

**Joint Statement by 67 Organizations on the 5th Anniversary of the
2019 Hong Kong Pro-Democracy Movement
Five Years Since Hong Kong's 2019 Pro-Democracy Movement:
Liberate Hong Kong, Revolution of Our Times**

On the fifth anniversary of the 2019 Hong Kong movement — a decentralized movement comprised of protests, campaigns, and efforts led by millions of Hong Kongers — we reaffirm our determined commitment to liberate Hong Kong and invite allies around the world to take actions in support of our endeavors to establish autonomy in Hong Kong.

On June 9th, 2019, a million Hong Kongers took to the streets to protest against legislation that would enable extradition between Hong Kong and China. As the Hong Kong SAR government decided to shut down the protests, the movement evolved to include millions of Hong Kongers to fight for the "Five Demands" — which has remained unfulfilled and would no longer suffice to address the plight of Hong Kong. In spite of intensified state violence, including tear gas, water cannons, rubber bullets, and state-directed mob attacks, many Hong Kongers, especially anonymous frontline protesters, chose to persist.

In the years that followed, Hong Kong became a testing ground for the Chinese Communist Party to experiment with coordinated strategies in their authoritarian playbook. The Hong Kong SAR government — at the behest of the Chinese Communist Party — imposed a heavy-handed and comprehensive crackdown to eliminate any possible space for protests and dissent against the regime both at home and abroad. The struggle of Hong Kongers continues as history unfolds. As of today, Hong Kong has seen more than 1,870 anonymous protesters, organizers, activists, and policymakers become political prisoners. Implementation of the National Security Law, Article 23, the National Anthem Ordinance, and other weaponized legal tools has significantly increased the risks and costs for Hong Kongers merely exercising their freedom of speech. Media outlets and civil society organizations are either forced to shut down or struggle to survive under heavy surveillance. Even Hong Kongers abroad encounter intensifying threats of transnational repression, ranging from surveillance to assault. As Beijing's grip on Hong Kong tightens, the rule of law and the freedoms outlined in the Sino-British Joint Declaration and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights have become a distant tale.

Hong Kongers continue to uphold their commitment to the decade-long call for autonomy. Inside Hong Kong, defenders and activists continue to affirm the spirit of the movement in court and in prison. Hong Kongers innovate creative ways to express grievances and keep spirits alive through symbols and gestures. Around the world, a diasporic Hong Kong civil society is taking root politically, culturally, and socially through countless and continuous trials and errors. While tens of thousands of Hong Kongers are imprisoned, exiled, and repressed, we — along with some who cannot participate in signing this statement — are determined not to leave fellow Hong Kongers alone in the fight. Their conscious choice to remain steadfast and hopeful must be recognized and acknowledged.

During this time, the Chinese Communist Party has also displayed increasing authoritarian ambition, military aggression, economic coercion, covert infiltration, transnational repression, and covert infiltration around the world. In the face of these unprecedented challenges, Hong Kongers around the world have acted as agents of change in identifying, evaluating, and countering the expansion of the Chinese regime. Now is the time for the international community to fulfill its basic obligations by adopting, strengthening, and enhancing pro-Hong Kongers policy measures. Together, we must resist the Chinese government's global authoritarianism and support Hong Kongers in their quest for liberation.

Governments around the world should advocate for the release of political prisoners, empower Hong Kongers by offering protection, and hold perpetrators accountable through sanctions. The international community, including governments, multilateral organizations, non-profits, and think tanks, should strive to engage with Hong Kongers to ensure a sharper and more strategic policy position, avoiding the same mistakes that have ultimately fed a one-party dictatorship at the cost of global democracy and security.

Although the future of Hong Kong remains unclear, we firmly believe that one day, Hong Kong will be liberated. As Hong Kongers chanted in unison on the streets of our beloved home, "光復香港，時代革命": liberate Hong Kong, revolution of our times.

Year 184 of the Founding of Hong Kong

On 12th June, 2024

Signed by:

Hong Kong Democracy Council (HKDC)

Arizona for Hong Kong (AZ4HK)

Assembly of Citizens' Representatives, Hong Kong

Association of Hong Kongers in Western Australia

Australia Capital Hong Kong Association

Australia Hong Kong Link

Blossom Community HK

Bonham Tree Aid

Canada-Hong Kong Link

Chicago Solidarity with Hong Kong (CSHK)

DC4HK (Washingtonians for Hong Kong)

Democracy for Hong Kong (D4HK)

Edmonton HongKongers Alliance

Fight for Freedom. Stand with Hong Kong.

Freiheit für Hongkong e.V.

Friends of Hong Kong Calgary

Hong Kong Affairs Association of Berkeley

Hong Kong Aid

Hong Kong Committee in Norway

Hong Kong Forum, Los Angeles

Hong Kong International Alliance Brisbane (HKIA Brisbane)

Hong Kong Outlanders in Taiwan

Hong Kong Scots

Hong Kong Watch

Hong Kongers in San Francisco Bay Area

Hongkonger in Brighton CIC

Hongkonger in Deutschland e.V.

Hongkongers in Britain (HKB)

HongKongers in Leeds

Lady Liberty Hong Kong (LLHK)

Lamp of Liberty

Le Comité pour la Liberté à Hong-Kong

Lion Rock Café

Netherlands for Hong Kong

New Yorkers Supporting Hong Kong (NY4HK)

Northern California Hong Kong Club

Nottingham Stands with Hong Kong
Philly4HK
PL4HK
Re-Water CIC
Reading UK Stands with HK
SEArrious for HKG
Southampton Hongkongers
Students for Hong Kong
Sutton Hong Kong Culture & Arts Society
Taiwan Hong Kong Association
Texans Supporting Hong Kong (TX4HK)
Toronto Association for Democracy in China
US HONGKONGERS CLUB
Vancouver Activists of Hong Kong (VAHK)
Vancouver Hong Kong Forum Society
Victoria HongKongers Association (Australia)

Supported by:

Anti China Expansion Movement
Campaign for Uyghurs
China Aid Association
Coalition of Students Resisting CCP
Dialogue China
Far East Freedom Youth League
Filipino American Human Rights Alliance (FAHRA)
Fundación Para La Libertad de Nicaragua
Human Rights Foundation
Human Rights in China
Humanitarian China
Students for a Free Tibet
Uyghur American Association
Uyghur Youth Initiative e.V.
Vancouver Society in Support of Democratic Movement