



Assembly of Citizens' Representatives, Hong Kong
Public Statement on the Passage of Article 23 Legislation under the
Basic Law by Hong Kong Communist Regime

The Assembly of Citizens' Representatives, Hong Kong (hereinafter referred to as "the Assembly") adopted the following resolution via circulated documents on 19th March, 2024:

The Assembly strongly condemns the Hong Kong Communist regime and its self-styled legislative body, which does not represent the will of Hong Kong citizens, for passing legislation on Article 23 of the Basic Law, which blatantly disregards the will of the people, tramples on the rule of law in Hong Kong, and violates the human rights of Hong Kong citizens.

This legislation attempts to influence the human rights, freedom of speech, and freedom of association of Hong Kong people abroad and foreigners through legislation.

This law will affect foreign governments, local authorities, civic organizations, and corporate entities with offices or mailing addresses in Hong Kong because their activities in their home countries will be subject to the restrictions of this law. As a result, representatives of these organizations or corporations in Hong Kong may be at risk of arrest under the National Security Law or may be compelled to assist in investigations or arbitrary detentions without being able to freely obtain legal assistance. These organizations or corporations may become reluctant to comment on Hong Kong or China, resulting in a white terror atmosphere.

This law will also affect the freedom of speech and action of Hong Kong citizens and Chinese nationals living abroad, as they may be restricted from criticizing the Hong Kong or Chinese government's governance in their local areas due to the restrictions of this law. Additionally, there may be a minority of individuals who monitor other Hong Kong citizens, Chinese people, or foreign citizens or organizations abroad, fearing that their relatives in Hong Kong may be arrested or that they themselves may be arrested upon returning to Hong Kong.

The employment freedom of Hong Kong citizens and foreign citizens

working in international organizations will also be affected, as their work or the organizations they work for may be easily designated as overseas organizations by the Communist Party and the Hong Kong Communist regime without explanation, just as the Assembly has been unjustly designated as an "anti-China organization aboard".

The Assembly recommends that international community:

- Strengthen immigration policies for receiving Hong Kong people (including "lifeboats" special immigration measures and economic resettlement plans) while conducting background checks on individuals who have served in high-ranking positions in the Hong Kong and Chinese governments, disciplinary forces, and judicial institutions.
- Review the identity of all Hong Kong government and Chinese government liaison offices, corporations, and organizations with official backgrounds established in various countries (including but not limited to the membership status of APAC and ICAO, Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office, Hong Kong Trade Development Council, Confucius Institutes, associations, and chambers of commerce), and take actions including revoking privileges or requiring disclosure of their relationship with the Chinese Communist Party or the Hong Kong government to limit their ability of bringing impact to societies and transnational repression.
- Impose economic and immigration sanctions on officials and self-claimed legislators who participate in implementation of this law, as their actions undermine human rights and the rule of law in Hong Kong and interfere in the internal affairs of other countries through legislation.
- To safeguard the interests of various governments in Hong Kong, establish special committees in government departments or parliaments to regularly report on Hong Kong's business environment, rule of law, and human rights situation.
- Strengthen both public and private communication with Hong Kong people organizations in various regions to exchange information on the latest developments in Hong Kong. At the same time, provide appropriate assistance to Hong Kong citizens and organizations seeking protection from the implementation of this law.

Assembly of Citizens' Representatives, Hong Kong
Year 184 of the Founding of Hong Kong
On 19th March, 2024