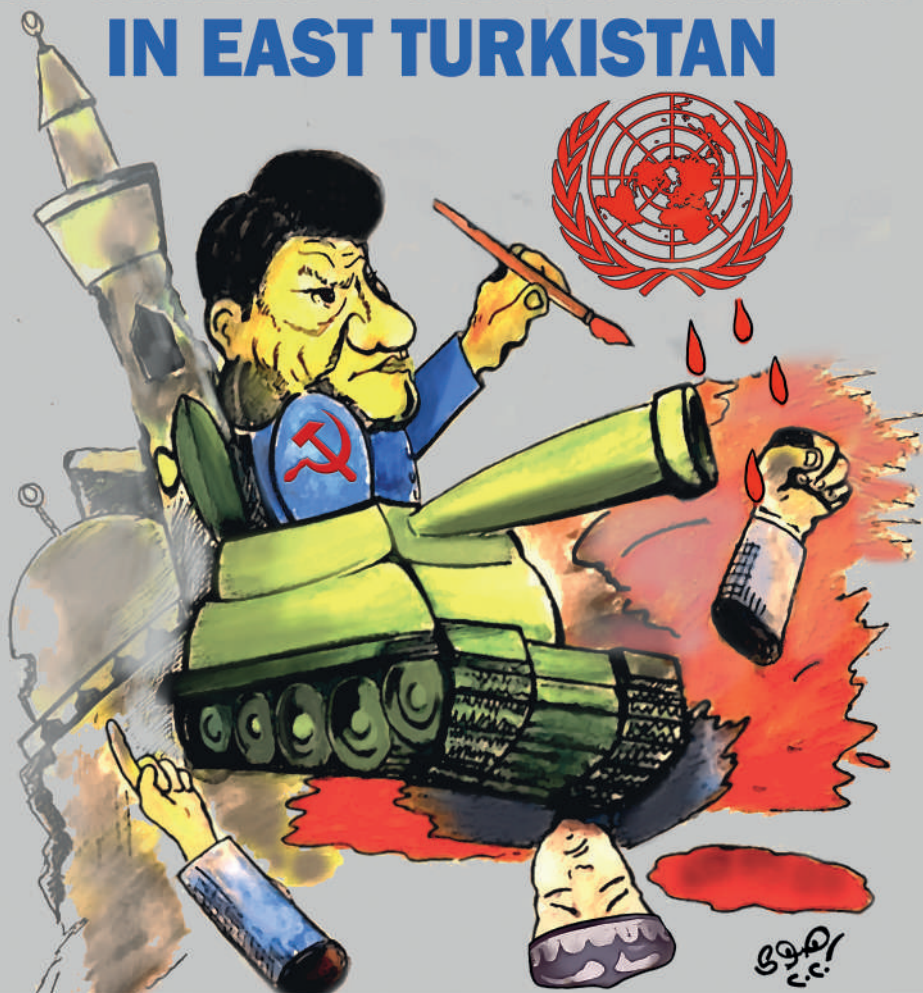


CHINESE DIPLOMATS TRY USING UN AS SHIELD FOR ITS CRIMES IN EAST TURKISTAN



EAST TURKISTAN PRESS AND MEDIA ASSOCIATION
شەرقىي تۈركىستان ئاخبارات ۋە مەدېيا جەمئىيىتى



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PEOPLE OF EAST TURKISTAN CELEBRATE EAST TURKISTAN REPUBLIC DAY

November 12 is a very important day for East Turkistan people. The twice independent East Turkistan republics were founded on this day. The 87th and 76th anniversary events of the republics founded in 1933 and 1944 in East Turkistan are celebrated worldwide.

1. East Turkistan Republics Founded in XX. Century



First Republic: The Islamic Republic of East Turkistan was established in Kashgar on 12 November 1933.

The President was Mr. Hoja Niyaz Haji and the Prime Minister was Mr. Sabit Damolla.

The founder of the first East Turkistan Republic is Mr. Sabit Damolla.

This republic had survived for a short time and was destroyed in 1937 by the cooperation of the Chinese warlord Sheng Shicai and the Chinese Hui Muslim Ma Zhong Ying. President Mr. Hoja Niyaz HAJI and Prime Minister Mr. Sabit Damolla and were killed by Sheng Shicai.



Second Republic: The East Turkistan Republic was established in Gulja on 12 November 1944. The President was Mr. Alihan Töre and the Prime Minister was Mr. Ahmetjan Kasimi.

The founder of the second East Turkistan Republic is Mr. Alihan Töre.

This republic had survived for 5 years and was occupied by the Chinese Communist Party in 1949, who had the support by Soviet Union.

This time, President Mr. Alihan Töre and Prime Minister Mr. Ahmetjan Kasimi were captured by the Soviet Union and killed by Stalin.

