

## HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION IN HONG KONG:

### HONG KONG WATCH BRIEFING ON HUMAN RIGHTS DEVELOPMENTS: NOVEMBER 2022

---

#### KEY FIGURES

---

5 years is the minimum jail sentence for serious crimes under the NSL, in a landmark court ruling.<sup>1</sup>

36 deputies will represent Hong Kong at the National People's Congress Standing Committee's next term.<sup>2</sup>

Hong Kong police archived **over 300** Stand News articles after the Apple Daily raid and arrests.<sup>3</sup>

---

#### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

---

##### POLITICAL PRISONERS: ARRESTS, CHARGES, & TRIALS

- Stand News Trial Begins and is Halted
- 612 Humanitarian Fund Trustees and Secretary Fined Under Societies Ordinance
- Jimmy Lai Trial Adjourned
- Landmark National Security Law Case
- Hong Kong Tiananmen Vigil Group Trial to Proceed Without Jury
- Democratic Party Chairman Cleared of Unlawful Assembly Charge

---

<sup>1</sup>[https://www.scmp.com/news/hong-kong/law-and-crime/article/3201479/hong-kong-student-jailed-inciting-secession-loses-appeal-against-5-year-sentence-under-national?utm\\_source=rss\\_feed&utm\\_source=HRIC%20Updates&utm\\_campaign=a5185c9988-HRIC\\_DAILY\\_BRIEF\\_COPY\\_01&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_b537d30fde-a5185c9988-259232834](https://www.scmp.com/news/hong-kong/law-and-crime/article/3201479/hong-kong-student-jailed-inciting-secession-loses-appeal-against-5-year-sentence-under-national?utm_source=rss_feed&utm_source=HRIC%20Updates&utm_campaign=a5185c9988-HRIC_DAILY_BRIEF_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_b537d30fde-a5185c9988-259232834)

<sup>2</sup>[https://www.scmp.com/news/hong-kong/politics/article/3200419/hong-kong-deputies-be-elected-chinas-legislature-play-bigger-role-countrys-governance-senior?utm\\_source=rss\\_feed&utm\\_source=HRIC%20Updates&utm\\_campaign=dcfb182079-HRIC\\_DAILY\\_BRIEF\\_COPY\\_01&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_b537d30fde-dcfb182079-259232834](https://www.scmp.com/news/hong-kong/politics/article/3200419/hong-kong-deputies-be-elected-chinas-legislature-play-bigger-role-countrys-governance-senior?utm_source=rss_feed&utm_source=HRIC%20Updates&utm_campaign=dcfb182079-HRIC_DAILY_BRIEF_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_b537d30fde-dcfb182079-259232834)

<sup>3</sup>[https://hongkongfp.com/2022/11/04/hong-kong-police-began-archiving-over-300-stand-news-articles-days-after-apple-daily-arrests-and-raid-court-hears/?utm\\_source=HRIC+Updates&utm\\_campaign=348e759bb1-HRIC\\_DAILY\\_BRIEF\\_COPY\\_01&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_b537d30fde-348e759bb1-259232834](https://hongkongfp.com/2022/11/04/hong-kong-police-began-archiving-over-300-stand-news-articles-days-after-apple-daily-arrests-and-raid-court-hears/?utm_source=HRIC+Updates&utm_campaign=348e759bb1-HRIC_DAILY_BRIEF_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_b537d30fde-348e759bb1-259232834)

- Man Shot By Police Sentenced to Six Years
- One of 12 Youth Granted Bailed
- Military Training and Patriotic Education in Prisons
- Man Charged Under Sedition Law for Online Posts

#### STATE OF THE RULE OF LAW AND POLICING

- Beijing will assist in interpreting National Security Law
- National Security Defendants Can be Tried in the Mainland
- Proposed Cybercrime Law with Extraterritoriality

#### A FREE PRESS IN THE CROSS HAIRS

- Ex-Apple Daily Staff Plead Guilty to Collusion
- Foreign Correspondents' Club Lease Renewed
- Journalist Loses Appeal Over Assessing Public Data
- Launch of Association of Overseas Hong Kong Media Professionals
- Trust Project Freezes Operations

#### A GREAT PURGE UNDERWAY

- Hong Kong National Anthem Blunders
- First Person Jailed for Insulting National Anthem
- Filmmakers Look Abroad for Funding and Audience

#### STATE SECURITY AND ECONOMY

- Hong Kong Deputies to Join National People's Congress (NPC) Standing Committee
- Chinese Regulators Give Guidance at Banking Summit
- Hongkongers Support Mainland Protests
- National Security Office Purchases Luxury Villa

#### OTHER DEVELOPMENTS

- BNO Scheme Amendment Allows Greater Access
- US Congressional-Executive Commission on China (CECC) publishes Annual Report
- Hong Kong to Build International Mediation Centre
- Cosco buy 24.9% of Hamburg Port Terminal
- Semiconductor Chips Factory Sale Blocked
- Xi Jinping Secures Third Term
- Scholz visits China
- Xi meets with over 25 World Leaders Since October

---

## POLITICAL PRISONERS: ARRESTS, CHARGES & TRIALS

---

### **Stand News Trial Begins and is Halted**

The Stand News trial began this month, where former editors and the outlet's parent company are facing charges of conspiring to publish seditious material. The court heard that the Hong Kong Police took screenshots of over 300 Stand News Articles, even though only 30 were submitted in the case.<sup>4</sup>

The trial was scheduled to last 20 days but there has been a permanent stay of proceedings due to the improper handling of prosecution evidence after more than 1,500 pages worth of evidence were not disclosed to the defence before trial.<sup>5</sup>

### **612 Humanitarian Fund Trustees and Secretary Fined Under Societies Ordinance**

The trustees and secretary of the now-defunct 612 Humanitarian Relief Fund have been fined for failing to register the fund under the Societies Ordinance. The trustees, Cardinal Joseph Zen Ze-kiun, Dr. Margaret Ng Ngoi-ye, Dr. Po-Keung Hui, Cyd Ho Sau-Lan, and Denise Ho, have each been ordered to pay HKD 4000. The fund's secretary, Sze Ching-wee, was fined HKD 2500.<sup>6</sup>

All six have been arrested under the national security law as well, and are being investigated for collusion with foreign forces. They have had their travel documents confiscated and are awaiting trial.<sup>7</sup>

