



Cambodian Human Rights Committee

**Statement of the Cambodian Human Rights Committee**  
***“Thailand’s Use of Toxic Military Smokes and Obscurants Against Cambodia:***  
***A Grave Violation of Human Rights”***

The Cambodian Human Rights Committee (CHRC) expresses its grave concern and strong condemnation of Thailand’s deliberate use of **toxic military smokes and obscurants** in its recent military aggression against Cambodian sovereign territory.


These unlawful actions have caused severe harm to the Cambodian civilian population, endangered public health, and inflicted irreparable damage to the natural environment and sacred cultural heritage sites, including **the Preah Vihear Temple**, a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Thailand’s use of toxic military smokes and obscurants constitutes a flagrant violation of international law and an affront to the principles of humanity and peace upheld by the United Nations and regional human rights mechanisms. Such actions breach multiple international legal instruments, including the **Chemical Weapons Convention (Article I)**, the **Biological Weapons Convention**, the **Geneva Conventions**, the **Geneva Protocol (1925)**, the **Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (Article 8)**, and the following fundamental rights of Cambodian civilians, especially:

- The **Right to Life** as enshrined in **Article 3 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights**, **Article 6 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights**;
- The **Right to Health** under **Article 12 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights**;
- The **Right to a Safe, Clean, and Healthy Environment** recognized by the **UN Human Rights Council Resolution 48/13**, and **Article 28 of the ASEAN Human Rights Declaration**.

In light of these serious violations, the CHRC calls upon the international community to:

1. **Strongly condemn** Thailand’s use of toxic military smokes and obscurants as a breach of international law;
2. **Demand the immediate cessation** of any chemical or toxic agents used by Thailand against Cambodia;
3. **Ensure the protection** of civilians, cultural heritage, and the environment in accordance with international humanitarian and human rights law.

We urge the international community to stand with Cambodia in the face of these grave violations and to uphold justice, peace, and the rule of law. 

Phnom Penh, Monday 28 July, 2025

