

**Why is it wrong to be seen with DAP, asks Muhyiddin
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Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin said there was nothing wrong with certain Umno leaders appearing with political foes from the opposition to support the Citizens' Declaration against Datuk Seri Najib Razak, since the prime minister himself had shared a stage with PAS president Datuk Seri Abdul Hadi Awang.

The former deputy prime minister, who is one of the signatories to the declaration, said Najib, who is Umno president, had sat together with Hadi in the name of political cooperation.

"Why then is it wrong for Tun Dr Mahathir (Mohamad), myself and (Datuk Seri) Mukhriz (Mahathir) to be at the same table with opposition members to save Malaysia?"

"Why use a different standard for us compared to Najib?" Muhyiddin said in a statement posted on his Facebook account today.

The declaration was spearheaded by Dr Mahathir and unveiled last Friday at a historic press conference which brought together political enemies from Umno, DAP and PKR.

New opposition party Parti Amanah Negara also had representatives there, as well as some leaders from civil society.

The key demand was the removal of Najib from office over alleged financial scandals and undermining of institutions.

Najib and Hadi last year shared a stage at an event for al-Azhar University alumni, where the prime minister in his speech extended an offer to forge closer ties between Umno and PAS, which are traditional rivals for the Malay Muslim vote.

Muhyiddin said he was voicing out against criticism from several Umno leaders, who seemed uneasy with Dr Mahathir for succeeding to unite Barisan Nasional (BN), Pakatan Harapan, PAS and civil society leaders to pressure for Najib's resignation.

The Pagoh MP said the Umno leaders tried to use the presence of DAP adviser Lim Kit Siang at the declaration to portray as if it was a DAP agenda, and even labelled Dr Mahathir a traitor to the party.

"This accusation is completely untrue. The Citizens' Declaration is not any political party's agenda.

"It came about because individuals from various social and political backgrounds realised that Najib is no longer fit to lead the country as prime minister due to his involvement in various financial scandals, which has shaken public confidence," he said.

Muhyiddin said the country's reputation had taken a beating, and the declaration was to recover the nation's dignity.

The declaration was signed by more than 40 civil society and political leaders, including former MCA president Tun Ling Liong Sik, former Kedah menteri besar Datuk Seri Mukhriz Mahathir and Selangor Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Mohamed Azmin Ali. – March 8, 2016.

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