



For Immediate Release

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Ouster of US Journalists Blow to Press Freedom and Autonomy of Hong Kong

WASHINGTON, DC (March 17, 2020) – **HKDC’s Managing Director, Samuel Chu** releases this statement on the CCP’s latest direct attack on Hong Kong’s autonomy and press freedom by ousting and barring US journalists from working in Hong Kong:

“The ousting of journalists for the New York Times, Wall Street Journal and Washington Post from Hong Kong is a serious and direct attack on Hong Kong’s autonomy and press freedom enshrined and protected by Hong Kong’s Basic Law.

In the midst of a global pandemic, the CCP is attempting to turn off the lights to the rest of the world as they tighten their ‘death grip’ on Hong Kong and try to strangle the pro-democracy movement and opposition voices during a time of crisis.

Press freedom is a hallmark and pillar of Hong Kong society – it is a key measure of Hong Kong’s freedoms and central to the United States’ evaluation and certification of Hong Kong’s autonomy under the Hong Kong Policy Act of 1992 and the Hong Kong Human Rights and Democracy Act of 2019.

We call on the Hong Kong government and the Chief Executive to resist the CCP’s unilateral action and interference with Hong Kong’s affairs and to demonstrate the government’s autonomy and commitment to ‘One Country, Two Systems’ by allowing all journalists to freely work and report in Hong Kong.”

Hong Kong Democracy Council (HKDC) is a Washington, DC-based nonpartisan, nonprofit organization dedicated to preserving Hong Kong’s basic freedoms, the rule of law, and autonomy as promised under the “one country two systems” model and enshrined in the Basic Law and the Sino-British Joint Declaration.

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