

# CHINA

## JOINT SUBMISSION

45<sup>th</sup> Session of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review

By

Action by Christians for the Abolition of Torture, France (ACAT-France)

And : Africa Hong Kong France (AHKF), Ensemble Contre la Peine de Mort (ECPM), Comité pour la liberté à Hong Kong.

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**ACAT-France** is a French non-governmental human rights organization founded in 1974. It campaigns for the abolition of torture, all forms of cruel, inhuman and degrading treatments as well as for the abolition of the death penalty, through advocacy and lobbying of governments and international bodies.



**Africa Hong Kong France (AHKF)** has officially been a non-profit association since the 2<sup>nd</sup> of May 2020. It can be defined in two words: respect and justice. Its mission is to create a link between Hong Kong and Africa, and to work on the creation and development of artistic, cultural, economic relations between the diasporas of the two countries.



**ECPM (Ensemble contre la peine de mort/Together Against the Death Penalty)** is a French non-governmental organisation that fights against the death penalty worldwide and in all circumstances by uniting and rallying abolitionist forces across the world. The organisation advocates with international bodies and encourages universal abolition through education, information, local partnerships, and public awareness campaigns. ECPM is the organiser of the World Congresses against the death penalty and a founding member of the World Coalition Against the Death Penalty. In 2016, ECPM was granted consultative status with ECOSOC.



**Comité pour la liberté à Hong Kong** is an association fighting for Hong Kong democracy in France, in response to the repressive Chinese government smothering Hong Kong, by organizing demonstrations and advocating for the people of Hong Kong.

## Introduction

1. We, ACAT-France, Africa Hong Kong France (AHKF), ECPM and Comité pour la liberté à Hong Kong, submit this report on the state of human rights in China, with regards to its compliance with international human rights obligations for the 45<sup>th</sup> session of the Universal Periodic Review's (UPR) Working Group in the United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC) in 2024.
2. In its previous UPR, the government of China accepted a total of 284 recommendations of the 346 put forward. Yet, they were mainly formulated in general terms. Furthermore, despite this supposedly positive outcome, China continues to face international criticism for its increased restrictions on basic rights including freedom of expression and freedom of assembly.
3. Nevertheless, the UPR, as an objective review of a human rights situation, remains of particular importance regarding China since it is one of the last opportunities of open dialogue with its government. Indeed, in other circumstances, the Chinese government usually refuses to discuss on these topics with other States or within international bodies, demanding respect for its national sovereignty and non-interference in its internal affairs.
4. Since 2015, China's human rights' situation is getting worse. We are particularly concerned about the shrinking space for civil society, the institutionalization of torture, the unprecedented level of surveillance of Hongkongers and the continuing use of the death penalty in the country. This submission will examine these key issues.

## Shrinking space for civil society

5. The Chinese government has strict control over the media, proclaiming that the narrative of the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) is the one and only source of information. In practice, since the 1989 Tiananmen Square protests and massacre, the list of topics subjected to censorship keeps on growing. In the recent years, Chinese human rights defenders were arrested and detained for providing information and/ or expressing themselves on an extensive range of topics including feminism, the #MeToo movement, the situation of other arbitrarily detained human rights defenders and the Covid-19 situation. Ultimately, this policy reached a peak at the end of 2022 when individuals were arrested only for participating in, or being connected to, the "*white paper*" protests, which consisted solely in holding blank papers while marching, mourning the Urumqi fire of November 26, 2022, and chanting slogans against the Zero-Covid policy still in force back then.

### *Obstruction to the work of NGOs and human rights institutions: the Changsha Funeng's case*

6. Since the last UPR, the Chinese government did not allow NGOs to freely operate in its territory (in accordance with international standards), contrary to the only recommendation they accepted on this matter (No. 28.207).
7. On July 22, 2019, **Cheng Yuan**, the head of the local Chinese human rights organization **Changsha Funeng**, employees **Liu Dazhi** (alias Liu Yongze) and **Wu Ge Jianxiong** were criminally detained by the Changsha State Security Bureau on suspicion of "*subversion of state power*". The three of them were subsequently detained at the Hunan Provincial State Security Department Detention Center and Changsha Funeng was forced to close.
8. **Shi Minglei**, Cheng Yuan's wife, had her head placed in a black hood, got handcuffed and interrogated for nearly twenty hours after her husband's arrest, even though she was not involved in his human rights work. Her documents, cell phone, computer were seized by intelligence services, and her bank account was frozen. Then, she was placed under

