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CONGRESSIONAL - EXECUTIVE COMMISSION ON CHINA

The Congressional-Executive Commission on China was created by Congress in October 2000 with the [legislative mandate](#) to monitor human rights and the development of the rule of law in China, and to submit an annual report to the President and the Congress. The Commission consists of nine Senators, nine Members of the House of Representatives, and five senior Administration officials appointed by the President.

Announcements

[Statement of CECC Chairman
Christopher Smith and Cochairman
Sherrod Brown on the Release of the
2011 Annual Report](#)

The bipartisan Congressional-Executive Commission on China released its 2011 Annual Report on human rights and rule of law developments in China this week.

[More...](#)

[Statement of CECC Chairman
Christopher Smith and Cochairman
Sherrod Brown on Uyghurs Forcibly
Returned to China](#)

The chairman and cochairman of a US bipartisan, bicameral commission charged with monitoring human rights in China today called on Chinese authorities to reveal the whereabouts and status of 11 Uyghur men who were forcibly deported from Malaysia to the People's Republic of China on August 18, in violation of international law.

[More...](#)

[Statement of CECC Chairman
Christopher Smith and Cochairman
Sherrod Brown on Human Rights
Lawyer Gao Zhisheng](#)

CECC Chairman Christopher Smith and Cochairman Sherrod Brown call on Chinese authorities to immediately account for and free China's most famous human rights lawyer, Gao Zhisheng.

2011 Annual Report

[2011 Annual Report](#)

The Congressional-Executive Commission on China issued its [2011 Annual Report](#) on human rights conditions and the development of the rule of law in China on October 10, 2011.

Full Report: [PDF version](#), [text version](#)

Executive Summary: [PDF version](#)

Recent Events

ROUNDTABLE

[The Dalai Lama: What He Means for Tibetans Today \(7/13/11\)](#)

Wednesday, July 13, 2011, 9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.
Russell Senate Office Building, Room 418

The 76-year-old Dalai Lama remains a figure of central importance to Tibetans as well as the Chinese government and Communist Party. Tibetans in China continue to evoke his name in their grievances over official threats to Tibetan culture, language, and religion, and to call for the Dalai Lama's return to Tibet. At the same time, the government and Party continue their campaign to discredit the Dalai Lama and to control the selection of his successor. Negotiations between the two sides have stalled with the longest break since dialogue resumed in 2002. For his part, the Dalai Lama recently brought to an end the centuries-old role of the Dalai Lama at the head of Tibetan

visited on 10/17/2011

[More...](#)**Commission Analysis** [More Analysis...](#)[**Xinjiang Authorities Implement Ramadan Curbs Amid Renewed Pledges for Tight Controls Over Religion**](#)

Authorities in Xinjiang have continued to exert tight controls over the Muslim holiday of Ramadan, which occurred this year in August. During the month-long period of daily fasting, local government authorities prohibited students, teachers, and government workers from observing the fast, ordered restaurants to stay open, and increased oversight of mosques and religious personnel. Xinjiang officials have enforced similar restrictions in previous years. The curbs in 2011 also came amid a renewed pledge by Xinjiang authorities to crack down on "illegal religious activities."

[More . . .](#)[**After Monk's Suicide: Coerced Removal and "Education" for Monks; Possible Murder Charges**](#)

Tibetan Buddhist monks at Kirti Monastery whom officials suspect of assisting or sheltering a monk who committed self-immolation on March 16, 2011, could face criminal charges, possibly for "premeditated murder." China's state-run media characterized the suicide as a "plot" to "incite other monks to create disturbances," but did not acknowledge monastic resentment against [increasing government and Party control](#) over Tibetan Buddhist affairs. On April 21, security officials allegedly beat to death two elderly Tibetans and injured others who tried and failed to block People's Armed Police from removing at least 300 Kirti monks from the monastery. Official media reported the next day that the local government would begin immediately "mass legal education" of Kirti monks to maintain what officials described as "normal religious order." The use of enforced confinement (de facto detention) and coerced participation in a program under the pretext of "education" appears to disregard Article 37 of China's [Constitution](#) which prohibits "[u]nlawful deprivation or restriction of citizens' freedom of the person by detention or

governance. At this critical juncture, this roundtable examined the Dalai Lama's significance for Tibetans today. What will be the impact of his reduced political role? What role will the Dalai Lama play in the future of Tibetans in China?

