

# **Human right abusers and state violence perpetrators in China and Hong Kong**

**For the consideration for sanctions under:  
Justice for Victims of Corrupt Foreign Officials Act (Sergei Magnitsky Law)  
S.C. 2017, c. 21**

## **PREPARED FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA**

**By Alliance Canada Hong Kong**

With files from:

Stand With Hong Kong (SWHK)

Hong Kong Higher Institutions International Affairs Delegation (HKIAD)

Writers:

Alliance Canada Hong Kong Core

Alliance Canada Hong Kong Research Team

Alliance Canada Hong Kong Support Team

**ALLIANCE  
CANADAHK**

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# CHEN Quan-Guo (陳全國 / 陈全国)

## Positions Held

- Communist Party Secretary of Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region (Aug 2016 - Present)
- Communist Party Secretary of Tibet Autonomous Region (Aug 2011 - Aug 2016)
- Member of the Politburo of the Communist Party of China

## Crimes Committed

Chen Quan-Guo has been called the “architect of China’s Muslim camps”<sup>1</sup> and is the Chinese Communist Party’s Party Secretary for the Xinjiang region. He is directly responsible for the establishment and expansion of the “reeducation” camps in Xinjiang, where detainees have been tortured, brainwashed, and detained indefinitely<sup>2</sup>.

The use of collective punishment was present under Chen’s leadership, in both Tibet and Xinjiang. Households and individuals would be mandated to report on each other, or face punishment themselves<sup>3</sup>. Chen was also the creator of Tibet’s “convenience police stations” and he began instituting a digital surveillance state while cracking down on the local Buddhist population<sup>4</sup>. Chen’s “successes” in Tibet got him later deployed to Xinjiang<sup>5</sup>. Under Chen’s rule, the number of police in Xinjiang has skyrocketed, with some 7,500 “convenience police stations” established under his watch.<sup>6</sup> Chen also built a network of checkpoints and facial-recognition cameras.

Chen created Xinjiang’s infamous “reeducation” camps, which hold more than two million Uyghurs in custody.<sup>7</sup> Alternatively described as “vocational training centers,”<sup>8</sup> there are credible and reliable reports that detainees are routinely tortured and brainwashed,<sup>9</sup> in addition to undergoing forced abortions and sterilization.<sup>10</sup> Children of detainees are sent to state-run ‘kindergartens, daycares, and boarding schools’, often hundreds of kilometres away from their homes, where they are taught to praise the Chinese government, the anthem, and the flag; while renouncing their own language, culture, and heritage. The number of children



placed in these schools climbs to almost half a million, operating on an industrial scale and draws a jarring parallel to Canada’s own residential schools. On a visit to one of these facilities, Chen urged teachers to ensure children learn to “love the party, love the motherland, and love the people”<sup>11</sup>. As Chen wrote, “the [Muslim internment] centres should teach like a school, be managed like the military, and be defended like a prison”.<sup>12</sup> Another document argued that the centres must “break their lineage, break their roots, break their connections, and break their origins.”<sup>13</sup>

## Rationale

Chen Quan-Guo was the mastermind for the tactics used to suppress human rights in Tibet, lending him to be the trusted executioner to deal with dissenting minority groups. Appointed to Xinjiang and being the “architect” of the concentration camps, Chen must bear the responsibility for his role in the genocide in occupied East Turkestan.

The United States’ Uyghur Human Rights Policy Act of 2020 stated that Chen, along with his Deputy Zhu Hailun, “**bear direct responsibility for gross human rights violations committed against Uyghurs, ethnic Kazakhs, Kyrgyz, and members of other Muslim minority groups.**”<sup>14</sup> The egregious human rights violations that Chen architected would make him an uncontroversial candidate for sanctions.

