



26 October 2017

His Excellency Ngo Huong Nam  
Embassy of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam in Australia  
PO Box 98  
Mawson ACT 2607

Your Excellency

We express our deep concern regarding Vietnam's human rights defenders, bloggers and social activists who have been arrested and sentenced to lengthy prison sentences for exercising their right to free expression.

This year alone, there have been more than 20 activists who have been arrested, exiled or issued arrest warrants in one of the largest crackdowns to date. Many of these activists have been charged under vague laws quoting national security such as "attempting to overthrow the state" or "conducting propaganda against the state".

Many of these human rights defenders remain detained without trial. Prominent Vietnamese human rights lawyer, Nguyen Van Dai, was arrested in December 2015 with no trial date set. It is worrying that five of his colleagues, Pham Van Troi, Truong Minh Duc, Nguyen Bac Truyen, Nguyen Trung Truc and Paster Nguyen Trung Ton were detained in July, all accused of "attempting to overthrow the state". Le Dinh Luong, an organiser within the Catholic community who spoke up for affected fishermen of the Formosa toxic chemical spill, was also detained within the same week.

Those who have been trialled this year have been sentenced to long prison terms of up to ten years. Bloggers, Nguyen Ngoc Nhu Quynh, Tran Thi Nga and Nguyen Van Oai, were sentenced in one day trials for discussing social injustices affecting those around them.

Earlier this year, the United Nations Working Group on Arbitrary Detention noted that there have been several cases brought before the Working Group in recent years and recognised that the arbitrary deprivation of liberty of persons in Vietnam is a systematic and widespread problem.

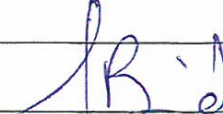

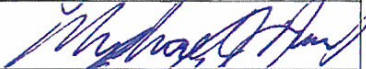
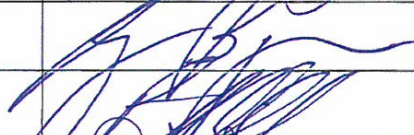






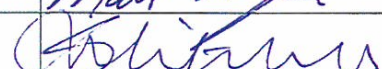
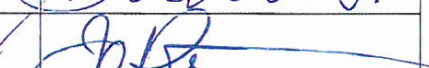


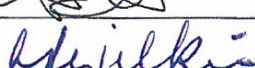
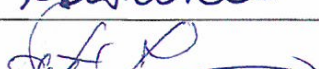


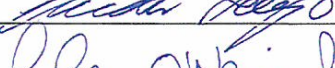


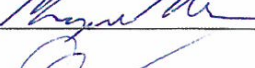
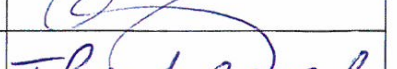
We urge the Vietnamese government to honour its commitments under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights by immediately and unconditionally releasing human rights defenders and citizen journalists mentioned above as well as, Can Thi Theu, Ho Duc Hoa, Nguyen Dang Minh Minh, Nguyen Hoang Quoc Hung, Nguyen Van Hoa, Tran Huynh Duy Thuc and Tran Thi Thuy.

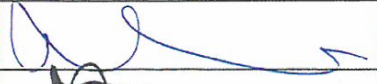
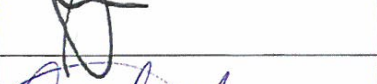
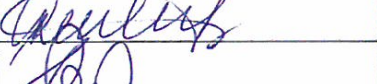
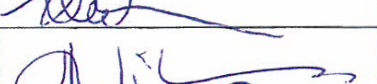
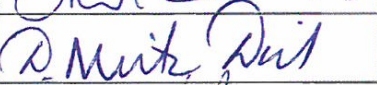
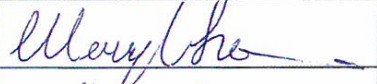
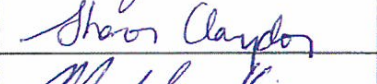
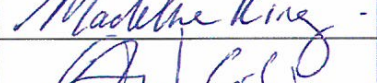
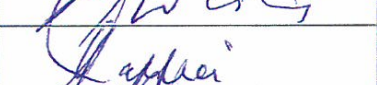
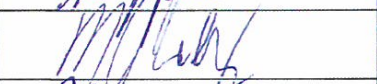

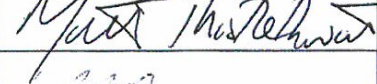


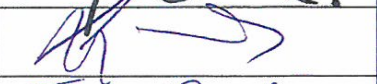
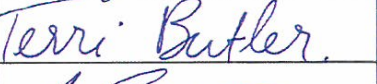

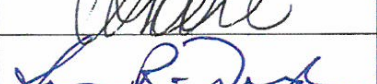
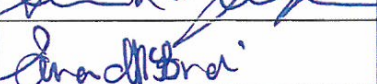




As Vietnam's economy becomes more integrated within the international community, we believe that sustainable economic and social development can only be achieved by respecting freedoms and protecting those defending basic human rights.