View the roundtable's recorded webcast [here](#).

Political Prisoner Database

Enter Prisoner Name:

[**Partial List of Political Prisoners Known or Believed to be Detained or Imprisoned in China as of October 10, 2011 \(1,441 Cases\)**](#)[**View Record of Nobel Laureate Liu Xiaobo**](#)[**Click here to search the full CECC Political Prisoner Database of over 5,507 cases**](#)**Recent Events****ROUNDTABLE**[**Conditions for Human Rights Defenders and Lawyers in China, and Implications for U.S. Policy \(6/23/11\)**](#)

Thursday, June 23, 2011, 2:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.
Russell Senate Office Building, Room 328A

In recent months, Chinese officials reportedly have conducted one of the harshest crackdowns in years against human rights lawyers, civic activists, and other advocates. This roundtable examined the implications of this crackdown on the advocacy work of those affected and the broader implications for the rule of law, the Chinese legal profession, and for U.S. policy.

View the roundtable's recorded [webcast](#).

2010 Annual Report[**2010 Annual Report**](#)

The Congressional-Executive Commission on China issued its [2010](#)

other means." On June 9, a Ministry of Foreign Affairs spokesperson dismissed a United Nations Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances request for information on the monks and asserted that "there was no question of forced disappearances." Kirti Monastery is located near the seat of Aba (Ngaba) county, Aba Tibetan and Qiang Autonomous Prefecture, Sichuan province.

[More . . .](#)

[UN Group Calls for Immediate Release of Liu Xiaobo and Wife Liu Xia](#)

In May 2011, the UN Working Group on Arbitrary Detention issued two opinions declaring that the Chinese government's imprisonment of prominent intellectual Liu Xiaobo and house arrest of his wife Liu Xia contravene the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The opinions call on Chinese officials to immediately release Liu Xiaobo, immediately end Liu Xia's house arrest, and provide reparations to both persons. Freedom Now, a US-based non-profit organization that filed a petition for the opinions with the Working Group, released the opinions to the public in August 2011.

[More . . .](#)

[Top Official Directs Media To Promote July Anniversary of Party's Founding](#)

A top Communist Party official has directed Chinese media to promote the 90th anniversary of China's Communist Party, founded on July 1, 1921, saying it is their "common responsibility" to do so. The call, which came on April 22, 2011, was directed not only at media organizations closely aligned with the Party but also more commercially oriented newspapers and online media more generally. The call echoes the official policy of the Chinese government and Party that the domestic media serve as an instrument of the Party.

[More . . .](#)

[Annual Report](#) on human rights conditions and the development of the rule of law in China on October 10, 2010. Full report: [PDF version](#), [text version](#).

Other Recent Events

HEARING

[Nobel Peace Prize Laureate Liu Xiaobo and the Future of Political Reform in China \(11/9/10\)](#)

Tuesday, November 9, 2010, 10:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Dirksen Senate Office Building, Room 628

Last month, the Norwegian Nobel Committee awarded the Nobel Peace Prize to imprisoned Chinese writer and democracy advocate, Liu Xiaobo, recognizing his "long and non-violent struggle for fundamental human rights in China." Liu currently is serving an eleven-year sentence in a Chinese prison for "inciting subversion of state power," in part for his role in [Charter 08](#), a document calling for human rights and political reform in China. What are the prospects for political reform in China today? Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao recently was quoted as saying, "if there is no guarantee of reform of the political system, then results obtained from the reform of the economic system may be lost . . ." When China's leaders make such references to "reform of the political system," what exactly do they mean? As China prepares for major leadership changes in 2012, these developments provide an opportune moment to assess debates over political reform in China, to ask what Liu Xiaobo's writings and advocacy mean for China and what impact, if any, his receiving the Nobel Peace Prize may have on democracy and human rights in China, and with what consequence for the United States?