### **Jimmy Lai Trial Adjourned**

The trial of Jimmy Lai (黎智英), the media tycoon and founder of Apple Daily, has been adjourned as Hong Kong waits for Beijing to clarify whether overseas lawyers can appear in national security cases. British barrister Timothy Owen KC, who is representing

---

<sup>4</sup>[https://hongkongfp.com/2022/11/04/hong-kong-police-began-archiving-over-300-stand-news-articles-days-after-apple-daily-arrests-and-raid-court-hears/?utm\\_source=HRIC+Updates&utm\\_campaign=348e759bb1-HRIC\\_DAILY\\_BRIEF\\_COPY\\_01&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_b537d30fde-348e759bb1-259232834](https://hongkongfp.com/2022/11/04/hong-kong-police-began-archiving-over-300-stand-news-articles-days-after-apple-daily-arrests-and-raid-court-hears/?utm_source=HRIC+Updates&utm_campaign=348e759bb1-HRIC_DAILY_BRIEF_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_b537d30fde-348e759bb1-259232834)

<sup>5</sup> <https://hongkongfp.com/2022/12/05/explainer-hong-kongs-national-security-crackdown-month-29/>

<sup>6</sup>[https://www.scmp.com/news/hong-kong/law-and-crime/article/3200941/retired-hong-kong-cardinal-joseph-zen-and-5-others-convicted-failing-register-legal-defence-fund-set?utm\\_source=rss\\_feed&utm\\_source=HRIC%20Updates&utm\\_campaign=c66b84982a-HRIC\\_DAILY\\_BRIEF\\_COPY\\_01&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_b537d30fde-c66b84982a-259232834](https://www.scmp.com/news/hong-kong/law-and-crime/article/3200941/retired-hong-kong-cardinal-joseph-zen-and-5-others-convicted-failing-register-legal-defence-fund-set?utm_source=rss_feed&utm_source=HRIC%20Updates&utm_campaign=c66b84982a-HRIC_DAILY_BRIEF_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_b537d30fde-c66b84982a-259232834)

<sup>7</sup>[https://www.theguardian.com/world/2022/nov/08/hong-kong-police-seize-sze-ching-wee-secretary-of-612-humanitarian-relief-fund-2019-protests?utm\\_source=HRIC+Updates&utm\\_campaign=5a3eb0a502-HRIC\\_DAILY\\_BRIEF\\_COPY\\_01&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_b537d30fde-5a3eb0a502-259232834](https://www.theguardian.com/world/2022/nov/08/hong-kong-police-seize-sze-ching-wee-secretary-of-612-humanitarian-relief-fund-2019-protests?utm_source=HRIC+Updates&utm_campaign=5a3eb0a502-HRIC_DAILY_BRIEF_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_b537d30fde-5a3eb0a502-259232834)

Jimmy Lai, had his work visa extension withheld by the Immigration Department until the decision was made. Jimmy Lai faces a maximum of life imprisonment for collusion under the national security law, and seditious publication under the sedition law.<sup>8</sup>

### **Landmark National Security Law Case**

The Hong Kong Court of Appeal ruled that a university student will receive a five-year jail sentence for social media posts that advocated for independence and resistance to the Communist Party, because this is a serious crime and the defendant must face the minimum sentence. This landmark ruling means that judges cannot impose sentences below the minimum stipulated in the national security law when it comes to serious crimes, even if there is a guilty plea and no matter how much the offender deserved a lesser penalty.<sup>9</sup>

### **Hong Kong Tiananmen Vigil Group Trial to Proceed Without Jury**

The organiser of Hong Kong's annual Tiananmen vigil, the Hong Kong Alliance, has been accused of incitement to subversion under the national security law. One of the organisers, Chow Hang-tung (鄒幸彤), received a certificate from the Secretary for Justice who announced that the trial will be conducted without jury, to ensure due administration of justice.<sup>10</sup>

### **Democratic Party Chairman Cleared of Unlawful Assembly Charge**

Lo Kin-hei (羅健熙), the chairman of the Democratic Party, was accused of taking part in an unlawful assembly near Polytechnic University in Hung Hom on 18 November 2019 and was arrested on the same day. He was arrested with nine others and was cleared of his charge, although some of the others have been jailed after pleading guilty to the same offence.<sup>11</sup>

---

<sup>8</sup><https://hongkongfp.com/2022/12/01/media-tycoon-jimmy-lais-trial-adjourned-to-dec-13-hong-kong-immigration-withholds-visa-extension-for-his-lawyer/>

<sup>9</sup>[https://www.scmp.com/news/hong-kong/law-and-crime/article/3201479/hong-kong-student-jailed-inciting-secession-loses-appeal-against-5-year-sentence-under-national?utm\\_source=rss\\_feed&utm\\_source=HRIC%20Updates&utm\\_campaign=a5185c9988-HRIC\\_DAILY\\_BRIEF\\_COPY\\_01&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_b537d30fde-a5185c9988-259232834](https://www.scmp.com/news/hong-kong/law-and-crime/article/3201479/hong-kong-student-jailed-inciting-secession-loses-appeal-against-5-year-sentence-under-national?utm_source=rss_feed&utm_source=HRIC%20Updates&utm_campaign=a5185c9988-HRIC_DAILY_BRIEF_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_b537d30fde-a5185c9988-259232834)

<sup>10</sup><https://hongkongfp.com/2022/12/05/national-security-case-against-hong-kong-tiananmen-vigil-group-to-be-tried-without-jury-chow-hang-tung-says/>

<sup>11</sup><https://www.scmp.com/news/hong-kong/law-and-crime/article/3201495/hong-kong-protests-leader-citys-largest-opposition-party-cleared-unlawful-assembly->

### **Six Found Guilty of Rioting at Polytechnic University**

In the first trial related to the 12-day Polytechnic University protests in 2019, six defendants have been convicted of rioting. Although the six had pleaded not guilty to the rioting charge, the judge was convinced that they had joined a series of illegal assemblies that took place at the campus. So far, 1393 people have been arrested in relation to the campus siege.<sup>12</sup>

