MKOTT stands with friends Witness K and Bernard Collaery

12 Sept 2018

In relation to the first court hearings for Witness K and Bernard Collaery on 12 September 2018, activists in Timor-Leste collected signatures on a banner to present to the Australian Government, urging them to drop criminal charges against these two good friends of Timor-Leste.

During the signature gathering, MKOTT Spokesperson Faustinho Soares said that, “We stand together with Witness K and Bernard Collaery in the situation that confronts them, and we consider that Australia disrespects the principle of freedom of expression which is fundamental to democracy. We in solidarity with these two friends, to show our gratitude to them, because their courage uplifted the Timor-Leste’s people dignity by exposing the eavesdropping by Australian intelligence in our Government Palace.”

Through this action, the spokesperson also appealed to the Timorese people, for everyone to sign the banner and demand that Australia free the two friends against whom they are currently bringing charges. He also urged the National Parliament of Timor-Leste to act, in the people’s name, to ask Australia to drop the criminal charges against Witness K and Bernard Collaery.

MKOTT will continue to follow this case, and do take whatever actions we can to stop these criminal accusations. The banner with the signatures will delivered to the Australian Embassy next Monday, 17 September.