<sup>1</sup> “Architect of Muslim Camps Expected to Stay on in Xinjiang for Now” - William Zheng. South China Morning Post, March 24, 2019. <https://bit.ly/318kXbS>

<sup>2</sup> “Former Xinjiang teacher claims brainwashing and abuse inside mass detention centers” - Matt Rivers & Lily Lee. CNN, May 9, 2019. <https://cnn.it/3eW6hik>

<sup>3</sup> “Chen Quanguo: The Man Who Silenced Tibet Is Perfecting a Police State in Xinjiang, China” - Ty Joplin. Al Bawaba, September 4th, 2018. <https://bit.ly/2NQbvJU> & China Is Detaining Muslims in Vast Numbers. The Goal: “Transformation.” - Chris Buckley. New York Times, September 8, 2018. <https://nyti.ms/2O0wPug>

<sup>4</sup> “Chen Quanguo: The Strongman Behind Beijing’s Securitization Strategy in Tibet and Xinjiang” - Adrian Zenz. Jamestown, September 21, 2017. <https://bit.ly/2NJEv5Z>

<sup>5</sup> “The Architect of China’s Muslim Camps Is a Rising Star Under Xi”. Bloomberg News, September 27, 2018. <https://bloom.bg/2AkLm2w>

<sup>6</sup> “Chen Quanguo: The Strongman Behind Beijing’s Securitization Strategy in Tibet and Xinjiang” - Adrian Zenz. Jamestown, September 21, 2017. <https://bit.ly/2NJEv5Z>

<sup>7</sup> “Leaked Chinese government records reveal detailed surveillance reports on Uyghur families and Beijing’s justification for mass detentions” - Ivan Watson & Ben Westcott. CNN, February 2020. <https://cnn.it/3gkZGro>

<sup>8</sup> “Why the United States should sanction the mastermind of China’s crackdown on the Uyghurs” - Jonathan Schanzer. Washington Post, July 8, 2019. <https://wapo.st/2YUEimZ>

<sup>9</sup> “Data leak reveals how China ‘brainwashes’ Uyghurs in prison camps”. BBC, November 24, 2019. <https://bbc.in/3dT8hif>

<sup>10</sup> “China cuts Uyghur births with IUDs, abortion, sterilization”. The Associated Press, June 29, 2020. <https://bit.ly/2AqQicM>

<sup>11</sup> “In China’s Crackdown on Muslims, Children Have Not Been Spared” - Amy Qin. New York Times, December 28, 2019. <https://nyti.ms/37hWRCU>

<sup>12</sup> “Inside China’s Internment Camps: Tear Gas, Tasers, and Textbooks” - Ben Dooley. AFP, October 25, 2018. <https://bit.ly/2VwStfN>

<sup>13</sup> “China Targets Prominent Uyghur Intellectuals to Erase an Ethnic Identity” - Austin Ramzy. New York Times, January 5, 2019. <https://nyti.ms/2CSE2vU>

<sup>14</sup> Uyghur Human Rights Policy Act of 2020. <https://bit.ly/2NP2Kzw>

## ZHU Hai-Lun (朱海倫 / 朱海仑)

### Positions Held

- Deputy Communist Party Secretary of Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region (Aug 2016 - Present)
- Communist Party Chief of Urumqi, the Capital of Xinjiang (2009 - 2016)

### Crimes Committed

Zhu Hai-Lun has been called “Xinjiang’s Architect of Mass Detention”<sup>15</sup> and “the man behind China’s detention of 1 million Muslims”<sup>16</sup> for signing off on Beijing’s confidential plans for extrajudicial detentions and internment camps in Xinjiang.

According to the International Consortium of Independent Journalists (ICIJ),<sup>17</sup> Chinese plans for internment camps in Xinjiang were all signed by Zhu, including five out of the six documents at the heart of the ICIJ’s China Cables investigation. The ICIJ spoke with two sources who are certain that it is Zhu’s signature and provided convincing explanations of how they encountered signatures.<sup>18</sup>

These documents include “the manual,” which explains how to run the camps.<sup>19</sup> Alternatively described as “vocational training centers,”<sup>20</sup> there are credible and reliable reports that detainees have been tortured and brainwashed,<sup>21</sup> in addition to undergoing forced abortions and sterilization.<sup>22</sup>

In February 2017, Zhu addressed a rally of heavily-armed troops in Urumqi, the capital of Xinjiang. Zhu told them to wage an unflinching campaign against the local population: “We shall load our guns, draw our swords from their sheaths, throw hard punches and relentlessly beat, and strike hard without flinching at terrorists.”<sup>23</sup> Later that year, Zhu issued a document detailing policy for the internment camps, including detailed instructions for extrajudicially rounding up citizens.<sup>24</sup>



### Rationale

Zhu Hailun, along with Chen Quanguo, are both largely responsible for the horrendous genocide and human rights crisis in Xinjiang. Zhu has a direct hand in the oppression against Uyghur Muslims in Xinjiang, he is also responsible for the violent treatment of detainees in Xinjiang’s concentration camps.