### **Man Shot By Police Sentenced to Six Years**

Chow Pak–kwan (周柏均) was shot by a Hong Kong Police officer during a protest in Sai Wan Ho on 11 November 2019. He was unarmed and suffered mental and physical harm as a result of the incident. He has been convicted of attempting to snatch an officer's gun and attempting to escape from legal custody and has been sentenced to 6 years in jail. His co–defendant, Woo Tsz–kin (胡子健), was convicted of attempting attempting to snatch an officer's gun and obstructing a police officer.<sup>13</sup>

### **One of 12 Youth Granted Bailed**

Liu Tsz–man (廖子文), one of the 12 youth who attempted to flee to Taiwan via speedboat in August 2020 and was captured by Mainland authorities, has been granted bail in a protest–related case. He was sentenced to 10 months in jail over his attempted escape and 27 months for attempting to make petrol bombs and possessing related materials. He will not serve the two sentences concurrently and currently reports to a police station three times a week.<sup>14</sup>

---

[charge?utm\\_source=rss\\_feed&utm\\_source=HRIC%20Updates&utm\\_campaign=a5185c9988-HRIC\\_DAILY\\_BRIEF\\_COPY\\_01&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_b537d30fde-a5185c9988-259232834](https://www.scmp.com/news/hong-kong/law-and-crime/article/3201126/hong-kong-protests-6-found-guilty-rioting-first-trial-related-polyu-campus-siege-2019?utm_source=rss_feed&utm_source=HRIC%20Updates&utm_campaign=a5185c9988-HRIC_DAILY_BRIEF_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_b537d30fde-a5185c9988-259232834)

<sup>12</sup>[https://www.scmp.com/news/hong-kong/law-and-crime/article/3201126/hong-kong-protests-6-found-guilty-rioting-first-trial-related-polyu-campus-siege-2019?utm\\_source=rss\\_feed&utm\\_source=HRIC%20Updates&utm\\_campaign=c66b84982a-HRIC\\_DAILY\\_BRIEF\\_COPY\\_01&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_b537d30fde-c66b84982a-259232834](https://www.scmp.com/news/hong-kong/law-and-crime/article/3201126/hong-kong-protests-6-found-guilty-rioting-first-trial-related-polyu-campus-siege-2019?utm_source=rss_feed&utm_source=HRIC%20Updates&utm_campaign=c66b84982a-HRIC_DAILY_BRIEF_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_b537d30fde-c66b84982a-259232834)

<sup>13</sup>[https://hongkongfp.com/2022/11/30/hongkonger-shot-by-police-during-2019-protest-sentenced-to-6-years-in-jail/?utm\\_source=HRIC+Updates&utm\\_campaign=a5185c9988-HRIC\\_DAILY\\_BRIEF\\_COPY\\_01&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_b537d30fde-a5185c9988-259232834](https://hongkongfp.com/2022/11/30/hongkonger-shot-by-police-during-2019-protest-sentenced-to-6-years-in-jail/?utm_source=HRIC+Updates&utm_campaign=a5185c9988-HRIC_DAILY_BRIEF_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_b537d30fde-a5185c9988-259232834)

<sup>14</sup>[https://hongkongfp.com/2022/11/23/hongkonger-who-attempted-to-escape-to-taiwan-granted-bail-pending-appeal-against-sentence-in-protest-related-case/?utm\\_source=HRIC+Updates&utm\\_campaign=92f1054119-HRIC\\_DAILY\\_BRIEF\\_COPY\\_01&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_b537d30fde-92f1054119-259232834](https://hongkongfp.com/2022/11/23/hongkonger-who-attempted-to-escape-to-taiwan-granted-bail-pending-appeal-against-sentence-in-protest-related-case/?utm_source=HRIC+Updates&utm_campaign=92f1054119-HRIC_DAILY_BRIEF_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_b537d30fde-92f1054119-259232834)

<sup>14</sup>[https://hongkongfp.com/2022/11/23/hongkonger-who-attempted-to-escape-to-taiwan-granted-bail-pending-appeal-against-sentence-in-protest-related-case/?utm\\_source=HRIC+Updates&utm\\_campaign=92f1054119-HRIC\\_DAILY\\_BRIEF\\_COPY\\_01&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_b537d30fde-92f1054119-259232834](https://hongkongfp.com/2022/11/23/hongkonger-who-attempted-to-escape-to-taiwan-granted-bail-pending-appeal-against-sentence-in-protest-related-case/?utm_source=HRIC+Updates&utm_campaign=92f1054119-HRIC_DAILY_BRIEF_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_b537d30fde-92f1054119-259232834)

<sup>14</sup>[https://hongkongfp.com/2022/11/23/hongkonger-who-attempted-to-escape-to-taiwan-granted-bail-pending-appeal-against-sentence-in-protest-related-case/?utm\\_source=HRIC+Updates&utm\\_campaign=92f1054119-HRIC\\_DAILY\\_BRIEF\\_COPY\\_01&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_b537d30fde-92f1054119-259232834](https://hongkongfp.com/2022/11/23/hongkonger-who-attempted-to-escape-to-taiwan-granted-bail-pending-appeal-against-sentence-in-protest-related-case/?utm_source=HRIC+Updates&utm_campaign=92f1054119-HRIC_DAILY_BRIEF_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_b537d30fde-92f1054119-259232834)

### **Military Training and Patriotic Education in Prisons**

Security chief Chris Tang (鄧炳強) told the Legislative Council that young people prosecuted in connection with the 2019 anti-extradition protests have been sent for “re-education” if there are deemed to hold “extreme ideological views.” Additionally, all young people in custody receive Chinese-style military training.<sup>15</sup>

### **Man Charged Under Sedition Law for Online Posts**

Joseph John, a Portuguese citizen has been accused of conspiring to commit sedition acts, through online posts, which is a breach of the sedition law. He was denied bail. He published material online and was arrested after returning to Hong Kong for personal reasons.<sup>16</sup>

---

## **THE STATE OF THE RULE OF LAW**

---

### **Beijing will assist in interpreting National Security Law**

Chief Executive John Lee (李家超) submitted a request to the Standing Committee in Beijing Beijing to clarify whether overseas lawyers or barristers without full local professional qualifications could participate in national security cases, arguing that this could compromise state secrets.

