MEDIA RELEASE
by CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC PARTY (CDP)

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ANC's attack on the media unasked for

"There can be only one reason why the ANC finds it necessary to describe the media as an enemy, and that is that the ANC is always busy with misconduct." says Rev. Theunis Botha. Leader of the Christian Democratic party (CDP). Botha reacted to Gwede mantashe's attack on the media.

"We can, after all, not expect the media to create an alternative reality to save the day for the ANC. Media freedom is guaranteed by the constitution, but the ANC regularly proposes detrimental steps to curb media freedom. This caused South Africa to tumble by five places on 'Reporters Without Borders' index to the 38th position of press free countries, and Freedom House reclassified South Africa, as only partially free as far as the media is concerned. A country's position on the press freedom index serves as a barometer for the state of a country's democracy and commitment to the fight against corruption. And South Africa has not been the most press free country on the African continent for a considerable time now."

"We do not believe the media is the enemy – that shoe is on the other foot."

ANC se aanval op media ongevraag

"Daar kan net een rede wees waarom die ANC die media as vyandiggesind ervaar, en dit is dat die ANC homself met brouwerk en konkelwerk besig hou," sê ds. Theunis Botha, leier van die Christen-demokratiese party (CDP) in reaksie op mnr. Gwede Mantashe se aanval op die media.

"Dit kan immers nie van die media verwag word om 'n alternatiewe werklikheid te skep waarin die ANC op standaard presteer en regeer nie. Mediavryheid word deur die grondwet gewaarborg, maar die ANC kom kort-kort met skadelike voorstelle wat Suid-Afrika op Verslaggewers Sonder Grense se persvryheidsindeks laat tuimel. Dit is juis hierdie soort praatjies wat Suid-Afrika verlede jaar met vyf plekke tot die 38ste plek op die persvryheidsindeks laat terugskak het, en Suid-Afrika by Freedom House die klassifikasie van net gedeeltelik persvrye land laat verwerf het. 'n land se posisie op die persvryheidsindeks is 'n barometer vir die stand van demokrasie en verbintenis om korrupsie uit te roei. En Suid-Afrika is al lankal nie meer die mees persvrye land op die kontinent nie."

"Ons dink nie die media is die ANC se vyand nie – daardie skoen sit aan die ander voet."