

Nick Kauzlarich

From: Nick Kauzlarich
Sent: Friday, May 18, 2018 4:08 PM
To: Nick Kauzlarich
Subject: House Cmte Passes Cambodia Sanctions Bill: CNRP Statement

**FOR IMMEDIATE
RELEASE:**

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**May 18,
2018
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CNRP Applauds U.S. House Committee Passage of Cambodia Democracy Act

The U.S. House Foreign Affairs Committee yesterday passed the bipartisan Cambodia Democracy Act to impose sanctions on Cambodian government officials for undermining democracy; the bill will next be considered by the full House of Representatives. In response to this development, Mu Sochua, Vice President of the Cambodia National Rescue Party (CNRP), issued the following statement:

“The CNRP applauds the U.S. House Foreign Affairs Committee for taking a major step forward in holding Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen and his regime accountable for their attacks on democracy and human rights. This is the latest in a string of international rebukes to Cambodia’s unacceptable descent toward authoritarianism.

“By targeting the Cambodian government officials directly responsible for the deterioration of democracy, these sanctions, if passed, would send a strong signal to Hun Sen: either reinstate the CNRP and hold free and fair elections or face the consequences of an illegitimate government and see Cambodia’s economy plummet and unrest grow.

“This is a breakthrough in the movement to restore Cambodian democracy, but time is running out. The upcoming July national elections, from which the CNRP is banned from participating, will be a breaking point for democracy. We call on Congress to pass this bill before the national elections, and we urge the international community to take action against Hun Sen’s oppressive regime before it’s too late. Cambodia’s future is at stake, and we demand a free and fair Cambodia.”

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