

In August 2017 six people will swim 69 kms across Lake Geneva, to hand deliver a global petition requesting the UN to urgently address the human rights situation in West Papua, directly to the UN headquarters.

For the past 55 years the West Papuan people have been living under a brutal military occupation which has seen more than 500,000 lives lost. In 2016 alone five thousand people - including many children - were arrested just for taking part in independence demonstrations or for raising the West Papuan flag. The Indonesian government strictly controls media allowing these stories to avoid international attention and continue one of the most brutal "silent genocides" of the 21st century.

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The violence and human rights abuses perpetrated against the people of West Papua over the past 50 years has received little media attention in the west. I commend the team of swimmers preparing to swim along Lake Geneva to raise awareness of West Papua's plight. We may live in different regions of the world, but we are one family. #BackTheSwim #FreeWestPapua

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Please help by signing our [Swim for West Papua Global Petition](#)

ARCHBISHOP
DESMOND TUTU



The West Papuan people are crying for their freedom.

- **Sign and share the petition** as widely as possible either online via Avaaz or by collecting signatures & email addresses directly.
- **Send us your #BackTheSwim photos on [Facebook](#) and [twitter](#).**
- Follow the **Swim for West Papua Team's** incredible journey as they train, and until they swim the petition across Lake Geneva in August @BacktheSwim www.swimforwestpapua.com
- If you want to get more involved, please get in touch! We need as many signatures as possible, and we are looking for friends to help us reach our target.
Email: Office@FreeWestPapua.org

Thank you so much for your support.

www.freewestpapua.org