2. Total Population of East Turkistanians: approximately 25 Million

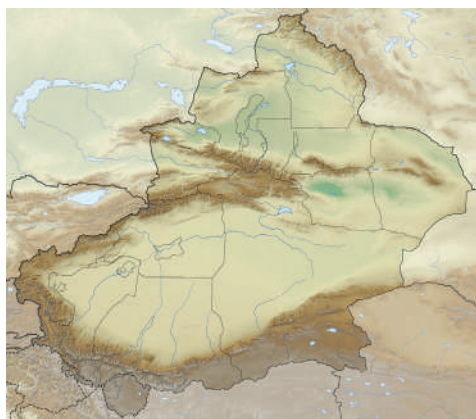
Total Population of East Turkistanians in Abroad: approximately 1 Million

The total population of Uyghurs in East Turkistan: approximately 20 Million

The total population of 12 indigenous ethnic groups in the East Turkistan: Kazakh, Kyrgyz, Uzbek, Tatar, Salur, Tajik, Dongan (Chinese Muslims), Mongol, Shibe, Manzhou, Russian, and Dagurs: approximately 4 Million.



3. Area Size of East Turkistan: approximately 1,828,418 Km²



4. East Turkistan Map





Swedish archaeologic Sven Hedin visited East Turkistan many times between 1927 and 1935 and conducted archaeological and sociological researches. The above map of East Turkistan was drawn by Sven Hedin himself at a ratio of 1: 7 miles. According to the map engineers calculate, the area size of East Turkistan is 1,828,680 km².

5. East Turkistan Flag



6. East Turkistan State Emblem





‘UYGHUR JAIL’ NOTE FOUND IN ST. PETERSBURG SHOE ALARMS HUMAN RIGHT EXPERTS *By Pjotr Sauer*

In the wake of reports implicating the global fashion industry in the use of forced labor, activists say the ‘burden of proof’ lies with The North Face clothing brand.

Arslan Gibadullin was eager to try on an expensive pair of The North Face slippers he’d treated himself to in an online shopping spree after collecting them from a pick-up point in St. Petersburg last Thursday.

“I got home and started putting the shoes on. As soon as I shoved my hand in one of them I discovered a strange note tightly sewn inside the shoe,” Gibadulin told The Moscow Times.

The note, which he posted on his Instagram, read “Help I Am in Jail in China Pleas [sic] Help UYGHUR.”

While The Moscow Times has been unable to verify the authenticity of the note, the incident has turned the spotlight for the third time this year on the global fashion industry’s relationship with its Chinese suppliers and their use of forced Uyghur labor.

A July 2020 report from a human rights coalition of 180 organizations

said that “virtually the entire” fashion industry is complicit in Uyghur forced labor in China’s Xinjiang region. And in March 2020, the Australian Strategy Policy Institute issued a report that said over 82 leading brands are profiting from Uyghur forced labor, estimating that China transferred 80,000 Uyghurs from their home province of Xinjiang to work in factories across the country between 2017 and 2019.

UN experts and human rights groups say that Chinese authorities have detained at least one million Uyghur and other Turkic Muslims in detention camps. China maintains that the camps are voluntary and aimed at tackling religious extremism and poverty. Critics say it is a necessary measure to prevent terrorism. Critics say Beijing is overblowing the threat to justify its actions and liken the centers to concentration camps.

VF, the parent company of The North Face, was initially included on the Australian list, then removed after the brand proved that its association with the factory had ceased before the evidence indicates that the factory received Uyghur workers in a transfer scheme.

When contacted by The Moscow Times, VF said it had been made aware of the note and started an internal investigation. VF also said no forced labor was used in the production of the shoes in question.

“VF Corporation and its family brands do not use forced labor in the manufacturing of any of our products and prison labor was not used in the manufacturing of any of our products. The shoes in the photographs were never in China. The shoes the consumer purchased were manufactured in Vietnam and shipped directly from the factory to our facility in Belgium and then to a distribution center in Russia ... VF does not source any products from the Xinjiang region.”

However, human rights groups specializing in forced labor say it is nearly impossible to be 100% sure that some of the materials used to make the shoe weren’t sourced from China, given the complex nature of the globalized supply chain

“With the discovery of this note, the burden of proof that no forced labor was used during the production of the shoe lies with VF” Johnson Yeung, a



Hong Kong representative of the international Clean Clothes Campaign global told The Moscow Times.

He urged The North Face to provide full transparency on the origin of all the raw materials used to produce the shoe.

Penelope Kyritsis of the U.S. Worker Rights Consortium NGO specializing in forced labor echoed Yeung, pointing out that while VF said it “does not source any products from the Xinjiang region,” it didn’t explain where the raw materials came from.

“VF needs to show every facility that was involved in the production of this shoe.”

VF did not immediately respond to requests from The Moscow Times to provide details of where the raw materials used to manufacture the shoe came from

The SourceMap, an open source online database that visualizes supply chain maps shows that while most The North Face products are manufactured in Vietnam, many of the materials used to make them come from China.

