MEDIA RELEASE
by CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC PARTY (CDP)

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CDP on Freedom Day

“If former New Age and Die Burger editor, Henry Jeffreys, asks the question whether there are any fools to celebrate Freedom Day, one must consider if freedom in this country is in trouble,” says Richard Botha of the Christian Democratic Party (CDP).

“Recently the Open Society Foundation stated that South Africa is less free than it was two years ago. This can be supported by other observations: South Africa dropped from the 33rd most press freedom country in the world, to 42nd; six countries on the continent, including Tanzania, have more press freedom than South Africa; and South African now occupies the 64th place on the corruption perception index, dropping ten positions within one year. Corruption, according to the World Bank, robs a country of its future.

“Twenty-one-years after the last apartheid legislation was scrapped, the ANC is of the opinion that it needs to tighten racial discriminatory laws.

“Julius Malema has been kicked out of the ANC – at long last – but the ANC has not dropped the appeal against his guilty verdict on charges of hate speech. What is disconcerting is that, while levels of polarisation remain high, it does not seem to bother the rulers at all. This is reflected in the place and street name changes, when numerous alternatives, that show greater sensitivity to minority groups, are available.

“Constant attacks are launched on the 'rule of law', which clearly indications that the ANC leadership favours a system which political scientists call the 'dictatorship of the majority'.

“This Freedom Day is celebrated in the wake of the most indications ever that the Kempton Park Accord has been unilaterally scrapped and is being replaced by clear revolutionary rhetoric.”

CDP oor Vryheidsdag

“As die voormalige redakteur van die New Age en Die Burger, Henry Jeffreys, die vraag vra of daar enige sotte is wat Vryheidsdag gaan vir, moet ‘n mens besin oor of vryheid nie diep min die moeilikheid is nie,” aldus Richard Botha van die Christen-Demokratiese Party b(CDP).

“Die Open Society-stigting het onlangs bevind dat Suid-Afrika nou minder vry is as twee jaar gelede. Hierdie stelling word ook deur ander bevindings gestaaf. Binne twee jaar het Suid-Afrika van die 33ste posisie op die persvryheidsindeks na die 42ste teruggesak, en is ses Afrikalande, waaronder Tanzanië, beter daaraan toe.

“Suid-Afrika beklee nou die 64de plek op die korrupsiepersepsie-indeks, na dit in een jar met tien plekke getuimel het. Die Wêreldbank meen korrupsie beroof ‘n land van sy toekoms.

“Een en twintig jaar na die laaste apartheidswetgewing geskrap is, is die ANC-regering van mening dat dit nog rassediskriminerende praktyke moet verstewig.

“Julius Malema is uiteindelik uit die ANC geskop, maar die ANC het nog nie die appèl teen Malema se skuldigbevinding in die gelykheidshof een haatspraak laat vaar nie. Gevolglik is vlakke van polarisasie hoog, maar erger nog, dit lyk nie of dit die ANC-ringkoppe pla nie, soos blyk uit plek- en straatnaamsveranderings terwyl daar ander opsies beskikbaar is.

“Deurlopende aanvalle word op die beginsel van grondwetlike demokrasie geloods en dit klink of die ANC ten gunste is van wat die politieke wetenskaplikes die diktatuur van die meerderheid noem.

“Hierdie Vryheidsdag word gevier te midde van die meeste aanduidings ooit dat die grafskrif eensydig oor die Kemptonparkse Akkoord geskryf is, en met rewolusionêre retoriek vervang word.”