Joint Statement from Hong Kong Groups on the Hong Kong National Security arrest warrants and bounties

We, the undersigned, representing Hong Kong civil society organisations across the world, condemn the Hong Kong National Security arrest warrants and bounties announced on 3 July 2023.

These Hong Kong National Security Police issued arrest warrants and bounties for eight Hong Kong pro-democracy activists living overseas, are further evidence that this draconian law is being used extraterritorially and retrospectively to silence pro-democracy voices and intimidate the Hong Kong community overseas.

In particular we condemn the targeting of pro-democracy activists Nathan Law, Dennis Kwok, Ted Hui, Kevin Yam, Anna Kwok, Finn Lau, Elmer Yuen, and Christopher Mung, and the bounties issued in their names and urge democratic countries to introduce measures to protect these individuals and the Hong Kong community as a whole from transnational repression at the hands of the People's Republic of China.

This is the latest escalation in the National Security Law, which was imposed by Beijing in 2020 and has been condemned by many governments and multiple UN Committees. So far, 260 people have been arrested under the National Security Law.

We urge the governments of the United Kingdom, United States of America, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and Europe, to introduce measures to protect the rights of and freedoms of Hong Kong activists in exile, particularly those who have asylum and face past threats from Beijing.

We urge these governments to reiterate that the Hong Kong National Security Law does not apply in their jurisdictions, and condemn the latest arrest warrants and bounties and reaffirm that they are not valid in their jurisdictions.

Finally, we urge governments to suspend the remaining extradition treaties that exist between democracies and the Hong Kong and Chinese Governments and work towards coordinating an INTERPOL early warning system to protect Hong Kongers and other dissidents abroad.

Hong Kong activists in exile must be protected in their peaceful fight for basic human rights, freedoms and democracy.

Signatories (in alphabetical order):

Hong Kong Civil Society Organisations

Hong Kong Watch

Africa Hong Kong France (AHKF)

Australia Capital Hong Kong Association

Association of Hong Kongers in Western Australia

Australia Hong Kong Link

Bauhinias for Freedom

Befria Hongkong

Birmingham HongKongers

Bonham Tree Aid UK

Bristol Hongkongers 真.香港人在Bristol

Britons in Hong Kong

Committee for Freedom in Hong Kong Foundation

Democracy for Hong Kong (D4HK)

EXE.HKers Action

Fight for Freedom. Stand with Hong Kong. (Global)

Freiheit für Hongkong e.V. (FfHK)

Germany Stands with Hong Kong

Hackney Chinese Community Services (HCCS)

HKersUnited 港聯

Hong Kong Aid 港援

Hong Kong Centre for Human Rights

Hong Kong Committee in Norway

Hong Kong Democracy Council (HKDC)

Hong Kong International Alliance Brisbane

Hong Kong Indigenous Defence Force 捍衛港人陣線

Hong Kong Labour Rights Monitor

Hong Kong Liberty

Hong Kong Media Overseas (HKMO)

Hong Kong Outlanders in Taiwan

Hongkonger in Deutschland e.V.

Hongkonger in Geneva - Switzerland

Hongkongers in Britain

Hongkongers in Leeds

Japan Hong Kong Democracy Alliance (JHKDA)

Le Comité pour la Liberté à Hong-Kong

Lightime CIC

Manchester Stands With Hong Kong

Netherlands for Hong Kong (NL4HK)

New School for Democracy Association (Taiwan)

NGO DEI

North East Hongkongers Club (UK)

PL4HK

Re-Water

Reading UK Stands with Hong Kong

Scottish Hongkongers

Southampton Hongkongers

Stand with Hong Kong Vienna

Sutton Hongkong Culture and Arts Society

The 29 Principles

The Hong Kong Scots

Torontonian HongKongers Action Group

Trafford Hongkongers CIC

UK Welcomes Hong Kongers

Washingtonians Supporting Hong Kong (DC4HK)

Victoria BC Hong Kongers (Canada)

Victoria Hongkongers Association (Australia) Inc.

Yellow Economic Circle Manchester 曼城黃色經濟圈

Supporting Civil Society Organisations:

Human Rights in China

Humanitarian China

Internationale Gesellschaft für Menschenrechte (IGFM)

Uyghur Human Rights Project

World Liberty Congress

World Uyghur Congress