

His Excellency Samdech Techo Hun Sen
Prime Minister
Kingdom of Cambodia

4 December 2017

Dear Prime Minister Hun Sen,

We, the undersigned parliamentarians from around the globe, write to express our deep concern over the arrest and detention of H.E. Mr. Kem Sokha, leader of the opposition Cambodia National Rescue Party (CNRP) and a longtime human rights defender and advocate for democracy, three months ago.

Having reviewed the information available regarding his case, and taking note of the evidence submitted thus far by the government regarding his alleged guilt, we have serious concerns regarding the validity of the charges against him. We are also extremely concerned by reports that his arrest and detention were undertaken in violation of his parliamentary immunity and have failed to uphold basic principles of fair trial and the rule of law. These procedural concerns, in addition to the lack of evidence to substantiate charges of treason and the wider climate of repression of the opposition, lead us to believe that his arrest is likely politically motivated.

We are aware that national elections are scheduled for July 2018, and hope to ensure that they are genuine, participatory, and inclusive. But we strongly believe that this cannot happen if there is no legitimate opposition that is able to campaign for election. We are therefore alarmed by the decision of the Supreme Court to dissolve the CNRP, following a motion by your government, in addition to the amendment of electoral laws redistributing the CNRP's parliamentary seats and local offices to other political parties including the ruling Cambodian People's Party (CPP). We strongly believe that the dissolution of the CNRP, in addition to the continued detention of Mr. Kem Sokha, makes it impossible for next year's elections to be considered free and fair.

Twenty-six years ago, the international community came together for the Paris Peace Conference and pledged to support Cambodia's goal of building a genuine, multi-party democracy in the aftermath of years of war and turmoil. We – and the people we represent – are committed to helping your country achieve these aims. But this can only happen if basic democratic norms and principles are restored.

In line with these concerns, we the undersigned parliamentarians respectfully request that the Cambodian government undertake the following measures with the utmost urgency:

- Immediately and unconditionally release Kem Sokha from prison and drop all charges against him, as well as those against other opposition parliamentarians;
- Immediately reverse the decision to dissolve the CNRP and reinstate all CNRP elected leaders to their positions in Parliament and at the local level;
- Repeal all recent amendments to the Law on Political Parties and to electoral laws; and
- Recommit to working with the international community to ensure that next year's national elections are genuine, participatory, and inclusive.