[View recorded webcast here.](#)

ROUNDTABLE

[2010 Annual Report: New Developments in Human Rights and the Rule of Law in China \(10/20/10\)](#)

Wednesday, October 20, 2010, 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Dirksen Senate Office Building, Room

[Authorities Release Prominent Rights Advocate Hu Jia Upon Completion of His Sentence](#)

On June 26, 2011, authorities released Hu Jia from prison upon completion of his three-and-a-half year sentence. Hu has been an active advocate on issues including environmental protection, HIV/AIDS, and freedom of expression and movement. He has also expressed public support for rights defenders, including Chen Guangcheng and Guo Feixiong. He was sentenced in 2008 for "inciting subversion of state power." During his time in prison, authorities refused multiple requests for his medical parole. Hu is now home with his wife, Zeng Jinyan, in Beijing and reportedly remains under tight official surveillance.

[More . . .](#)

[Official Repression of Religion Continues in Xinjiang](#)

Official repression of religion in Xinjiang remains severe. Authorities continue to claim that "illegal religious activities" and "religious extremism" constitute threats to the region's security. Officials have singled out Islamic practices in a number of cases and have maintained a range of curbs over Muslims' religious activities. Recent reports describe continuing campaigns against head scarves, measures to monitor Friday sermons at mosques, and reported imprisonment of a religious leader who refused to abide by government demands regarding a local mosque.

[More . . .](#)

[Beijing Authorities Harass and Detain Shouwang Church Members](#)

Beginning on April 9, 2011, public security officials in Beijing frequently harassed, detained, and restricted the freedom of movement of some members and leaders of the unregistered Beijing Shouwang Church in response to the church's efforts to organize outdoor services every Sunday in Beijing's Haidian district. Shouwang began organizing the services after authorities reportedly pressured its landlords to deny the church access to indoor sites of worship where it had

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At this Roundtable on the release of the Commission's 2010 Annual Report, research specialists on the Commission staff provided an overview of major trends and developments in human rights and the rule of law in China over the past year, with a particular focus on freedom of expression and the Internet, and developments in Tibet, and Xinjiang. Commission research specialists also highlighted the report's key findings and provided further analysis on significant trends in commercial rule of law, labor rights, criminal justice, the environment, religion, ethnic minority rights and access to justice.

HEARING

[Will China Protect Intellectual Property? New Developments in Counterfeiting, Piracy, and Forced Technology Transfer \(9/22/10\)](#)

Wednesday, September 22, 2010, 2:15 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Dirksen Senate Office Building, Room 628

For several years, this Commission has noted that intellectual property rights (IPR) enforcement in China remains weak, and counterfeiting and piracy continue to be widespread across many sectors of the Chinese economy. Witnesses examined trends in counterfeiting, piracy, and the enforcement of intellectual property rights in China; how China is pressuring foreign companies, including U.S. firms, to transfer advanced technology to China; and the impact on American jobs and businesses. Witnesses included experts in technology policy, industry, and labor.

[View a recorded video of this hearing.](#)

ROUNDTABLE

[China and Human Trafficking: Updates and Analysis \(8/20/10\)](#)

Friday, August 20, 2010, 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Dirksen Senate Office Building, Room 628

At this CECC roundtable, panelists examined recent developments in the Chinese government's efforts to combat

previously met or planned to meet. In one instance, according to overseas reports, uniformed and plainclothes police took into custody over 160 Shouwang members, including clergy. Between April 10 and May 15, authorities reportedly placed a total of approximately 500 members and church leaders under "soft detention" (ruanjin), a form of unlawful home confinement. As of June 5, authorities had taken Shouwang members into custody in connection with nine outdoor services. The incidents of harassment and detention occurred during a time when authorities' sensitivities to members of unregistered Protestant congregations who assemble into large groups or across congregations appeared to have increased, as well as during a broader crackdown against rights defenders, petitioners, artists, Internet bloggers, and others that began in mid-February 2011.

