

Good morning, everyone!

My name is Y Phic Hdok. I am a Montagnard indigenous Christian from the Central Highlands of Vietnam. I am here to testify about the systematic persecution of my people.

In 2016, I realized that preaching the Gospel was impossible under Vietnam's strict religious regulations. Today, the situation is even more dire. House churches in the Central Highlands face intense harassment; those who refuse to stop practicing their faith are routinely arrested and interrogated. Since my youth, I have been targeted by state surveillance and arrested three times without justification—simply for my faith and indigenous identity. Realizing I could not safely pursue my calling in my homeland, I left for Cambodia to teach stateless children.

That same year, while I was in Thailand for human rights training hosted by Amnesty International, the authorities intensified their harassment of my family to coerce my return. Around Christmas 2016, the situation turned tragic: my father was kidnapped and extrajudicially killed. My family warned me that the authorities were hunting me, forcing me to flee to Thailand to seek UNHCR protection.

To seek justice for my father and my people, I co-founded **Montagnards Stand for Justice (MSFJ)**—a peaceful organization advocating for the rights of Montagnard Christians.

The situation has now reached a crisis point. In March 2024, the Vietnamese government designated MSFJ a terrorist organization. Our co-founder, Y Quynh Bdap, was recently extradited from Thailand despite his status as a recognized refugee. On December 29, 2025, the state-run media outlet VTV aired a fabricated "confession" video of him. This video is clearly staged—a propaganda tool designed to justify increased persecution against Montagnards both in Vietnam and in exile.

VTV functions as an arm of the Ministry of Public Security (MPS), with agents operating freely in the U.S. under media visas. They have targeted MSFJ and even members of this body. The risk to our community is immediate and imminent.

I respectfully urge the following actions:

1. **Stop Religious Persecution:** Call on Vietnam to end the harassment and arrests of house church members in the Central Highlands.
2. **Monitor Safety:** Ensure the safety of Y Quynh Bdap in prison and protect his family.
3. **UNHCR Protection:** Call for robust protection of Montagnard refugees in Thailand against future extraditions.

4. **Visa Accountability:** Implement stricter vetting for media visa applicants from Vietnam to prevent state agents from operating on U.S. soil.

God bless you!

Thank you.