Yours sincerely,

Abdullah Sani Abdul Hamid
Member of Parliament, Malaysia

Ahmed Munzoor Shaik Emam
Member of Parliament, South Africa

Alan Lowenthal
Member of the House of Representatives, United States of America

Alessia Mosca
Member of the European Parliament, Italy

Alice Lau Kiong Yieng
Member of Parliament, Malaysia

Ana Gomes
Member of the European Parliament, Portugal

André Gattolin
Senator, France

Antonio L. Tinio
Member of the House of Representatives, Philippines

Arlene "Kaka" Bag-ao
Member of the House of Representatives, Philippines

Arlene Brosas
Member of the House of Representatives, Philippines

Azman Ismail
Member of Parliament, Malaysia

Barbara Lochbihler
Member of the European Parliament, Germany

Beate Müller-Gemmeke
Member of the Bundestag, Germany

Bendita Moniz Magno
Member of Parliament, Timor-Leste

Bertu Merlas
Member of the House of Representatives, Indonesia

Bob Blackman
Member of Parliament, United Kingdom

Boon Chye Lee
Member of Parliament, Malaysia

Brando Benifei
Member of the European Parliament, Italy

Brigida A. Correia
Member of Parliament, Timor-Leste

Carlos Zarate
Member of the House of Representatives, Philippines

Charles Chong
Member of Parliament, Singapore

Charles Honoris
Member of the House of Representatives, Indonesia

Charles Santiago
Member of Parliament, Malaysia

Chong Chieng Jen
Member of Parliament, Malaysia

Chua Tian Chang
Member of Parliament, Malaysia

Claudia Roth
Member of the Bundestag, Germany

Darell Leiking
Member of Parliament, Malaysia

David Anderson
Member of Parliament, Canada

David Martin
Member of the European Parliament, United Kingdom

David Sweet
Member of Parliament, Canada

Domingos de Carvalho
Member of Parliament, Timor-Leste

Donny Imam
Member of the House of Representatives, Indonesia

Dr. Ko Chung Sen
Member of Parliament, Malaysia

Dzhevdet Chakarov

Member of Parliament, Bulgaria

Elvina Souza Carvalho

Member of Parliament, Timor-Leste

Emmi De Jesus

Member of the House of Representatives, Philippines

Enrique Guerrero

Member of the European Parliament, Spain

Er Teck Hwa

Member of Parliament, Malaysia

Eva Kusuma Sundari

Member of the House of Representatives, Indonesia

Fadli Zon

Member of the House of Representatives, Indonesia

Fauzi Abdul Rahman

Member of Parliament, Malaysia

Federico Pinedo

Senator, Argentina

Fong Kui Lun

Member of Parliament, Malaysia

Frances L. Castro

Member of the House of Representatives, Philippines

Frédérique Ries

Member of the European Parliament, Belgium

Fuziah Salleh

Member of Parliament, Malaysia

Gobind Singh Deo

Member of Parliament, Malaysia

Gooi Hsiao Leung

Member of Parliament, Malaysia

Goran Milevski

Member of Parliament, Macedonia

H. Refrizal

Member of the House of Representatives, Indonesia

Hee Loy Sian

Member of Parliament, Malaysia

Hendrawan Supratikno

Member of the House of Representatives, Indonesia

Henky Kurniadi

Member of the House of Representatives, Indonesia

Hilde Vautmans

Member of the European Parliament, Netherlands

Hlengiwe Mkhali

Member of Parliament, South Africa

Irine Roba

Member of the House of Representatives, Indonesia

Irma Hutabarat

Member of the House of Representatives, Indonesia

Jan Adriaan Esterhuizen

Member of Parliament, South Africa

Javier Nart

Member of the European Parliament, Spain

Jimmy Wong Sze Phin

Member of Parliament, Malaysia

Johari Abdul

Member of Parliament, Malaysia

John McKay

Member of Parliament, Canada

Josef Weidenholzer

Member of the European Parliament, Austria

Judy Sgro

Member of Parliament, Canada

Julian Hill

Member of Parliament, Australia

Julian Tan Kok Ping

Member of Parliament, Malaysia

Julie Ward

Member of the European Parliament, United Kingdom

Julijana Nokolova

Member of Parliament, Macedonia

Kai Gehring

Member of the Bundestag, Germany

Kamaruddin Jaafar

Member of Parliament, Malaysia

Kamarul Baharin Abbas

Member of Parliament, Malaysia

Kardaya Warnika

Member of the House of Representatives, Indonesia

Kasthuri Patto

Member of Parliament, Malaysia

Kerstin Andreae

Member of the Bundestag, Germany

Kerstin Lundgren

Member of Parliament, Sweden

Leandro Lobato

Member of Parliament, Timor-Leste

Ledia Hanifa Amalia

Member of the House of Representatives, Indonesia

Lidia N. Santos Martins

Member of Parliament, Timor-Leste

Liew Ching Tong

Member of Parliament, Malaysia

Lim Guan Eng

