



The Benenson Society

## Campaign for Teresa Tran Thi Xuan



[Tran Thi Xuan](#)

TERESA TRAN THI XUAN – a Vietnamese human rights activist and blogger, whom we campaigned for on her arrest last year, was jailed last month after being convicted of subverting the communist state.

An April 13 report in a state-run newspaper recounts that the People's Court in Ha Tinh province had sentenced Teresa Tran Thi Xuan to nine years in prison on April 12 for "attempting to overthrow the people's government."

Xuan, 42, also faces another five years under house arrest after finishing what observers called a very harsh sentence.

The newspaper said Xuan shared articles and video clips on social media from "reactionary groups" to undermine the government. She also was accused of organizing protests at the local government headquarters against the Taiwanese steel firm Formosa, which was responsible for a massive toxic waste spill in the province. During the protests, in April 2017, she incited people to damage public property and cause social disorder, the court said.

Xuan comes from Loc Ha, a local district badly affected by the toxic spill.

The court was told the activist was a member the Brotherhood for Democracy, a domestic civil society organization that the government sees as a reactionary group trying to overthrow the communist state.

Security was tight outside the courthouse with a strong police presence, witnesses said.

Xuan's relatives were only informed about the trial -- which lasted two hours -- when it was nearly over.

In a two-week period in late March and early April, Vietnam jailed 10 activists, sentencing them to terms totalling 96 years.

---

Please contact your local Vietnamese diplomatic representatives asking them to forward your concerns or write directly to the President of Vietnam.

---

The Prime Minister of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam

Nguyen Xuan Phuc

35 Ngo Quyen Hoang Hoa Tham

Hanoi

Viet Nam

Dear Prime Minister,

As a member of the Benenson Society I respectfully raise my concerns about the recent jailing of **Teresa Tran Thi Xuan** in Ha Tinh province. The exercise of free and critical speech is fundamental to respect for human rights in any society. Activists writing about democracy, corruption and the environment should not be silenced by lengthy sentences. Please intervene on their behalf.

At a time when Vietnam has a growing reputation as an economic power and tourist location, we join other human rights bodies in calling on your Government to end the government's systematic persecution of peaceful critics and ensure the basic rights to freedom of expression, association, assembly, and religion for its citizens. We ask that you look into the sentence of 9 years imposed on Teresa Tran Thi Xuan.

Yours sincerely,

## Embassy contacts (please confirm locally the addresses etc)

### Embassy of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam in Australia

6 Timbarra Crescent

O'Malley ACT 2606

**Phone:** +61-2-62866059 or 62901549

**Fax:** +61-2-62864534 or 62902908

**Email:** [yembassy@webone.com.au](mailto:yembassy@webone.com.au)

### Embassy of Vietnam in Austria

Felix-Mottl Strasse 20

1190 Vienna

Austria

**Fax:** (+43) (1) 368 0754

**Email:** [embassy.vietnam@aon.at](mailto:embassy.vietnam@aon.at)

### Embassy of Vietnam in Belgium

#1, Boul. General Jacques

Bruxelles

**Fax:** +32-2-374 9376

**Email:** [vnemb.brussels@skynet.be](mailto:vnemb.brussels@skynet.be)

### Embassy of Vietnam in Czech Republic

Plzenska 214, CZ-15000 Prague 5, Czech Republic.

**Fax:** (2) 57211792

### Embassy of Vietnam in Germany

Elsenstr. 3

12435 Berlin

Germany

**Fax:** (+49-30) 53630100

### Embassy of Vietnam in Netherlands

Nassauplein 12

2585 EB

The Hague

**Fax:** +31-70-364 8656

**Email:** [emviet@planet.nl](mailto:emviet@planet.nl)

**Embassy of Vietnam in Pakistan**

F 8/1 Street 31 House 10 A

Islamabad

**Fax:** +92-51-2850582

**Email:** [dsqvn.pakistan@yahoo.com](mailto:dsqvn.pakistan@yahoo.com)

**Embassy of Socialist Republic of Vietnam in Sweden**

Orby Slottsvagen 26

125 71 Alvsjo

Stockholm, Sweden

**Fax:** + 46 8 55 62 1080

**Email:** [info@vietnamemb.se](mailto:info@vietnamemb.se)

**Permanent Mission of the S.R. of Vietnam to the United Nations**

30, Chemin des Corbillettes

1218 Grand Saconnex/Geneva

Switzerland

**Fax:** (+41-22) 7980724

**Email:** [mission.vietnam@ties.itu.int](mailto:mission.vietnam@ties.itu.int), [mission.vietnam@itu.ch](mailto:mission.vietnam@itu.ch)

**Embassy of Vietnam in United Kingdom**

12 - 14 Victoria Road

W8 5RD, London

United Kingdom

**Fax:** 020 7937 6108 or 004420- 7565 3853

**Email:** [embassy@vietnamembassy.org.uk](mailto:embassy@vietnamembassy.org.uk)

**Embassy of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam in United States of America**

1233 20th Street NW, Suite 400

Washington, DC 20036

**Phone:** (202) 861 0737

**Fax:** (202) 861 0917

**Email:** [info@vietnamembassy.us](mailto:info@vietnamembassy.us)