The complexity of the supply chain was underscored at recent government hearing between leading fashion brands and the U.K.’s Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy Committee when a representative of Stella McCartney, a brand which takes pride in its sustainability reputation, said the traceability of certain raw materials,

such as cotton, “is extremely difficult to gain.”

During the same hearing, VF’s vice president of global sustainability and responsible sourcing Sean Cady rejected suggestions that VF uses forced labor, but admitted that there have been instances of audit failure among suppliers.



While most The North Face products are manufactured in Vietnam, many of the materials used to make them come from China.

This is not the first time an apparent note from a Chinese forced-labor worker has been found in exported goods. In 2018, Tesco suspended production of charity Christmas cards at a factory in China after a six-year-old girl found a message allegedly written by prisoners in Shanghai claiming they were “forced to work against our will.”

This note, if genuine, would be the first such instance involving the persecuted Uyghur minority.

“Given the scale of the suppression we have been expecting such letters to come for a while now,” said Peter Irwin, a senior program officer at the U.S.-based Uyghur Human Rights Project NGO.



INDONESIA DEPORTED THREE UYGHURS TO CHINA BEFORE POMPEO VISIT, SECURITY SOURCE SAYS *By Amy Chew*

The action came before US secretary of state urged Muslim youth group not to 'look away' from the suffering of Muslim Uyghurs in Xinjiang

Human Rights Watch said the three men were almost certain to be mistreated upon their return to China

Indonesia deported three Uyghurs to China following their release from prison this week, before US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo's visit on Thursday, according to a senior Indonesian security source.

The source said the action occurred "two to three days ago" – before Pompeo landed in Indonesia for a meeting with President Joko Widodo.

During his stop in Jakarta, Pompeo urged Indonesian Muslims and religious leaders not to "look away" from the suffering of Muslim Uyghurs in Xinjiang.

"They were sent back to China on a special flight chartered by the [Chinese] government," the source said on condition of anonymity because he was not authorised to speak to the press.

There was no indication of a connection between the Uyghurs being sent back and Pompeo's visit.

Human Rights Watch (HRW) expressed concerns for the safety of the men, who had been imprisoned for attempting to join a local militant group, saying "they risk facing harsh sentences, including the death penalty, upon their return to China".

Beijing considers many Uyghurs to be extremists and claims they are dangerous to China's national security.



China and Turkey had both pressured the Indonesian government to send the three Uyghurs – all natives of Xinjiang, China – to their respective countries, and Indonesian authorities had asked both China and Turkey to prove the three men were their citizens, the source said. Turkey usually grants some form of temporary or permanent residency to all Uyghur exiles.

"But only China provided DNA for the three Uyghurs from their families who

are still in Xinjiang," the source said. "They were sent to China as it was proven they are citizens of China."

HRW said the three Uyghurs were almost certain to be mistreated upon their return to China.

"Past practice shows these men are at extreme risk of harsh sentences, including the death penalty," said Brad Adams, Asia executive director at Human Rights Watch. "The Indonesian government knows that the Chinese government routinely persecutes Uyghurs yet it appears to have made a heartless decision that flies in the face of its legal responsibility to protect people from persecution."

The source said, though, that whenever Indonesia makes a deportation it always reminds the recipient country to treat the deportees "in line with human rights principles".

Indonesian Foreign Ministry spokesman Teuku Faizasyah said he had "no information" on the three Uyghurs.

Mohamad Adhe Bhakti, executive director of the Centre for Radicalism and Deradicalisation Studies (PAKAR), said the deportation set a bad precedent for the Indonesian government at a time when anti-China sentiment is high.

"Apart from the anti-China issue, another issue that is likely to emerge is the strengthening of the accusation by the government's opponents that it is anti-Islam," Adhe said.

Groups that oppose the Indonesian government “and like to use the politics of identity to attack the government have been given fuel” by this incident, he added.

HRW has documented serious human rights abuses against Uyghurs, including mass arbitrary detention, enforced disappearances, highly politicised trials ending in death sentences and torture in custody.

In 2016, a spokesman for the Coordinating Ministry of Politics, Law and Security, Agus Barna, told BBC Indonesia the three convicted Uyghurs “would not be sent back to China”.

BBC Indonesia quoted an unnamed “senior government official” as saying returning the Uyghurs would be “the same as killing them, as there was a big possibility they would be immediately executed”.

The three men – Abdulbasit Tuzer, 26, Ahmet Mahmud, 23, and Altinci Bayram, 32 – were each sentenced to six years in jail in 2015 and fined 100 million rupiah (US\$6,800) for attempting to join the East Indonesia Mujahideen (MIT) group and for entering the country illegally with fake Turkish passports.



A fourth Uyghur named Ahmet Bozoglan, who was arrested with the other three, was accused of being the leader of the group. He was also jailed for six years for the same charges in 2015.