residential surveillance for 180 days on charges of “*subversion of state power*”. After her release, she repeatedly sued and appealed on behalf of herself and her husband. She was forced to resign due to continued harassment and intimidation by the authorities on herself and her employer. In addition, her daughter's parochial school was forced to close. Finally, Shi and her daughter fled to the United States in early 2021.

9. After Cheng Yuan was criminally detained, several employees of **Guangzhou Equal Opportunity**, another human rights organization he helped launch, were repeatedly interrogated by the State Security Bureau agents in Guangzhou and Changsha. Under pressure, they disbanded the Guangzhou EOC's office. In August 2021, the court sentenced Cheng Yuan to five years in prison, Liu Dazhi to two years in prison, and Wu Ge Jianxiong to three years in prison.

*Increased crackdown on human rights defenders, dissidents, journalists, netizens*

10. The Chinese government accepted seventeen recommendations in terms of protecting and guaranteeing the rights of human rights defenders and the freedom of expression in the last UPR (No. 28.181; .199; .200; .201; .202; .205; .206; .208; .209; .334; .335; .336; .337; .338; .340; .341; .342). However, the civil society still faces an increased crackdown on dissidents, journalists, netizens solely on the grounds of exercising their freedom of expression as well as restrictions on freedom of expression in general. Moreover, most of these activists are still being detained in conditions contrary to international standards and in violation of their right to a fair trial.
11. **Zhang Zhan** is a Shanghai citizen and a former lawyer. In February 2020, after the outbreak of the Covid-19, she traveled to Wuhan to track and report on people's livelihoods. Through the medium of WeChat and Twitter, she became a netizen: she revealed the real sanitary situation by visiting Wuhan's residential neighborhoods, hospitals, stations, funeral parlors, and other front lines of the pandemic. Zhang Zhan joined the “*Covid-19 Compensation Claims Lawyer Advisor*” to provide legal advice to victims of the Covid-19's policy in Wuhan. She also gave interviews to foreign media.
12. For all these reasons, on May 14, 2020, Zhang Zhan was arrested by Shanghai police in Wuhan and taken back to Shanghai for detention. On December 28, 2020, she was sentenced to four years in prison by the Shanghai Pudong New District Court for “*picking quarrels and provoking troubles*”.
13. On May 30, 2020, the Chinese poet, television and film scriptwriter, painter, human rights defender **Wang Zang** (real name **Wang Yuwen**) was arrested by the police in Chuxiong City, Yunnan Province, in front of his children. The police accused Wang Zang of “*inciting subversion of state power*”.
14. Since 2007, Wang Zang was involved in human rights and democracy activism. He began in 2003 under the pseudonym “*Little Prince*”. He started to assume his real name in 2009. He joined the Independent Chinese PEN Center in 2005. He criticized the Cultural Revolution, publicly expressed solidarity with other human rights lawyers, Falun Gong practitioners, the self-immolation resistance of Tibetans, and support for Xinjiang Uighur scholar Ilham Tohti. As a result, he was frequently harassed by government officials, and even evicted from his Beijing residence in 2012 by relevant Beijing government authorities.
15. After Wang Zang's arrest in May 2020, his wife **Wang Li** (real name **Wang Liqin**) appealed online to the Chinese government to release her husband Wang Zang. On June 17, 2020, Wang Li was summoned to a police station and subsequently placed in criminal detention, becoming a suspect in the same case as Wang Zang for “*inciting subversion of state power*”. Wang Li was seriously anemic while in the detention center.

After their arrest, the couple's four minor children were left in the care of their grandmother, who struggled since the family's financial resources had been cut.

