

I am writing to express my grave concern on Father Đặng Hữu Nam, Nguyễn Văn Tráng and Paulus Lê Văn Sơn who have been involved in organising activities calling for transparency and accountability in relation to the massive disaster in the central-eastern coastline in April 2016. They are facing an imminent risk of arrest for “conducting propaganda” against the state and have also faced severe harassment. Therefore I am calling on the authorities to immediately end the harassment, attacks and threats against Father Đặng Hữu Nam, Nguyễn Văn Tráng and Paulus Lê Văn Sơn and other human rights defenders for their participation in peaceful protests. I am also calling on the authorities to ensure the right to freedom of peaceful assembly in accordance with Viet Nam’s obligations under international human rights law.

Sincerely yours,