

URGENT ACTION

ACTIVISTS ON TRIAL FOR PEACEFUL PROTESTS

Seven activists – Delpedro Marhaen Rismansyah, Muzaffar Salim, Khariq Anhar, Syahdan Husein, Wawan Hermawan, Saiful Amin, and Shelfin Bima Prakosa – have been brought to trial in Jakarta in relation to the nationwide protests in Indonesia that started in August 2025. The prosecutors indicted them for incitement simply for protesting or using social media in support of the protests. Amnesty International calls on the authorities to terminate the proceedings against them.

TAKE ACTION: WRITE AN APPEAL IN YOUR OWN WORDS OR USE THIS MODEL LETTER

Dr. Sanitiar Burhanuddin

Attorney General of the Republic of Indonesia

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Dear Dr. Burhanuddin,

I am writing to express my concerns about activists **Delpedro Marhaen Rismansyah, Muzaffar Salim, Khariq Anhar, Syahdan Husein, Wawan Hermawan, Saiful Amin and Shelfin Bima Prakosa**, who are currently standing trial after being criminalised solely for exercising their rights to freedom of expression and peaceful assembly in support of the nationwide protests in Indonesia last year.

Following their arrests in August and September 2025, the seven activists were separately brought to trial and were indicted with multiple offences, including accusation of “inciting violence” and “spreading hoax”. They were charged solely for either expressing their opinions during protests or uploading Instagram posts related to the protests. They are now undergoing separate trials in different cities. A court in Kediri, East Java, suspended the detention of Saiful Amin and Shelfin Bima Prakosa. They are now under “city detention”, meaning they cannot leave the city and are required to make regular check-ins with the authorities until the end of their trial. Meanwhile, the other five activists remain in detention in Jakarta.

I am deeply concerned that the seven activists are facing up to six years of imprisonment simply for exercising their fundamental rights and freedoms, which are guaranteed under both international and national laws.

They are among hundreds of people who currently face criminal charges following the police’s crackdown on protests. Amnesty International recorded that as of 9 January 2026, at least 290 people across Indonesia have been brought to trial in relation to the demonstrations that started on 25 August 2025, most of whom are being prosecuted for participating in protests or peacefully expressing their opinions.

It is a travesty that Indonesian authorities continue to weaponize the criminal law to crack down on protests and dissent. I remind you that protesting is not a crime. Therefore, in accordance with Indonesia’s human rights obligations, I urge you and the Indonesian authorities to:

- **Terminate the proceedings against Delpedro Marhaen Rismansyah, Muzaffar Salim, Khariq Anhar, Syahdan Husein, Wawan Hermawan, Saiful Amin and Shelfin Bima Prakosa and others who are on trial solely for protesting or supporting the protests, unless the prosecutors can show sufficient, credible and admissible evidence that they have committed an internationally-recognizable criminal offence;**
- **Release Delpedro Marhaen Rismansyah, Muzaffar Salim, Khariq Anhar, Syahdan Husein, Wawan Hermawan, Saiful Amin and Shelfin Bima Prakosa immediately and unconditionally, unless they are lawfully held on the basis of credible evidence that they have committed an internationally recognisable criminal offence;**
- **End the criminalization of activists and other people who express dissent and ensure that everyone can exercise their rights to assemble peacefully and express their opinions.**

Yours sincerely,

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Delpedro Marhaen Rismansyah, Muzaffar Salim, Khariq Anhar, Syahdan Hussein, Wawan Hermawan, Saiful Amin, and Shelfin Bima Prakosa are Indonesian activists. They have been engaged in student movements, civil society advocacy, as well as grassroots initiatives promoting government accountability.

From 25 August to 1 September 2025, Indonesia witnessed one of the largest waves of protests in the post-Reform era. Protests erupted in Jakarta and at least 15 other provinces, sparked by public anger over economic hardship and state budget policies perceived as neglecting the people. Amnesty International [found](#) that security forces used unlawful force, arbitrary arrests and intimidation against peaceful protesters.

The seven activists were arrested separately in August and September 2025 as part of a broader crackdown on protests by the police, which many described as the largest scale of repression in decades. Following their arrests, they were detained for over a month by the police for investigation until they were transferred to the prosecutor's custody. In separate trials that started since late November 2025, they were indicted of multiple offences, including "incitement" and "spreading hoaxes", that the prosecutors deemed to have provoked people to harbour hatred towards the government. The prosecutors indicted them under several articles, including Article 160 of the Criminal Code on incitement to violence and Article 28(3) and Article 45A(3) of the Electronic Information and Transactions Law on hate speech.

Wawan Hermawan's trial started on 24 November 2025 at the Central Jakarta District Court. He was criminalized for posting an edited screenshot of a news article meant as satirical content in support of the protests. He remains detained under the prosecutors' custody at the Salemba detention facility in Jakarta.

Saiful Amin and Shelfin Bima Prakosa's trials started at the Kediri District Court in Kediri, East Java, on 8 and 11 December 2025, respectively. They were arrested and subsequently charged following their participation in a protest on 30 August 2025 in Kediri. On 22 December 2025, the court granted their request for suspension on detention. They were placed under 'city detention' since then, meaning they cannot leave the city and are required to show up for regular check-ins with authorities until the end of their trial.

The trial for Delpedro, Muzaffar, Khariq and Syahdan started on 16 December 2025 at the Central Jakarta District Court. They were accused of inciting hostility towards the police and the government simply for posting social media content in support of the protests, such as information on a legal aid hotline for student protesters. Their request for suspension of detention was rejected on 8 January 2026. They remain detained at the Salemba detention facility.

All seven activists filed preliminary objections challenging the prosecutors' indictments against them. However, both courts rejected their pleas in the interlocutory decision, meaning their trial would continue.

Their cases illustrate the escalating trend of repression in Indonesia in recent years. Amnesty International has highlighted the government's continued use of vague provisions in the Criminal Code and ITE Law to silence critics instead of safeguarding the right to freedom of expression and peaceful assembly.

PREFERRED LANGUAGE TO ADDRESS TARGET: [English or Indonesian]

You can also write in your own language.

PLEASE TAKE ACTION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE UNTIL: 15 July 2026

Please check with the Amnesty office in your country if you wish to send appeals after the deadline.

NAME AND PRONOUN: Delpedro Marhaen (he/him); Muzaffar Salim (he/him); Khariq Anhar (he/him); Syahdan Husein (he/him); Wawan Hermawan (he/him); Saiful Amin (he/him) and Shelfin Bima Prakosa (he/him)