16. On the morning of November 11, 2022, the Yunnan Chuxiong Intermediate Court handed down a sentence of four years in prison for Wang Zang and two years and six months for Wang Liqin. Wang Zang and Wang Liqin both said in court that they did not accept the verdict and filed an appeal.
17. **Ou Biao Feng** is a commentator on current affairs and a human rights activist. In recent years, while the space for civil society was shrinking, he continued to engage in civil rights activism and published first-hand accounts of crackdowns on civil activists. In March and November 2020, he was summoned twice by local police for publicly showing solidarity with human rights activist Xu Zhiyong and Chang Wei Ping. The same year, Hong Kong media mogul **Lai Chi-Ying** (also known as **Jimmy Lai**), a pro-democracy activist and owner of the media Next Digital and Apple Daily, was arrested. He was also suspended, following Hong Kong's 2019 civil *"Anti-Extradition Law Amendment Bill Movement"*.
18. Ou Biao Feng publicly expressed his support for Lai and Apple Daily. He was warned by the Hunan police several times for this reason. On December 3, he was abducted by the police in Zhuzhou city, Hunan Province. The following day, he was placed in administrative detention for fifteen days, because he helped Dong Qiongyao, a woman who poured black ink at Xi Jinping's portrait on the streets of Shanghai in 2018. He issued a plea on her case on social media. On July 22, 2021, he was arrested by the Lusong District Prosecutor's Office in Zhuzhou City on suspicion of *"inciting subversion of state power"*. On January 27, 2022, the Zhuzhou City No. 1 Prosecutor's Office held a trial against him on the charges of *"subversion of state power"*. On December 30, 2022, he was sentenced to three years and six months in prison, deprived of his political rights for three years, and his so-called *"illegal gains"* of more than 70,000 RMB got confiscated. **Wei Huan Huan**, Ou Biao Feng's wife, stated on Twitter on the same day that the trial lasted less than ten minutes and the so-called illegal proceedings were mainly from Ou Biao Feng's previous articles published in Apple Daily and his salary as an editor of a human rights movement website.
19. **Ruan Xiaohuan** is a computer technology expert who was the chief engineer of the information security system for the 2008 Beijing Olympics. He has been blogging since 2009<sup>1</sup> about cyber security and how to get past China's *"Great Firewall"* of network restrictions. He is also a frequent critic of the Chinese Communist Party. He has published several blog posts calling for the public to take to the streets to protest the government.
20. On May 10, 2021, Ruan Xiaohuan was taken into custody at the Yangpu District Detention Center of the Shanghai Public Security Bureau on suspicion of *"inciting subversion of state power for some of his comments in his overseas blogs"*. On February 10, 2023, Ruan Xiaohuan was sentenced by the Shanghai Second Intermediate Court to seven years in prison for *"crime of inciting subversion of state power"* in the first trial. The court-appointed legal aid lawyer supposedly defended Ruan, but the lawyer did not disclose the case to the family until the first trial. Hence, Ruan's family did not know the specific cause of action of Ruan's arrest and trial.
21. After the first trial, **Bei Zhen Ying**, his wife, received a notice from the judge informing her that Ruan had filed an appeal and that the defense lawyer was the same assigned by the first court. Ruan's wife clearly stated that she would rather appoint lawyers Mo Shaoping and Shang Baojun from Beijing. However, Bei Zhen Ying's father and brother were interviewed by the police who pressured and discourages them from appointing Mo and

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<sup>1</sup> <https://program-think.blogspot.com>

Shang. Moreover, for this reason, on February 19, 2023, Ruan's wife was forced to talk with the police at her home for two hours. Despite these threats, she signed an agreement with Mo and Shang on February 20. These lawyers immediately requested Ruan Xiaohuan's file from the judge. However, to increase the obstacles for defense lawyers to read the file, the judge replied that the case was being transferred to the High Court, so the lawyers could only access it there.

22. On February 22, 2023, Ruan Xiaohuan's case was filed in the Shanghai High People's Court (Case No. 2023 Shanghai Criminal Court Final 15). On February 28, Judge Su Meihua was assigned to undertake the case. When the case was heard by the Shanghai High Court, the legal aid lawyers occupied the seats of the defense bench, which prevented the two Mo Shaoping and Shang Baojun from exercising their right to defense. Ruan's wife is still complaining about this.