The United States’ Uyghur Human Rights Policy Act of 2020 stated that Zhu, along with his superior Chen Quanguo, “**bear direct responsibility for gross human rights violations committed against Uyghurs, ethnic Kazakhs, Kyrgyz, and members of other Muslim minority groups.**”<sup>25</sup> The egregious human rights violations that Zhu orchestrated would make him an uncontroversial candidate for sanctions.

<sup>15</sup> “Xinjiang’s Architect of Mass Detention: Zhu Hailun” - Sasha Chavkin. International Consortium of Investigative Journalists, November 24, 2019. <https://bit.ly/2Bjm2dX>

<sup>16</sup> “The man behind China’s detention of 1 million Muslims”. The Associated Press, November 25, 2019. <https://bit.ly/3imgiRe>

<sup>17</sup> “Xinjiang’s Architect of Mass Detention: Zhu Hailun” - Sasha Chavkin. International Consortium of Investigative Journalists, November 24, 2019. <https://bit.ly/2Bjm2dX>

<sup>18</sup> Read the China Cables Documents. International Consortium of Investigative Journalists, November 24, 2019. <https://bit.ly/3dT8uTz>

<sup>19</sup> “Zhu Hailun, the man behind China’s Uighur prison camps” - Sébastien Seibt. France 24, November 26, 2019. <https://bit.ly/31BYGuv>

<sup>20</sup> “Why the United States should sanction the mastermind of China’s crackdown on the Uighurs” - Jonathan Schanzer. Washington Post, July 8, 2019. <https://wapo.st/38hj2KW>

<sup>21</sup> “Data leak reveals how China ‘brainwashes’ Uighurs in prison camps”. BBC, November 24, 2019. <https://bbc.in/2ZzeFqW>

<sup>22</sup> “China cuts Uighur births with IUDs, abortion, sterilization”. The Associated Press, June 29, 2020. <https://bit.ly/2YQ23wf>

<sup>23</sup> “Chinese troops stage show of force in Xinjiang and vow to ‘relentlessly beat’ separatists” - Tom Phillips. The Guardian, February 20, 2017. <https://bit.ly/2BluoSp>

<sup>24</sup> Read the China Cables Documents. International Consortium of Investigative Journalists, November 24, 2019. <https://bit.ly/3dT8uTz>

<sup>25</sup> Uyghur Human Rights Policy Act of 2020. <https://bit.ly/2NP2Kzw>

# ZHAO Ke-Zhi (趙克志 / 赵克志)

## Positions Held

- State Councilor of the People's Republic of China (2018 - Present)
- Minister of Public Security (2017 - Present)
- Communist Party Secretary of Hebei (2015 - 2017)

## Crimes Committed

Zhao Ke-Zhi is called China's "top cop,"<sup>26</sup> he is responsible for the arbitrary arrests of political activists, violent crackdown on protests, and further eroding freedom of expression in China. Zhao's Ministry oversees the creation of a nationwide DNA dragnet<sup>27</sup> and ran many of the Muslim internment centres.<sup>28</sup> Alternatively described as "vocational training centers,"<sup>29</sup> there are credible and reliable reports that detainees have been tortured and brainwashed.<sup>30</sup> Beyond the Uyghurs, citizens across China are added to a police database, allowing their movements to be tracked.<sup>31</sup> Experts recognize that such a DNA database could be employed to accelerate the surveillance and persecution of Uyghurs in China.<sup>32</sup> The widespread compulsory biometric data collection enhances the power of the Chinese state to undermine human rights.<sup>33</sup>

Zhao recently announced that his Ministry of Public Security would implement the widely-condemned national security law for Hong Kong, and that he would "fully instruct and support Hong Kong police" to enforce the law<sup>34</sup> despite a legal ban on Chinese government departments' involvement in Hong Kong.<sup>35</sup> This is widely considered the death of Hong Kong's autonomy and a final nail in the coffin for the city's rule of law and legal independence.<sup>36</sup> Critics recognize that the law will lead to the widespread use of secret police, increase arbitrary detentions, surveillance, and even control over the internet in Hong Kong.