Deka Anwar, a researcher at the Jakarta-based Institute for Policy Analysis of Conflict (IPAC), said that based on court dossiers, it is believed the three Uyghurs were duped by Bozoglan, who is a Turkish citizen.

The three claimed that Bozoglan had promised to help them to go to Turkey, and that Indonesia would just be a transit stop en route to Turkey because direct flights from Kuala Lumpur were coming under greater scrutiny.

They were arrested in September 2014 in Poso, Sulawesi, as they sought to meet Santoso, the head of the MIT and Indonesia’s most-wanted terrorist at that time.

MIT was the first militant group in Indonesia to pledge allegiance to Islamic State. Santoso was killed in 2016 during a firefight with security forces.

Uyghurs, who speak a Turkic language, have sought refuge in Turkey for decades.

In 1952, the Turkish government offered asylum to Uyghurs who were fleeing Xinjiang after its takeover by Chinese communists. Turkey has granted some form of temporary or permanent residency to Uyghur exiles since then.



From 2013 to 2016, there was an exodus of thousands of Uyghurs fleeing China through Southeast Asia to seek a better life in Turkey, which for the most part went unnoticed by Indonesia, according to a 2019 IPAC report.

The exodus was a direct result of the crackdown by Chinese authorities following the July 2009 communal riots in Urumqi, the capital of Xinjiang, in which 197 people were killed, according to official Chinese sources. Repression of Uyghurs did not start with the riots, but it intensified dramatically afterward, IPAC said.

In addition to meeting Joko during his Indonesia visit, Pompeo also addressed an event hosted by GP Ansor, the youth wing of Indonesia's largest Muslim organisation, Nahdlatul Ulama (NU), where he urged Indonesian Muslims and religious leaders to speak out against the brutalisation of Muslim Uyghurs.

“The atheist Chinese Communist Party has tried to convince the world that its brutalisation of Uyghur Muslims in Xinjiang is necessary as a part of its counterterrorism efforts or poverty alleviation, depending on which audience that they are speaking to,” said Pompeo.

“I know that ... CCP officials have spun fantastic tales of happy Uyghurs eager to discard their ethnic, religious, and cultural identities to become more ‘modern; and enjoy the benefits of CCP-led development,” he told the audience. “When you hear these arguments, I’d just ask you to do this: search your hearts. Look at the facts. Listen to the tales of the survivors and of their families.”

Chinese Ambassador to Indonesia Xiao Qian responded to Pompeo’s statements by calling the US “a troublemaker in the Islamic world”, The Jakarta Post quoted him as saying.



CANADA NEEDS TO SANCTION CHINA OVER TREATMENT OF UYGHURS, MPS SAY *Rachel Gilmore*

Members of Parliament are continuing to push for the Canadian government to impose sanctions on Chinese officials following a parliamentary study that found the country's treatment of its Uyghur population constitutes "genocide."

Speaking Thursday in a press conference that crossed party lines, current and former members of the House of Commons subcommittee on international human rights addressed reporters in a bid to draw attention to their study's findings and calls for action.

"Some of the testimony we heard was so horrendous that I'm certain some people would actually look at this and think it's a movie script. But this is actually happening," said Conservative MP David Sweet.

Conservative, NDP and Bloc Québécois members of Parliament were all

also in attendance at the press conference, echoing his comments.

"We encourage the government as well... that they would align with, certainly our Commonwealth partners, and make sure that we're establishing a very clear response to the bully tactics from the Chinese Communist Party," Sweet added.

NDP MP Heather McPherson said that while Foreign Affairs Minister François-Philippe Champagne and Prime Minister Justin Trudeau have spoken about the issue, she'd like to see those comments translate into action.

“We have heard the words that Minister Champagne and the prime minister have said, but what we are looking for is further action, of course, and hopefully that this statement and our subsequent report will lead to greater impact and greater action, particularly working with our allies,” McPherson said.

On Oct. 20, the subcommittee released a statement detailing the findings of



their study into the human rights situation of Uyghurs and other Turkic Muslims in the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region. The statement described horrific human rights abuses, ranging from mass detentions, to forced sterilizations, to claims of widespread organ harvesting and coerced labour.

“Survivors of the concentration camps described deplorable conditions. The subcommittee heard that detainees are abused psychologically, physically and sexually. They are forbidden from speaking the Uyghur language or practising their religion,” read the statement.

Over the course of its study, the subcommittee heard from a number of witnesses, including Uyghurs who fled the region, people who have been in-

side the camps, former detainees and their family members, as well as a variety of experts and academics.

“One concentration camp survivor also raised the troubling prospect that the Government of China is collecting DNA information from detainees, without their consent, to determine the compatibility of their organs for later harvesting,” it added.

The statement also described allegations of a campaign of “inhumane population control measures.”

