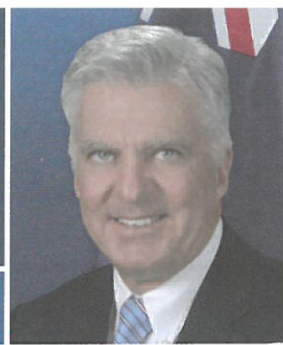




Chris Hayes MP



FEDERAL MEMBER FOR FOWLER

Ref: GL
21 January 2019

Mr Hoi Trinh
Executive Director
Vietnamese Overseas Initiative for Conscience Empowerment

Dear Hoi

It has been a pleasure to work with you and with the Vietnamese Overseas Initiative for Conscience Empowerment ('VOICE'), for quite some time. The work being done by VOICE with regards to the respect of human rights, particularly in Vietnam, continues to be nothing short of inspiring.

As you know, my office has hosted two interns from VOICE since 2016, both of whom I have been very impressed. During their time with me, Tuan and Hannah showed an unquestionable commitment to the human rights cause, and have made valuable contributions to my understanding of the current human rights situation in Vietnam.

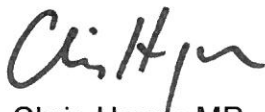
During their internship, both Tuan and Hannah were given the opportunity to spend time with various human rights organisations, including Amnesty International, the Australian Human Rights Commission, ActionAid and Human Rights Watch. Whilst there, they were able to gain a practical understanding of the way human rights advocates in Australia actively fight for the respect of human rights across the globe, and how campaigns promoting different human rights causes can be prosecuted effectively. I also believe that both Tuan and Hannah were able to gain a deeper and more practical understanding of the way in which the recognition of human rights is applied in Australian society.

Their internship has also been beneficial to all those who have had the privilege of getting to know and work with either Tuan or Hannah. I have received positive feedback from organisations such as ActionAid, Amnesty International and Human Rights Watch, who informed me of how impressed they were with the courage and commitment shown by both interns.

The internship arrangements between my office and VOICE have proven to be incredibly valuable to furthering our mutual goal of supporting Human Rights, especially in Vietnam. The opportunity to have an intern from VOICE spend time in my office has enriched my understanding and that of those in my community, about the ongoing Human Rights situation in Vietnam. It is clear that VOICE have some extremely motivated individuals, all of whom will be great assets for when a transition to democracy occurs in Vietnam.

I look forward to continuing this partnership and being given the chance to host more VOICE interns in the future. It is an opportunity that I would recommend to any person or office whose interest lies in the strengthening and continued support of human rights in Vietnam and around the globe.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chris Hayes". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

Chris Hayes MP
Federal Member for Fowler
Chief Opposition Whip