## Rationale

Zhao Ke-Zhi not only contributed to the concentration camps in Xinjiang as a top official, but was directly involved in the creation of the DNA database for **biometric surveillance of Uyghur Muslims**. He is also the driving force behind **Hong Kong's drastic expedited move towards a police state**.

In the United States, the Republican Study Committee's National Security & Foreign Affairs Task Force recommended Zhao for sanctions.<sup>37</sup> We agree with this assessment and urge for Zhao to face sanctions under the Justice for Victims of Corrupt Foreign Officials Act.

<sup>26</sup> "Beijing's New Policies to Further Squeeze Hong Kong" - Willy Lam, Jamestown Foundation. Ninth China Conference. October 15, 2019. <https://bit.ly/3il1Uss>

<sup>27</sup> "Genomic Surveillance" - Emile Dirks & Dr. James Leibold. Australia Strategic Policy Institute. June 17, 2020. <https://bit.ly/2YRgd0k>

<sup>28</sup> "The RSC National Security Strategy: Strengthening America & Countering Global Threats" - The Republican Study Committee's Task Force on National Security and Foreign Affairs. <https://bit.ly/2YQQIMl>

<sup>29</sup> "Why the United States should sanction the mastermind of China's crackdown on the Uyghurs" - Jonathan Schanzer. Washington Post, July 8, 2019. <https://wapo.st/3eSeUnk>

<sup>30</sup> "Data leak reveals how China 'brainwashes' Uyghurs in prison camps". BBC, November 24, 2019. <https://bbc.in/3eSylK>

<sup>31</sup> "China's Surveillance State Has Tens of Millions of New Targets" - Emile Dirks & Sarah Cook. Foreign Policy. October 21, 2019. <https://bit.ly/2Aq2aFw>

<sup>32</sup> "China's Biosecurity State in Xinjiang Is Powered by Western Tech" - Jessica Batke & Mareike Ohlberg. Foreign Policy. February 19, 2020. <https://bit.ly/2YNplgK>

<sup>33</sup> "Genomic Surveillance" - Emile Dirks & Dr. James Leibold. Australia Strategic Policy Institute. June 17, 2020. <https://bit.ly/3giLpeB>

<sup>34</sup> "Beijing takes off the gloves: China to 'fully instruct' Hong Kong police on the crackdown on pro-democracy protests as state media says 'all traitors should be sent to the UK'". Daily Mail. May 20, 2020. <http://dailymail.com/2NP3lkK>

<sup>35</sup> "China to Offer 'Guidance, Support' to Hong Kong Police Enforcing Security Law". Association for the Defense of Human Rights and Religious Freedom. May 30, 2020. <https://bit.ly/3il28zQ>

<sup>36</sup> "This is the final nail in the coffin for Hong Kong's autonomy" - Joshua Wong & Glacier Kwong. Washington Post. May 24, 2020. <https://wapo.st/2VE3iAB>

<sup>37</sup> "The RSC National Security Strategy: Strengthening America & Countering Global Threats" - The Republican Study Committee's Task Force on National Security and Foreign Affairs. <https://bit.ly/3ipS9lI>

## Stephen LO Wai-Chung (盧偉聰 / 卢伟聪) & Chris TANG Ping-Keung (鄧炳強 / 邓炳强)

### Positions Held

- Stephen Lo was Commissioner of the Hong Kong Police Force (2015 - 2019) until he was replaced by Chris Tang (2019 - Present)
- Before Tang became the Commissioner, he served as Deputy Commissioner (2018 - 2019)

