



8 December 2023

The Rt Hon Rishi Sunak, MP
Prime Minister
10 Downing Street
London
SW1A 2AA

The Rt Hon Lord Cameron of Chipping Norton
Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs
Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office
King Charles Street
London
SW1A 2AH

Dear Prime Minister,

We are writing to raise our concern regarding the status and fate of British citizen Jimmy Lai as he spends his 76th birthday and 1,072nd day behind bars in Hong Kong.

As you may be aware, Jimmy Lai founded the newspaper *Apple Daily*, the largest pro-democracy newspaper in Hong Kong, which was forced to close by the authorities in June 2021. After Beijing imposed the National Security Law in June 2020, Mr Lai was arrested on baseless charges including lighting a candle at a vigil, participation in peaceful protests, collusion with foreign forces, and fraud for alleged lease violations. Mr Lai was detained on 31 December 2020 and his national security trial is expected to begin on 18 December 2023.

We are grateful that former Foreign Secretary James Cleverly included Jimmy Lai in his six-monthly reports on Hong Kong and recognised Mr Lai's case in a statement before the United Nations Human Rights Council in February 2023. However, further actions must be taken to ensure that a British citizen does not die in prison. We urge you, and Foreign Secretary Lord Cameron, to say Jimmy Lai's name and to publicly call for his immediate and unconditional release.

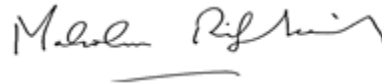
We also ask that you respond to requests for a meeting with you from Jimmy Lai's son, Sebastien Lai, who has repeatedly visited Britain to raise his father's case.

Jimmy Lai is a British citizen and exclusively holds a British passport. We request that you recognise the case of Jimmy Lai and publicly call for his immediate and unconditional release, that he may be free on his next birthday.

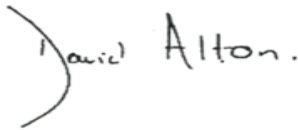
Yours sincerely,



The Rt. Hon. Lord Patten of Barnes
Patron of Hong Kong Watch



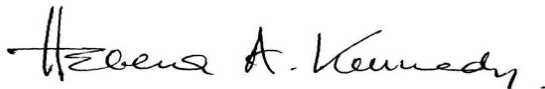
The Rt Hon Sir Malcolm Rifkind, KC
Patron of Hong Kong Watch



Lord Alton of Liverpool
Patron of Hong Kong Watch



Sir Geoffrey Nice, KC
Patron of Hong Kong Watch



Baroness Kennedy of The Shaws, KC
Patron of Hong Kong Watch



Fiona Bruce MP
Patron of Hong Kong Watch



Alistair Carmichael MP
Patron of Hong Kong Watch and Co-Chair
of the All Party Parliamentary Group
(APPG) on Hong Kong



Sarah Champion MP
Patron of Hong Kong Watch