

Kayla Ermanni

From: Kayla Ermanni
Sent: Friday, June 01, 2018 1:01 PM
To: Kayla Ermanni
Subject: CNRP VP Meets with Foreign Ministers in Norway and Sweden

Hello,

Below is a summary of recent news around the rapidly deteriorating state of democracy and human rights in Cambodia under the rule of Prime Minister Hun Sen's regime, 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 Cambodia National Rescue Party (CNRP) are available to discuss developments.

- Exiled CNRP Vice President Mu Sochua met with foreign ministers in Norway and Sweden to discuss steps the two countries can take to restore democracy in Cambodia. The meetings followed Sochua's speech at the Oslo Freedom Forum, where she urged the international community to be on the side of democracy.
- A Radio Free Asia investigation revealed that fifteen imprisoned CNRP members are being denied basic rights, ranging from restrictions to visitation access to excessive confinement. Eleven of the 15 members have been incarcerated since 2014 for a CNRP demonstration, and last month, Human Rights Watch called on the Cambodian government to dismiss these "politically motivated insurrection convictions."
- The Cambodian government doubled down on its plan to deploy more than 80,000 security guards to polling stations and threatened to take legal action against CNRP supporters calling for a boycott of the national elections in July, from which the CNRP is banned from participating. In April, the Cambodian government announced plans to send a similar number of security personnel to polling stations across the region, prompting international observers to suggest such a show of force would intimidate voters.
- Former CNRP leader Sam Rainsy drafted a letter to Cambodian King Norodom Sihamoni, urging him to refuse the Cambodian People's Party's (CPP) request to encourage Cambodians to vote in the July elections. "The government and the CPP are already starting to put increasing pressure on the population to take part in an election," Rainsy said. "A respected Monarch should not accept or reinforce such pressure."

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

Thanks,
Kayla

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