The Hong Kong Bar Association commented that Beijing’s legal interpretation of the national security law would not be normalised and would not undermine judicial independence.<sup>17</sup> A

---

<sup>15</sup>[https://www.rfa.org/english/news/china/protesters-11082022100105.html?utm\\_source=HRIC+Updates&utm\\_campaign=18f7df0153-HRIC\\_DAILY\\_BRIEF\\_COPY\\_01&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_b537d30fde-18f7df0153-259232834](https://www.rfa.org/english/news/china/protesters-11082022100105.html?utm_source=HRIC+Updates&utm_campaign=18f7df0153-HRIC_DAILY_BRIEF_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_b537d30fde-18f7df0153-259232834)

<sup>16</sup>[https://hongkongfp.com/2022/11/03/portuguese-man-charged-under-hong-kong-sedition-law-over-online-posts-denied-bail/?utm\\_source=HRIC+Updates&utm\\_campaign=947e1ac773-HRIC\\_DAILY\\_BRIEF\\_COPY\\_01&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_b537d30fde-947e1ac773-259232834](https://hongkongfp.com/2022/11/03/portuguese-man-charged-under-hong-kong-sedition-law-over-online-posts-denied-bail/?utm_source=HRIC+Updates&utm_campaign=947e1ac773-HRIC_DAILY_BRIEF_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_b537d30fde-947e1ac773-259232834)

<sup>17</sup>[https://news.rthk.hk/rthk/ch/component/k2/1677628-20221129.htm?utm\\_source=HRIC+Updates&utm\\_campaign=f1e4aca781-HRIC\\_DAILY\\_BRIEF\\_COPY\\_01&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_b537d30fde-f1e4aca781-259232834](https://news.rthk.hk/rthk/ch/component/k2/1677628-20221129.htm?utm_source=HRIC+Updates&utm_campaign=f1e4aca781-HRIC_DAILY_BRIEF_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_b537d30fde-f1e4aca781-259232834)

pool of designated lawyers may also be identified by Beijing to handle national security cases in Hong Kong.<sup>18</sup>

### **National Security Defendants Can be Tried in the Mainland**

Hong Kong's delegate to the National People's Congress Standing Committee publicly stated that the national security law empowers arrangements to be made, under special circumstances, to send national security law defendants to Mainland China. This may happen if a suitable lawyer cannot be found in Hong Kong, for example.<sup>19</sup>

### **Hong Kong to Increase Efforts to Underlying Threats**

The Chief Executive John Lee (李家超) announced that Hong Kong will strengthen law enforcement and intelligence collection, and carry out comprehensive preparations, to tackle underlying security threats. This includes greater efforts to national security education.<sup>20</sup>

Hong Kong lawmakers have also urged officials to boldly promote national pride and raise awareness about foreign interference. They overwhelmingly approved a motion to urge the government to encourage Hongkonger to learn about President Xi Jinping's report at the 20th Party Congress.<sup>21</sup>

---

<sup>18</sup>[https://www.scmp.com/news/hong-kong/politics/article/3201361/jimmy-lais-national-security-trial-hong-kong-justice-department-seek-case-adjudgment-tuesday-amid?utm\\_source=rss\\_feed&utm\\_source=HRIC%20Updates&utm\\_campaign=f1e4aca781-HRIC\\_DAILY\\_BRIEF\\_COPY\\_01&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_b537d30fde-f1e4aca781-259232834](https://www.scmp.com/news/hong-kong/politics/article/3201361/jimmy-lais-national-security-trial-hong-kong-justice-department-seek-case-adjudgment-tuesday-amid?utm_source=rss_feed&utm_source=HRIC%20Updates&utm_campaign=f1e4aca781-HRIC_DAILY_BRIEF_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_b537d30fde-f1e4aca781-259232834)

<sup>19</sup><https://hongkongfp.com/2022/12/05/national-security-defendants-can-be-tried-in-mainland-china-if-no-hong-kong-lawyer-available-top-official-says/>

<sup>20</sup>[https://www.scmp.com/news/hong-kong/politics/article/3198197/hong-kong-strengthen-intelligence-collection-deal-underlying-security-threats-john-lee-says?utm\\_source=rss\\_feed&utm\\_source=HRIC%20Updates&utm\\_campaign=947e1ac773-HRIC\\_DAILY\\_BRIEF\\_COPY\\_01&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_b537d30fde-947e1ac773-259232834](https://www.scmp.com/news/hong-kong/politics/article/3198197/hong-kong-strengthen-intelligence-collection-deal-underlying-security-threats-john-lee-says?utm_source=rss_feed&utm_source=HRIC%20Updates&utm_campaign=947e1ac773-HRIC_DAILY_BRIEF_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_b537d30fde-947e1ac773-259232834)

<sup>21</sup>[https://www.scmp.com/news/hong-kong/politics/article/3199116/lawmakers-call-officials-boldly-promote-national-pride-approve-motion-urging-hong-kong-government?utm\\_source=rss\\_feed&utm\\_source=HRIC%20Updates&utm\\_campaign=dff3cea06c-HRIC\\_DAILY\\_BRIEF\\_COPY\\_01&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_b537d30fde-dff3cea06c-259232834](https://www.scmp.com/news/hong-kong/politics/article/3199116/lawmakers-call-officials-boldly-promote-national-pride-approve-motion-urging-hong-kong-government?utm_source=rss_feed&utm_source=HRIC%20Updates&utm_campaign=dff3cea06c-HRIC_DAILY_BRIEF_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_b537d30fde-dff3cea06c-259232834)

Under new guidelines, Hong Kong schools will also be required to supply authorities with information on national education uptake among teachers. This includes the teachers' professional training as well as attitudes to the country.<sup>22</sup>

### **Proposed Cybercrime Law with Extraterritoriality**

Hong Kong lawmakers are proposing a law to clamp down on cybercrimes and are pursuing research into how the law can have extraterritorial reach, particularly if the law involves a Hong Kong victim or otherwise affects the city. Lawmakers argued that the law should be applied to companies based overseas and data stored overseas. This proposal adds to the national security law, which is designed to cover offences committed abroad.<sup>23</sup>

---

## **A FREE PRESS IN THE CROSS HAIRS**

---

### **Ex-Apple Daily Staff Plead Guilty to Collusion**

Six former senior executives have pleaded guilty to collusion with foreign forces, a breach of the national security law, for seeking international sanctions on Beijing and Hong Kong officials. The charge is punishable by up to life imprisonment and the defendants will receive lesser penalties due to their guilty pleas. The court session attracted over 100 attendees, including many workers of the now-defunct newspaper.<sup>24</sup>

