MEDIA RELEASE
by CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC PARTY (CDP)

28 MAY 2011

Ruled by the enemy?

"Last year ANC stalwart Jakes Gerwel wrote in Rapport that the ANC may be a pathetic government but protested that they should be regarded as 'An enemy of the state'," says Christian Democratic Party (CDP) leader, Rev. Theunis Botha.

"Approximately a year and one election later it is still hard to imagine that the ANC should not still be regarded as 'An enemy of the state':

- Its media plans and bill on Access to Information has caused the country to drop further on the International Press Freedom Index. This affects the Corruption Perception Index, and thus the Investment Confidence Index, and eventually the ability to create sustainable employment opportunities, something the country can ill afford.
- South Africa was listed 118th out of 153 countries on the International Peace Index.
- On the Competitive Index SA is listed at 135th out of 139 countries measured, and 112th on productivity compared to income. Yet 5 bills had been tabled which will entrench this position and shed even more employment opportunities.
- Farm attacks continue unabatedly. The murder rate of farmers in South Africa are, according to Interpol, ten times higher than South Africa's more than 30 per 1000 000 of the population per annum. The world average is around 5 per 100 000. Yet, the ANC courts disaster and further polarisation by attempting to legalise a hate speech song directed against farmers.
- The ANC, including the president, repeatedly ignored churches protesting against them, by continuing to use God as a political tool.

"It would be interesting to see whether Gerwel still holds the opinion that the ANC is not an enemy of the country. Little has changed which could alter his opinion that the ANC is a pathetic government. The basic principles of democracy is not only a flourishing multi party system, but where the ruling party rules in general interest, not in own interest, where there is a high level of freedom of the press and where the press is also free from political self censureship – and a clear division of authority. It would, for e.g., be beyond comprehension in a country where the ruling party is not the enemy, that the tax payers pay for the centenary of the ruling party."

"As a *de facto* two party system has now developed in many areas of the country, it becomes even more important that the funding of political parties – also private funding, must be open for public scrutiny. With so many factors already damaging the development of democracy and where it is often referred to as either a nepocracy, cletpocracy, a contemporary Mandarin system, etc, one can not afford for the country be lured into a corporatocracy by big companies buying their way.

"The CDA will do everything in its power to build a Christian Democratic option through various methods, including renewed negotiations with similar parties and interest groups, as well as thinking outside the box."

Regeer die vyand?

"Verlede jaar het die ANC-lojalis, Jakes Gerwel in sy rubriek in Rapport geskryf dat die ANC wel 'n vrotsige regering mag wees, maar hy was beswaard oor die uitbeelding van die ANC as landsvyand," aldus ds. Theunis Botha, leier van die Christen-Demokratiese Party (CDP).

"Ongeveer 'n jaar en 'n verkiesing later is dit steeds moeilik om in te dink hoe die ANC nié as die vyande beskou kan word nie.

- Die ANC se mediaplanne en die Wetsontwerp oor toegang tot inligting het die land verder op die internasionale persvryheidsindeks laat tuimel. Dit beinvloed weer die land se posiosie op die korrupsiepersepsieindeks, en dus ook die beleggersvertroue-indeks, en uiteindelik die vermoë om volhoubare werksgeleenthede te skep, iets wat die land nie kan bekostig nie.

- Suid-Afrika beklee die 118ste plek uit 153 lande op die internasionale vredesindeks.
- Op die mededingendheidsindeks is Suid-Afrika as die 135ste swakste uit 139 lande wat gemeet is gelys, en 112de op die produktiwiteit teenoor inkomstelys. Tog dryf die regering 5 wetsontwerpe wat die posisie gaan vererger en nog werksgeleenthede in die slag sal laat bly.
- Plaasaanvalle duur onverpoosd voort. Die moordkoers onder boere in Suid-Afrika is volgens Interpol tien keer hoër as die Suyid-Afrikaanse gemiddeld van net meer as 30 per 100 000 per jaar. Die wêreldgemiddeld is sowat 5 per 100 000. Tog verhoog die ANC rassespanning deur die reg op te eis om ‘n haatspraaklied teen boere gemik te mag sing.
- Die ANC, ook die president, ignoreer by herhaling vermanings van kerke wat uiteindelik hul profetiese stem gevind het, en gaan voort om God as politieke werktuig in te span.

“Dit sal insiggewend wees om te sien of Gerwel steeds meen dat die ANC nie die vyand van die land is nie. Min het in elk geval verander wat hom sy mening dat die ANC ‘n vrotsige regering is, sal laat wysig. Die basiese grondslae van demokrasie is nie net ‘n florerende veelpartybedeling waar die regerende party in algemene belang regeer nie, maar waar daar ook ‘n hoë vlak van persvryheid is – ook vry van selfopgelegde politieke selfsensuur – en ‘n duidelike verdeling van owerheidsgesag. Dit behoort buite begrip te wees dat die belastingbetalers opdok vir die eeufeesvieringe van ‘n party, selfs die regerende party.”

“Terwyl ‘n *de facto* tweepartybedeling in baie dele van die land ontwikkel het, is dit nou nog meer belangrik dat die befondsing van partye, ook privaat befondsing, oop moet wees vir die publiek. Met so baie faktore wat die ontwikkeling van demokrasie kniehalter, sodat dikwels daarna verwys word as ‘n nepokrasie, ‘n kleptokrasie en ‘n eietydse Mandarynse stelsel, kan nie toegelaat word dat die land in ‘n korporatiewekrasie ontwikkel nie, waar groot maatskappy hul pad oop koop nie.”

“Die CDA sal alles in sy vermoë doen om aan kiesers ‘n behoorlike Christen-demokratiese opsie te bied, en hiervoor verskeie metodes inspan soos om opnuut met soortgelyke partye en belangegroepe te onderhandel, maar ook bietjie buite die kas dink.”