

Pol-Soc Podcast – Listen Along Guide- Episode 7

Amnesty & Activism – listen here: www.polsocpodcast.com/podcastepisodes

Listen to the Episode and jot down the answers to the following questions: The timecode is in brackets to help you find the answers!

1. What does the word 'multifaceted' mean? (1:30)

2. Amnesty International was founded by lawyer P _____ B _____ in the year 19_____.
3. What term is used to describe people who are put in prison simply because of what they believe? "Prisoners of C_____."
4. Was Ireland a founding chapter of Amnesty International? Yes/No (circle the correct answer)
5. What is the simple idea upon which Amnesty is founded? (4:30) _____

6. What personal qualities are required for the approach that Amnesty International takes to work? (5:30)

7. How did Colm O'Gorman become involved in activism in the first place? (6:15)

8. What **two** issues did Colm's maths teacher highlight to him?

9. According to Colm O'Gorman, "At the heart of our humanity is to stand for _____"

10. What organization did Colm co-found in his late 20s as a result of the abuse he had suffered in his childhood? (9:00) _____

Quote of the Day

"Be the change that you want to see in the world"

11. To whom is this quote attributed? _____
12. How is that activist described here? _____
13. Do you think it matters that he didn't actually say those precise words? Why/why not?

Back to Colm!

14. Name & describe **TWO** national campaigns that Colm was involved with of which he is proud? (11:30)

(i) _____

(ii) _____

15. Colm describes a new idea for inward migrants called “**Community Sponsorship**”. Describe briefly how that programme is designed to work. (13:00) Do **you** think that this will improve migrant integration?

16. Colm is also proud of his involvement in Individual cases. Why was Ibrahim Halawa imprisoned in Egypt and what did Amnesty do to try and help secure his release? (13:50) _____

17. What is the Amnesty ‘Letter-Writing Marathon’?

The Students Strike Back (16:00)

18. How did Beth get involved in student activism? _____

19. How do the #fridaysforfuture climate strike activist get other young people involved?

20. What is the key message that motivates young people?

21. How does Beth reflect back on her own personal experience of activism? (both good and bad!)

Back to Colm! (19:10)

22. What model of media does Colm think has emerged in Ireland? What impact has that had on the 'discourse' (types of discussion) in recent years?

23. Instead, what does Colm feel media **SHOULD** do? (20:40)

24. What does the word 'adversarial' mean? _____

25. What is the other thing that Colm feels we need to be able to talk about? Why? (21:30)

26. What was the title of the article Colm wrote in response to this problem (particularly given that he is himself a gay man!)

Are Human Rights a Western Concept? (23:30)

How does Colm react to this debate topic? Summarize his response here with a view to informing your own critical writing. Check the 'Episode Notes' on www.polsocpodcast.com to see how this could form part of your conclusion to the sample essay.

Remember the difference between the rights themselves and how they are interpreted in different parts of the world!

27. What's the difference between an IGO and an NGO? Give an example of each. (27:30)

IGO

NGO _____

28. What difference does Colm feel that he can achieve by working from outside the government system?

29. How will Amnesty contribute to Ireland's UN Universal Periodic Review (UPR)?

30. "We don't just afford rights to people we agree with!" – How does the case of President Erdogan in Turkey illustrate this idea. Summarize Colm's argument here. Do you agree? (29:45)

“Human Rights can be Controversial” – Why did Nobel Peace Prize winner, Aung San Suu Kyi have her award as an *“Ambassador of Conscience”* withdrawn? Summarize what Colm O’Gorman says about the situation with a view to using this as a **‘case study’** that you can refer to in your critical essays.