

Statement of Concern

This is a joint statement of concern by International Non-Governmental Organisations, urging the Japanese government, as well as governments around the world to ensure that Greenpeace activists Junichi Sato and Toru Suzuki are not unjustly and disproportionately punished for their peaceful, public-interest expose of corruption in the Japanese whaling programme.

We, the undersigned, fully support the following statement and urge the Japanese authorities and all concerned governments and decision makers to protect the rights to protest as outlined in the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights:

The continued political prosecution of two peaceful protestors from Greenpeace in Japan is of grave concern.

The rights of individuals and organisations to freedom of expression, the ability to voice opposition to government policies, investigate corruption and expose environmental and human rights abuses must always be upheld. The United Nations Human Rights Council Working Group on Arbitrary Detention opined that Sato and Suzuki's investigation was a legitimate public interest enquiry, their prosecution is politically motivated and their initial detention breached their human rights. The United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, Navi Pillay also expressed concern about the case and the need to protect the ability for non-governmental organisations to investigate governments and corporations.

Despite this, the Prosecutor in Aomori District Court, where the case is being heard has demanded a jail sentence of one year and six months for both men.

The law cannot be used or abused as an instrument of oppression. Punishing dissent and peaceful protest through intimidation and detention without charge is unacceptable in the 21st century.

The willingness of Junichi Sato and Toru Suzuki to cooperate with the police investigation into the manner in which they obtained the evidence of their allegations of large-scale corruption within the Japanese government-sponsored Southern Ocean whaling programme must be recognised. It is these allegations that require further investigation.

Please ensure Junichi Sato and Toru Suzuki are not unjustly punished, and provide Greenpeace Japan and all other Non-governmental organisations working in Japan with the rights guaranteed under international law to organize and to protest peacefully.

Organisation	Name	Occupation	Country
	Agrwall, Ashok	Supreme Court Advocate	India
More Chambers Brisbane	Allen, John	Lawyer	Australia
ProWildLife	Altherr, Sandra	Campaigner	Germany
Cafe Globe Dot Com	Aoki, Youko		Japan
Tokyo City University	Aoyama, Sadakazu	Professor	Japan
	Aziz, Shiraz	Lawyer	

	Bachx, E.S.	Lawyer	
	Baldwin, Clive	Lawyer	
	Baroud, Ziyad S.	Lawyer	
	Bartholomew, Pablo	Photo Journalist	
University of Warwick	Baxi, Upendra	Lawyer	UK
	Bech, Steen	Lawyer	
	Beresh, Brian A.	Lawyer	
Rettet den Regenwald	Behrend, Reinhard		Germany
	Berry, Amanda	Lawyer	
	Berry, Laura	Lawyer	
	Bhargawa, P.M.	Senior Scientist Ministry of Environment and Forests	India
	Bhusan, Prashant	Supreme Court Human Rights and Environment Lawyer	India
	Billingslea, Sydney K.	Lawyer	
	Bochenek, Mike	Lawyer	
	Brink, Jens van den	Lawyer	
	Brugger, Sepp Dr.	Lawyer	
Aickin Chambers Melbourne	Burnside, Julian	Barrister-in-law, Human Rights & Refugee Advocate and Author	Australia
	Callamard, Agnes Dr.	Lawyer	
	Carroll, Simon	Lawyer	
	Coliver, Sandra	Lawyer	
	Costa Pinto, Maria Leonor	Lawyer	

	Currie, Duncan	Lawyer	
	Darbishire, Helen	Lawyer	
Garden Court Chambers	Davies, Owen		UK
	Della Seta, Roberto	Senator	
	Detloff, Kim	Campaigner	
	Dijk, Chris van	Lawyer	
	Douglass, Kathryn	Lawyer	
	Drion, Coen	Lawyer	
	Eendenburg, Matthies van	Lawyer	
	Einwallner, Doris	Lawyer	
	Faro, Alexandre	Lawyer	
	Gandhi, Makeka	MP and former Minister for Human Justice and Empowerment	India
	Ganguly, Gitanath	Legal Aid Lawyer	India
	Gigg, Joy	Lawyer	
	Gilmore, James D.	Lawyer	
	Gilsenan, Rebecca	Lawyer	
	Gisbergen, Indra van	Lawyer	Netherlands
	Glawisschnig-Piescek, Eva	3 rd president of the New Democratic Party	
	Glazewski, Jan	Lawyer	
Human Rights Law Network	Gonsalves, Colin	Director of Human Rights Law Network	India
	Gonsaeles, Gwendoline	Lawyer	
	Griffith, Elisabeth	Barrister-at-law	Australia
Deepwave e.V.	Gross, Onno Dr.		

