



# NGUYEN VAN HOA

**CURRENT STATUS** *Sentenced to prison*

**CHARGES** *Art. 88: propaganda against the socialist state*

**DATE OF BIRTH** April 15, 1995

**GENDER** Male

**OCCUPATION** Blogger

**ARREST** January 11, 2017

**TRIAL** November 27, 2017

**SENTENCE** 7 years

## AREAS OF ACTIVISM

- Press Freedom
- Environment

## RIGHTS VIOLATED

- Freedom from arbitrary arrest or detention
- Liberty and security of the person
- Freedom of expression
- Fair trial

## HUMAN RIGHTS CONCERNS

- Solitary confinement
- Denial of legal representation
- Denial of adequate medical treatment
- Harsh physical and administrative conditions
- Denial of family visit/punitive prison transfer
- Hunger strike to protest conditions
- Infliction of physical and psychological pain

## BACKGROUND AND MORE INFORMATION

Hoa was arrested on January 11, 2017, but the authorities didn't notify his family until April 6, 2017. When the police arrested him, they accused him of "motorbike theft and drug dealing." He was later charged with Article 88 of the 1999 Criminal Code ("propaganda against the socialist state"). In November 2017, he was sentenced to seven years in prison in a secret trial without a lawyer or his family.

A few months after his trial, Hoa was transferred to An Diem prison camp, which is about 500 km from his home, making it difficult for his family to visit him. Hoa has often been tortured and harassed while in prison.

In August 2018, the Vietnamese authorities forced him into making a false confession against environmental activist Le Dinh Luong at Luong's trial, but Hoa refused to do that. He was pulled into a room by the police and beaten for not cooperating with the police's scheme. Hoa's leg had a tumor, but the detention center only checked it over without providing any treatment. He submitted an application asking for treatment, but it was denied by the authorities. Hoa has gone on multiple hunger strikes over the years to protest against the inhumane treatments that he and his cellmates have been subjected to in prison. The last one in December 2020 lasted eight days.

