

Nick Kauzlarich

From: Nick Kauzlarich
Sent: Friday, June 22, 2018 1:32 PM
To: Nick Kauzlarich
Subject: Hun Sen's Latest Attack on Cambodian Opposition Leader Sam Rainsy

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.

- A Cambodian court charged exiled former CNRP leader Sam Rainsy under Cambodia's new "royal insult" law for calling King Norodom Sihamoni's letter endorsing the upcoming elections "legally worthless." The law, adopted in February, prompted widespread condemnation from human rights groups who warned it would become another tool for Prime Minister Hun Sen to stifle dissent.
- Sam Rainsy met with German foreign minister Heiko Maas and members of the German parliament in Berlin this week, calling on them to take action against Hun Sen's regime. Rainsy's visit comes after Germany suspended visas for Cambodian government officials for undermining democracy and the EU announced it was reviewing Cambodian exports' tax-free status.
- Thousands of Cambodians across the globe protested Japan's support of Cambodia's upcoming national elections, with more than 1,000 Cambodians rallying in Tokyo and over 500 Cambodians gathering in New York City. Following the rally in New York City, leaders of the CNRP of America (CNRPA) marched to the Japanese embassy to deliver a petition with over 3,000 signatures, urging Japan, the main funder of Cambodia's elections, to withdraw all assistance to the Cambodian electoral process. You can view high-resolution images of the event here.
- China pledged over \$100 million in military aid to bolster Hun Sen's regime, showing China's increasing influence in the region. Amidst international outcry over Hun Sen's attacks on human rights, China has moved to establish closer ties in Cambodia and is the country's biggest aid donor.

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

Thanks,
Nick

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