

Guidelines for Free West Papua Supporters and Groups

August 2015

The Free West Papua Campaign is run by a small group of dedicated people, but it could not succeed without the active support of individuals and groups around the world. We are always grateful and constantly inspired by the amazing ideas, energy and actions of our supporters. We are often asked by supporters which activities they should focus on to help us achieve our goal of independence for West Papua. In response to this we have decided to summarise the kinds of campaigning and engagement that supporters can participate in and share some guidelines, which we hope will prove useful.

Founded in 2004 by West Papuan independence leader Benny Wenda, the Free West Papua Campaign (FWPC) has gained global recognition and support. The primary aim of the FWPC is to mount a successful campaign through public, political and legal channels, for the people of West Papua to be given the right to self-determination; that is to give the people of West Papua the freedom to decide if they wish to become an independent nation.

Many individuals, prominent people, media, religious groups, businesses, organisations, social movements and even entire nations have become interested and active in supporting freedom from Indonesian colonialism and independence for West Papua.

These guidelines are published to help supporters focus on the best ways to help the people of West Papua work towards our goal of bringing about independence for West Papua. If you have additional ideas for extending our work, please contact us to discuss your suggestions. We are always open to talking about new opportunities. Email: office@freewestpapua.org

Guidelines:

Nonviolence and inclusion

The Free West Papua Campaign (FWPC) is dedicated to achieving independence for West Papua by peaceful methods. We reject any call for violence, revenge and killing of human beings. If you want to support us you must follow this code of peaceful struggle. If you are peaceful, welcome.

The FWPC rejects any racial, ethnic or religious divisions or any kind of discrimination. We reject any kind of factionalism within the FWPC. Anyone who genuinely supports national independence for West Papua may support the FWPC in a variety of ways regardless of their political, ethnic or religious affiliation. If you are anti-racist, tolerant, inclusive and ecumenical, welcome.

The FWPC encourages solidarity groups and supporters all over the world to work on the issue of freedom for West Papua. There are many forms of solidarity and support that are vital to our mission. Local groups, churches, schools, universities, trade unions, journalists, lawyers, politicians, prominent people, sports people, entertainers and civil society organisations can all play their part.

In all solidarity activities undertaken on behalf of the Free West Papua Campaign we ask that you conduct your work in a dignified, peaceful and cooperative manner.

Campaigning

The FWPC needs help in numerous areas including spreading the word about West Papua to inform and educate global public opinion and in lobbying world governments and the United Nations to support a referendum on independence for West Papua.

There are many issues on which FWPC supporters will wish to campaign. We encourage all forms of solidarity with the people of West Papua but remind supporters that the primary focus of the FWPC is to campaign for independence for West Papua. We see Indonesian and corporate colonialism of West Papua as the root cause of the many problems in West Papua and remind supporters to highlight this in their activities.

We encourage FWPC supporters to lobby politicians, elected representatives and political institutions. Advice and guidance is available on our website but please feel free to contact us with any questions. Elected representative can also be asked to join the International Parliamentarians for West Papua (www.ipwp.org).

FWPC supporters are encouraged to mobilise public opinion by creating social awareness through petitions, demonstrations, protests, meetings, talks, film showings, musical concerts, conferences and seminars. Please contact us if you need help or materials for an event.

Campaigning resources are freely available on our website including templates for graphics, letters, leaflets, posters and banners.

Urgent actions

FWPC supporters can closely monitor day to day news and events in West Papua. Please help us respond to Indonesian brutality and violence by picking up on our statements, advisories and alerts regarding people arrested, injured, jailed, killed or disappeared and take appropriate action by contacting the relevant organisations and the responsible individuals in the police and military and holding them to account for their actions.

Fund raising

We are funded via grants, sales of merchandise and the generous donations of our supporters. We are always extremely grateful for any fund raising undertaken by our supporters. FWPC supporters can organise fund-raising concerts, collections, events and sales of our T-shirts, flags, badges, music and other merchandise. Please contact us if you need help or advice with events or have collected money to donate to the campaign.

Media and social media

FWPC supporters and local groups can engage local, national and global media for photographs, music, films, documentaries, reports, articles and interviews about West Papua. Please do not speak on behalf of the Free West Papua Campaign, but you are welcome to speak as a FWPC supporter or support group. If you would like to arrange an interview or get official comment from a representative of the FWPC please get in touch with us.

FWPC supporters can create music, films and videos, works of art and stage cultural events to publicise the cause of West Papua. Please share any media you make with us.

The FWPC has a strong social media presence. Supporters are encouraged to engage with this by sharing content and posting reports, photos and videos of their activities. Again, please do not speak on behalf of the Free West Papua Campaign, but you are welcome to speak as a FWPC supporter or support group.

Keep us updated

Please keep the FWPC informed of your plans and activities and seek advice from us as to how you can best optimise your contribution to Freedom for West Papua. Please inform us of any successes you have via email or social media.

Local FWPC groups

Working together with other supporters in your community and forming a local FWPC group can be extremely powerful and motivating. FWPC supporters can set up a local FWPC group such as a university group or a town or city group. Different groups may wish to focus on different activities relevant to the group's expertise and interests. In order to set up a local FWPC group, we request that:

1. The primary aim of your group is to "campaign through public, political and legal channels, for the people of West Papua to be given the right to self-determination".
2. You adopt the above guidelines for your campaigning activities.
3. You inform us of your intention to establish a local FWPC group by sending us details of your group, your aims and objectives and the activities you expect to be undertaking.

Local groups are not an official part of the FWPC and act independently of it. They cannot speak on behalf of the FWPC but are welcome to speak as a local FWPC support group.

Finally we wish to thank all our supporters around the world for all their hard work and enthusiasm. The FWPC could not succeed without you all. We hope that these guidelines prove useful in your campaigning and we wish you all success.

Papua Merdeka! - Free Papua!

Web: <http://www.freewestpapua.org>

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Contact us or subscribe to our Newsletter:

<http://freewestpapua.org/contact/>

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