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A CALL FOR SOLUTIONS TO SAFEGUARD DEMOCRACY IN SOUTH KOREA



Statement

The International Peace Bureau (IPB) stands in unwavering solidarity with the people of South Korea, whose courage and resilience have risen as a powerful defense against the erosion of democratic principles and the unconstitutional declaration of martial law. Recent events highlight a grave misuse of power and blatant violations of constitutional law by the government and military leaders. We believe this is a reversal of the hard-won gains of the people-led democratic movement of South Korea and a setback to democracy in South Korea that took root after the people's victory against authoritarianism in the 1980s.

Despite significant challenges, we commend the South Korean people for their swift and peaceful mobilization, which successfully led to the repeal of martial law. Their determination to safeguard democracy, resist authoritarianism, and hold leaders accountable is an inspiring example for the global community.



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We are deeply concerned by reports of planned actions—whether through overt interventions or aggravating actions in South Korea— which may be interpreted as further provoking instability on the Korean Peninsula and posing broader risks to regional security. We call for a thorough and transparent investigation into these unconstitutional actions and support the protesters' demands for justice, accountability, and the preservation of democratic governance.

To address this crisis effectively, the IPB calls for decisive action to address the ongoing democratic crisis in South Korea following the unconstitutional declaration of martial law:

1. Legal Accountability: Pursue impeachment proceedings and thorough investigations to hold those responsible for unconstitutional actions accountable.
2. Empowering Civil Society: Mobilize peaceful protests, led by youth, women, and civil organizations, and establish emergency coordination committees to guide actions effectively.


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1. **Legal Accountability:** Pursue impeachment proceedings and thorough investigations to hold those responsible for unconstitutional actions accountable.
 2. **Empowering Civil Society:** Mobilize peaceful protests, led by youth, women, and civil organizations, and establish emergency coordination committees to guide actions effectively.
 3. **Global Solidarity and Advocacy:** Engage international partners to apply diplomatic pressure and amplify support for democracy in South Korea.
 4. **Reforming Civil-Military Relations:** Address the culture of military obedience to prevent future abuses of power.

The IPB supports the democratic forces that have already launched a struggle to retrieve democracy in South Korea and are resisting this top-down coup. We believe the forces of democracy will see the victory necessary to retain democratic and plural institutions. We stand with the South Korean people in their courageous fight for democracy, peace, and accountability. Their struggle is not just a national concern but a global imperative – a reminder that democracy must be protected against all forms of authoritarian backsliding.

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