“Documents show that in 2019, officials in Xinjiang hoped to subject over 80% of women of childbearing age in the four Uyghur majority southern prefectures to birth control measures with long-term effectiveness,” the statement read.

“The Subcommittee was told that between 2015 and 2018, population growth in predominantly Uyghur areas of Xinjiang fell by 84%, a trend that is expected to accelerate in the coming years.”

Members also said they found widespread surveillance efforts by the Chinese against the Uyghur population, as well as the use of forced labour – which the politicians said is being used by large corporations that are manufacturing products Canadians consume.



However, speaking at the Thursday press conference, the members of Parliament would not name the companies involved in these supply chains.

The politicians also reiterated their calls for the government to condemn China's actions against the Uyghurs, demanding Canada work with allies to gain access to the region. In addition, they called on Parliament to recognize the acts taking place in the region as genocide, and to impose sanctions using the Justice for Victims of Corrupt Foreign Officials Act on any Chinese officials who have a hand in the treatment of these minority groups.

In December 2019, Conservative senators Leo Housakos and Thanh Hai Ngo announced their intention to table a motion calling for similar sanctions.

The proposal was met with swift condemnation from Chinese Ambassador Cong Peiwu, who said the adoption of such a motion would prompt “very firm countermeasures” from China.

He also called the allegations of mistreatment of China's Uyghur population “fake news.”

Canada is already enduring a chilly re-

lationship with China.

Following Canada's arrest of Huawei executive Meng Wanzhou in December 2018, Canada's relations with China plunged into the deep freeze. China subsequently arrested Canadians Michael Spavor and Michael Kovrig in what the Canadian government has maintained was a retaliation. The two remain detained in China today.

China also temporarily banned the import of Canadian beef and pork, attributing the brief ban to an outlawed animal feed additive they claim was found in a shipment of Canadian pork.

Escalating Canadian concerns over China's crackdown in Hong Kong has also led to renewed threats from China, which has warned Canada against granting asylum to pro-democracy Hong Kong protesters.

“We strongly urge the Canadian side not (to) grant so-called political asylum to those violent criminals in Hong Kong because it is the interference in China's domestic affairs. And certainly, it will embolden those violent criminals,” Cong said on Oct. 15 in a video press conference from the Chinese Embassy in Ottawa.

Speaking during the press conference, Cong also issued a fresh rejection of criticism against China's broader human rights record, stating that any comments on that record are considered interference in China's internal affairs.



UYGHUR MAN WHO CLAIMS HE WAS FORCED TO BE AN INFORMER TO CHINA IN 'SERIOUS CONDITION' AFTER SHOOTING IN TURKEY *Agence France-Presse*

It was reported Yusufjiang Aimaitijiang had gone outside to get cigarettes when he was shot twice on Monday evening.

Using a false name, he told Qatari news service Al Jazeera in February 2019 that he was forced to inform on fellow Uyghurs by China.

An Uyghur man who claimed to have been forced to inform on fellow Uyghurs to Chinese authorities has been hospitalised in a serious condition after being shot in Istanbul, Turkish media reported on Tuesday.

Yusufjiang Aimaitijiang had gone outside to get cigarettes when he was shot twice on Monday evening, the private news agency DHA reported.

Aimaitijiang suffered injuries to his shoulder and arm while the gunman escaped, the DHA report said.

Members of Turkey's Uyghur community said Aimaitijiang was also known as Yusupjan Emet and Yusuf Amat.

Using the name Amat, he told Qatari news service Al Jazeera in February 2019 that he was forced to inform on fellow Uyghurs by China.

"My role was to feed information to officials. I reported on everything people did – what they ate, drank, what they did in private in their homes, whether it was friends or relatives, I shared it all," Amat said.

He said he started spying in 2012 because his mother was taken hostage, and officials tortured her and threatened to keep her unless he agreed to cooperate.

He claimed he had been sent to spy abroad between 2012 and 2018 in

countries such as Afghanistan, Pakistan and Turkey, Al Jazeera reported.

He added that Beijing has "countless" such informants across the world, some of whom also abduct Uyghurs and bring them back to China.

There are around 50,000 Uyghur refugees in Turkey, which has linguistic and cultural connections with the Uyghurs.

Many have fled a crackdown on Uyghur Muslims in north-west China, where camps and prisons have been used against them in the Xinjiang region.

Beijing says they are vocational centres aimed at combating extremism.





CHINESE DIPLOMATS TRY USING UN AS SHIELD FOR XINJIANG CRIMES *Akshaya Kumar*

“ WORLD BODY SHOULD REJECT BEIJING’S FALSE NARRATIVE ”

The Chinese government is facing a barrage of bad press for its systemic abuses against Uyghur and other Turkic Muslims in China’s western Xinjiang region. Journalists have been spotlighting links between forced labor in Xinjiang and global supply chains for everything from hair products to ketchup to solar power. The Economist devoted its cover story to the issue, calling the situation “the gravest example of a worldwide attack on human rights.” In response, China’s government has cynically tried to use the United Nations as a shield for its bad behavior.

