



For Immediate Release

June 4, 2021

Contact: Samuel Chu

schu@hkdc.us

626.589.1330

HKDC Condemns Arrest of Chow Hang Tung and Urges Worldwide Remembrance of Tiananmen

Arrest followed sentencing of participants and organizers of past vigils and a ban of June 4th-related gatherings

WASHINGTON, DC (June 4, 2021) - In response to the ban of the annual June 4th vigil in Hong Kong for the second year in a row and the arrest of Chow Hang Tung, Vice-Chair of the Hong Kong Alliance, the organization behind the annual vigil in Hong Kong this morning, HKDC releases the following statement:

From Samuel Chu, managing director, HKDC:

“For years, whenever the calendar flips to June, activists in Mainland China would be quietly rounded up, Tiananmen Square would go into lockdown, and the Great Firewall would go into overdrive. All to ensure that not even the slightest trace or echo of the brutal and violent crackdown of the 1989 Tiananmen protests would be seen or heard. Today, those same tactics are being unleashed in full force in Hong Kong.

For the second year in a row, Hong Kong authorities have banned the annual vigil or public gathering of any kind. They have prosecuted and jailed participants of past candlelight vigils and the organizers of the groups responsible for the commemorative activities. This past Sunday, Hong Kong police arrested activist Alexandra “Grandma” Wong on suspicion of participating in an ‘unauthorized assembly’ after she marched - alone - to the Beijing Liaison Office in Hong Kong. On Tuesday, June 1, authorities shut down the Hong Kong June 4th Museum, alleging that the museum provided ‘entertainment without a proper license. This morning, police preemptively arrested and detained Chow Hang Tung, the Vice-Chair of Hong Kong Alliance.

These are the realities of the new pre-crime era in Hong Kong - where speech and thoughts are prosecuted, and protests and assemblies are outlawed. But I am confident that these tactics will only have the opposite effects Beijing intended. Criminalizing the act of remembering will bring greater and worldwide attention and resonance to the democratic aspirations of the brave souls who perished in 1989 and the pro-democracy movement in Hong Kong today. The more Beijing tries to cover up the past, the greater our resolve to create and shape a free and democratic Hong Kong and China in the spirit of Tiananmen.”

[Watch every session and speaker from the 2021 HKDC Policy Conference.](#)

Hong Kong Democracy Council (HKDC) is a Washington, DC-based nonpartisan voice for the pro-democracy movement in Hong Kong and US Hong Kongers.

###