



June 19, 2018

The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau, PC, MP  
Prime Minister of Canada  
Office of the Prime Minister  
80 Wellington Street  
Ottawa, Ontario  
K1A 0A2

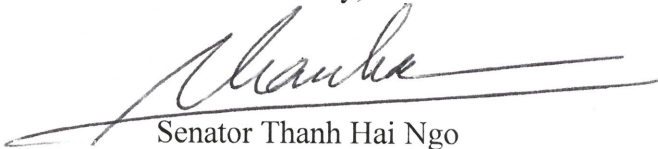
Dear Prime Minister:

On June 12, 2018, the Vietnamese National Assembly approved a controversial cyber security law that would require companies like Facebook, Microsoft, Google, Twitter, LinkedIn, Apple and Samsung to share the personal data of users in Vietnam. Under this new law, there is now no safe place left in Vietnam for people to speak freely.

This new law would give sweeping powers to the single ruling communist government to monitor online activity and escalate its ongoing crackdown on peaceful online dissidents who are using these platforms to criticize the government. This deeply repressive law would further limit freedom of expression, access to information, freedom of opinion and other political rights. Unfortunately, this restriction on Internet use would also severely limit the future of Vietnam's digital economy, risking deterring foreign investments and promising business opportunities.

This direct violation of international legal standards is contrary to Vietnam's international trade commitments. Canada and the other member countries of the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP) must confront Vietnam when it undermines international trade and cooperation standards and, ultimately, Internet freedom itself.

Yours sincerely,



Senator Thanh Hai Ngo

cc: The Hon. Chrystia Freeland, Minister of Foreign Affairs