

# Global Bersih reminds politicians: Work for the rakyat

NATION 

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KUALA LUMPUR: Politicians should stop politicking and work for Malaysians, says Global Bersih.

“The attempts to circumvent the democratic electoral process have betrayed the confidence that the Malaysian electorate – including overseas Malaysians – put in those whom they voted into power,” it said.

The non-profit also hit out at “all irresponsible politicians who put their own self-interests ahead of that of the nation”, saying this has severely eroded trust in the political system.

“The lack of transparency and unpredictable nature of the ongoing political turmoil has also led to widespread confusion, frustration and anxiety,” said the international arm of the Coalition for Free and Fair Elections (Bersih 2.0) in a statement Saturday (Feb 29).

Global Bersih also urged lawmakers from all parties to assume their responsibilities as elected representatives of the people and put aside their self-interests and internal power struggles to act in the best interest of the nation.

It also said that the appointment of the Prime Minister and the Cabinet must be made in full accordance with the Federal Constitution and the relevant rules and processes.

“All parties involved should do their best to resolve the situation as soon as possible, so that a new government can focus its energies on tackling the many challenges facing the country today,” it said.

Global Bersih added that it wants any new government to continue with the implementation of the reforms necessary to ensure good governance, minimise the risk of corruption and abuse of power, and create the conditions for social and economic progress for all.

These include reforms in the GE14 manifesto on the basis of which Pakatan Harapan was elected, and reforms proposed by Global Bersih and Bersih 2.0 to enable free and fair elections.

“These institutional reforms are essential to empower Malaysians and to provide the checks and balances necessary to develop our country into a truly mature democracy,” it said.

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