



***For Immediate Release***

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**Joint Call to Action on Safe Haven in the U.S. from HKDC, SWHK, and HKW**

WASHINGTON, D.C. (October 29, 2021) — HKDC is joining forces with Fight For Freedom, Stand With Hong Kong ([SWHK](#)) and Hong Kong Watch ([HKW](#)) to urge the U.S. Congress to pass safe haven legislation for Hong Kongers and call on constituents across America to [contact their Members of Congress](#). Our three organizations jointly issue the following statement:

We, the undersigned organizations, urge the U.S. Congress to pass legislation offering humanitarian pathways for Hong Kongers and call for solidarity and joint effort among the Hong Kong diaspora, especially those in the U.S., to drive legislative change.

Humanitarian pathways for Hong Kongers are urgently needed in the United States. Many local residents are facing imminent danger of political persecution for simply exercising their freedoms of speech, assembly, and association. This crisis was drastically intensified by the National Security Law whose “fundamental incompatibility” with international law and human rights has been recently highlighted by UN human rights experts.

Over the past month, the Biden Administration has taken substantive steps to offer a pathway to Hong Kongers. After President Biden’s announcement to grant Hong Kongers Deferred Enforced Departure (DED) on August 5, the Department of Homeland Security recently announced the details on work authorization for eligible Hong Kongers covered by DED.

Understanding that DED is temporary in nature, we urge the U.S. Congress to pass further legislation that provides more permanent humanitarian pathways for Hong Kongers in need. The urgency of the matter has been further highlighted in the recent

Congressional-Executive Commission on China (CECC) hearing, which aimed to be a catalyst for passage of such bills that protect Hong Kongers from persecution.

We believe in the power of solidarity and joint effort among the Hong Kong diaspora. We call for all Hong Kongers in the U.S. to utilize the “Find Your Legislators” function on [Call4HK.com](http://Call4HK.com) to contact their Members of Congress via email and Twitter to urge them to support Hong Kong and cosign the S.295 / H.R.461 Hong Kong Safe Harbor Act.

We are similarly committed to amplifying each organization’s voice and promoting a culture of collaboration. This joint campaign to push for safe haven legislation will be the start in the right direction, where we can find strength in unity and community.

Signed,  
Hong Kong Democracy Council (**HKDC**)  
Fight For Freedom, Stand With Hong Kong (**SWHK**)  
Hong Kong Watch (**HKW**)

HKDC believes that it is imperative to establish more permanent humanitarian pathways for Hong Kongers, and recognizes this joint call to action as a huge leap forward in consolidating the Hong Kong diasporic community. In the National Security Law-era, when local civil society is under extreme assault, diasporic solidarity is more important than ever to sustain our fight for freedoms and democracy.

***Hong Kong Democracy Council (HKDC)** is a Washington, D.C.-based nonpartisan, nonprofit organization for Hong Kong’s pro-democracy movement and Hong Kongers in the United States.*

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