

**MARCH 21, 2022**

## **Promoting Accountability for Transnational Repression Committed by People's Republic of China (PRC) Officials**

The Department of State is taking action against PRC officials for their involvement in repressive acts against members of ethnic and religious minority groups and religious and spiritual practitioners inside and outside of China's borders, including within the United States.

The United States rejects efforts by PRC officials to harass, intimidate, surveil, and abduct members of ethnic and religious minority groups, including those who seek safety abroad, and U.S. citizens, who speak out on behalf of these vulnerable populations. We are committed to defending human rights around the world and will continue to use all diplomatic and economic measures to promote accountability.

Today's action imposes visa restrictions on PRC officials who are believed to be responsible for, or complicit in, policies or actions aimed at repressing religious and spiritual practitioners, members of ethnic minority groups, dissidents, human rights defenders, journalists, labor organizers, civil society organizers, and peaceful protestors in China and beyond.

We again call on the PRC government to cease its acts of transnational repression, including attempting to silence Uyghur American activists and other Uyghur individuals serving the American people by denying exit permission to their family members in China.

The United States reaffirms its support for those who bravely speak out despite the threat of retaliation. We call on the PRC government to end its ongoing genocide and crimes against humanity in Xinjiang, repressive policies in Tibet, crackdown on fundamental freedoms in Hong Kong, and human rights violations and abuses, including violations of religious freedom, elsewhere in the country. We will continue to work with the international community to promote accountability for PRC officials responsible for atrocities and human rights violations and abuses wherever they occur, including within China, the United States, and elsewhere around the world.

**MARCH 31, 2022**

## **Hong Kong's Diminishing Freedoms**

Over the past year, the People's Republic of China (PRC) has continued to dismantle Hong Kong's democratic institutions, placed unprecedented pressure on the judiciary, and stifled academic, cultural, and press freedoms. As the 25th anniversary of Hong Kong's handover to Beijing approaches, Hong Kong's freedoms are diminishing while the PRC tightens its rule. The differences between Hong Kong and cities in mainland China are shrinking due to ongoing repression from the PRC.

This year's [Hong Kong Policy Act Report](#) documents actions taken by leaders in Hong Kong and the PRC that have further eroded both democratic institutions and human rights, and profoundly impaired independent media operations and freedom of expression. These policies have far-reaching implications for all aspects of life in the city, including for the international business and financial communities.

Sweeping arrests of Hong Kong residents, as well as the forced closure of institutions including Apple Daily and the June 4 Museum, underscore the scope of these deeply damaging changes. In response to heightened risk and uncertainty, some international firms in Hong Kong have relocated entirely, while others have shifted key staff or operations elsewhere. Beijing will ultimately force many of the city's best and brightest to flee, tarnishing Hong Kong's reputation and weakening its competitiveness. Hong Kong's position as a free, global financial center will continue to suffer as a result.

A fully functioning civil society, rule of law, and individual liberties form the bedrock on which vibrant societies grow. We stand with people in Hong Kong.

## Department Press Briefing 중 부분발취

**April 8, 2022**

Let's go over to Joseph Akbush.

**QUESTION:** Hi, Jalina. Thanks for this. Two questions. One, is there any comment on the two attacks which targeted U.S. servicemembers in Syria and Iraq over the last two days, I guess? And on that note, any updates to the Vienna talks?

And then my second question is on Ukraine. And are there still - is the U.S. still concerned about China providing military support to Russia or circumventing international sanctions? Thank you.

**MS PORTER:** Thanks, Joseph. So for your first question, I would have to refer you to the DOD. To your second question on any updates in - on the status of talks and Iran, we don't have any updates to share at this time other than it's obviously been a significant process, but an agreement is neither imminent nor certain at this time.

And to your last question on Chinese military to assist the Russians, I think we've been pretty clear on our stance when it comes to any support in this activity, and that hasn't changed at this time. Let's take our last question from Elizabeth Hagedorn.