

Witness Statement to the U.S. House of representatives Committee on Foreign Affairs

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Dear Chairman

Thank you for your invitation to talk about Hong Kong situation at this very critical moment.

The passing of the National Security Law by the National People Congress yesterday had sounded the death knell for One Country Two System. The people of Hong Kong was not shown any wordings of the Law when it was passed showing the contempt of the Chinese Communist Party(CCP) on the rights of the people.

This represents the second handover for Hong Kong and for me personally my third handover.. On 1st July 1997, Hong Kong was handover to China by the British Government under the promise of One Country Two System guaranteed by the Basic Law. The imposition of National Security Law on Hong Kong represented the second handover with the promise of high autonomy for fifty years was broken and Hong Kong was handed over back to China as One Country One System without the buffer of the Basic Law or the Hong Kong Government. For me personally, it is my third handover. I was arrested on 5th June 1989, just after the Tiananmen Square massacre, for bringing support to the Democracy Movement in Tiananmen Square. Thanks to the strong outcry in Hong Kong, I was released after three days and since that day I devoted my lifetime to work towards democratic changes in China as one of the leaders in the Hong Kong Alliance in Support of Patriotic Democratic Movement in China. After the passing of the National Security Law, will people like me be tried in Hong Kong or handed over to China for trial because of our condemnation of Tiananmen Square Massacre in our candlelight vigil every year, the setting up of June 4th Museum and our continuous support for Human Rights in China? Would there be a fourth handover awaiting me?

The new law just promulgated 11p.m. 30th June 2020 is a complete destruction of the rule of law in Hong Kong and threatens every aspect of freedom the people of Hong Kong enjoyed under the international human rights standards or the Basic Law. When I read through the detailed description of the four elements of national Security Crimes: subversion, secession, terrorism and collusion with foreign power, it strongly suggested to me, the CCP drafted the law in a way to cover the various acts of the past Protest Movement under the four crimes so that the CCP can use the law against the actors and bring them under the National Security Law. This is an act of revenge against the people of Hong Kong. For example, waving of foreign flags may come under secession. To attack or damage Hong Kong Government facilities rendering it unable to function or severely interfered with the legal functioning of the state apparatus by violence or illegal means can be caught by subversion. Damaging public transport can fall under terrorism. Collusion with foreign power included through illegal means in promotion of hatred towards the Central Government, severely blocked the Hong Kong Government or the Central Government from implementation of laws and policies with serious consequences, taking sanction or other confrontational actions against the Hong Kong Government or the PRC. The law will be

enforced by National Security Agency with personnel from China and Hong Kong with the support of a special unit of the Hong Kong police and the power to search, conduct secret surveillance, tapping of communication, which sound very much secret police operation.

Applying this Law in Hong Kong, many people had asked whether the Hong Kong Alliance founding platform of End of One Party State or our past supports of human rights defender in China deemed to be subversion. Can people in Hong Kong shout the slogan “down with Carrie Lam” or “defund the Police” and get caught of subverting the Hong Kong Government? Would the media reporting on some of the activities be caught also by the law when afterwards it turned out that those activities were crimes under the National Security Law. The guillotine was now installed in Hong Kong and it would strike to instill fear.

After the passing of the National Security Law, the people of Hong Kong will have to decide on a daily basis whether to post your criticism of the Government or China on Facebook? Whether to come out for marches or gatherings? As an aspiring politician, whether one should stand firm on principles and be disqualified as candidate for Legislative Council Election or adjust to the new environment? As a teacher, what to teach at classes without getting into trouble? As civil servants, whether to participate in political activities after working hours in fear of being labeled as disloyal to the Government? As a worker, whether to sign a petition to pledge support to the Government as ordered by your boss or whether to join your own Union that fight for democracy and risked dismissal? As a parent, whether to teach your child critical thinking or should accept without challenge the brain wash by he regime? With the destruction of One Country Two System and Rule of Law and in its place Rule of Fear, Hongkongers have to learn to live and survive in a suppressive environment and still retain the will to resist.

For the Hong Kong Alliance and the pro-democracy trade union movement that I belong to, we will continue our past activities for justice and democracy and not deterred by the new authoritarian law. We will fight on for freedom and democracy and we need the world to stand with Hong Kong.