

Nick Kauzlarich

From: Nick Kauzlarich
Sent: Friday, May 04, 2018 3:35 PM
To: Nick Kauzlarich
Subject: EU reviews Cambodia's EBA status; workers demand better conditions

Hello,

Below is a summary of recent news around Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen's human rights violations and authoritarian actions, the response of the international community, and the ongoing efforts of the Cambodia National Rescue Party (CNRP) to restore democracy in the country. Leaders with the CNRP are available to discuss developments.

- The EU [announced](#) this week that it will review Cambodian exports' tax-free status, which could have huge implications for trade and the economy. The Council of the European Liberal Democrats also [adopted](#) a resolution calling on EU and its member states to implement concrete sanctions on the regime. Meanwhile, UN envoy Rhona Smith [confirmed](#) that Cambodia's July national elections will be illegitimate if the CNRP is not reinstated and allowed to participate.
- A California court [ruled](#) that Facebook will likely have to turn over information about their ties to Hun Sen. CNRP leader Sam Rainsy [filed the lawsuit](#) against Facebook in February in an effort to show how Hun Sen has purchased fake likes to prop up his regime.
- Cambodian officials [denied labor union requests](#) for a May Day march, adding to the [growing list](#) of Hun Sen's attacks against workers' rights that includes arresting union members for legitimate strikes and even threatening their legal status. Despite the ban, [thousands of workers](#) took to the streets to demand a higher minimum wage and better working conditions.
- Political parties began registering for Cambodia's national elections, as Hun Sen [asserted](#) that the CNRP will not be reinstated by the May 14th deadline. Unless they are reinstated and allowed back in the country to campaign, the CNRP is urging its supporters, which includes over 40 percent of the voting population, to [boycott](#) the July election as an act of passive resistance.

Please let me know if you're interested in speaking with leaders of the CNRP.

Thanks,
Nick

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