



透過聯合國普遍定期審議機制於香港推動人權
Advancing human rights in Hong Kong through
the UN Universal Periodic Review process

香港普遍定期審議聯盟督導委員會
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NEWS RELEASE

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HONG KONG UPR COALITION RELEASES FACT SHEETS IN LIGHT OF INCREASING HUMAN RIGHTS CONCERNS

HONG KONG – With under two months to go until the third cycle Universal Periodic Review (UPR) for China, which will incorporate Hong Kong and Macau, the Hong Kong UPR Coalition has released 24 fact sheets on key human rights topics. The fact sheets expand on the [Coalition's submission](#) by outlining key challenges, cases and providing further comments. They also take account of developments since the submission was lodged in March.

“Each of the fact sheets has been prepared by members of the Coalition, which comprises over 45 civil society organisations. It has been an incredible collective effort.” said Simon Henderson, spokesperson for the Hong Kong UPR Coalition and Senior Policy Advisor at Justice Centre Hong Kong.

The 24 fact sheets cover a wide range of issues, including:

- Asylum seekers and refugees
- LGBTI rights
- Freedom of expression
- Disability rights
- Academic freedom
- Environmental rights
- Human trafficking
- Women's rights
- Social security rights
- Children's rights
- Human rights defenders

“The fact sheets build on the Coalition's submission, which provides a roadmap of specific, measurable and achievable recommendations for Hong Kong to abide by its human rights commitments and restore its international standing,” said Mr. Henderson.

For the first time, it is anticipated that several foreign governments will make recommendations on Hong Kong when the hearing happens in Geneva on 6 November 2018. This is a marked shift from the last two cycles. It reflects increasing concerns with the deteriorating human rights and rule of law environment, as well as coordinated civil society efforts by the Coalition.

“In just a few months since the Coalition's submission was released, there have been several worrying developments,” said Mr. Henderson.

“The government has attacked an academic for voicing his opinions, the police are proposing to ban a political party, the Foreign Correspondents' Club, Hong Kong has been threatened with closure for hosting a speech, members of political parties have been detained in the

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mainland and the Security Bureau has proposed measures restricting access to justice for asylum claimants.”

“Attempts to narrow what is ‘acceptable speech’ or threats issued by government officials undermine purported [commitments](#) to Hong Kong’s core values, including; adherence to the rule of law, freedom of speech and respect for human rights.”

“Disappointedly, the government has continued in recent months its strong public opposition towards engagement with the international community, dismissing recommendations on human rights issues as ‘interference’ instead of expressing a willingness to work constructively. These actions do not positively reflect aspirations to be Asia’s World City.”

“Unfortunately, since the Coalition’s submission was lodged in March there has not been an improvement in engagement with civil society. The UPR consultation process run by the Constitutional and Mainland Affairs Bureau was underpinned by a lack of transparency, including a [refusal to release](#) the Hong Kong section of the report for consultation.”

“The UPR is a test for the government to show that it is truly committed to protecting Hong Kong’s core values. We look forward to working with the government and the international community to help implement recommendations arising from the UPR hearing on 6 November,” Mr. Henderson concluded.

The fact sheets from the Hong Kong UPR Coalition are available online at: www.justicecentre.org.hk/policy-advocacy/universal-periodic-review/.

The upcoming UPR on China, including Hong Kong and Macau, will take place in Geneva on 6 November 2018. The UPR Working Group, which consists of the 47 member states of the United Nations Human Rights Council, will conduct the review.

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About Hong Kong UPR Coalition

The Hong Kong UPR Coalition represents the collaborative efforts of different civil society groups to advance human rights in Hong Kong through the United Nations Universal Periodic Review (UPR) process. Founded in 2017 for the third cycle of the UPR process, the Coalition is facilitated by Justice Centre Hong Kong and comprises a wide variety of non-governmental organisations. It is directed by the Hong Kong UPR Coalition Steering Committee, which consists of nine members, namely Civil Human Rights Front, Disabilities CV, The Hong Kong Society for Asylum-Seekers and Refugees, Hong Kong Watch, Justice Centre Hong Kong, Les Corner Empowerment Association, PEN Hong Kong, Pink Alliance and Planet Ally.

About Universal Periodic Review

The Universal Periodic Review (UPR) is a unique mechanism of the United Nations Human Rights Council aimed at improving the human rights situation on the ground of each of the 193 United Nation member states. It is the first international human rights mechanism to address all countries and all human rights. The UPR is a peer review process, and it complements the work of various United Nations treaty bodies.