#### *Violent repression of secret gatherings and public protests*

23. The Chinese government accepted two recommendations in terms of respecting and guaranteeing the rights to peaceful assembly in the last UPR (No. 28.195; .205). Still, since then, the Chinese authorities have violently repressed several offline secret gatherings of human rights defenders and public protests.
24. Mid-December 2019, several Chinese lawyers and human rights activists attended a gathering in Xiamen, Fujian. After this event, nearly twenty participants were released after being summoned, detained, and interrogated at length by the police. Three lawyers, **Xu Zhiyong**, **Ding Jiayi** and **Chang Weiping**, were approved for arrest. Xu Zhiyong was sentenced to fourteen years in prison by the authorities and eight years of deprivation of political rights for subversion of state power, while Ding Jiayi was sentenced to twelve years in prison and three years of deprivation of political rights for the same crime. These verdicts have only been known recently, almost a year after their secret trials. Meanwhile, the situation of Xu Zhiyong and Ding Jiayi remained uncertain. Likewise, the trial of Chang Weiping was held in secret, and the outcome is so far unknown to the public. The three of them were subjected to torture, secret trials, prolonged detention, and denial of access to relatives, in violation of their fundamental rights.
25. Feminist activists' offline activities were also targeted by the police. In 2018, when one of the first and emblematic #MeToo cases, Xuan Tzu v. Zhu Jun, began, people who went to the court to attend the trial were driven away by the police who seized their belongings. In 2021, several feminist activists were followed by the police, had cameras installed in front of their homes, were interviewed randomly, had their cell phones and computers seized.
26. In September 2021, **Huang Xueqin** (a journalist and feminist activist) and **Wang Jianbing** (a staff member of an NGO) were arrested by the Guangzhou Public Security Bureau on suspicion of "*inciting subversion of state power*" for gathering privately (see paragraph 37 for more information).
27. After the "*white paper*" protests, residents of Shanghai, Chengdu, Guangzhou, Beijing, and tens of other cities launched street protests. But they were quickly repressed by the government. Some participants were arrested in secret. Officials withheld information about the arrests until now. Mid-December 2022, **Wu Yannan**, an associate professor at Nankai University's School of Philosophy, was held in a psychiatric hospital (Tianjin Sheng'an Hospital) by her university because of her support for the protests and her demand for protection for students who participated in them.
28. On October 9, 2020, **He Fangmei**, the founder of the Home for Vaccine Victimized Babies poured red paint on the gate of the government of Hui County, Xinxiang City, Henan Province as a means of protest the Chinese authorities. Her entire family

subsequently disappeared. Her lawyer was able to meet with her only in January 2023, almost three years later. She learned that her husband had been sentenced to five years in prison, supposedly for "*bigamy*" and "*picking quarrels and provoking trouble*" while He Fangmei, pregnant at the time of her disappearance, was still in custody awaiting sentencing. Her two daughters (one is seven years old and the other is only one year old) are now being held in Henan Province Xinxiang Gongji Psychiatric Hospital by the local government without the consent or accompaniment of a guardian. Her eight-year-old son was placed in foster care with a rural family, separated from his mother and his two sisters. In addition, He Fangmei is a hearing-impaired person who can speak but has weak hearing and generally relies on lip reading to understand what people are saying, which makes her more vulnerable to torture while in detention.

29. On December 2, 2022, nine vaccine victims' family members from different provinces publicly and peacefully complained about the government's inaction in front of the National Health Commission. Seven participants were violently taken away by government officials on the scene. All of them were subsequently criminally detained for "*picking quarrels and provoking trouble*", six of whom were released on bail, and one was charged.