### Crimes Committed

Under the leadership of Stephen Lo and Chris Tang, the Hong Kong Police Force (HKPF) has repeatedly used tear gas, rubber bullets, and beanbag rounds against peaceful protests<sup>38</sup> - including at events which the HKPF legally authorized.<sup>39</sup> Special Tactical Unit and riot police officers fired tear gas at citizens, protesters, journalists, and first aid workers<sup>40</sup>, experts found HKPF is systematically violated the manufacturers' safety guides,<sup>41</sup> international norms and standards,<sup>42</sup> and the HKPF's own internal guidelines.<sup>43</sup> The HKPF have brutally and repeatedly assaulted protesters and bystanders alike, aiming for an individual's head, neck, back, and spine - often targeting first aiders and journalists.<sup>44</sup>

On July 21st 2019, a group of pro-Establishment gang members indiscriminately attacked commuters and journalists in Hong Kong's Yuen Long train station.<sup>45</sup> Police officers were present at the station but did not act; the nearby police station was also shut down.<sup>46</sup> It was confirmed by Kong Wing-cheung, Senior Superintendent of the HKPF, that officers in the railway division had real-time access to the security camera footage.<sup>47</sup> Police only arrived 39 minutes after the initial report, by which time the perpetrators had left. When the gang members retreated to a nearby village, the police surrounded the village but did not make any arrests.<sup>48</sup> These attacks were premeditated and extrajudicially approved by the police force.<sup>49</sup>



On August 31st 2019, a large group of police stormed into Hong Kong's Prince Edward train station and train compartments to indiscriminately attack passengers.<sup>50</sup> The attack led to countless injuries, with some victims even becoming comatose. Despite the scale of injuries caused by the police, the police ordered all journalists and first aid workers to leave the station. The police have deliberately obstructed injured persons' access to medical care.

<sup>38</sup> "How Not to Police a Protest: Unlawful Use of Force by Hong Kong Police". Amnesty International, 2019. <http://bit.ly/Tier1-002>

<sup>39</sup> "Verified: Hong Kong police violence against peaceful protesters". Amnesty International, June 21 2019. <http://bit.ly/Tier1-067>

<sup>40</sup> "Verified: Hong Kong police violence against peaceful protesters". Amnesty International, June 21 2019. <http://bit.ly/Tier1-067>

<sup>41</sup> "Hong Kong police breached internal and manufacturer guidelines by improperly firing projectiles". Hong Kong Free Press, September 1 2019. <http://bit.ly/Tier1-069>

<sup>42</sup> "Press briefing note on Hong Kong, China". United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, August 13 2019. <http://bit.ly/Tier1-071>

<sup>43</sup> "In Hong Kong crackdown, police repeatedly broke their own rules — and faced no consequences" - Shibani Mahtani, Timothy McLaughlin, Tiffany Liang, & Ryan Ho Kilpatrick. Washington Post, December 24 2019. <https://wapo.st/3ilYVjp>

<sup>44</sup> "Video: Hong Kong police make bloody arrest, assisted by officers suspected to be undercover as protesters". Hong Kong Free Press, August 12 2019. <http://bit.ly/Tier1-073>

<sup>45</sup> "Hong Kong Connection: 721 Yuen Long Nightmare". RTHK, October 4 2019. <http://bit.ly/Tier1-077>

<sup>46</sup> "Chaos and bloodshed in Hong Kong district as hundreds of masked men assault protesters, journalists, residents" - Kris Cheng. Hong Kong Free Press, July 22 2019. <http://bit.ly/Tier1-078>

<sup>47</sup> "Chaos at Hong Kong's Yuen Long MTR station as protesters confront police while marking one month since mob attack" - Jeffie Lam, Sum Lok-kei, & Danny Mok. South China Morning Post, August 21 2019. <https://bit.ly/3eQC25r>

<sup>48</sup> "Where were the police?" Hong Kong outcry after masked thugs launched attack". The World News, July 21, 2019, <https://bit.ly/2VD9ZyP>

<sup>49</sup> "Hong Kong Connection: 721 Yuen Long Nightmare". RTHK, October 4 2019. <http://bit.ly/Tier1-077>

<sup>50</sup> "I thought I was about to die": Eyewitnesses describe brutal beatings by Hong Kong police" - Robyn Dixon & Ryan H Kilpatrick. Los Angeles Times, September 2 2019. <http://bit.ly/Tier1-080>

