Not To Silence Indonesian Critical Activists Using Hate Speech Regulations

An Indonesian member of the Parliament House of Representatives (DPR) of Commission I from the [Islamic] Prosperous Justice Party (PKS) Nasir Djamil, has strongly criticized the Indonesian police for having arrested some social media activists in the name of hate speech regulations. He said that they had, on purpose, made wrong use of hate speech regulations to silence those social media activists who had been very critical towards the government.

“The point is that it is a must for every single party to realize about each roles and functions. In other words, we have to avoid making use of hate speech regulations to forcefully silence those with their critical attitudes [towards present Indonesian situation],” he was quoted as saying by Kiblat.net in Jakarta DPR building on Tuesday (2 October).

Mentioning about the case of Jonriah Ukur “Jonru” Ginting, a noted social media activist who was recently arrested by the Indonesian National Police [Polri], Nasir said that Jonru could, indeed, file a pre-judicial review on his arrest to the court.

He also advised that Jonru do such a thing if he felt that the police had been unfairly charged him as a suspect.

When asked about the implementation of strong measures against those being considered and charged for having violated hate speech regulations, Nasir stated that he would, in no time, see and ask Polri Chief [Kapolri], Gen. Tito Karnavian.

“This is exactly the reason of my plan to see and talk about it to Kapolri,” said Nasir Djamil.