



For Immediate Release

May 28, 2021

Contact: Samuel Chu

schu@hkdc.us

626.589.1330

HKDC Condemns Jail Terms over Peaceful Assembly

Sentences between 14 to 18 months for ten pro-democracy leaders are the harshest handed down yet

WASHINGTON, DC (May 28, 2021) - In response to [10 pro-democracy leaders, including Jimmy Lai, Lee Cheuk Yan, Albert Ho, Figo Chan, Leung Kwok Hung, Cyd Ho, Yeung Sum, Richard Tsoi, Sin Chung-Kai, and Avery Ng sentenced to jail for participating in a peaceful protest on October 1, 2019](#), HKDC releases the following statement:

From Samuel Chu, managing director, HKDC:

“We are outraged by the harsh sentences handed down today.

Peaceful assembly is a constitutionally protected and internationally recognized human right. I am heartbroken yet inspired by the courage of the ten pro-democracy leaders who are choosing to stand up for the basic rights of all Hong Kongers over their personal freedom. They were not alone during the peaceful march on October 1, 2019, and they are not alone now. They were targeted because they represent the will and determination of millions of Hong Kongers who have marched.

These jail terms are designed to create maximum terror and deterrence leading up to the 32nd anniversary of the Tiananmen Square massacre and the 2nd anniversary of the start of the anti-extradition protest. Beijing and Carrie Lam have gone to great lengths to prevent and ban any and all public assembly. By doing so, they have also shown Hong Kongers and the world how fearful they are of the truth and the bravery of a few.

HKDC stands with our fellow Hong Kongers and joins their call for all Hong Kongers, no matter where they are, to light a candle on June 4th and for leaders and citizens worldwide to join us in the collective act of remembrance and defiance. We will never forget - not those who perished in Tiananmen Square and certainly not those who stand tall and defiant behind bars in Hong Kong today.”

[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.

###