Ambulance staff were delayed by an hour in treating the injured, as the police repeatedly denied their entry into the station.<sup>51</sup>

The HKPF laid siege to Hong Kong universities, firing thousands of tear gas canisters and rubber bullets at trapped students, first aid workers, and innocent civilians. Trapped students resorted to dangerous and life-threatening methods to escape. Tang was in a position to call off the siege but failed to do so. One siege was described as a “humanitarian crisis” and “almost unheard of in civilized countries.”<sup>52</sup>

Arrested protesters have been subjected to arbitrary detention, torture, and forced confession.<sup>53</sup> Injured protesters are often denied medical care. The HKPF have denied arrested protesters of their rights to legal assistance and representation until a statement is taken.<sup>54</sup> <sup>55</sup> Arrested protesters are also barred from contacting their families while in custody. Unaccountable police officers have been accused of sexual violence,<sup>56</sup> including rape,<sup>57</sup> gang-rape,<sup>58</sup> and forcing a woman to expose her genitals to the public.<sup>59</sup> Meanwhile, the HKPF have been systematically targeting the press by assaulting<sup>60</sup> and attacking<sup>61</sup> journalists.

There is systemic police violence, abuse of power, and corruption within the HKPF, enabled and supported by Lo and Tang as the leader. We have only recorded a fraction of the human rights atrocities happening under the guise of law enforcement and public safety. With the implementation of the national security law in Hong Kong, experts expect the HKPF, under Tang’s leadership, will continue to transition Hong Kong into a police surveillance state.

## Rationale

Stephen Lo and Chris Tang must be sanctioned to reaffirm Canada’s commitment to human rights, their role in creating a police state in Hong Kong. Sanctioning Lo and Tang would send a clear message to the Hong Kong government and Hong Kong Police Force that they will be held accountable for their actions. Canada would show leadership in regards to global human rights and democracy, especially during an age where **police violence has been cast into the international spotlight**.

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<sup>51</sup> “Police twice turned away fire services medics during Prince Edward MTR swoop, despite multiple injuries” - Holmes Chan. Hong Kong Free Press, September 13 2019. <http://bit.ly/Tier1-081>

<sup>52</sup> “UK Politicians and former UK Foreign Secretary call on Carrie Lam to order HKPF to show restraint in response to protests”. Hong Kong Watch, November 17 2019. <https://bit.ly/2NOWgRb>

<sup>53</sup> “Hong Kong: Arbitrary arrests, brutal beatings and torture in police detention revealed”. Amnesty International, September 19 2019. <http://bit.ly/Tier1-087>

<sup>54</sup> “Hong Kong police ignore request from lawmakers to visit controversial San Uk Ling detention centre” - Holmes Chan. Hong Kong Free Press, September 10 2019. <http://bit.ly/Tier1-088>

<sup>55</sup> Police rejected the request from lawmakers to meet detainees in San Uk Ling detention centre; Tanya CHAN (Legislative Councillor) criticised the unreasonable measures adopted by the police depriving detainees of their rights]. Ming Pao, August 12 2019. <http://bit.ly/Tier1-089> <in Chinese>

<sup>56</sup> “‘I am not the only one’: Hong Kong student removes mask and accuses police of sexual assault” - Kris Cheng. Hong Kong Free Press, October 11 2019. <http://bit.ly/Tier1-086>

<sup>57</sup> “Woman files complaint against Hong Kong police over alleged rape in station” - Holmes Chan. Hong Kong Free Press, November 9 2019. <http://bit.ly/Tier1-084>

<sup>58</sup> “Hong Kong teenager has abortion following claim of gangrape in police station”. Today Online, November 10 2019. <http://bit.ly/Tier1-085>

<sup>59</sup> [Police pulled down the panties of a female protester, Police claimed the protester struggled vigorously while being arrested]. RTHK, August 5 2019. <http://bit.ly/Tier1-083> <in Chinese>

<sup>60</sup> “Hong Kong protests: Police accused of shooting at journalists amid demonstration over China extradition bill” - Claire Lomas. The Independent, June 13 2019. <http://bit.ly/Tier1-093>

