

H.E. Mr Nho Hung Dinh

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Your Excellency,

I am writing to express my concern regarding the situation of prisoner Nguyen Trung Ton, who currently suffers from serious health problems without receiving necessary healthcare.

In 2018, Trung Ton was arrested after peacefully demonstrating for democracy and freedom of religion or belief. He was part of the pro-democracy group Brotherhood for Democracy. He is currently imprisoned in the Gia Trung prison in the Gia Lai province.

While imprisoned, his health has seriously deteriorated, yet the authorities are not granting him access to basic health treatment. Trung Ton suffers from eye disease, and risks going blind if he is not given proper medical treatment. Additionally, he suffers from complications after Covid-19 and various injuries. There are reports now that his life is at risk, should urgent action not be taken. His family has requested to pay for the medical expenses and provide him with necessary medication, to no avail.

Denying a prisoner necessary medical treatment and ensuring the right to health is a clear breach of international law. Trung Tons right to health must be taken seriously by the Vietnamese authorities, and his arrest for peaceful demonstration breaches international human rights law that Vietnam has ratified.

In light of Trung Ton's situation, I kindly request your intervention in ensuring that:

- Nguyen Trung Ton is granted early release from prison on humanitarian grounds;
- Vietnam respects the right to health for prisoners;
- The freedom of expression and the right to peaceful demonstration is accepted by Vietnamese authorities.

Sincerely,