

# URGENT ACTION

## HUNDREDS AT RISK OF ARBITRARY DETENTION

**Dozens of politicians, activists, journalists, academics and demonstrators have been detained after being arrested without warrant, following the imposition of martial law in Thailand. Hundreds of others are at risk of arbitrary detention.**

Nearly 250 individuals have been ordered to report to the Thai military since it declared martial law on 20 May and announced on 22 May that it was taking over the administration of the country. Many of those who have already reported to the military have been detained, while those who do not comply with the order face arrest and prosecution. Peaceful demonstrators calling for the resumption of civilian rule have also been detained.

Reports suggest that a number of those already in detention are being held incommunicado – with no access to lawyers, courts or relatives – in unknown locations, in violation of international human rights law. Among those summoned to appear are prominent academics, journalists and people who have publicly debated the use of legislation to restrict freedom of expression in Thailand, including provisions on lese majeste.

Under martial law, the military has powers to detain people for up to seven days without warrant, charge or trial, and is not liable to provide compensation to those affected by illegal actions of personnel enforcing military law. The military has also instructed the media not to report anything that is critical of the military's actions or to interview people who may criticize them or the current political situation.

### **Please write immediately in English, Thai or your own language:**

- Demanding that the authorities not detain anyone solely for peacefully exercising his or her rights to freedom of expression, peaceful assembly or association, including on the basis of their political affiliation;
- Calling for all those detained by the military to either be charged with a recognizably criminal offence or to be immediately and unconditionally released from detention;
- Urging that all individuals in detention are given immediate access to lawyers, to an independent, civilian court to determine the legality of their arrest, to their families and to any medical care they may need;
- Calling on the authorities to immediately make public a list of those in detention and their whereabouts.

### **PLEASE SEND APPEALS BEFORE 7 JULY 2014 TO:**

Leader of National Peace and Order Council

Gen. Prayuth Chan-ocha  
Royal Thai Army Headquarters  
Rachadamnoen Nok Road,  
Bangkok 10200, Thailand  
Fax: (+66-2) 226 1838  
E-mail: prforeign@gmail.com

**Salutation: Dear General**

Deputy Leader of the National Peace and Order Council

Thanasak Patimaprakorn  
Royal Thai Army Headquarters,  
Rachadamnoen Nok Road,  
Bangkok 10200 Thailand  
Fax: (+66-2) 226 1838  
E-mail: prforeign@gmail.com

**Salutation: Dear General**

**Also send copies to diplomatic representatives accredited to your country. Please insert local diplomatic addresses below:**

Name Address 1 Address 2 Address 3 Fax Fax number Email Email address Salutation Salutation

Please check with your section office if sending appeals after the above date.

**AMNESTY  
INTERNATIONAL**



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### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

As a state party to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, Thailand is legally obliged to refrain from arbitrarily depriving people of their liberty, and to respect and protect freedom of expression, peaceful assembly and association.

Name: Politicians, activists, journalists, academics and demonstrators

Gender m/f: Both

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