[More . . .](#)

[Government Interferes With Activities of House Church Networks in Late 2010 and 2011](#)

Since late 2010, officials across China have harassed and in some cases detained members of some unregistered Protestant church ("house church") congregations that assemble across multiple congregations in an effort to pressure them to stop meeting. Authorities have harassed and detained members of house church congregations in previous years, but statements from state-controlled media and government sources—coinciding with a broader crackdown against rights defenders, reform advocates, lawyers, petitioners, writers, artists, and Internet bloggers—suggest that authorities' sensitivities to Protestants who worship outside of state-approved parameters have intensified during this period.

[More . . .](#)

[Mongols Protest in Inner Mongolia After Clashes Over Grasslands Use, Mining Operations](#)

Protests occurred in Inner Mongolia between May 23 and May 31, 2011, following two separate confrontations between workers from mining

human trafficking and discuss prospects for and obstacles to further progress.

View recorded C-SPAN video coverage [here](#).

HEARING

[Political Prisoners in China: Trends and Implications for U.S. Policy \(8/3/10\)](#)

Tuesday August 3, 2010, 10:15 a.m. to 12 noon
Dirksen Senate Office Building, Room 628

Recent trials of scholars, activists, lawyers, and others in China have shined a spotlight on the Chinese government's use of detention and imprisonment to squelch dissent or advance government objectives. Witnesses examined whether political imprisonment is on the rise in China; whether the profile of political prisoners in China today is changing compared to years past; how does the threat of political imprisonment affect the work of people and organizations who are engaged in human rights advocacy or who are involved in commercial activity in China, including U.S. citizens as well as citizens of China; what opportunities have Chinese citizens lost as a result of the chilling effects of political imprisonment; and should the U.S. government be more concerned about political imprisonment in China, and what implications does it have for U.S. policy?

View a [recorded video](#) of this hearing.

Other Events

ROUNDTABLE

[China's Far West: Conditions in Xinjiang One Year After Demonstrations and Riots \(7/19/10\)](#)

Monday, July 19, 2010, 2:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.
Dirksen Senate Office Building, Room 628

At this *CECC roundtable*, panelists examined conditions in the far western region of Xinjiang one year after demonstrations and rioting occurred there. Events in July 2009 exposed longstanding tensions in the region and Uyghurs' grievances toward government

operations (some reportedly Han Chinese) and herders and residents near the mining operations (reportedly including Mongols and at least one Manchu), during which workers reportedly killed a herder and resident. Protesters called on authorities to prosecute the alleged murderers and also called for protecting herders' rights and Mongol culture. Authorities reportedly clashed with protesters in one case and have taken some protesters into detention. Authorities addressed some of the protesters' grievances but did not acknowledge a connection between the protests and official restrictions on Mongol culture. In the aftermath of the protests, security reportedly remains tight.

[More . . .](#)

[Ministry of Health Issues Draft Ban on the Use of BPA in Infant Food Containers \(Update\)](#)

On April 20, 2011, the Ministry of Health posted on its Web site a draft document that would ban the import or manufacture of containers for infants' food, including baby bottles, which contain BPA, starting June 1, 2011, and that would ban the sale in China of such products as of September 1, 2011. In January, the Ministry of Health had issued a letter soliciting comments on draft lists of additives and resins used in food packaging materials, which included a ban on BPA in packaging for infant foods. China's proposed ban follows similar bans in the European Union and Canada.

[More . . .](#)

[Authorities Intensify Harassment of Activists Around 22nd Anniversary of the Chinese Government's Violent Suppression of the 1989 Tiananmen Democracy Movement](#)

In the lead-up to the 22nd anniversary of the Chinese government's violent suppression of the 1989 Tiananmen democracy movement, authorities in China have stepped up monitoring and intimidation of rights activists, and prevented others from holding a memorial event. These latest developments occur against the backdrop of a broad crackdown against

policies that threaten basic rights.

