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UNITED STATES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



EDWARD R. ROYCE
Fortieth District-California

May 17, 2008

Royce Welcomes Return of U.S. Citizen Dr. Nguyen Quoc Quan
Vietnam Imprisoned Dr. Nguyen for 6 months

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- Today, the Communist Government of Vietnam released Viet Tan party member and U.S. Citizen, Dr. Nguyen Quoc Quan. Dr. Quan had been imprisoned in Vietnam since November 17, 2007. Following Dr. Quan's release, Rep. Royce issued the following statement:

"While the news of Dr. Quan's release is heartening, we should not forget that hundreds more remain imprisoned under similar circumstances for their peaceful political and religious beliefs. Hanoi continues its oppression of religious freedom and human rights, just as it has been doing for decades.

We need to tell Hanoi that silencing dissidents and suppressing religious freedoms are not the ways towards a close partnership.

It is time for Vietnam to emerge from the dark ages and embrace freedom, the rule of law and human rights."

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