[YOUR ADDRESS LINE 1]
[ADDRESS LINE 2]
[TOWN/CITY]
[COUNTY]
[POSTCODE]
[DATE]
[YOUR EMAIL]

Dear [MP’S FULL NAME FOLLOWED BY ‘MP’, E.G. JOHN SMITH MP]

My name is [NAME] and I am a constituent of yours.

I am writing to you concerning the situation in Indonesian-occupied **West Papua.**

Since Indonesia took over West Papua (bordering Papua New Guinea) from the Netherlands in 1963, there have been persistent and long-running accusations of severe human rights abuses, which **may amount to genocide**.[[1]](#endnote-2) Perhaps hundreds of thousands of Indigenous West Papuans have been killed by the Indonesian police and military.

There is a huge Indigenous struggle for independence and self-determination on the ground. West Papuans were promised the chance to freely determine their destiny in a UN-sponsored referendum in 1969 – but it never took place.

In late 2019, the largest protests in West Papuan history erupted in response to severe racial abuse and violence at the hands of Indonesian security services and nationalist gangs.[[2]](#endnote-3) Sadly, the UK government provides training and support for the Indonesian occupation forces.

Benny Wenda, the leader of the West Papuan people, has been based in exile in the UK since 2003-4. He has formed the International Parliamentarians for West Papua and the All-Party Parliamentary Group for West Papua, comprised of 15 UK MPs from most major parties.[[3]](#endnote-4)

I hope you will take this issue seriously and sign the West Papua Declaration of the International Parliamentarians for West Papua.[[4]](#endnote-5) Please consider joining the APPG on West Papua by contacting office@ipwp.org or the office of Alex Sobel MP.

The people of West Papua need all forms of solidarity: pressure on the UK government to end its support for the occupation, questions in parliament, debate mentions, and more. Anything you can do to raise this issue is deeply appreciated.

Many thanks – I look forward to receiving your reply.

Yours sincerely,

[YOUR NAME]

1. <https://law.yale.edu/sites/default/files/documents/pdf/Intellectual_Life/West_Papua_final_report.pdf>;<https://scholarcommons.usf.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1270&context=gsp>;<https://www.sydney.edu.au/news/84.html?newsstoryid=651> [↑](#endnote-ref-2)
2. <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2019/aug/31/an-earthquake-racism-rage-and-rising-calls-for-freedom-in-papua>;<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2019-08-19/west-papuans-barricaded-arrested-teargassed-by-indonesian-police/11424990> [↑](#endnote-ref-3)
3. <https://www.ipwp.org/uk-all-party-parliamentary-group-appg-on-west-papua/>;<https://www.ipwp.org/parliamentarians/> [↑](#endnote-ref-4)
4. <https://www.ipwp.org/join-ipwp/> [↑](#endnote-ref-5)