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First UA: 97/25 Index: ASA 21/0391/2025 Indonesia of October 10, 2025

INDONESIA

ACTIVISTS FACE CRIMINAL CHARGES FOR PEACEFUL PROTESTS

Eight activists — Delpedro Marhaen Rismansyah, Muzaffar Salim, Khariq Anhar, Syahdan Husein, Wawan Hermawan, Saiful Amin, Shelfin Bima Prakosa, and Muhammad “Paul” Fakhurrozi — have been arbitrarily arrested and charged solely for peacefully protesting or posting in support of recent demonstrations. Their arrests form part of a wider violent crackdown by Indonesian police on nationwide protests that began on August 25, 2025.

Write to the Chief of Indonesian National Police urging him to:

- Immediately release Delpedro, Muzaffar, Khariq, Syahdan, Wawan, Saiful, Shelfin, Paul, and all others arbitrarily arrested or detained solely for protesting or expressing support for the protests and drop all related charges.
- End the criminalization of peaceful dissent and ensure that everyone can safely exercise their rights to peaceful assembly and freedom of expression.

Write to:

General Listyo Sigit Prabowo
Chief of Indonesian National Police
Indonesian National Police Headquarter
Jl. Trunojoyo No.3, Jakarta Selatan
DKI Jakarta, Indonesia 12110
Email: mabes@polri.go.id , kapolri@polri.go.id
Twitter: @ListyoSigitP
Salutation: Dear Mr. Listyo Sigit Prabowo

And copy:

His Excellency Muhsin Syihab
Ambassador
Embassy of the Republic of Indonesia
55 Parkdale Avenue
Ottawa, ON K1Y 1E5
Tel: (613) 724-1100 Fax: (613) 724-1105, 4959
Email: publicaffairs@indonesia-ottawa.org

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Delpedro Marhaen Rismansyah, Muzaffar Salim, Khariq Anhar, Syahdan Hussein, Wawan Hermawan, Saiful Amin, Shelfin Bima Prakosa, and Muhammad “Paul” Fakhurrozi are Indonesian activists involved in student movements, civil society advocacy, and grassroots efforts promoting government accountability.

From August 25 to September 1, 2025, Indonesia saw its largest protests since the Reform era, driven by widespread frustration over economic hardship and state budget decisions perceived as neglecting the public. Amnesty International documented unlawful force, arbitrary arrests, and intimidation by security forces against peaceful protesters.

The eight activists were arrested separately during a sweeping police crackdown that many described as the most extensive repression in decades. They were accused of “*inciting violence*” and charged under Article 160 of the Criminal Code and Articles 28(3) and 45A(3) of the Electronic Information and Transactions Law. According to the Advocacy Team for Democracy (TAUD), many arrests lacked legal basis or warrants. Police also seized books, documents, and electronic devices from activists and civil society groups, reflecting a pattern of expanding criminalisation.

Delpedro, Muzaffar, Khariq, Syahdan, and Wawan are detained at the Jakarta Metropolitan Police Office. Saiful and Shelfin remain in custody at the Kediri City Police in East Java Province, while Paul is held at the East Java Police Office. They are among 959 people formally charged in connection with the protests.

Overall, more than 4,000 people were arbitrarily arrested, over 560 faced intimidation or physical violence—including beatings and rubber-bullet injuries—and more than 300 were harmed by unnecessary tear gas or water cannons. At least 11 people have died since the protests began, yet as of October 6, police were only investigating the death of a motorcycle taxi driver killed when an armoured police vehicle ran him over in Jakarta..

Please take action as soon as possible until December 28, 2025. The UA will be duly updated should there be the need for further action.