

**May 4, 2017**

**Attention: Greg Hywood, CEO & Managing Director, Fairfax Media**

**Dear Mr Hywood,**

We, the South East Asia Journalist Unions (SEAJU), write to express our concern over the cutting of 125 editorial positions at Fairfax and the dire impact it will have on journalism in Australia.

The tragedy of the announcement coinciding with World Press Freedom Day, May 3, is not lost on the global community and is of particular concern for journalists in South East Asia. At a time when media companies should be investing and protecting journalism in this time of post truth, such a cut can only be devastating to the state of media freedom and diversity in Australia. As we mark World Press Freedom Day in Jakarta with hundreds of journalists, media workers and activists from across the world, the messages have been clear. Independent and quality journalism is vital for press freedom to flourish

SEAJU stand in solidarity with Fairfax journalists as they protest this unthinkable move that strikes at the heart of quality journalism that has been respected across the region.

**Signed,**

Aliansi Jurnalis Independen  
Cambodia Association for Protection of Journalists  
National Union of Journalists of the Philippines  
National Union of Journalists, Thailand  
Myanmar Journalists Association  
Timor Leste Journalists Association  
Timor Leste Press Union