



**PEN INTERNATIONAL WEEKLY ON-LINE
LE BULLETIN HEBDOMADAIRE DE PEN INTERNATIONAL EN LIGNE
PEN INTERNACIONAL SEMANAL ON-LINE**

19 – 26 April 2012

PEN International's weekly on-line round-up with updates of news and alerts from the PEN Community. We highly recommend that you visit our site – www.pen-international.org, our new [Facebook page](#) and follow us on Twitter [@pen_int](#).

El nuevo semanal on-line de PEN International con novedades y alertas desde la Comunidad de PEN. Realmente recomendamos que visite nuestro sitio: www.pen-international.org y también nuestros sitios de [Facebook](#) y Twitter [@pen_int](#).

Le bulletin hebdomadaire de PEN International avec des mises à jour d'informations et d'alertes de la communauté PEN. Nous vous recommandons fortement de consulter notre site – www.pen-international.org ainsi que nos nouveaux sites [Facebook](#) et Twitter [@pen_int](#).

NEWS RELEASES [French/Spanish](#)

IN FOCUS : Girona Manifesto on Linguistic Rights [FR](#) / [ES](#)



“Language defines us. To lose one’s language is to lose one’s voice, identity and spirit. Languages are the homes we live in“

Josep Maria Terricabras, Chair of the Translations and Linguistic Rights Committee of PEN International

Developed by the PEN International **Translation and Linguistic Rights Committee**, the **Girona Manifesto** is a ten point document designed to be translated and disseminated widely as a tool to defend linguistic diversity around the world.

Thanks to PEN Members the Manifesto has been translated into **47 languages**, available to read [here](#). We encourage you to translate it into your own and continue raising awareness about the need to protect and promote linguistic diversity.

To volunteer additional translations of the Manifesto email penoffice@pen-international.org

18 April: PEN International joins signatories on letter to Azerbaijan

Open letter from International NGOs to President Aliyev regarding the attack on journalist Idrek Abbasov. Read the letter [here](#)

TAKE ACTION!!

26 April: RUSSIA: PEN Joins Calls for Release of Pussy Riot Band Members



PEN International's Writers in Prison Committee joins international condemnation of the imprisonment of three members of the Russian punk band, Pussy Riot. Last week, on 19 April, their pre-trial detention was extended until 24 June. Maria Alyokhina and Nadezhda Tolokonnikova have been held since 4 March, and Ekaterina Samusevich since 15 March. By the next trial hearing, they will have been held for well over three months without trial. Read more on Pussy Riot case [here](#) (photo courtesy of pussyriot.org)

25 April: BRAZIL – Reporter Décio Sá Shot to Death in Suspected Contract Killing



The Writers in Prison Committee (WiPC) of PEN International is appalled by the news of the murder on 23 April 2012 of Brazilian journalist Décio Sá. Sá was a reporter for local newspaper O Estado do Maranhão and blogged at Blog do Décio. PEN calls on the Brazilian authorities to carry out a thorough investigation into the journalist's murder. More information and ways to take action [here](#)

25 April: IRAN: Human rights defender and journalist Nargess Mohammadi (f) summoned to serve out a six-year sentence; serious health concerns.

The Writers in Prison Committee (WiPC) of PEN International is appalled by the detention of prominent Iranian human rights activist and journalist Nargess Mohammadi, who was summoned to serve out a six-year prison term on 21 April 2012. PEN considers Nargess Mohammadi to be detained in violation of Article 19 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, to which Iran is a party, and calls for her immediate and unconditional release. To read more and send appeals click [here](#)

24 April: SAUDI ARABIA: Fears for poet and journalist Habib Ali al-Maatiq

PEN International's Writers in Prison Committee fears for the safety of poet and journalist Habib Ali al-Maatiq, who has been held without charge since 22 February 2012 for his critical reporting and is feared to be at risk of torture and ill-treatment in detention. More information [here](#)

PEN INTERNATIONAL BLOGS [French](#)/[Spanish](#)

Deji Olukotun, Freedom to Write Fellow at the [PEN American Center](#), reporting from Free the Word! Festival organized by PEN Haiti with support from PEN International and PEN American.



"The first day of the *Liberez la parole (Free the Word)* festival in Haiti kicked off with aplomb. Housed in the bucolic Institut Francais in Port-au-Prince, a star-studded panel of authors and journalists probed the limits of free expression..." [Read more here](#)

Find out more about the background of PEN Haiti and the festival by checking our [website](#)

[Available in French](#)

EVENTS [French/Spanish](#)

26 Apr 2012. 19:00 - 21:00 "Maintenant Croatia"

Maintenant Croatia, in association with the the Croatian Writers Association

Europe House, 32 Smith Square, London SW1P near Westminster / Pimlico tube stations

Four remarkable Croatian poets visiting London to read for the very first time will be joined by a half dozen London-based poets to celebrate the new generation of Croatian poetic brilliance which has flowered into the beginning of the 21st century. As ever the *Maintenant* series strives to promote some of the most striking and diverse poetry Europe has to offer.

More information: <http://www.maintenant.co.uk>

30 Apr 2012. 00:00 - 00:00 "PEN World Voices Festival" PEN American Centre, New York City, United States



Writers from around the world convene in New York City to celebrate the written word in action. Engage with literature in bold and unexpected ways and discover how words can be amplified through music, theater, puppetry, film, and much more. Marking PEN American Center's 90th anniversary, this year's festival features performances, discussions, one-on-one conversations, and readings.

For more information: <http://www.pen.org/page.php/prmlID/1096>

8 May 2012. 18:00 - 20:00 "The Torture Report": Swedish PEN event

The Torture Report – om hur USA efter 11 september underminerade rättssäkerheten för egna medborgare och andras. Svenska PEN bjuder tillsammans med ICORN in till ett möte med Larry Siems, författaren bakom boken *The Torture Report*, på ABF Stockholm den 8 maj kl. 18.00. Samtalsledare är Ola Larsmo, ordf. i Svenska PEN.

For more information **see the Facebook event** [here](#).

Please share your centre news with us at penoffice@pen-international.org

Please send this newsletter onto other members of your centre and others who might be interested.

Por favor comparta las novedades de su centro con nosotros en penoffice@pen-international.org

Por favor envíe este boletín informativo a otros miembros de su centro y otros que podrían estar interesados.

Nous vous remercions de partager les informations de votre centre avec nous à l'adresse penoffice@pen-international.org

Veillez envoyer cette lettre d'information aux autres membres de votre centre et aux personnes qui pourraient être intéressées.

Contacts

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