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PAPUAMERDEKA



10/05/22

In this month's newsletter:

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OUR PROGRESS...

Good morning and welcome to Papua Merdeka! A monthly newsletter to keep you up-to-date with the struggle of the West Papuan people for self-determination and independence. But first, we have a lot of exciting progress to share with you:



✓ Step 1: establish a government

On 1 December 2020, the United Liberation Movement for West Papua (ULMWP) announced the provisional government of West Papua, showing the world that Papuans are united and politically ready to govern their own land.

✓ Step 2: have a plan

It then launched the Green State Vision at COP26. A plan to make West Papua the first green state in history. Indigenous knowledge, democratic values and protecting biodiversity are at the forefront of this Vision.



Step 3: apply global pressure

On the 60th anniversary of West Papua's 'Day of Independence', the Morning Star flag was raised for the first time officially in Vanuatu and in Australia the previous year.

The ULMWP were received by the Basque Country, Spain, the United Kingdom, and significantly, by the Netherlands– West Papua's former colonisers– who broke their 60 year silence to discuss developments in West Papua.

The EU Commission and UN joined 80 other international states in calling for urgent UN access to West Papua. In May, a West Papua support network was launched in the EU.

► More and more states & bodies are speaking up about the situation in West Papua.



We need **your help** to keep up the momentum.

Become a regular donor now to show your support for the West Papuan Independence Movement and their world-leading Green State Vision for a more equitable and sustainable world.



👉 **DONATE HERE** 👈

PROTESTS & POLITICS

- 8 students arrested for raising the Morning Star flag.
- Thousands peacefully protest Jakarta's plans to 'Divide and Rule' Papua and its renewal of "Special Autonomy Law II".
- Protestors indiscriminately shot at, arrested and killed.
- UN reported on 100,000 currently displaced, EU humanitarian aid to West Papuans obstructed by authorities, child killings, torture, harassment and disappearances.
- Hundreds of West Papuan scholarships suddenly revoked.
- Pacific Elders call for UN visit to West Papua.
- Newly elected Timor Leste President expected to help peace-building in Papua.
- Papuan women face 'layers of violence'.



Thousands protest Indonesia's plans to expand further into West Papua



Papuans silently protest for release of political prisoner Victor Yeimo, 18 May.



Police & army use excessive force against unarmed protestors, 10 May 2022.

ENVIRONMENTAL

- [Frozen no more](#): Indonesia's only tropical glacier could melt away as soon as 2025.
- Satellite images in West Papua show [deforestation for palm oil](#) plantations has resumed.
- West Papua may become the new frontier in the [space race](#).
- Indonesia says it prioritises 'development' over [COP26 zero- deforestation pledge](#).
- [Australia election result](#) brings hope to close neighbour, West Papua.

WIDER NEWS

- Earth's oceans broke [another heat increase record](#). A threat to West Papua's rich diversity of [fish and coral](#).
- Will we heed the [IPCC's final warning](#) that burning fossil fuels, destroying forests and other landscapes causes 'irreversible' climate change? [Freeport](#) and [BP](#) probably won't.
- UN report Indigenous peoples are by far the [best guardians of the forest](#).

UPCOMING EVENTS

- June 14 - International Parliamentarians for West Papua (IPWP) discuss the political situation in West Papua at Westminster Parliament.



OUR TOP 5 TO read, watch, listen

(for those who want to change the world)



"Morning Star Rising" by Camellia Webb-Gannon

An essential new read for those interested in Pacific and Indigenous studies, development studies, activism, and decolonisation.



The Price of Lies: The Secret Genocide and Ecocide of West Papua

A short (8 min) video synopsis of the situation in West Papua.

WATCH



Indonesia: Shocking abuses against indigenous Papuans, rights experts report

UN experts are concerned by deteriorating human rights situation in West Papua



Ukraine's war with Russia has been making headlines – so why isn't the conflict in West Papua?

ABC Radio Australia discuss "the war that will not be televised".

LISTEN



West Papua's "Green State Vision"

A Vision of a state which puts the people & planet before profit.