ROUNDTABLE

[Prospects for Democracy in Hong Kong: Assessing China's International Commitments \(7/14/10\)](#)

Wednesday, July 14, 2010, 3:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Room 138, Dirksen Senate Office Building

Hong Kong's basic freedoms for the most part have been maintained under "one country, two systems." In June of this year, Hong Kong took its first steps toward constitutional reform since the British handed the territory back to China in 1997. This roundtable examined these recent constitutional reforms, mainland China's engagement in Hong Kong, and how Hong Kong may contribute to the development of democracy and civil society in China.

ROUNDTABLE

[China's Policies Toward Spiritual Movements \(6/18/10\)](#)

Friday, June 18, 2010, 2:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.
Room 628, Dirksen Senate Office Building

Panelists examined the Chinese government's policies toward spiritual movements and the factors that drive its treatment of members of spiritual groups.

ROUNDTABLE

[Transparency in Environmental Protection and Climate Change in China \(4/1/10\)](#)

Thursday, April 1, 2010, 2 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.
Room 628, Dirksen Senate Office Building

At this *CECC Roundtable*, a panel of experts examined the challenge of government transparency in environmental protection and climate change in China.

HEARING

[Google and Internet Control in China: A Nexus Between Human Rights and](#)

rights defenders, lawyers, artists, and bloggers in what international observers have described as one of the harshest crackdowns in years.

[More . . .](#)

[Ethnic Minority Population Planning Program Expands to More Areas in Xinjiang](#)

Authorities in the far western region of Xinjiang have expanded a program that rewards ethnic minority couples for having fewer children than permitted under the region's regulation on population planning, now making the program applicable to all counties and cities in Xinjiang where rural ethnic minorities comprise 50 percent or more of the population. The region's regulation on population planning permits rural ethnic minority couples to have up to three children, and the reward program awards couples that forego this maximum number of permitted births. The expansion of the program builds on similar reward systems present throughout China, while intensifying a regional focus on ethnic minority households. In addition to rewarding families that have fewer births, authorities in the XUAR and elsewhere in China also continue to enforce penalties against people who have more children than permitted under population planning requirements.

[More . . .](#)

[Ganzi Regulations on "Tibetan Buddhist Affairs" Moving Toward Approval](#)

Regulatory measures for "Tibetan Buddhist Affairs" in Ganzi (Kardze) Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture (TAP), Sichuan province, are moving through the legislative process toward approval. According to information available in the Commission's [Political Prisoner Database](#) (PPD), more than half of monastic political detentions in TAPs outside the Tibet Autonomous Region (TAR) during the period since March 2008—when Tibetan protests (and some rioting) spread across the Tibetan plateau—have been in Ganzi TAP. A March 2011 [report](#) by this Commission demonstrated a correlation between the number of detentions in each TAP on or

[Trade? \(3/24/10\)](#)

Wednesday, March 24, 2010, 2 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.
Room 628, Dirksen Senate Office Building

The recent Google controversy with China raises the question of whether China's regulation of the Internet is both a human rights and a trade issue. Witnesses examined the challenges and hazards China's regulation of the Internet poses both to advocates of free expression and to foreign companies doing business in China; and possible ways for policymakers and private actors to respond to China's regulation of the Internet from both the human rights and trade perspectives.

View a [recorded video](#) of this hearing.

ROUNDTABLE

[Women in a Changing China \(3/8/10\)](#)

Monday, March 8, 2010, 2 to 3:30 p.m.
Room B-318, Rayburn House Office Building.

A panel of experts explored the Chinese government's progress and challenges in addressing issues that impact women's rights including domestic violence, land rights, gender discrimination, sexual harassment, and human trafficking.

Special Topic Paper

The Congressional-Executive Commission on China issued a special report titled [Special Topic Paper: Tibet 2008-2009](#) on October 22, 2009. The report provides expanded coverage and in-depth analysis of key recent developments and trends in Tibet and builds on the Commission's [2009 Annual Report](#).

