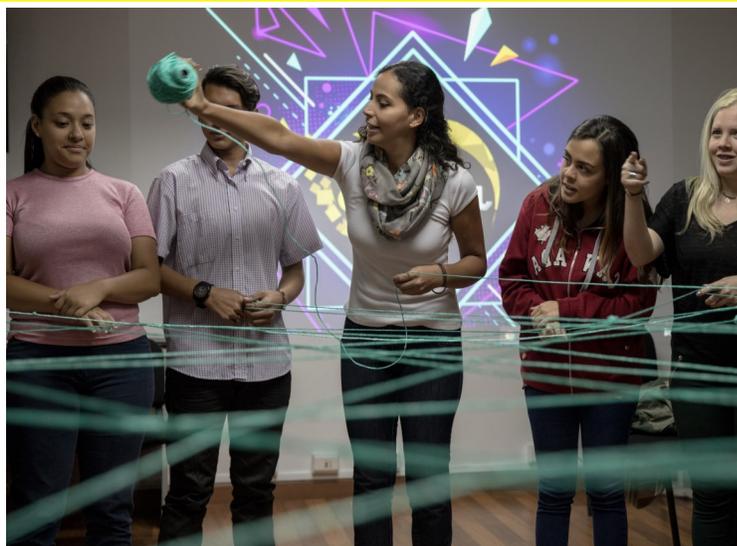
Twitter: @TarekWilliamSaab

And/or sign the e-petition at
www.amnesty.ca/venezuela

Human rights defenders like Geraldine Chacón are at risk around the world. Join Amnesty's efforts to protect the rights of those who defend our rights.

Women human rights defender describes women-identified people who defend human rights, or human rights defenders of all genders who peacefully defend gender rights.

#WriteforRights #womensrights #WHRD
www.amnesty.ca



Geraldine participates in a youth workshop, August 2018
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Panos Pictures for Amnesty

Assure Geraldine that she is not alone.

You may send her any type of message, you may mention Amnesty International and you may include your return address.

Geraldine loves reading and has completed a law degree. As an Amnesty member who has participated in past Write for Rights events, she says "I never imagined I'd be on the other side of the campaign." Send your greeting to

Geraldine Chacón
c/o Amnesty International
Calle Manuel A. Fuentes 894
San Isidro 15046
Lima, Perú

Postage: \$2.50

Email: nattvilla2512@gmail.com

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TAKE PART: writeathon.ca