

# New law needed to protect human rights defenders, reforms committee told



[Gan Pei Ling](#) Updated 1 year ago · Published on 4 Jun 2018 1:23PM ·



*The three activists who held a meeting with the Committee on Institutional Reforms in Kuala Lumpur today. They made recommendations on institutional reforms to uphold the freedom of expression, association and peaceful assembly, and the media. – The Malaysian Insight pic, June 4, 2018.*

**IN the new Malaysia, the state must recognise the need to protect human**

rights defenders and stop treating them as troublemakers, activists told the Committee on Institutional Reforms (IRC).

“Human rights defenders face threats from police and non-state actors like companies for speaking up for human rights, doing their job,” Josef Benedict, from Johannesburg-based global non-profit Civicus Alliance, told reporters after a meeting at Ilham Tower in Kuala Lumpur today.

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