In a letter to the editor in The Economist, a senior Chinese diplomat in London suggested that his government’s policies in Xinjiang follow “principles embodied in a number of international documents on counter-terrorism, such as the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy.” But at the risk of stating the obvious, no UN counterterrorism principle would ever countenance the surveillance, family separation, mass arbitrary detention and forcible political re-education of millions of people, as is the case in Xinjiang.

By dragging the UN into the debate, the Chinese government is ratcheting up its move to cast the oppression of Turkic Muslims as counterterrorism, and trying to cloak these mass crimes with the legitimacy of multilateralism. Previously, top UN officials have often been loathe to question the Chinese government's characterization of their campaign as counterterrorism, or demand that Xinjiang's detention camps be closed. But not everyone is willing to toe the Chinese government's line. UN member states and UN human rights experts have increasingly been willing to challenge Beijing's rights record. While the Chinese government has faced isolated violent attacks in Xinjiang, a responsible and rights-respecting counterterrorism response does not involve arbitrarily detaining a million people. Indeed, the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy that China cited actually emphasizes the need to

uphold human rights, and warns that violations of human rights and rule of law can fuel terrorism.

As the UN secretary-general reviews the UN's counterterrorism strategy in the coming months, he should make clear that he won't allow the UN's principles to be taken out of context and used as a fig leaf to justify bone-chilling repression. Otherwise, unscrupulous governments like China's will continue to use the UN's words to justify their atrocities.





IPAC CALLS ON INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT TO ACCEPT CASE INVESTIGATING SUSPECTED GENOCIDE AGAINST UYGHUR MUSLIMS

63 IPAC parliamentarians representing 14 countries have written to the Chief Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court (ICC) urging her to accept a complaint alleging genocide against Uyghurs by China.

The complaint, brought by Rodney Dixon QC, provides detailed and extensive evidence that the Chinese government may be committing crimes amounting to genocide and other crimes against humanity against the Uyghur and other Turkic peoples. Suspected abuses include the mass incarceration of millions of Uyghurs, widespread forced labour and the forced sterilisation of ethnic minority women.

The People's Republic of China is not a signatory to the ICC and so cases brought against the Chinese government are rare. The parliamentarians point to an ICC ruling that crimes com-

menced on the territory of an ICC state party fall within the jurisdiction of the Court. This precedent was established in a case regarding crimes against Rohingya Muslims in Myanmar in 2019. The letter refers to the mass detention and deportation of Uyghurs from Tajikistan and Cambodia, both signatories to the ICC, into China.

An excerpt from the letter reads: "The ICC has a unique ability to adjudicate on alleged genocide and crimes against humanity internationally. We call on the ICC to play its part in ensuring that the perpetrators of the most egregious human rights abuses are

held accountable and prevented from acting with impunity.”

Baroness Helena Kennedy QC, IPAC co-chair and Director of the International Bar Association’s Human Rights Institute, commented:

“Mounting evidence points to the most horrific abuses against Uyghurs and other minorities in the Xinjiang region. The International Criminal Court must fully examine the allegations brought before it and if warranted make every effort to ensure the perpetrators are brought to justice.”



Rodney Dixon QC commented:

“The support for our complaint shown by the IPAC Parliamentarians is very significant. The prosecutor should feel encouraged that so many parliamentarians from other ICC member states believe that she should open an investigation into officials of the Chinese Government for the atrocities being committed against the Uyghur and other Turkic people. For too long, nothing of substance has been done to bring

justice to those who are suffering on a daily basis at the hands of the Chinese Government. This is a breakthrough and momentous opportunity which we urge the ICC Prosecutor to pursue without delay. This chance should not be squandered.”

Full text of the letter:

Dear Ms Fatou Bensouda,

We, members of the Inter-Parliamentary Alliance on China, are writing to express our support for the Complaint brought before the International Criminal Court by Rodney Dixon QC alleging widespread and systematic crimes against the Uyghur people. The Complaint was submitted to your office in an Article 15 Communication dated July 6th 2020.

The Complaint provides compelling evidence that the Chinese government may be committing crimes amounting to Genocide and other Crimes against Humanity against the Uyghur and other Turkic minority peoples. Suspected abuses include the detention of millions of people in internment camps, the forced mass sterilization of Uyghur women and numerous repressive measures against Uyghur culture and religion.

Though the People’s Republic of China is not a Member State of the ICC, the Complaint alleges crimes against Uyghurs from Member States of the ICC, including the mass detention and deportation of Uyghurs from Tajikistan and Cambodia into China. We



urge you to uphold the decision that crimes commenced on the territory of an ICC State Party come within the jurisdiction of the Court, as decided by the Court in relation to the Bangladesh/Myanmar (Rohingya) case in November 2019.

