

Minister of Law and Human Rights
Yasonna Hamonangan Laoly, SH, MSc, PhD
Jl. Rasuna Said Kav. 6-7 Kuningan
Jakarta, Indonesië 12940

Noordwijk, the Netherlands, March 2018

Your Highness,

I wish to express my concern about environmental activist Heri Budiawan who was arrested in East Java on September 2017 for allegedly using a communist logo during a peaceful protest. The Banyuwangi District Court sentenced him to ten months in prison on 24 January 2018 for "Crimes against State Security". This is the first conviction since 1998 under a provision which criminalises spreading communist ideology. This sets a dangerous precedent for other activists.

Heri Budiawan is a prisoner of conscience who must be immediately and unconditionally released. Please ensure that while in prison he is protected from torture and other ill treatment, and allow him regular access to his family and lawyers of his choice.

Finally, I call on you to ensure that activists, human rights defenders, journalists, academics, members of the political opposition and others can peacefully exercise their human rights without fear of punishment, reprisal or intimidation.

Thank you for your attention to this urgent matter. I am kindly awaiting your reply.

Yours sincerely,