



M.A. Castelen
Legal & Policy Consultancy



ADVOCATENPRAKTIJK
Stoelmanstraat no. 13,
Paramaribo, Suriname
Postbus 2410 Kerkplein
sranan_law@yahoo.com
mcastelen@hotmail.com
+597-7555376
+31-618974959

Paramaribo, March 24, 2023

Re: *Submission of the CSO-report on the curtailing of the right to freedom of expression and the right to peaceful demonstration by the unaccountable government in the Republic of Suriname*

To: The Office of the Special Rapporteur for Freedom of Expression of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR)

Mr. Pedro Vaca Villarreal, LLM (The Special Rapporteur for Freedom of Expression)

Inter-American Commission on Human Rights

1889 F Street NW

Washington, D.C., 20006

United States of America

Tel: +1 202 370 0816

email: cidhexpresion@oas.org

Dear Special Rapporteur, Mr. Pedro Vaca Villarreal, LLM,

In my personal capacity and on behalf of other individuals and organizations concerned about the continued and worsening curtailment of the right to freedom of expression and the right to peaceful demonstration, I hereby submit to your Office a report setting out how Suriname is failing to succeed in fully recognizing, respecting, protecting, and guaranteeing the two fundamental rights within its jurisdiction.

While assuming that the report sent to you your Office provides sufficient and substantial information about the increasingly alarming situation, I remain available to send your Office where necessary, additional and/or clarifying information.

Rapporteur, together with the others concerned, I look forward to your urgent response, as deemed appropriate within your mandate, in the interest of restoring the situation on the ground, towards ensuring the full exercise of both fundamental rights within the limits set by our democracy and the rule of law.


Mr. Milton A. Castelen
Advocaat
Attorney at Law

VCB-bank 811049506 (SRD) BIC-code VCBSSRPA ten name van Milton Andy Castelen
DSB-bank 2515989 (USD) BIC-code SURBSRPA ten name van Milton Andy Castelen
DSB-bank 2515997 (EURO) BIC-code SURBSRPA ten name van Milton Andy Castelen

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