

**Nick Kauzlarich**

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**From:** Nick Kauzlarich  
**Sent:** Monday, July 23, 2018 9:17 AM  
**To:** Nick Kauzlarich  
**Subject:** THIS WEEK: Cambodian election | Opposition Leaders Avail.

Hello,

With Cambodia's election set for this Sunday, Prime Minister Hun Sen is escalating an authoritarian campaign to guarantee his victory. After already banning the only viable opposition party, Hun Sen is now deploying 70,000 security personnel to polling stations, threatening to arrest people who boycott the election, and intimidating villagers into voting for his ruling party. **Sam Rainsy, the exiled longtime Cambodian opposition leader and Mu Sochua, the Deputy President of the Cambodia National Rescue Party (CNRP) are available to discuss the resistance to Hun Sen's authoritarianism and the high stakes of this election.**

Over the past year, Hun Sen, who has been in power for more than three decades, has advanced his egregious attacks on democracy and human rights in Cambodia with one goal in mind: to run unopposed in the July election and solidify his rule for years to come. In the lead up to the election, Hun Sen dissolved the CNRP (the only viable opposition party), imprisoned and exiled its leaders, presided over the murders of landowners protesting his illegal grabs of their land, and shut down the largest independent newspaper in the country as well as over a dozen independent radio stations. The CNRP has called for a boycott of what will inevitably be a sham election.

As it stands, Cambodia is on the verge of becoming an illegitimate government—at great cost to its people. With the EU completing a fact-finding mission and threatening to revoke Cambodian exports' tax-free status, along with the U.S. considering sanctions, Cambodia's illegitimate government will face tremendous consequences, which could spell economic disaster for Cambodia, including tariffs, losing major trading partners, and a reduced credit rating.

Please let me know if you are interested in connecting with leaders of the CNRP.

Best,

Nick

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