Commission Roundtables and Panel Discussions

[2010 Annual Report: New Developments in Human Rights and the Rule of Law in China \(10/20/10\)](#)

[China and Human Trafficking: Updates and Analysis \(8/20/10\)](#)

after March 10, 2008, and the extensiveness of regulatory measures' provisions on punishment. The Commission has not yet located text of the Ganzi regulatory measures online. However, if the correlation found for other TAP regulations remains valid in Ganzi TAP, then Ganzi monks and nuns could face further increases in the repressive application of administrative and criminal punishments. New regulatory measures on "Tibetan Buddhist affairs" already in effect in 7 of the 10 TAPs outside the TAR substantially increase state infringement of "freedom of religious belief" in Article 36 of China's [Constitution](#) by subordinating "Tibetan Buddhist affairs" to government regulations that enforce Communist Party policy.

[More . . .](#)

[Authorities Crack Down on Rights Defenders, Lawyers, Artists, Bloggers](#)

Chinese authorities have launched a broad crackdown against rights defenders, reform advocates, lawyers, petitioners, writers, artists, and Internet bloggers in what international observers have described as one of the harshest crackdowns in years. The UN Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances has expressed "serious concern" at the enforced disappearances of numerous Chinese citizens, some of whom remain missing after more than two months with no information regarding the charges against them or their whereabouts, as detailed below. The impetus for the current crackdown is unclear. The timing follows protests in the Middle East and North Africa, the appearance in mid-February of an anonymous online call for "Jasmine Revolution" protests in China, major annual meetings of the National People's Congress and Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference in March, and recent official statements stressing the need to maintain social stability.

[More . . .](#)

[Xinjiang Authorities Accelerate Promotion of Mandarin-Focused Bilingual Education](#)

[China's Far West: Conditions in Xinjiang One Year After the Demonstrations and Riots \(7/19/10\)](#)

[Prospects for Democracy in Hong Kong: Assessing China's International Commitments \(7/14/10\)](#)

[China's Policies Toward Spiritual Movements \(6/18/10\)](#)

[Transparency in Environmental Protection and Climate Change in China \(4/1/10\)](#)

[Women in a Changing China \(3/8/10\)](#)

[China's Citizen Complaint System: Prospects for Accountability \(12/04/09\)](#)

[Gao Yaojie: Physician, Grandmother, and Whistleblower in China's Fight Against HIV/AIDS \(12/03/09\)](#)

[Reporting the News in China: First-Hand Accounts and Current Trends \(7/31/09\)](#)

[China's Human Rights Lawyers: Current Challenges and Prospects \(7/10/09\)](#)

[The Financial Crisis and the Changing Role of Workers in China \(6/19/09\)](#)

[What "Democracy" Means in China After Thirty Years of Reform \(5/22/09\)](#)

[The Rising Stakes of Refugee Issues in China \(5/1/09\)](#)

[A Year After the March 2008 Protests: Is China Promoting Stability in Tibet? \(3/13/09\)](#)

[Does China Have a Stability Problem? \(2/27/09\)](#)

[Human Rights in Xinjiang: Recent Developments \(2/13/09\)](#)

[The UN Human Rights Council's Review of China's Record: Process and Challenges \(1/16/09\)](#)

[Human Rights and Rule of Law in China: Where Are We Now and Where Do We Go From Here? \(12/12/08\)](#)

visited on 10/17/2011

The Xinjiang government has accelerated steps to promote "bilingual education," a program that stresses class instruction using Mandarin Chinese, while diminishing or eliminating instruction using "minority" languages, spoken by groups the Chinese government designates as ethnic minorities. At the same time, the government has publicized measures that preserve a degree of instruction using minority languages in the process of implementing "bilingual education." The future role of ethnic minority languages in Xinjiang schools remains uncertain, however, amid a government target to implement Mandarin-focused "bilingual education" in 75 percent of Xinjiang schools by 2015 and achieve a student body proficient in Mandarin by 2020. China's law on regional ethnic autonomy stipulates that "[s]chools (classes) and other educational organizations recruiting mostly ethnic minority students should, whenever possible, use textbooks in their own languages and use these languages as the media of instruction."