<sup>61</sup> “Hong Kong protests: journalist blinded in one eye amid mounting violence” - Emma Graham-Harrison. The Guardian, October 3 2019. <http://bit.ly/Tier1-094>

## HAN Zheng (韓正 / 韩正)

### Positions Held

- Politburo of the Standing Committee of the Communist Party of China (2017 - Present)
- Deputy Party Secretary of the State Council of the People's Republic of China (2018 - Present)
- Leader of the Central Leading Group on Hong Kong and Macau Affairs (2018 - Present)
- Vice Premier (2018 - Present)

### Crimes Committed

Han Zheng is ranking at #7 in the Politburo of the Standing Committee of the Communist Party of China, he has been regarded as Beijing's "point-man" on Hong Kong and Macau affairs. He is the leader of the Central Leading Group on Hong and Macau Affairs, and oversees the operation of both the Hong Kong and Macau Affairs Office of the State Council and the Liaison Office of the Central People's Government in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region.<sup>62</sup>

Han encouraged aggressive measures to deal with the 2019 protests, that "Beijing supports more aggressive measures to tackle the unrest" in Hong Kong, and that "restoring order is the responsibility of Hong Kong's executive, legislative and judicial branches."<sup>63</sup>

During the police siege of the Hong Kong Polytechnic University, Han oversaw the Hong Kong Police Force as they faced-off against students. Han also ordered the Guangdong and Shenzhen military cadres to stand ready to offer assistance and logistics to Hong Kong if the chaos in the city required "more intervention."<sup>64</sup> The Hong Kong Police Force fired thousands of tear gas canisters and rubber bullets at trapped students, first aid workers, and innocent civilians. Trapped students resorted to dangerous and life-threatening methods to escape. The siege was described as a "humanitarian crisis" and "almost unheard of in civilized countries."<sup>65</sup>



During the implementation of the controversial National Security Law, Han warned Hong Kongers "not to underestimate the central government's determination to implement the amendment."<sup>66</sup> Han also said that "Beijing has the ultimate responsibility and rights to strengthen the mechanism of national security."<sup>67</sup> In June 2020, he met with Hong Kong Chief Executive Carrie Lam for the enactment of the National Security Law in Hong Kong, during which time he said that "the central government will decisively advance the legislation to protect national security."<sup>68</sup>

### Rationale

Han Zheng led Hong Kong into its transition as a police state under the control of the Chinese government. In his capacity as the leader of Hong Kong affairs, Han **called for the violent crackdown** of the democratic protest movement in Hong Kong, **even encouraged cross-border military interference** - which is in direct violation of the Sino-Joint British Declaration's framework. Han must be held accountable for his leadership role in the ongoing human rights violations and state suppression against pro-democracy Hong Kongers.

<sup>62</sup> "Chinese Vice-Premier Han Zheng the 'right' man in charge of Hong Kong affairs as city shuns political gridlock for economic growth" - Kimmy Chung. South China Morning Post, June 28 2018. <https://bit.ly/31Ckwyk>

<sup>63</sup> "China supports more aggressive measures to tame Hong Kong unrest: Vice Premier Han Zheng". Channel News Asia. November 6. 2019. <https://bit.ly/2Zs8S6r>

<sup>64</sup> "Beijing's point man on HK watching from Shenzhen" - Frank Chen. Asia Times. November 18 2019. <https://bit.ly/2BWrCms>

<sup>65</sup> "UK Politicians and former UK Foreign Secretary call on Carrie Lam to order HKPF to show restraint in response to protests". Hong Kong Watch, November 17 2019. <https://bit.ly/2NOWgRb>

<sup>66</sup> "Beijing determined on security law: Han Zheng" RTHK News. May 24 2020. <https://bit.ly/3dKQECc>

<sup>67</sup> "Two Sessions 2020: Hong Kong national security law will only target 'small group of people', Vice-Premier Han Zheng says as Beijing hits back at critics" - Natalie Wong, Gary Cheung, & Lilian Cheng. May 23 2020, <https://bit.ly/2ZvZP47>

<sup>68</sup> "National security law would not erode freedoms in Hong Kong: Lam". Kyodo. June 3, 2020. <https://bit.ly/3iqlPq6>