



Media Statement
13th July 2023

Global Bersih: Election Commission (EC) and Pos Malaysia must clarify overseas postal ballot delivery process now to ensure transparency for overseas postal voting.

Global Bersih calls upon the Election Commission (EC) and Pos Malaysia to provide clarity regarding the delivery of postal ballots to overseas Malaysians for the upcoming state elections. Global Bersih also urges the establishment of processes to ensure the timely and effective delivery of these ballots. Despite reaching out to EC multiple times for clarification on the process, Global Bersih has yet to receive a response.

The main challenges faced by overseas Malaysians during GE15 - including the campaign period of only 14 days - were the overly short timeframe to receive and return their postal ballots, which caused great uncertainty among voters. Global Bersih received large numbers of queries and complaints from overseas voters during GE15 which clearly demonstrated the confusion and concern resulting from the lack of clarity on the postal ballot delivery process.

Global Bersih therefore urges the EC and Pos Malaysia to make the effective and timely delivery of overseas postal ballots an urgent and high priority, and calls for the following specific actions:

- The EC must create a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) on postal ballot delivery to ensure that the ballots are promptly sent to overseas Malaysians immediately after Nomination Day using the fastest method available. This SOP should be followed by all parties involved in the 'pengeluaran undi pos' process.
- Pos Malaysia should expedite the sending of the postal ballots as soon as they receive them from the EC, giving overseas Malaysians at least a slim chance of receiving and returning their postal ballots on time.
- The EC must collaborate with Pos Malaysia to ensure that tracking numbers are provided to overseas voters using the contact details used during registration. This will enable overseas voters to track the delivery status of their postal ballots.

Global Bersih is an international non-partisan movement of overseas Malaysians focusing on electoral reform to advocate for the rights of the Malaysian diaspora.



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The duty of the EC does not end once the ballots are handed over to Pos Malaysia - they have a responsibility to oversee the entire process. It is crucial for the EC to provide clearer explanations and increased predictability regarding the process for overseas voters. This will enable them to understand and have confidence in the system, while also allowing them to explore alternative methods for returning their ballots if necessary.

Global Bersih also urges Pos Malaysia to fulfil its role in supporting the voting rights of overseas Malaysians by ensuring the efficient and prompt delivery of the ballots.

To alleviate the burden of overseas Malaysians in organising themselves again for the upcoming state elections, Global Bersih has re-opened the Facebook platform - <http://www.facebook.com/groups/postalvoting> (Malaysia State Elections 2023 Overseas Postal Voting FAQ). The main objective of the platform is to share accurate information, and provide an open space for all overseas voters to coordinate all matters related to the state elections. It will also serve as a platform to clarify any misinformation and address the spread of fake news, which tends to be rampant during the elections.

We invite all overseas Malaysians to use the group as a platform for the following purposes:

- 1) Get information and clarification on important matters
- 2) To identify or volunteer for the witnessing of Form 2
- 3) To identify or volunteer for postal ballot coordination in their respective areas

We also encourage overseas Malaysians to be vigilant in combating the spread of fake news by refraining from sharing information or news from unreliable sources.

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