[More . . .](#)

[Chinese Authorities Detain Prominent Human Rights Lawyers](#)

Within a span of one week in February 2011, authorities in Beijing municipality and Guangzhou, Guangdong province, detained five prominent human rights lawyers, and, in late February or early March 2011, detained another human rights lawyer in Shanghai, as well. The lawyers remain incommunicado and their current whereabouts are unclear. Their detentions come amid a broader crackdown on scores of advocates, bloggers, and writers that began in February in a campaign that appears related to official sensitivity over recent protests in the Middle East and North Africa and to an anonymous online call for so-called "Jasmine Revolution" protests within China. The underlying reasons for the detention of the lawyers are not clear.

[More . . .](#)

[State Administration for Religious Affairs Outlines Restrictive Religious Policies for 2011](#)

[On the Eve of the Beijing Olympics: China's Information Lockdown \(7/16/08\)](#)

[Xinjiang: Rights Abuses in China's Muslim Western Region \(5/14/08\)](#)

[More Roundtables. . .](#)

Annual Reports

[2009 Annual Report](#)

The Congressional-Executive Commission on China issued its 2009 Annual Report on human rights conditions and the development of the rule of law in China on October 10, 2009. Click here for the full report ([text](#)/[pdf](#)).

[2008 Annual Report](#)

The Congressional-Executive Commission on China issued its 2008 Annual Report on human rights conditions and the development of the rule of law in China on Friday, October 31, 2008. Click here for the full report ([text](#)/[pdf](#)).

[2007 Annual Report](#)

The Congressional-Executive Commission on China issued its 2007 Annual Report on human rights conditions and the development of the rule of law in China on Wednesday, October 10, 2007. Click here for the full report ([text](#)/[pdf](#)).

CECC Special Topics

[Nobel Peace Prize Laureate Liu Xiaobo](#)

[Xinjiang Demonstrations](#)

See also the CECC Chairman's and Cochairman's [Statement](#) on the Xinjiang Demonstrations.

[Universal Periodic Review \(UPR\)](#)

[Charter 08](#)

[Human Rights Day](#)

In January 2011, China's State Administration for Religious Affairs (SARA) issued a document outlining the main points for SARA's work in 2011. The document calls for the continuation of measures that would maintain extensive government supervision and control over religious communities. Examples include calling for authorities to "guide" unregistered Protestants to worship in state-sanctioned churches, continuing policies to deny Catholics in China the freedom to accept the authority of the Holy See to make bishop appointments, and bolstering rules that require Muslims who wish to make overseas pilgrimages to do so as part of official groups that impose political requirements on participants.

[More . . .](#)

[Chinese Police Officials Detain Beijing Artist and Rights Advocate Ai Weiwei](#)

In early April 2011, Chinese authorities detained prominent Beijing-based artist and rights advocate [Ai Weiwei](#) as he tried to board a plane to Hong Kong. Based on available reporting, Chinese authorities have not released details on his detention. Ai's detention comes amid a broader crackdown on hundreds of activists, bloggers, and writers in February and March 2011, in a campaign which appears related to official sensitivity over recent protests in the Middle East and North Africa, as well as an anonymous online call for "Jasmine Revolution" protests within China.

[More . . .](#)

[Court Sentences Labor Lawyer and Advocate to Three Years' Imprisonment](#)

A court in Xi'an city, Shaanxi province sentenced labor lawyer and advocate Zhao Dongmin to three years' imprisonment in October 2010 for "gathering a crowd to disrupt social order." Zhao had been detained since August 2009 prior to his sentencing. Authorities initially detained Zhao for his work in organizing and attempting to establish a labor organization that reportedly would monitor the restructuring of state-owned

[China's Olympic Commitments](#)

See also the CECC Chairman's and Cochairman's [Statement](#) on China's Olympic Commitments. Click [here](#) for the full transcript and supporting materials from the Commission's Hearing on "[The Impact of the 2008 Olympic Games on Human Rights and the Rule of Law in China.](#)"

[Tibetan Protests](#)

See also the CECC Chairman's [Statement](#) on the Tibetan Protests.