### *The specific targeting of grassroots workers and repression of workers-led protests*

30. Grassroots workers are still being deprived of their freedom of association as they are barred from forming trade unions independent from the government's auspice. Indeed, according to the Chinese legislation, trade unions are defined in the Constitution of the All-China Federation of Trade Unions as a mass organization under the leadership of the Chinese Communist Party<sup>1</sup>. Article 12 of the Trade Union Law prohibits the formation of trade unions without approval from trade union organizations of a higher level in the hierarchy led by All-China Federation of Trade Unions (ACFTU)<sup>2</sup>.
31. Individuals who attempt to organize other workers for labor rights protections often risk being detained or indicted. **Chen Guojiang** was the organizer of Delivery Riders Alliance, which consisted of sixteen online chat groups connecting 15,000 delivery workers across China. In 2019 he was detained by the police during twenty-six days, for trying to organize a walkout. In 2021, after criticizing the bonus policy of a delivery platform, he was detained by the Beijing Police Department with the charge of "*picking quarrels and provoking trouble*"<sup>3</sup>. At the end of his second detention, Chen has not been seen again organizing delivery workers.
32. Since the last UPR, worker-led protests remained violently repressed and participants in protests were still being detained. In November 2022, hundreds of replacement workers of a Foxconn electronic manufacturing plant in Zhengzhou protested their hiring terms. In response, anti-riot police forces were deployed to clamp down the protest. Violence broke out between protesting workers and the police force. The number of arrests in the incident was not announced<sup>4</sup>.

### **The institutionalization of torture**

33. The Chinese government ratified the Convention Against Torture (CAT) in 1988. Nonetheless, the practice of torture continues in China, especially through its institutionalization against the Uyghur and Muslim minorities living in the Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region (XUAR). Moreover, in 2016, in its Concluding observations on the fifth periodic report of China, the UN Committee Against Torture specifically stated that "*the use of the so-called "interrogation chairs" during interrogations should be prohibited*"<sup>5</sup>. Still, recent testimonies and information make it clear that this practice – among others that are regularly condemned by the international community – persists and is encouraged in the country, especially in the XUAR. It appears that the Chinese government relies on an increasingly sophisticated, complex arsenal of new, ancient laws and instruments, such as RSDL, to allow the practice of torture at a massive scale. The data on the exact number of Uyghurs and other Muslims being currently detained in the XUAR or regarding the use of RSDL is kept secret by the Chinese government. In any case, this lack of transparency on their part (regarding a detainee's situation for example), the secrecy or even denial (regarding the human rights situation in the XUAR) are usually worrying and possible indicators of human rights violations.

### *RSDL*

34. The Chinese government did not accept any of the recommendations made in terms of ending RSDL in the last UPR (No. 28.176 and .180). RSDL is a legal form of enforced disappearance, added to the Criminal Procedure Law in 2012 in article 75. Because it allows the detention of human rights activists in unknown places with no access to lawyers or medical care at an unspecified location for up to six months, especially since there is no official indictment and their families are not informed about their whereabouts<sup>6</sup>, it exposes prisoners to abuse and torture. According to UN experts, "*RSDL is not compatible with international human rights law. As a form of enforced disappearance, RSDL allows authorities to circumvent ordinary processes provided for by the criminal law and detain individuals in an undisclosed location for up to six months,*

*without trial or access to a lawyer*<sup>7</sup>.

35. RSDL remains a frequently used method of detaining labor rights activists. Three citizen journalist activists, **Ke Chengbing**, **Wei Zhili** and **Yang Zhengjun** ran iLabor, an online media platform to raise awareness on labor rights issues. In January 2019, they were put into RSDL. During six months, their families were not informed of their whereabouts, and were deprived of legal counsel. After RSDL, they were finally formally arrested for *"picking quarrels and provoking trouble"*.<sup>8</sup>
36. In August 2021, **Fang Ran**, a PhD student in the University of Hong Kong, whose research topic involved labor rights in China, was called by police officers to pick up his computer and phone confiscated in a previous interrogation. As he showed up, he was put into RSDL for *"inciting subversion of state power"*.<sup>9</sup>
37. In September 2021, labor rights advocate **Wang Jianbing**, together with women rights, #MeToo campaigner **Huang Xueqin**, were held for five months in solitary confinement, with conditions like RSDL. Huang had already experienced RSDL once in 2019 for posting online about Hong Kong's anti-extradition movement<sup>10</sup>. Wang was deprived of the right to see a lawyer until April 2022. In May 2022, the UN Working Group on Arbitrary Detention determined that he was being held arbitrarily<sup>11</sup>.