### **Foreign Correspondents' Club Lease Renewed**

The Foreign Correspondents' Club (FCC) has been offered a new lease to continue its operations in the historic Hong Kong site. However, the lease includes new clauses which cover the national security law and protection of the Government's rights and interests, and the lease can be terminated on national security grounds. The FCC has hosted foreign

---

<sup>22</sup>[https://www.scmp.com/news/hong-kong/education/article/3199355/inspectors-concluding-remarks-hong-kong-schools-be-made-public-education-bureau-says?utm\\_source=rss\\_feed&utm\\_source=HRIC%20Updates&utm\\_campaign=e165004bc3-HRIC\\_DAILY\\_BRIEF\\_COPY\\_01&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_b537d30fde-e165004bc3-259232834](https://www.scmp.com/news/hong-kong/education/article/3199355/inspectors-concluding-remarks-hong-kong-schools-be-made-public-education-bureau-says?utm_source=rss_feed&utm_source=HRIC%20Updates&utm_campaign=e165004bc3-HRIC_DAILY_BRIEF_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_b537d30fde-e165004bc3-259232834)

<sup>23</sup>[https://www.scmp.com/news/hong-kong/law-and-crime/article/3198751/proposed-cybercrime-law-needs-long-reach-cover-offences-outside-hong-kong-compel-tech-giants?utm\\_source=rss\\_feed&utm\\_source=HRIC%20Updates&utm\\_campaign=5a3eb0a502-HRIC\\_DAILY\\_BRIEF\\_COPY\\_01&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_b537d30fde-5a3eb0a502-259232834](https://www.scmp.com/news/hong-kong/law-and-crime/article/3198751/proposed-cybercrime-law-needs-long-reach-cover-offences-outside-hong-kong-compel-tech-giants?utm_source=rss_feed&utm_source=HRIC%20Updates&utm_campaign=5a3eb0a502-HRIC_DAILY_BRIEF_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_b537d30fde-5a3eb0a502-259232834)

<sup>24</sup>[https://www.scmp.com/news/hong-kong/law-and-crime/article/3200501/hong-kong-national-security-law-6-ex-apple-daily-staff-plead-guilty-conspiracy-collude-foreign?utm\\_source=rss\\_feed&utm\\_source=HRIC%20Updates&utm\\_campaign=dcfb182079-HRIC\\_DAILY\\_BRIEF\\_COPY\\_01&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_b537d30fde-dcfb182079-259232834](https://www.scmp.com/news/hong-kong/law-and-crime/article/3200501/hong-kong-national-security-law-6-ex-apple-daily-staff-plead-guilty-conspiracy-collude-foreign?utm_source=rss_feed&utm_source=HRIC%20Updates&utm_campaign=dcfb182079-HRIC_DAILY_BRIEF_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_b537d30fde-dcfb182079-259232834)



journalists and financiers, and their previous vice-president Victor Mallet was refused a work visa renewal by the Hong Kong government for hosting a talk by a pro-independence activist.<sup>25</sup>

### **Journalist Loses Appeal Over Assessing Public Data**

Journalist Choy Yuk-Ling (蔡玉玲), known as Bao Choy, lost her appeal against a conviction over accessing public data. She was making a documentary about the 21 July 2019 mob attack for RHHK and obtained vehicle records to do so. She believed her application to access the records was legitimate, but the judge ruled against this. Choy said this defeat will present obstacles to monitor authority in Hong Kong.<sup>26</sup>

### **Launch of Association of Overseas Hong Kong Media Professionals**

Hong Kong journalists who relocated to the UK collaborated with the National Union of Journalists of UK and Ireland to launch the Association of Overseas Hong Kong Media Professionals. They pledged to focus on freedom of the press in Hong Kong and to provide mutual assistance for professionals who have relocated overseas.<sup>27</sup>

### **Trust Project Freezes Operations**

The Trust Project News Partner programme, an international consortium which promotes greater accountability and transparency in the news industry, has halted operations in Hong Kong. They cited the increasingly difficult environment for free and independent press and challenges to continue operating with integrity.<sup>28</sup>

---

<sup>25</sup>[https://hongkongfp.com/2022/11/30/renewal-of-lease-of-hong-kong-foreign-press-club-a-huge-relief-president-says-as-govt-adds-national-security-clause/?utm\\_source=HRIC+Updates&utm\\_campaign=a5185c9988-HRIC\\_DAILY\\_BRIEF\\_COPY\\_01&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_b537d30fde-a5185c9988-259232834](https://hongkongfp.com/2022/11/30/renewal-of-lease-of-hong-kong-foreign-press-club-a-huge-relief-president-says-as-govt-adds-national-security-clause/?utm_source=HRIC+Updates&utm_campaign=a5185c9988-HRIC_DAILY_BRIEF_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_b537d30fde-a5185c9988-259232834)

<sup>26</sup><https://hongkongfp.com/2022/11/07/hong-kong-journalist-bao-choy-loses-appeal-against-conviction-over-accessing-public-data-for-documentary/>

<sup>27</sup><https://www.ifj.org/media-centre/news/detail/category/press-freedom/article/uk-launch-of-association-of-overseas-hong-kong-media-professionals.html>

<sup>28</sup>[https://hongkongfp.com/2022/11/01/trust-project-freezes-hong-kong-operations-citing-increasingly-difficult-environment-for-news/?utm\\_source=HRIC+Updates&utm\\_campaign=993f5ad95a-HRIC\\_DAILY\\_BRIEF\\_COPY\\_01&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_b537d30fde-993f5ad95a-259232834](https://hongkongfp.com/2022/11/01/trust-project-freezes-hong-kong-operations-citing-increasingly-difficult-environment-for-news/?utm_source=HRIC+Updates&utm_campaign=993f5ad95a-HRIC_DAILY_BRIEF_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_b537d30fde-993f5ad95a-259232834)

---

## THE GREAT PURGE UNDERWAY

---

### **Hong Kong National Anthem Blunders**

The Hong Kong protest song, Glory to Hong Kong, was played at a South Korean stadium at the start of a rugby match, instead of the March of the Volunteers, the Chinese national anthem which is also Hong Kong's official national anthem. The Hong Kong government called for an investigation into this incident and Rugby Asia apologised for the incident, which was a mistake caused by human error.<sup>29</sup> It was also mislabelled as Hong Kong's national anthem in television footage.<sup>30</sup> The Hong Kong Police interviewed members of the Hong Kong Rugby Union and seized their communications as part of an ongoing investigation into the event.<sup>31</sup>

