

I am writing to express my deep concern that human rights defender Nguyễn Ngọc Như Quỳnh was arrested on 10 October and has been charged with “conducting propaganda” against the state under the Penal Code and that she is at risk of torture and ill-treatment.

I urge you to release Nguyễn Ngọc Như Quỳnh immediately and unconditionally as she is a prisoner of conscience held solely for her peaceful activities defending and promoting human rights.

I further urge you to immediately reveal the whereabouts of Nguyễn Ngọc Như Quỳnh and to ensure that she has access to a lawyer, her family and adequate medical care.

I also urge you to ensure that until she is released, Nguyễn Ngọc Như Quỳnh is treated in accordance with the UN Standard Minimum Rules for the treatment of prisoners, and is not subjected to torture or other ill-treatment.

Sincerely yours,