#### *The XUAR*

38. The Chinese government accepted only two recommendations out of the sixteen related to the XUAR. One is related to economic, social and cultural rights in the XUAR (No. 28.321) and the other is about guaranteeing freedom of religion or belief in the region (No. 28.194).
39. Since the last UPR, on the 31<sup>st</sup> of August 2022, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) published the *"Assessment of human rights concern in the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region, People's Republic of China"*. This report highlights in its paragraph 145 that *"the treatment of persons held in the system of so-called VETC [Vocational Education and Training Centres] facilities is of (...) concern. Allegations of patterns of torture or ill-treatment, including forced medical treatment and adverse conditions of detention, are credible, as are allegations of individual incidents of sexual and gender-based violence. While the available information at this stage does not allow OHCHR to draw firm conclusions regarding the exact extent of such abuses, it is clear that the highly securitised and discriminatory nature of the VETC facilities, coupled with limited access to effective remedies or oversight by the authorities, provide fertile ground for such violations to take place on a broad scale"*. In paragraph 148, the report concludes that *"in the period 2017- 2019 and potentially thereafter"*, a period running after the date of the last UPR, *"the extent of arbitrary and discriminatory detention of members of Uyghur and other predominantly Muslim groups, pursuant to law and policy, in context of restrictions and deprivation more generally of fundamental rights enjoyed individually and collectively, may constitute international crimes, in particular crimes against humanity"*, emphasizing the gravity of the human rights violations occurring in the XUAR. Even though the Chinese government keeps on denying the existence of these crimes against humanity, there is mounting evidence from several sources (NGOs, International organizations, testimonies...) of their ongoing commission in the XUAR.
40. Hence, it is highly regrettable that the Chinese government did not at least accept all the recommendations made in the last UPR in relation to the human rights situation in the XUAR, since their objectives were to combat those crimes against humanity.

#### **Unprecedented level of surveillance of Hong Kongers**

41. The Chinese government is using surveillance technologies at an unprecedented level to target human right defenders, activists, and journalists from Hong Kong, inside and



outside the country, which is especially alarming.

42. China spies on Hong Kong activists in France as well as those in other western countries. Apart from the usual methods such as following and taking photos, Chinese agents illegally collect information from activists, namely by burglary. In 2021, a Hong Kong activist was burglarized while he was sleeping in his room. He lived in a calm suburb, and he was the only victim in his shared flat. Amongst his belongings, only his computer and mobile phone were stolen, as well as an external battery, which looked like a mobile phone in the dark. He was quite obviously targeted. Regarding following by Chinese agents, it has occurred several times after anti-CCP demonstrations. In one instance, a female activist was followed by a Chinese agent. Finally, she had to hide in a lingerie shop to get rid of him. As we understand, these activists are not followed anymore after the burglary. Chinese repression does not necessarily come from Chinese embassy agents. Any Chinese might report subversive behavior. The Taiwanese landlady of an activist hired an illegal Chinese plumber to fix the drain. He noticed her political slogan banner hanging on the wall. He took a photo of it and said he would report her address to the Chinese embassy.

### **The use of the death penalty**

43. The Chinese government did not accept any of the twenty-two recommendations<sup>12</sup> made in the last UPR regarding the death penalty. Although execution figures are classified as State secret, it is believed that they still reach several thousand per year. Despite the reduction of capital offences in 2015, they still include offences that do meet the “*most serious crime*” criteria. Rights to fair trial are known not to be respected and opacity around death penalty data is increasing as a great number of judgements have been removed from the official online database run by the Supreme People’s Court<sup>13</sup>.

### **Recommendations**

44. Ratify the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.
45. Allow NGOs to freely operate in the country.
46. Guarantee freedoms of expression, assembly and association including in Hong Kong, and remove obstacles to freedom of information on the Internet.
47. Ensure that human right defenders, dissidents, journalists, netizens are not being targeted, arrested, detained, and tortured for their work and are able to carry out their work without obstruction and fear of reprisal.
48. Pass and implement legislation recognizing the vital role of human right defenders, both individual and collective, in promoting human rights.
49. Ensure effective remedy for violations of human rights when they occur, including by strengthening judicial systems to hold businesses accountable for acts of retaliation against human right defenders and actively participating in investigation and prosecution of those responsible for attacks against them.
50. Ensure that grassroot workers are not being targeted, arrested, detained, and tortured for leading protests and are allowed to form trade unions independent from the government’s auspice.
51. Sign the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance.

