



SOLIDARITY WITH SHAHIDUL ALAM (BANGLADESH)

STATEMENT
August 8, 2018

The **International Alliance of Independent Publishers (IAIP)**, a network of 553 publishers worldwide, expresses its shock and dismay at the [late-night abduction and detention of acclaimed photographer and human rights activist, Shahidul Alam, in Dhaka](#). Shahidul Alam has been [a partner-colleague of the IAIP](#), in which context we have interacted with him on many occasions.

We believe that the charges against him under Section 57 of the ICT are an attempt to intimidate him by using a draconian law to stifle his right to free speech. He has been held without due legal process, and we have received disturbing reports of brutal treatment meted out to him in detention.

The **right of peaceful protest, and the defence of that right, are fundamental to democracy and to upholding the rule of law**. The IAIP extends its support to, and **expresses solidarity with, Shahidul Alam, and reiterates its commitment to the freedom of expression in Bangladesh as well as in the rest of the world**.



www.alliance-editeurs.org