



RAISE YOUR VOICE! SCRAP THE SECRECY BILL!

Dear gerry,

R2K supporters in Gauteng are invited to join us as we gather in the streets at a **'Raise Your Voice! Scrap the Secrecy Bill'** rally and march on **Saturday 13 August 2011**.

Please wear **black** and **red** to show your support!

DATE: Saturday 13 August 2011

TIME: 10h30 for 11:00: Rally in Wits Great Hall, Johannesburg. From there we'll march to the Constitutional Court at 12h00!

VENUE: The Wits Great Hall is on the East Campus adjoining Senate House.
Enter through the Yale Road entrance (from either Empire Road or Jorrisen Street)

KEY SPEAKERS:

- Ronnie Kasrils (Former Minister of Intelligence)
- Nadine Gordimer (Nobel Prize winning writer)
- Sidumo Dlamini (President of COSATU)
- Nic Dawes (Editor of Mail & Guardian)
- Prof Franz Kruger (Head - WITS Radio School)

For almost a year now, the R2K Campaign has been at the forefront of a growing movement across our country in opposition to the Protection of Information Bill (the Secrecy Bill). Community, media and religious organisations, social movements, journalists, NGOs and tens of thousands of ordinary citizens have joined together against a Bill that has been fatally flawed from its inception. This is the case precisely because the Bill **attacks the very heart of our constitutional and human rights** of access to information and freedom of expression. ([Video link.](#))

Despite this concerted opposition, months of hearings in the parliamentary ad hoc committee responsible for the Bill and meetings with government, [the core demands of the Right2Know Campaign have yet to be met](#). Even though limited concessions have been made and the parliamentary hearings continue, as it stands, the Bill remains a direct threat to our democracy.

The ANC, as the ruling party, continues to refuse the inclusion of a public interest defence, and is offering only the narrowest protection for whistleblowers. Ordinary citizens will have no protection from prosecution under the Secrecy Bill. Further, the ANC has more recently indicated its willingness to reintroduce old draconian elements such as broadening the definition of 'national security' and the inclusion of 'commercial' secrets'. The veil of secrecy over the state's security apparatus and the overall activities of those in government not only remains but has the potential to thicken.

It is now time to raise our collective voices to a new level. The future of our democracy rests on an active and informed citizenry, willing and able to hold the elected government accountable to those in whose name it governs.

The message must be loud and clear: SCRAP THE SECRECY BILL in its entirety and start the process anew with full and proper public participation.

How can you get involved?

- Wear red and black and join this rally! Forward this invitation to everyone you know!
- Find us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#)
- Help support our cause by [donating online](#)