52. Put an end to the practice of RSDL.
53. Recognizing the commission of crimes against humanity against Uighur and other Muslims in the XUAR.
54. Immediately release all the individuals detained in VETC facilities.
55. Put an end to the mass detention of Uighurs and other Muslims in the XUAR.
56. Put an end to the mass surveillance of Hong Kongers, inside and outside the country.
57. Publish annual data on the number of people sentenced to death, the nature of the offences for which they have been sentenced, the number of people sentenced to death being detained in correctional facilities and the number of cases that are on trials/police investigation that warrant a death sentence.
58. Bring national legislation into line with international standards by removing all offences that are not the “*most serious crimes*”, as defined by the United Nations Human Rights Committee in 2018, from the scope of the death penalty.

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[https://www.acftu.org/jgsz/ghzc/202009/t20200907\\_328474.html?sdiOEtCa=qqrh1D3NHZVWrBQFYLSHKj0JEaJafBFWWKdBoyzTjRvGjJrvlP43xIAQsiZBkCa6ueo EuMZEiSIZ1o PhJ52zgWQnOSLGq017Kw94AC4w3BVw9omd.q ynOOPAnqJ3mnL3czFQtN6c173WhdFckcnezZacOEY\\_y09vnPUzAcg](https://www.acftu.org/jgsz/ghzc/202009/t20200907_328474.html?sdiOEtCa=qqrh1D3NHZVWrBQFYLSHKj0JEaJafBFWWKdBoyzTjRvGjJrvlP43xIAQsiZBkCa6ueo EuMZEiSIZ1o PhJ52zgWQnOSLGq017Kw94AC4w3BVw9omd.q ynOOPAnqJ3mnL3czFQtN6c173WhdFckcnezZacOEY_y09vnPUzAcg)

<sup>2</sup> [http://www.mohrss.gov.cn/xxgk2020/fdzdgnr/zcfg/fl/202011/t20201102\\_394624.html](http://www.mohrss.gov.cn/xxgk2020/fdzdgnr/zcfg/fl/202011/t20201102_394624.html)

<sup>3</sup> <https://labornotes.org/2021/04/china-leader-delivery-riders-alliance-detained-solidarity-movement-repressed>

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.scmp.com/tech/big-tech/article/3200747/violence-erupts-foxconn-zhengzhou-plant-workers-protest-over-benefits-and-covid-19-controls-worlds>

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[https://tbinternet.ohchr.org/\\_layouts/15/treatybodyexternal/Download.aspx?symbolno=CAT/C/CHN/CO/5&Lang=en](https://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/15/treatybodyexternal/Download.aspx?symbolno=CAT/C/CHN/CO/5&Lang=en)

<sup>6</sup> <https://ishr.ch/latest-updates/several-questions-about-residential-surveillance-at-a-designated-location-rsd/>

<sup>7</sup> <https://www.ohchr.org/en/press-releases/2020/03/china-un-experts-gravely-concerned-enforced-disappearance-three-human-rights>

<sup>8</sup> <https://www.nchrd.org/2020/06/ke-chengbing-wei-zhili-yang-zhengjun/>

<sup>9</sup> <https://www.scmp.com/news/china/article/3148386/fang-ran-haunting-case-hong-kong-labour-rights-researcher-held-china>

<sup>10</sup> <https://www.nchrd.org/2022/09/china-must-protect-the-rights-of-detained-human-rights-defenders-huang-xueqin-and-wang-jianbing/>

<sup>11</sup> <https://www.ohchr.org/sites/default/files/2022-06/A-HRC-WGAD-2022-9-CHN-AEV.pdf>

<sup>12</sup> Recommendations No. 28.2 ; .11.1 ; .11.2 ; 11.3 ; .158.1 ; .158.2 ; .159.1 ; .159.2 ; .159.3 ; 160.1 ; 160.2 ; 160.1 ; .160.2 ; .161.1 ; .161.2 ; .161.3 ; .162 ; .163 ; .164 ; .165 ; .166 ; .167 ; .168 ; .169

<sup>13</sup> <https://www.scmp.com/news/china/politics/article/3138830/millions-court-rulings-removed-official-chinese-database>