



CHRIS HAYES MP

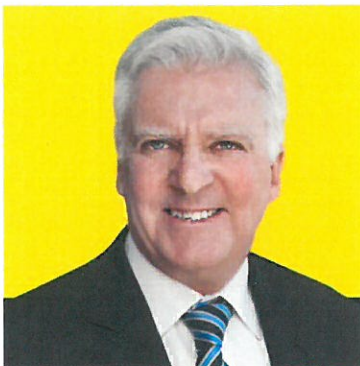
FEDERAL MEMBER FOR FOWLER / CHIEF OPPOSITION WHIP

In light of the dire human rights situation in Vietnam and the recent crackdown on activists by the Vietnamese Government, I have joined with the Hon. Tim Wilson MP to write to His Excellency Huong Nam Ngo, Ambassador of the Social Republic of Vietnam, to raise our concern.

Accordingly, please find enclosed a copy of our letter and a petition, signed by Labor, Liberal, Nationals, Greens and Independent parties of the House of Representatives, urging the Vietnamese Government to honour its commitments under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

I trust this information is of assistance.

If I can be of further assistance with any matters concerning the Federal Government, please do not hesitate to contact my office.



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Chris Hayes'.

**Chris Hayes MP
Federal Member for Fowler
Chief Opposition Whip**

www.facebook.com/chrishayesmp

1 November 2017



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.

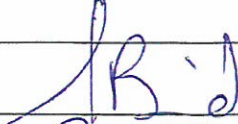
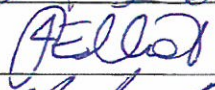
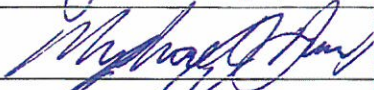
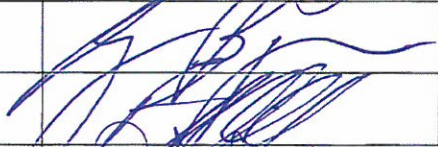



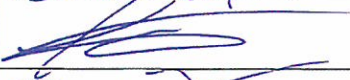
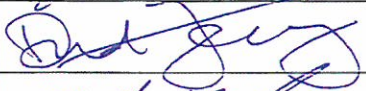
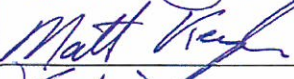
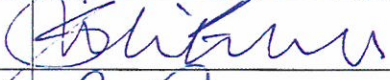
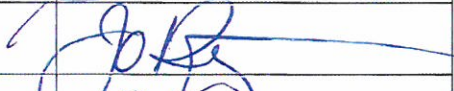


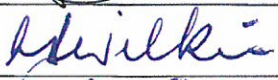

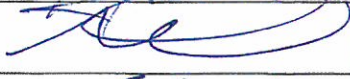

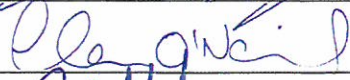

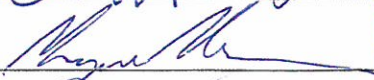
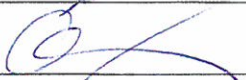
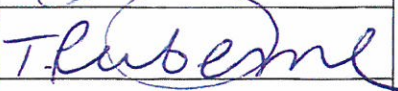
Yours sincerely

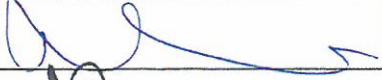

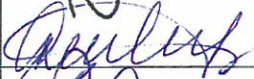
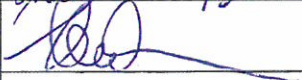
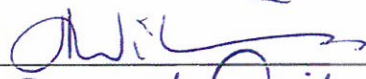
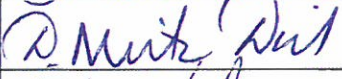
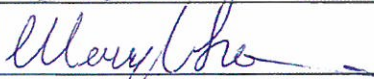
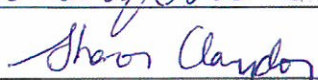
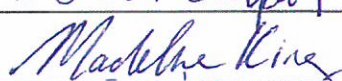
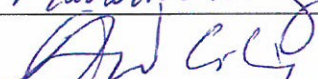
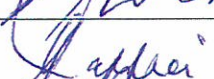
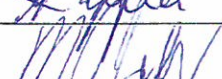
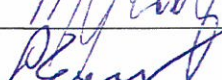

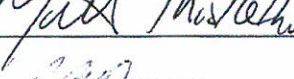



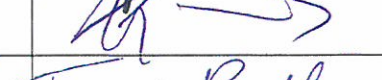
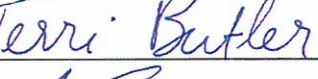


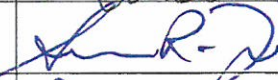
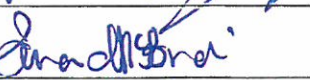


Tim Wilson MP
Member for Goldstein



Chris Hayes MP
Member for Fowler

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MATT KEOGH	Burt	
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Anne Stanley	WERRIWA	
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Lisa Chesters	Bendigo	
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Pathey Steele	Herbert	
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Emma McBride	Dobell	
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ANDREW HASTIE	CANNING	Andrew Hastie
TIM WILSON	GOLDSTEIN	Tim Wilson