	Grover, Vindra	Lawyer	India
	Guenther, Michael	Attorney-in-law	
	Gusmao Camara, Ibsen de	Admiral (retired) of Brazilian Navy	Brazil
	Gwynne, Beris	Lawyer	
	Hanawa, Nobuichi		Japan
	Harrison, Kate	Lawyer	
	Harvey, Richard	Attorney-in-law, Human Rights Lawyer	USA
Forbes Chambers	Hendy, Lisa	Solicitor	Australia
	Hinds, Lennox S.	Lawyer	
	Hirni, Lorenz	Lawyer	
	Hirokawa, Yasushi	Lawyer	Japan
National Ecotourism Center	Hirose, Toshimiti		Japan
	Hoedt-Rasmussen, Inger	Lawyer	
't Regtshuis Advocaten	Hoerchner, Rogier	Lawyer	Netherlands
PARC	Hosokawa, Hiroaki		Japan
	Hugget, James	Lawyer	
	Hutt, Katie	Lawyer	
	Ikeda, Kayoko	Writer, Translator	Japan
Graduate School of Tokyo Foreign Language School	Isesaki, Kenji	Professor	Japan
	Itoh, Akiko	Lawyer	Japan
Hougakukan Co Ltd.	Ito, Makoto	Chairman/ CEO, Attorney-at-law	Japan
	Iyer, Kirshna VR	Supreme Court Judge	India
	Kanehara, Atsuko	Lawyer	

	Kawai, Mitsuru		Japan
Higgins Chambers Brisbane	Keim, Stephen	Barrister-in law, Senior Counsel for the State of Queensland, President of Australian Lawyers for Human Rights	Australia
United Nations	Kim, Jung Rin	UN High Commissioner for Human Rights	
Tokyo Kyodo Law Office	Kinoshito, Tetsuro	Attorney-at-law	Japan
UNSW Law School	Kirchengast, Tyrone	Senior Lecturer UNSW	Australia
	Kiryu, Hiroto		Japan
Future 500	Kiuchi, Takashi	Chair of Future 500	Japan
	Kravchenko, Svetlana	Lawyer	
	Lambe, Andie	Lawyer	
	Layton, Jack	Leader of the New Democratic Party	
	Loostra, Bondine	Lawyer	Netherlands
World Wild Life Fund	Leape, Jim	Executive Director	UK
Youth for Human Rights	Leistra, Gerbrig	Chair	
Forbes Chambers	Lester, Fernandez	Barrister-at-law	Australia
	Liu, Nengye	Lawyer	
	Lloyd, Stephen	Senior Counsel	Australia
Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions	Lungo, L.	Crown Prosecutor	Australia
	Manconi, Luigi	Lawyer	
	Marraci, Jose Manuel	Lawyer	
Weekly Friday	Masano, Atsuko	Journalist	Japan
University of Newcastle Legal Centre	McCarthy, Shaun	Lawyer, Director of the University of Newcastle	Australia

		Legal Centre, Presiding legal member of the NSW Guardianship Tribunal	
Transparency International	McClellan, Angela	Senior Programme Coordination	
American Cetacean Society	McCormick, Cheryl		
	McMullin, Fiona	Lawyer	
	Mehta, M.C.	Lawyer	
Article 19	Mendel, Toby	Lawyer	
	Meo, Giampiero	Lawyer	
Nimal Welfare Institute	Millward, Susan		
	Moberly, Michael A.	Lawyer	
	Nagasak, Toshihisa	Professor	Japan
	Neve, Marc	Lawyer	
Aoyama Gakuin University	Niikura, Osamu	Professor	Japan
	Nishihara, Luka		Japan
	Nomura, Tetsuya		Japan
	Noorlander, Peter	Lawyer	
	Ohhata, Yutaka		Japan
	Oposa jr., Antonio A.	Lawyer	
Aoyama Gakuin University Law School	Osamu, Niikura	Professor and Attorney	Japan
	Owen, Daniel	Lawyer	
	Palazzo Jr, Jose Truda	Lawyer, Former IWV Alternate Commissioner	
Earth Island Institute	Palmer, Mark		
	Panjwani, Raj	High Court Lawyer	India