Member of Parliament, Malaysia

Lim Kit Siang

Member of Parliament, Malaysia

Lim Lip Eng

Member of Parliament, Malaysia

Loke Siew Fook

Member of Parliament, Malaysia

M. Kulasegaran

Member of Parliament, Malaysia

Mahfudz Siddiq

Member of the House of Representatives, Indonesia

Mahfuz Omar

Member of Parliament, Malaysia

Maman Imanulhaq

Member of the House of Representatives, Indonesia

Mandlenkosi Sicelo Galo

Member of Parliament, South Africa

Mandlenkosi Sicelo Mabika

Member of Parliament, South Africa

Manivannan Gowindasamy

Member of Parliament, Malaysia

Mansor Othman

Member of Parliament, Malaysia

Marietje Schaake

Member of the European Parliament, Netherlands

Melchias Marcus Mekeng

Member of the House of Representatives, Indonesia

Mercy Barends

Member of the House of Representatives, Indonesia

Mhd Hatta Md Ramli

Member of Parliament, Malaysia

Michael Jenö

Member of the House of Representatives, Indonesia

Michael Teo Yu Keng

Member of Parliament, Malaysia

Mkhuleko Hlengwa

Member of Parliament, South Africa

Mncedisi Lutando Wellington Filtane

Member of Parliament, South Africa

Mohamad Hanipa Maidin

Member of Parliament, Malaysia

Mohamad Idris Jusi

Member of Parliament, Malaysia

Mohamad Imran Abdul Hamid

Member of Parliament, Malaysia

Mohamed Azmin Ali

Member of Parliament, Malaysia

Mujahid Yusof Rawa

Member of Parliament, Malaysia

Ng Wei Aik

Member of Parliament, Malaysia

Nga Kor Ming

Member of Parliament, Malaysia

Ngeh Khoo Haam

Member of Parliament, Malaysia

Nhlanhlakayise Moses Khubisa

Member of Parliament, South Africa

Norbert Neuser

Member of the European Parliament, Germany

Nqabayomzi Kwankwa

Member of Parliament, South Africa

Nurhayati Assegaf

Member of the House of Representatives, Indonesia

Nurul Izzah Anwar

Member of Parliament, Malaysia

Olinda Guterres

Member of Parliament, Timor-Leste

Omid Nouripour

Member of the Bundestag, Germany

Ong Kian Ming

Member of Parliament, Malaysia

Oscar Ling Chai Yiew

Member of Parliament, Malaysia

Patricino F. dos Reis

Member of Parliament, Timor-Leste

Petras Austrevicius

Member of the European Parliament, Lithuania

Raja Kamarul Baharin Shah Raja Ahmad

Member of Parliament, Malaysia

Ramkarpal Singh

Member of Parliament, Malaysia

Ramón Jáuregui Atondo

Member of the European Parliament, Spain

Ramon Tremosa i Balcells

Member of the European Parliament, Spain

Raul Daza

Member of the House of Representatives, Philippines

Rav Rocamora

Member of the House of Representatives, Philippines

Risa Hontiveros

Senator, Philippines

Sergio Gutiérrez Prieto

Member of the European Parliament, Spain

Shamsul Iskandar Mohd Akin

Member of Parliament, Malaysia

Sibusiso Christopher Mncwabe

Member of Parliament, South Africa

Sim Tong Him

Member of Parliament, Malaysia

Sim Tze Tzin

Member of Parliament, Malaysia

Siti Mariah Mahmud

Member of Parliament, Malaysia

Sivakumar Varatharaju Naidu

Member of Parliament, Malaysia

Sivarasa Rasiah

Member of Parliament, Malaysia

Steven Sim Chee Keong

Member of Parliament, Malaysia

Surendran Nagarajan

Member of Parliament, Malaysia

Sylvia Kotting-Uhl

Member of the Bundestag, Germany

Sylvie Guillaume

Member of the European Parliament, France

Tabea Rößner

Member of the Bundestag, Germany

Tan Kok Wai

Member of Parliament, Malaysia

Tan Kwee Kwong

Member of Parliament, Malaysia

Tb Ace Hasan Syadzily

Member of the House of Representatives, Indonesia

Teddy Baguilat, Jr.

Member of the House of Representatives, Philippines

Teo Kok Seong

Member of Parliament, Malaysia

Teo Nie Ching

Member of Parliament, Malaysia

Teresa Kok Suh Sim

Member of Parliament, Malaysia

Thomas Gambke

Member of the Bundestag, Germany

Tom Villarin

Member of the House of Representatives, Philippines

Tony Pua Kiam Wee

Member of Parliament, Malaysia

Tuti Nusandari Roosdiono

Member of the House of Representatives, Indonesia

Uwe Kekeritz

Member of the Bundestag, Germany

Viva Yoga Mauladi

Member of the House of Representatives, Indonesia

Wan Azizah Wan Ismail

Member of Parliament, Malaysia

William Jee Keen Leong

Member of Parliament, Malaysia

Wong Chen

Member of Parliament, Malaysia

Wong Ling Bui

Member of Parliament, Malaysia

Wong Tien Fatt

Member of Parliament, Malaysia

Xolani Ngwezi

Member of Parliament, South Africa

Zairil Khir Johari

Member of Parliament, Malaysia