As Parliamentarians of ICC Member States, we ask that you urgently use your full powers under the Rome statute to launch an investigation gathering all relevant evidence to determine whether there can be prosecutions of Chinese officials for these alleged crimes.

The ICC has a unique ability to adjudicate on alleged genocide and crimes against humanity internationally. We call on the ICC to play its part in ensuring that the perpetrators of the most egregious human rights abuses are held accountable and prevented from acting with impunity.

We look forward to your response.
Signatories:

Andrew Hastie MP (Australia)
Sen. Kimberley Kitching (Australia)
Sen. Alex Antic (Australia)
Sen. Eric Abetz (Australia)
Kevin Andrews MP (Australia)
George Christensen MP (Australia)
Rep. Samuel Cogolati (Belgium)
Hon. Irwin Cotler (Canada)
James Bezan MP (Canada)
Sen. Pierre J. Dalphond (Canada)
Nathaniel Erskine-Smith (Canada)
Garnett Genuis MP (Canada)
Sen. Leo Housakos (Canada)
Sen. Marilou McPhedran (Canada)
David Sweet MP (Canada)
Sen. Thanh Hai Ngo (Canada)
Pavel Fischer MP (Czechia)
Jan Lipavsky MP (Czechia)
Katarina Ammitzbøll MP (Denmark)
Uffe Elbæk MP (Denmark)
Senator Olivier Cadic (France)
Frédérique Dumas MP (France)
Margarete Bause MdB (Germany)

Gyde Jensen MdB (Germany)
 Matteo Luigi Bianchi MP (Italy)
 Enrico Borghi MP (Italy)
 Sen. Valeria Fedeli (Italy)
 Roberto Giachetti MP (Italy)
 Sen. Lucio Malan (Italy)
 Sen. Roberto Rampi (Italy)
 Andrea Delmastro delle Vedove MP (Italy)
 Mantas Adomėnas MP (Lithuania)
 Martijn van Helvert MP (Netherlands)
 Henk Krol MP (Netherlands)
 Louisa Wall MP (New Zealand)
 Elisabet Lann (Sweden)
 Fredrik Malm MP (Sweden)
 Tina Acketoft MP (Sweden)
 Lorentz Tovatt MP (Sweden)
 Hampus Hagman MP (Sweden)
 David Josefsson MP (Sweden)
 Maria Nilsson MP (Sweden)
 Niels Paarup-Petersen MP (Sweden)
 Joar Forssell MP (Sweden)
 Fabian Molina MP (Switzerland)
 Nicolas Walder MP (Switzerland)
 Lord David Alton (United Kingdom)
 Steve Baker MP (United Kingdom)

Baroness Natalie Bennett (United Kingdom)
 Chris Bryant MP (United Kingdom)
 Alistair Carmichael MP (United Kingdom)
 Rosie Cooper MP (United Kingdom)
 Geraint Davies MP (United Kingdom)
 Sir Iain Duncan Smith MP (United Kingdom)
 Nusrat Ghani MP (United Kingdom)
 Baroness Helena Kennedy (United Kingdom)
 Imran Ahmad Khan MP (United Kingdom)
 Tim Loughton MP (United Kingdom)
 Siobhain McDonagh MP (United Kingdom)
 Anthony Mangnall MP (United Kingdom)
 Baroness Catherine Meyer (United Kingdom)
 Layla Moran MP (United Kingdom)
 Andrew Selous MP (United Kingdom)
 Alyn Smith MP (United Kingdom)
 Stephen Timms MP (United Kingdom)





BEIJING 2022 OLYMPICS: STOP THE 'GENOCIDE GAMES'

By Dorjee Tseten, Zumretay Arkin, Teng Biao, and Frances Hui

A Tibetan, Uyghur, Hong Konger, and Chinese rights lawyer urge the IOC to re-think giving China a platform through the Winter Olympics.

With just over a year to go until the 2022 Winter Olympics, the clock is ticking for the International Olympic Committee (IOC) to ensure it does not repeat the same mistake it made in 2008 by effectively endorsing China's failure to improve human rights.

A few weeks ago we – a Tibetan, Uyghur, Hong Konger, and Chinese rights lawyer – met with IOC representatives to share a collection of painful evidence of the extreme abuses that we

have endured at the hands of the Chinese government, and to urge the IOC to reverse its mistake in awarding Beijing the honor of hosting such a prestigious event as the Winter Olympic Games in 2022.

We shared first-hand information from the frontline of China's rights crackdown: the painful loss of contact with Uyghur relatives and friends and the fears that they may be among the millions held in camps or forced labor facilities; the deep impact of Xi Jinping's policy of "absolute control" that is ripping families apart in Tibet; the kidnapping and abuse of those who have sought freedom by China's secret police; and the chilling reality that many people are too fearful to re-

turn home because we would face imprisonment, torture, and even death in Chinese custody.

