



สมาคมนักกฎหมายสิทธิมนุษยชน Human Rights Lawyers Association

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## An open letter

6 August 2015

ATT: The Ambassador of Embassy of the People's Republic of China to the Kingdom of Thailand

Subject: Chinese government urged to stop persecution against human rights lawyers and activists

Dear Sir,

The crackdown against over 200 human rights lawyers and activists has been launched by the Chinese authorities on 9 July 2015. It was claimed that they had involved in making improper interventions in justice process and being a threat to national security. Though some human rights lawyers and activists have been released after interrogation, about over two dozens of them still remain in official custody and their whereabouts have not been made known. Such actions by the Chinese government are tantamount to unprecedented gross and systematic violation of fundamental rights and freedom. The Thai human rights lawyers and activists feel concerned about the situation and wellbeing of the persons deprived of liberty as they are vulnerable to be tortured and enforced disappearance. We also feel concerned about threats made against their families and any other harmful actions against them.

The acts of the human rights lawyers and activists are meant chiefly to protect rights, freedom and dignity of other people as well as preventing infringement on rights, freedom and human dignity. Since China is a member country of the United Nations, China is obliged to abide by fundamental human rights standards enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) for the protection, upholding, promotion and enhancement of human

rights in society. The crackdown by the Chinese government cannot be deemed otherwise but a flagrant violation of the principles which functions as a basic safeguard for human dignity as one of the most important values in society.

On behalf of human rights lawyers and activists in Thailand and with the undersigned organizations, we demand the following from the Chinese government:

1. Stop unlawful intimidation and violation against fundamental rights and freedom of human rights lawyers and activists along with their families and concerned people in China; and
2. The Chinese government must immediately and unconditionally make known the whereabouts of those remaining in official custody and allow the human rights lawyers and activists to have fair and equitable access to justice process along with other individuals being affected by the crackdown on 9 July 2015.

With respect in rights, freedom and human dignity

1. Human Rights Lawyers Association (HRLA)
2. ENLAWTHAI Foundation
3. Center for Protection and Recovery of Local Community Rights (CPCR)
4. Cross Cultural Foundation (CrCF)
5. Union for Civil Liberties (UCL)
6. Thai Lawyers For Human Rights (TLHR)
7. Mr.Songkrant Pongboonjun, Attorney
8. Ms.Paranda Pankaew, Attorney
9. Ms.Maseetoh Munloh, Lawyer
10. Ms.Pornpen Khongkachonkiet , Human Rights Activist
11. Mr.Chulasak Kaewkan, Lawyer
12. Mr.Sarawut Pratoomraj, Lawyer
13. Ms.Ubonwan Boonrattanasamai, Lawyer
14. Ms.Sunida Piyasulpanit, Lawyer
15. Mrs.Natthasiri Berkman, Attorney
16. Ms.Siwanoote Soitong, Lawyer
17. Mr.Montree Achariyasakulchai, Attorney

18. Ms.Phattranit Yaodam, Attorney
19. Mr.Amarin Saichan, Lawyer
20. Ms.Kunanya Songsamut, Attorney
21. Mr.Anucha Wintachai, Human Rights Activist
22. Ms.Atchara Suttisuntarin, Lawyer
23. Ms.Koreeyor Manuchae , Attorney
24. Ms.Pradittha Pariyakaewfah, Lawyer
25. Ms.Sor.Rattanamanee Polkla, Attorney
26. Ms.Napaporn Songprang, Attorney
27. Mr.Laofang Bundidterdsakul, Attorney
28. Ms. Junjira Junpaew, Attorney
29. Mr.Bandit homket, Lawyer
30. Mr.Preeda Nakpiuw, Attorney
31. Ms.Supaporn Malailoy, Human Rights Activist
32. Mr.Kritsada Khunnarong, Attorney
33. Mr.Ratsada Manooratsada, Attorney
34. Ms.Khumklao Songsomboon, Attorney
35. Ms.Pawinee Chumsri, Attorney
36. Ms.Darunee Paisarnpanichsakul, Lawyer
37. Ms.Yaowalak Anuphan, Attorney
38. Ms.Sirikan Charoensiri, Attorney
39. Ms.Poonsuk Poonsukcharoen, Attorney
40. Mr.Panom Butakiew, Attorney
41. Mr.Surachai Trongngam, Attorney
42. Mr.Sunya Iedjongdee, Attorney
43. Ms.Janjin Ema , Human Rights Activist
44. Ms.Waraporn Utairangsee, , Attorney