	Parihar, Gita	Lawyer	
Oceana	Pastor, Xavier		
	Post, Dr. P.R.	Lawyer	
Mangrove Action Project	Quarto, Alfredo	Executive Director	
	Queinnec, Yann	Lawyer	
	Ramkrishnan, Nitya	Lawyer	India
	Redmond, Sophie	Lawyer	
	Refahi, Rana	Lawyer	
	Repeta, Prof. Lawrence	Lawyer	
	Rosenthal, Erika	Lawyer	
	Rosenthal, Richard	Lawyer	
	Ruby, Clayton	Lawyer	
	Rutzen, Douglas B.	Lawyer	
	Saxe, Dianne	Lawyer	
	Serajnik, Franz Dr.	Lawyer	
	Sethil, Dr. R.	MP	
	Shinivasa, Balaji	Supreme Court Advocate	India
	Shiva, Vandana	Environmental activist	
Hogakukuan Co., Ltd	Shuto, Yoshikatsu		Japan
	Silverberg, Christine E.	Lawyer	
	Slater, Felipe	Lawyer	
	Slob, Bart	Lawyer	
	Smit, Wyke	Lawyer	Netherlands
	Smith, Aileen	Chair of Board of Greenpeace Japan	Japan

	Smulders, Luc	Lawyer	Netherlands
	Sodre, Marcello	Lawyer	Netherlands
	Somers, Eddy	Lawyer	Netherlands
	Sou, Miki		Japan
	Spaendonck, Barend Jan van	Lawyer	
Amigos de la Tierra	Spendeler, Liliane	Environmental Director	Spain
	Stern, Max	Attorney-at-law	USA
	Summerhayes, Anna	Lawyer	
	Summers, Anne	Journalist and Author	Australia
	Thorsen, Sune Skadegard	Lawyer	
	Symmons, Clive Dr.	Lawyer	
	Sutton, Eric	Lawyer	
Association to Protect Northernmost Dugong	Suzuki, Masako		Japan
Mirai Bank	Tanaka, Yu	Head of Mirai Bank	Japan
Information Disclosure Citizen Center	Takahashi, Toshiaki	Chair	Japan
Amnesty International Japan	Teranaka, Makoto	Secretary General	Japan
	Teale, Lotta	Lawyer	
	Tutu, Emeritus Desmond	Archbishop	
	Unterweger, Josef Dr.	Lawyer	
	Urashima, Etsuko		Japan
Globale Village Media	Van Lier, Peter	Director	Netherlands
	Visser, Gerbrand	Lawyer	Netherlands
	Voorhoof, Dirk	Lawyer	

	Wagner, J. Martin	Lawyer	
	Wild, Wendy de	Lawyer	
	Yasuda, Setsuko		Japan
Chuo Law School	Yokota, Tsukada Yozo	Professor for International Law	Japan
	Yohioka, Noriko		Japan
Boehler Advocaten	Zegveld, Liesbeth, Prof. Dr.	Lawyer	Netherlands
American Cetacean Society			
Amnesty International			
Animal Welfare Institute			
Australian Conservation Foundation			
Cetacean Society International			
Chocoloney Foundation			
CIVICUS World Alliance for Citizen Participation			
Conservation Council of Western Australia			
David Suzuki Foundation Canada			
Deepwave			
Defenders of Wildlife			
Dolphin Connection			
Earth Island Institute			
Environmental Investigation Agency			
Forest Peoples Programme			
Friends of the Earth International			

GEA Sphere

German League for Nature and
Environment Conservation

Global Justice Ecology

Global Movement for Children

Humane Society International

International Fund for Animal
Welfare

International League for the
protection of Cetaceans (ILPC)

International Wildlife Coalition

Japanese Association for the
Rights to Freedom of Speech

Japan

Lawyers Network for Human
Rights Observation

Living Oceans Society

Canada

Mammals Encounter Education
Research (MEER)

Mangrove Action Project

Natural Resource Defense
Council

New York whale & Dolphin
Action League

Ocean Research and Education

Canada

Oceana

OLSSI

Orca Lab/ Pacific Orca Society

OXFAM UK

Pacific Indigenous People

Environment Coalition
People Watch, Chennai
Queensland Conservation
Society of Dolphin Conservation
Germany
The Cousteau Society
The Environmental Law Service
of the Czech Republic
The Human Society of the
United States
The Oceans Conservatory
The Pew Charitable Trust
The Sierra Club
The Varda Group, Netherlands
The Wilderness Society
The Whaleman Foundation
Transparency International
Transparency Japan
True Majority
UBUNTU – World Forum of Civil
Society Networks Secretariat
Whales and Dolphin
Conservation Society (WDCS)
Whales need US coalition
World Council of Arya Samaj
World Society for the protection
of animals
WWF World Wild Life Fund US