

H.E. Joko Widodo
President of the Republic of Indonesia
Istana Merdeka
Jakarta Pusat 10110, Indonesia

February 6, 2019

Dear President Joko Widodo,

I am writing to you on behalf of the International Federation of Journalists (IFJ), the world's largest organisation of journalists, representing 600,000 media professionals in more than 144 countries globally.

I am writing regarding your decision to pardon I Nyoman Susrama and the reduction of a life sentence for the murder of Anak Agung Gde Bagus Narendra Prabangsa to 20 years imprisonment. The pardon, stated in the Presidential Decree No. 29/2018 issued on December 7, 2018, is a grave cause for concern for the IFJ as we work to improve the safety of journalists in Indonesia, and strongly believe that there can be no press freedom when journalists are forced to live in a climate of fear.

We strongly urge your reconsideration of this decision, which has been felt widely by the Indonesian media community.

The conviction for the murder of Balinese journalist Prabangsa was a strong victory for press freedom and impunity in Indonesia, and remains one of the few cases of a journalist killing which has been investigated and resolved. This has also garnered attention globally on the efforts that went to securing justice for this murder in your country. But according to Aliansi Jurnalis Independen (AJI), our Indonesian affiliate, remain eight journalist murders still unresolved in Indonesia.

We stand with AJI and our Indonesian colleagues in urging you to use your Presidential power to retract the pardon granted to I Nyoman Susrama and ensure he serves the life sentence for the heinous crime for which he was found guilty. In doing so, your government will be taking a stand to support and guarantee press freedom, journalist safety and a commitment to end impunity in the Republic of Indonesia.

Yours sincerely,



Anthony Bellanger
General Secretary
International Federation of Journalists



Abdul Manan
President
Aliansi Jurnalis Independen