公益社団法人 日本外国特派員協会

The Foreign Correspondents' Club of Japan

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August 3, 2022

FCCJ Statement - Release Toru Kubota

The Foreign Correspondents' Club of Japan unequivocally condemns the arrest of journalist Toru Kubota, who was detained on July 30th in Myanmar while covering a demonstration against the government. Kubota was in Myanmar making a documentary.

According to NHK, a spokesperson for the military's governing council has admitted that Kubota is being detained. The spokesperson said that Kubota is under investigation and being held in a police barracks in Yangon after being seen talking with demonstrators.

The Japanese government has so far failed to secure a date for Kubota's release. The FCCJ strongly urges the Myanmar government to free Kubota and all other journalists who have been detained while doing their jobs. We join with journalism and civil rights organizations across the world in calling on Myanmar to again allow free public discourse and criticism.

Freedom of the Press Committee