[China's Household Registration System](#)

Available in English ([html](#) or [pdf](#)) and Chinese ([html](#) or [pdf](#)).

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Commission Hearings

["Nobel Peace Prize Laureate Liu Xiaobo and the Future of Political Reform in China" \(11/9/10\)](#)

["Will China Protect Intellectual Property? New Developments in Counterfeiting, Piracy, and Forced Technology Transfer" \(9/22/10\)](#)

["Political Prisoners in China: Trends and Implications for U.S. Policy" \(8/3/10\)](#)

[Google and Internet Control in China: A Nexus Between Human Rights and Trade? \(3/24/10\)](#)

[Human Rights and the Rule of Law in China \(10/7/09\)](#)

[The 20th Anniversary of the Tiananmen Square Protests: Examining the Significance of the 1989 Demonstrations in China and Implications for U.S. Policy \(6/4/09\)](#)

[What Will Drive China's Future Legal Development? Reports from the Field \(6/18/08\)](#)

[The Impact of the 2008 Olympic Games on Human Rights and the Rule of Law in China \(02/27/08\)](#)

enterprises, seek to expose corruption, and advocate for fair compensation for workers.

[More . . .](#)

[Recent Developments in Judicial Reform](#)

The Supreme People's Court has issued several documents seeking to regulate the judiciary in recent months. These include two documents that set forth judicial code of ethics, two regulations that attempt to limit undue influence on the courts, and one opinion that concerns the relationship between higher and lower level courts in conducting trial work.

[More . . .](#)

[Courts Hear China's First HIV/AIDS Employment Discrimination Cases](#)

In October 2010, an Anhui province court began the trial in China's first reported case involving alleged HIV-based employment discrimination. The university graduate who filed the lawsuit challenged the Anqing Municipal Bureau of Education's refusal to hire him after he tested positive for HIV. The court ruled against the plaintiff in the first trial and his appeal is pending. In October, a court in Sichuan province reportedly agreed to hear another case of alleged HIV/AIDS-related employment discrimination. The two cases are making their way through China's courts amid increasing calls by domestic and international organizations for greater legal protections for those living with HIV/AIDS in China.

[More . . .](#)

[Hukou Reform in Chengdu Municipality](#)

The government of Chengdu municipality, Sichuan province initiated household registration (*hukou*) reform in November 2010 that seeks to eliminate the rural-urban *hukou* divide. China's *hukou* system classifies Chinese citizens as either rural or urban *hukou* holders, and local governments may restrict access to some social services based

[Human Rights and Rule of Law in China \(09/20/06\)](#)

[Combating Human Trafficking in China: Domestic and International Efforts \(03/06/06\)](#)

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on the *hukou* classification. Rural *hukou* holders who live in urban areas are most affected by the classification. The Chengdu reform aims to unify all residents who currently hold a local *hukou* under a single identification system based on residents' actual place of residence. If successfully implemented, the reform could allow greater access to social services for some current rural *hukou* holders. The Chengdu *hukou* reforms also appear to be intended in part to make more rural land available for development.

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[Job Discrimination Against Ethnic Minorities Continues in Xinjiang](#)

Hiring practices that discriminate against Uyghurs and other groups by reserving positions exclusively for Han Chinese have continued in Xinjiang in the past year. The Congressional-Executive Commission on China found recent job recruiting announcements that reserved some or all positions for Han, in contravention of provisions in Chinese law. The jobs include both civil service positions and industry jobs advertised on government Web sites. A new training program reportedly provides jobs for non-Han college graduates who participate in training classes elsewhere in China, but the program does not address barriers to employment due to discriminatory job hiring practices. Uyghurs and other non-Han groups in Xinjiang—all of whom the Chinese government designates as "ethnic minorities"—comprise roughly 60 percent of Xinjiang's population.

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