

Demonstration to call for the release of Papuan prisoners of conscience in Indonesia

On 2 April 2014, Amnesty International UK will hold a demonstration outside the Indonesian Embassy in London, in order to protest against the detention of prisoners of conscience in Papua and to call for their immediate and unconditional release.

The territory's population has been subject to human rights violations including torture and the excessive use of force against peaceful protestors. Indigenous Papuans have been criminalised and arrested for peaceful activities such as raising the Papuan Morning Star flag, a banned emblem, or attending demonstrations and public events that express dissent.

Often they are charged with treason or incitement because of these activities, which can carry lengthy prison sentences. Also, journalists and lawyers face coercion, intimidation and violence from security forces, which enjoy widespread impunity and practice the excessive and unnecessary use of force. Moreover the territory remains largely closed to foreign and investigative journalists, NGOs and international organisations, making it somewhat difficult to accurately monitor and report on violations as they take place.

Amnesty does not take a position on the political status of Papua but we do think that Papuan people should be able to engage in non-violent political and cultural activities without the risk of human rights violations.

Parliamentary (April) and presidential (June) elections take place in Indonesia in 2014 and Amnesty is hopeful that the country's outgoing President, in particular, and other elected representatives too, will want to leave as part of their legacy a more tolerant Papua wherein freedom of expression is respected and all prisoners of conscience are released promptly and unconditionally.

Time 12:00 – 13:00
Date 2 April 2014, Wednesday
Place In front of the Indonesian Embassy
38 Grosvenor Square, London W1K 2HW

For further information and to confirm your participation, please contact:
Paul Hainsworth,
Country Co-ordinator,
Indonesia and Timor-Leste,
AIUK

pa.hainsworth@me.com

[Click for map](#)