The Sports Federation & Olympic Committee of Hong Kong asked athletes to use the “time out” gesture if the wrong song is played instead of China's national anthem and issued new guidelines related to the national anthem and flags.<sup>32</sup>

Glory to Hong Kong was again played instead of the Chinese national anthem, at the Asian Classic Powerlifting Championship in Dubai. The Hong Kong athlete made the “time out” gesture and March of the Volunteers was played instead soon after. A complaint was filed and an investigation was requested.<sup>33</sup>

A man who reposted footage of the protest song being played at the South Korea rugby match, with a message thanking South Korea, was arrested and remanded on national security grounds. His social media posts caught the attention of the National Security Department,

---

<sup>29</sup>[https://www.theguardian.com/world/2022/nov/14/glory-to-hong-kong-protest-song-played-instead-of-china-national-anthem-rugby-sevens-game-south-korea?utm\\_source=HRIC+Updates&utm\\_campaign=e165004bc3-HRIC\\_DAILY\\_BRIEF\\_COPY\\_01&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_b537d30fde-e165004bc3-259232834](https://www.theguardian.com/world/2022/nov/14/glory-to-hong-kong-protest-song-played-instead-of-china-national-anthem-rugby-sevens-game-south-korea?utm_source=HRIC+Updates&utm_campaign=e165004bc3-HRIC_DAILY_BRIEF_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_b537d30fde-e165004bc3-259232834)

<sup>30</sup><https://hongkongfp.com/2022/11/21/more-anthem-blunders-at-rugby-matches-as-hong-kong-sporting-body-decries-disrespectful-error/>

<sup>31</sup>[https://www.scmp.com/news/hong-kong/law-and-crime/article/3200470/members-hong-kong-rugby-union-interviewed-police-over-national-anthem-mix-ups-overseas-sports-events?utm\\_source=rss\\_feed&utm\\_source=HRIC%20Updates&utm\\_campaign=dcfb182079-HRIC\\_DAILY\\_BRIEF\\_COPY\\_01&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_b537d30fde-dcfb182079-259232834](https://www.scmp.com/news/hong-kong/law-and-crime/article/3200470/members-hong-kong-rugby-union-interviewed-police-over-national-anthem-mix-ups-overseas-sports-events?utm_source=rss_feed&utm_source=HRIC%20Updates&utm_campaign=dcfb182079-HRIC_DAILY_BRIEF_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_b537d30fde-dcfb182079-259232834)

<sup>32</sup>[https://hongkongfp.com/2022/11/21/hong-kong-athletes-should-alert-sporting-event-organisers-to-any-anthem-errors-according-to-new-guidelines/?utm\\_source=HRIC+Updates&utm\\_campaign=e612e66d7e-HRIC\\_DAILY\\_BRIEF\\_COPY\\_01&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_b537d30fde-e612e66d7e-259232834](https://hongkongfp.com/2022/11/21/hong-kong-athletes-should-alert-sporting-event-organisers-to-any-anthem-errors-according-to-new-guidelines/?utm_source=HRIC+Updates&utm_campaign=e612e66d7e-HRIC_DAILY_BRIEF_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_b537d30fde-e612e66d7e-259232834)

<sup>33</sup><https://www.scmp.com/news/hong-kong/law-and-crime/article/3201932/protest-song-played-instead-chinese-national-anthem-dubai-powerlifting-event-hong-kong-athlete-makes>

who found that he had previously published other offensive statements and accused him of sedition intentions.<sup>34</sup>

### **First Person Jailed for Insulting National Anthem**

Paula Leung pleaded guilty to insulting China's national anthem, the March of the Volunteers, by waving a colonial era-flag while watching a public broadcast of the Tokyo Olympics at a shopping mall where a medal ceremony with the national anthem was shown. She has been sentenced to three years in jail and is the first person to be jailed under the 2020 National Anthem Ordinance.<sup>35</sup>

### **Filmmakers Look Abroad for Funding and Audience**

Hong Kong film directors are seeking increasing portions of their funding and audience from abroad, especially as many of them are no longer able to screen their films in local cinemas. Hong Kong requires films to have an official review under the Film Censorship Ordinance, which was amended to bar content that could threaten national security.

The Golden Horse Awards in Taipei recognised two Hong Kong films this year, reflecting directors' shifts in where they promote their films, and seek funding and audiences. The awards had 10 Hong Kong films this year and are especially important for Chinese-language content, which faces new limitations.<sup>36</sup> The Hong Kong Motion Picture Industry Association and Beijing's Taiwan Affairs Office urged people not to get involved with the Golden Horse Awards.<sup>37</sup>

---

## **STATE SECURITY AND ECONOMY**

---

### **Hong Kong Deputies to Join National People's Congress (NPC) Standing Committee**

---

<sup>34</sup>[https://www.scmp.com/news/hong-kong/law-and-crime/article/3200705/hongkonger-remanded-custody-national-security-grounds-after-reposting-footage-anthem-blunder?utm\\_source=rss\\_feed&utm\\_source=HRIC%20Updates&utm\\_campaign=92f1054119-HRIC\\_DAILY\\_BRIEF\\_COPY\\_01&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_b537d30fde-92f1054119-259232834](https://www.scmp.com/news/hong-kong/law-and-crime/article/3200705/hongkonger-remanded-custody-national-security-grounds-after-reposting-footage-anthem-blunder?utm_source=rss_feed&utm_source=HRIC%20Updates&utm_campaign=92f1054119-HRIC_DAILY_BRIEF_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_b537d30fde-92f1054119-259232834)

<sup>35</sup>[https://www.channelnewsasia.com/asia/hong-kong-jails-first-person-insulting-national-anthem-3060631?utm\\_source=HRIC+Updates&utm\\_campaign=df3cea06c-HRIC\\_DAILY\\_BRIEF\\_COPY\\_01&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_b537d30fde-dff3cea06c-259232834](https://www.channelnewsasia.com/asia/hong-kong-jails-first-person-insulting-national-anthem-3060631?utm_source=HRIC+Updates&utm_campaign=df3cea06c-HRIC_DAILY_BRIEF_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_b537d30fde-dff3cea06c-259232834)

