



PERSEKUTUAN GEREJA-GEREJA DI INDONESIA (PGI)

COMMUNION OF CHURCHES IN INDONESIA (CCI)

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Press Release

The Communion of Churches in Indonesia (PGI) Responds to the Viral Video of Torture of Civilians in Papua

The circulation of videos depicting torture against civilians in Papua, allegedly perpetrated by TNI (Indonesian National Armed Forces) officers, has ignited widespread anger among the public and human rights observer networks. This behavior of torture will perpetuate a cycle of violence, resulting in an increasing number of victims among both civilians and security forces (TNI/Polri) in the conflict-ridden Papua region.

In response to this deeply troubling incident, the Communion of Churches in Indonesia (PGI) issues the following statements:

Strongly Condemn Torture: PGI unequivocally condemns the act of torture against civilians in Papua. Every human being, created in the image of God (Imago Dei), deserves respect and dignity. To the victims and their families, PGI expresses condolences and encourages all ecumenical partners to assist in recovering affected families and communities in Papua.

Violation of International Convention: The act of torture constitutes a violation of the United Nations Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, which Indonesia ratified through Law No. 5 of 1998. All of us must stand together in solidarity to oppose torture and protect human rights in Papua.

Demand for Thorough Investigation: PGI is urging for a thorough investigation to uncover any human rights violations that may have taken place. It's crucial that accountability is enforced, impunity prevented, and justice is delivered to the victims. To avoid such actions in the future, independent monitoring and reporting mechanisms must be strengthened, and law enforcement should be transparent.

We must not let this heinous incident discourage us from collaborating for the cessation of violence in Papua and realizing Papua as a Land of Peace.

Jakarta, 25 March 2024



Rev. Ronald Tapilatu

Head of Bureau for Papua Issue - PGI