

Prime Minister Nguyen Xuan Phuc  
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Dear Prime Minister Nguyen Xuan Phuc,

I wish to express my grave concern about the crackdown against members and patrons of the Liberal Publishing House, a local independent publisher that has produced books on public policy and political thought in Viet Nam. Hundreds of people have been interrogated for buying books there since October 2019 and many have had their houses searched and books confiscated. I find it particularly distressing that two of its members have been arbitrary detained and tortured, and many others forced into hiding.

Most recently, on 8 May 2020, police in Ho Chi Minh City arrested **Thuy Tuat**, a member of Liberal Publishing House, when he was delivering books. He was interrogated and tortured. Upon release, despite having serious injuries, **Thuy Tuat** went directly into hiding. Subsequently, police arrested and detained his daughter.

I urgently call on you to ensure that Liberal Publishing House and other independent publishers can enjoy their rights to freedom of expression, information and publishing and order an independent investigation into the alleged torture and arbitrary detention cases.

Thank you for your attention. I am kindly awaiting your reply.

Yours sincerely,