<sup>36</sup>[https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/2022/11/17/china-censorship-movies-hong-kong/?utm\\_source=feedly&utm\\_medium=referral&utm\\_campaign=wp\\_world&utm\\_source=HRIC+Updates&utm\\_campaign=1ad285f3a3-HRIC\\_DAILY\\_BRIEF\\_COPY\\_01&utm\\_medium=email](https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/2022/11/17/china-censorship-movies-hong-kong/?utm_source=feedly&utm_medium=referral&utm_campaign=wp_world&utm_source=HRIC+Updates&utm_campaign=1ad285f3a3-HRIC_DAILY_BRIEF_COPY_01&utm_medium=email)

<sup>37</sup>[https://www.rfi.fr/en/people-and-entertainment/20221116-hong-kong-films-defy-warnings-with-strong-golden-horse-presence?utm\\_source=HRIC+Updates&utm\\_campaign=5ab6314749-EMAIL\\_CAMPAIGN\\_2022\\_11\\_16\\_09\\_17&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_b537d30fde-5ab6314749-259232834](https://www.rfi.fr/en/people-and-entertainment/20221116-hong-kong-films-defy-warnings-with-strong-golden-horse-presence?utm_source=HRIC+Updates&utm_campaign=5ab6314749-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2022_11_16_09_17&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_b537d30fde-5ab6314749-259232834)

36 Hong Kong deputies will be chosen to join the NPC Standing Committee, China's top legislative body, setting a precedent for them to play a bigger role in national governance. A list of 19 praesidium members has been published, including previous pro-establishment politicians, who will hold meetings to ensure that the election of the deputies runs smoothly.<sup>38</sup>

### **Chinese Regulators Give Guidance at Banking Summit**

Chinese regulators addressed attendees of the Global Financial Leaders' Investment Summit, where 200 officials and finance executives gathered. They told them not to read too much international media and not to bet against China and Hong Kong.<sup>39</sup>

### **Hongkongers Support Mainland Protests**

After the 24 November Urumqi fire, people in China have been protesting against the COVID-19 policies and current leadership. Students at university campuses and people in the streets of Hong Kong have held demonstrations to show solidarity with protestors in China. They have been commemorating victims, holding blank A4 paper and chanting slogans.<sup>40</sup> The police stopped and searched some demonstrators<sup>41</sup> and the Secretary for Security urged citizens to stop protesting. He said citizens have the responsibility to maintain national security and not return to the chaotic state that Hong Kong experienced in 2019.<sup>42</sup>

### **National Security Office Purchases Luxury Villa**

<sup>38</sup><https://www.scmp.com/news/hong-kong/politics/article/3200419/hong-kong-deputies-be-elected-chinas-legislature-play-bigger-role-countrys-governance-senior>

<sup>39</sup>[https://hongkongfp.com/2022/11/02/dont-bet-against-china-and-hong-kong-and-dont-read-too-much-foreign-news-top-chinese-regulator-tells-banking-summit/?utm\\_source=HRIC+Updates&utm\\_campaign=83e5f47815-HRIC\\_DAILY\\_BRIEF\\_COPY\\_01&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_b537d30fde-83e5f47815-259232834](https://hongkongfp.com/2022/11/02/dont-bet-against-china-and-hong-kong-and-dont-read-too-much-foreign-news-top-chinese-regulator-tells-banking-summit/?utm_source=HRIC+Updates&utm_campaign=83e5f47815-HRIC_DAILY_BRIEF_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_b537d30fde-83e5f47815-259232834)

<sup>40</sup>[https://hongkongfp.com/2022/11/30/we-are-not-foreign-forces-hku-students-stage-small-rally-in-support-of-mainland-china-covid-19-protests/?utm\\_source=HRIC+Updates&utm\\_campaign=a5185c9988-HRIC\\_DAILY\\_BRIEF\\_COPY\\_01&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_b537d30fde-a5185c9988-259232834](https://hongkongfp.com/2022/11/30/we-are-not-foreign-forces-hku-students-stage-small-rally-in-support-of-mainland-china-covid-19-protests/?utm_source=HRIC+Updates&utm_campaign=a5185c9988-HRIC_DAILY_BRIEF_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_b537d30fde-a5185c9988-259232834)

<sup>41</sup>[https://www.inmediahk.net/node/%E7%A4%BE%E9%81%8B/%E6%B8%AF%E9%80%A3%E6%97%A5%E6%9C%89%E4%BA%BA%E8%81%B2%E6%8F%B4%E5%85%A7%E5%9C%B0%E7%A4%BA%E5%A8%81-%E8%BF%91%E5%BB%BF%E4%BA%BA%E4%B8%8A%E6%B5%B7%E8%A1%97%E8%88%89%E7%99%BD%E7%B4%99-%E8%AD%A6%E6%88%AA%E6%9F%A5%E5%A4%A7%E5%8D%8A%E5%B0%8F%E6%99%82?utm\\_source=HRIC+Updates&utm\\_campaign=a5185c9988-HRIC\\_DAILY\\_BRIEF\\_COPY\\_01&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_b537d30fde-a5185c9988-259232834](https://www.inmediahk.net/node/%E7%A4%BE%E9%81%8B/%E6%B8%AF%E9%80%A3%E6%97%A5%E6%9C%89%E4%BA%BA%E8%81%B2%E6%8F%B4%E5%85%A7%E5%9C%B0%E7%A4%BA%E5%A8%81-%E8%BF%91%E5%BB%BF%E4%BA%BA%E4%B8%8A%E6%B5%B7%E8%A1%97%E8%88%89%E7%99%BD%E7%B4%99-%E8%AD%A6%E6%88%AA%E6%9F%A5%E5%A4%A7%E5%8D%8A%E5%B0%8F%E6%99%82?utm_source=HRIC+Updates&utm_campaign=a5185c9988-HRIC_DAILY_BRIEF_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_b537d30fde-a5185c9988-259232834)

<sup>42</sup>[https://news.rthk.hk/rthk/ch/component/k2/1677819-20221130.htm?utm\\_source=HRIC+Updates&utm\\_campaign=a5185c9988-HRIC\\_DAILY\\_BRIEF\\_COPY\\_01&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_b537d30fde-a5185c9988-259232834](https://news.rthk.hk/rthk/ch/component/k2/1677819-20221130.htm?utm_source=HRIC+Updates&utm_campaign=a5185c9988-HRIC_DAILY_BRIEF_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_b537d30fde-a5185c9988-259232834)

The National Security Office has purchased a luxury villa in Beacon Hill, for HKD 508 million. This is a new record high for first-hand houses in Kowloon and the first residential property that the office has purchased.<sup>43</sup>

---

## OTHER DEVELOPMENTS

---

### **BNO Scheme Amendment Allows Greater Access**

This month, the UK Home Office published an amendment to the Hong Kong British National (Overseas) route, also known as the BNO Visa. The policy change allows adult children of a BN(O) status holder to apply to the BN(O) route independently of their parent or parents, which vastly increases the number of people eligible for the visa.<sup>44</sup> This amendment also helps many of the young people who protested in 2019, who are at risk if they stay in Hong Kong, and yet did not have legal pathways to leave.