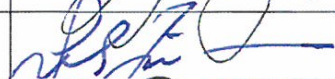

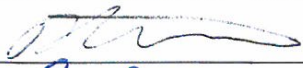
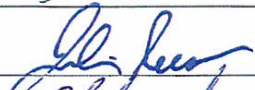

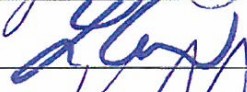
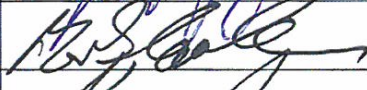

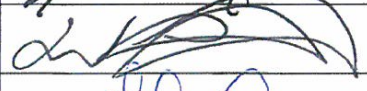


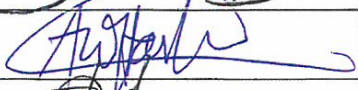
Yours sincerely

Tim Wilson MP  
Member for Goldstein

Chris Hayes MP  
Member for Fowler

Name	Electorate	Signature
SHARON BIRD	CUNNINGHAM	
JUSTINE ELIOT	RICHMOND	
Michael Danby	Melbourne Ports	
ANTHONY BYRNE	HoH.	
Peter Khalil	WILLS	
Rob Mitchell	M'Gwen	
Anne Aly	Cowan	
Tim Watts	Kellibrand	
DAVID FEENEY	Batman	
MATT KEOCH	Burt	
BRIAN MITCHELL	LYONS	
JOANNE RYAN	<b>LALOR</b>	
JULIAN HILL	BRUCE	
ADAM SANDT	MELBOURNE	
Andrew Wilkie	Denison	
STEPHEN JONES	WHITLAM	
Amanda Rishwi	Kingston	
Andrew Leigh	Fenner	
Clare O'Neil	Hotham	
ED HUSSE	CHRISTY	
SHAYNE NEUMANN	BLAIR	
CATHERINE	KING	
Tanya Plibersek	Sydney	

Name	Electorate	Signature
Maria Vamvakidou	Calwell	
Ross Holt	Bass	
Anne Stanley	WERRIWA	
Mike Freebender	Macarthur	
Josh Wilson	FREMANTLE	
MILTON DICK	OXLEY	
MERYL SWANSON	PATERSON	
SHARON CLAYDON	NEWCASTLE	
Madeleine King	BRAND, WA	
Andrew C. Les	SCULLIN	
Tony Zappia	Makin	
MIKE KELLY	EDEN MONARO	
Pat Conroy	Shorthand	
MATT THISTLETHWAITE	KINGSFORD SMITH	
JULIE OWENS	PARADISE	
GAI BRODIMAN	CANBERRA	
WARREN SNOWDEN	LINDHURST	
Lisa Chesters	Bendigo	
Terri Butler	Griffith	
Steve Georganas	Hindmarsh	
Patricia O'Boyle	Herbert	
Susan Templeman	Macquarie	
Emma McBride	Dobell	
Luke Gosling	Solomon	

Name	Electorate	Signature
Jason Falinski	Mackellar	
STEVE IRONS	SWAN	
CRAIG KELLY	HUGHES	
JOHN MWEIGHT	GREEN	
TRENT ZIMMERMAN	NORTH SYDNEY	
IAN GOODENOUGH	MOORE	
JOHN ALEXANDER	BENVENUE	<i>John Alexander</i>
Ben Morton	TONGAREVA	
JULIAN LESSEN	BEAVER	
George Christensen	DAWSON	
LLEW O'BRIEN	WIDE BAY	
KEVIN HOGAN	PAGE	
MARK COULTON	PARKES	
KEVIN O'DOWD	FLYNN	
DAVID LITTLEWOOD	MARANON	
Andrew Gee	Calae	
Michelle Landry	Capricornia	<i>M Landry</i>
DAMIAN DRUM	MURRAY	
ANDREW HASTIE	CANNING	
TIM WILSON	GOLDSTEIN	