We left the meeting feeling that despite the representatives being clearly moved by our personal stories, the IOC was prepared to continue ignoring the fact that their chosen 2022 Olympic host is carrying out the most heinous crimes against humanity, blatantly refusing to see the situation as problematic and maintaining the age old rhetoric that this isn't about "politics," but rather about the "Olympic movement."

Our concerns for the IOC's failure were further exacerbated when, shortly after our meeting, the IOC's president, Thomas Bach, attempted to gloss over the historical realities by stating that the Olympics are solely about diversity and unity, not politics and profit. Bach surmised that the Olympic Games are "politically neutral," which couldn't be further from the truth. Rather than being apolitical, history has shown us that time and time again, the Olympic Games have been used as propaganda platforms to prop up dangerous political systems. In 1936 Adolf Hitler used the Berlin Games as a propaganda coup to portray the Nazis as tolerant, and in 2008 China used the Beijing Summer Games as a pretext to

intensify its brutal practices and policies, which have led to increased and widespread violation of human rights.

The reality is that the relationship between the Olympic Games and politics is now, and has always been, acutely visible and this has not gone unnoticed by the Chinese Communist Party. While the IOC remains in denial, China is once again preparing to use the 2022 platform as part of its "soft power" arsenal to help roll out a sophisticated strategy aimed at reshaping and influencing public opinion in an attempt to hide the gross and increasing assault on those living under its rule.



But at the same time, there is a growing movement amongst governments and elected officials who are facing up to the reality and are expressing sup-

port for a diplomatic boycott of the Beijing 2022 Games in the knowledge that they cannot once again help bolster China's authoritarian regime as happened in 2008.

Despite the ticking clock, there is still time for the IOC to decide to stand on the right side of history; will it abide by the Olympic Charter's core principles of "human dignity" and use the Olympic platform for the good of humanity, or will it endorse one of the world's most brutal regimes in its efforts to crush any remaining dissent by hosting a "Genocide Games"?

Dorjee Tseten, a Tibetan living in exile in the U.S., is the executive director of Students for a Free Tibet and elected member of Tibetan Parliament in exile. On Twitter: @Dotseten

Zumretay Arkin, a Uyghur-Canadian, is the program and advocacy manager of World Uyghur Congress. On Twitter: @ZumretErkin

Teng Biao 滕彪 is a Chinese human rights lawyer, scholar, and activist, living in exile in the U.S. On Twitter: @tengbiao

Frances Hui, a Hong Kong activist and founder of We The Hongkongers is based in the U.S.





RAHILE DAWUT HONORED WITH COURAGE TO THINK AWARD

NEW YORK — Scholars at Risk (SAR) announced today that Dr. Rahile Dawut is the recipient of its Courage to Think Award for 2020. Dr. Dawut is being recognized for her own work, as well as that of all the scholars and students of the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region, who together struggle for academic freedom and freedom of opinion, expression, belief, association, and movement.

The award, which will be presented at SAR's virtual conference Free to Think 2020: Responding to Attacks on Higher Education, will be accepted by Dr. Dawut's daughter, Akeda Pulati. The Courage to Think Award recognizes individuals, groups, or institutions that demonstrate an exemplary commitment to protecting scholars and promoting academic freedom, whether through professional work, private or community service, or by facing personal risk.

Dr. Dawut is an Associate Professor in the Human Science Institute of Xinjiang University and founder of the Minorities Folklore Research Center in Xinjiang University. In December

2017, Dr. Dawut told a relative of her plans to travel from Urumqi to Beijing. Shortly thereafter, her family and friends lost contact with her. Professor Dawut's disappearance was made public in August 2018. It is suspected that she is held by state authorities at an undisclosed location.



“My mother is a scholar, not a criminal,” said Akeda Pulati. “She studies the folklore and cultural traditions of minority populations. That is not a threat to the government, other institutions, or the people of China.”

“The imprisonment of Dr. Dawut, an internationally recognized scholar of Uyghur culture, reveals the Chinese government's blatant repression of voices and ideas it finds displeasing,” said Rob Quinn, executive director of SAR. “This constricts academic activity and public expression, threaten-

ing minority traditions, histories, and languages. The disappearance of Dr. Dawut, along with many thousands of others, is an atrocity we should all strive to end.”

Human rights groups estimate that a million people in China are detained in so-called “re-education camps.” Those disappeared and suspected of being in state custody include scholars, students, and other public intellectuals. Detainees are reportedly subjected to physical and psychological abuse, including beatings, solitary confinement, and sexual harassment. They are forced to recite anthems of the Chinese Communist Party, attend indoctrination classes, and eat pork and drink alcohol in contravention of their religious beliefs. A large number of detainees are also reportedly forced to work in factories across China, where they continue to experience mistreatment.





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