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European Parliament
Rue Wiertz, 67
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H.E. Ambassador Vu Anh Quang
Mission of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam to the EU
Boulevard Général Jacques, 1
1050 Brussels

Brussels, 22 November 2019

Dear Ambassador,

I have just been informed that blogger Pham Chi Dung, chairman of the Independent Journalists Association of Vietnam was arrested yesterday and charged under criminal code art. 117 for “producing, possessing and spreading anti-state information and documents”.

Pham Chi Dung has notably been active on the EU-Vietnam FTA, and recently sent a petition to EP President Sassoli as well as the INTA, AFET, DEVE and DROI Chairs in which he raised concerns in relation to the conclusion of this agreement.

His arrest sends a very alarming signal while the European Parliament is currently scrutinising the agreements with Vietnam. I wish to convey to you my gravest concern and urge you to provide clarity as to the situation of Pham Chi Dung.

Yours sincerely,

Jude Kirton-Darling MEP