### **US Congressional-Executive Commission on China (CECC) publishes Annual Report**

The report highlighted Hong Kong's transformation and increasing control by the PRC's anti-democratic rule, invasive political control, and persecution. It also noted the dismantling of Hong Kong's electoral system and civil society, including the crackdown on freedom of the press.<sup>45</sup> The Hong Kong government strongly refuted the CECC publication and accused the US of interfering in Hong Kong's internal affairs, adding that all countries ensure that power is held in the hands of patriots.<sup>46</sup>

### **Hong Kong to Build International Mediation Centre**

After reaching an agreement with an unspecified number of countries last month, China will establish an international mediation centre in Hong Kong and a preparatory office will be set up in 2023 to lay the groundwork. This will help China achieve its goals influencing and

---

<sup>43</sup>[https://theinitium.com/article/20221109-morning-brief/?utm\\_source=HRIC+Updates&utm\\_campaign=18f7df0153-HRIC\\_DAILY\\_BRIEF\\_COPY\\_01&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_b537d30fde-18f7df0153-259232834](https://theinitium.com/article/20221109-morning-brief/?utm_source=HRIC+Updates&utm_campaign=18f7df0153-HRIC_DAILY_BRIEF_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_b537d30fde-18f7df0153-259232834)

<sup>44</sup><https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/hong-kong-british-national-overseas-route/hong-kong-british-national-overseas-route-accessible>

<sup>45</sup>[https://www.uscc.gov/sites/default/files/2022-11/Chapter\\_5--Hong\\_Kong.pdf?utm\\_source=HRIC+Updates&utm\\_campaign=5ab6314749-EMAIL\\_CAMPAIGN\\_2022\\_11\\_16\\_09\\_17&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_b537d30fde-5ab6314749-259232834](https://www.uscc.gov/sites/default/files/2022-11/Chapter_5--Hong_Kong.pdf?utm_source=HRIC+Updates&utm_campaign=5ab6314749-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2022_11_16_09_17&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_b537d30fde-5ab6314749-259232834)

<sup>46</sup>[https://news.rthk.hk/rthk/ch/component/k2/1675763-20221116.htm?utm\\_source=HRIC+Updates&utm\\_campaign=5ab6314749-EMAIL\\_CAMPAIGN\\_2022\\_11\\_16\\_09\\_17&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_b537d30fde-5ab6314749-259232834](https://news.rthk.hk/rthk/ch/component/k2/1675763-20221116.htm?utm_source=HRIC+Updates&utm_campaign=5ab6314749-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2022_11_16_09_17&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_b537d30fde-5ab6314749-259232834)

shaping international legal regimes and protecting its economic and commercial interests, and may be particularly relevant to promoting peace and security in Sudan, Ethiopia, and Somalia, where China announced that it wants to play a bigger role.<sup>47</sup>

### **Cosco buy 24.9% of Hamburg Port Terminal**

After several weeks of negotiations, the German cabinet approved a deal for China's Cosco to purchase 24.9% of one of the terminals of the Port of Hamburg. Although this share is significantly less than the 35% stake previously discussed, it still expands China's strategic influence in Germany, a concern that many have raised.<sup>48</sup>

### **Semiconductor Chips Factory Sale Blocked**

The German Government has blocked the sale of the Elmos Semiconductor factory in Dortmund to Silex, a Swedish subsidiary of China's Sai Microelectronics. Although the sale was agreed in 2021, Germany's economics ministry ultimately found that the acquisition would have endangered public order and safety.<sup>49</sup>

### **Xi Jinping Secures Third Term**

At the 20th Party Congress, Xi Jinping was elected for a third term as Secretary General of the Chinese Communist Party, making him leader for another five years, and was reappointed as head of the Chinese Military Commission. He is expected to be given a third presidential term during the annual legislative sessions in March. Since abolishing the presidential two-term limit in 2018, he has consolidated power and is expected to try to stay in power for life.<sup>50</sup>

### **Scholz Visits China**

The German Chancellor Olaf Scholz was the first chancellor to visit China after the 20th Party Congress, and it was his first official visit to China.<sup>51</sup>

Hong Kong Watch, Safeguard Defenders, and the World Uyghur Congress wrote an open letter to Chancellor Olaf Scholz, which was signed by over 70 civil society organisations. They urged Scholz to rethink his visit to Beijing, which would “*counter not only to the universal rights of those suffering at the hand of the CPC inside - and increasingly outside -*

<sup>47</sup>[https://www.scmp.com/news/china/diplomacy/article/3200226/planned-hong-kong-mediation-centre-bolster-chinas-influence-africa?utm\\_source=rss\\_feed&utm\\_source=HRIC%20Updates&utm\\_campaign=e612e66d7e-HRIC\\_DAILY\\_BRIEF\\_COPY\\_01&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_b537d30fde-e612e66d7e-259232834](https://www.scmp.com/news/china/diplomacy/article/3200226/planned-hong-kong-mediation-centre-bolster-chinas-influence-africa?utm_source=rss_feed&utm_source=HRIC%20Updates&utm_campaign=e612e66d7e-HRIC_DAILY_BRIEF_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_b537d30fde-e612e66d7e-259232834)

<sup>48</sup><https://www.reuters.com/markets/deals/german-cabinet-approves-investment-by-chinas-cosco-hamburg-port-terminal-sources-2022-10-26/>

<sup>49</sup><https://edition.cnn.com/2022/11/09/tech/germany-blocks-chip-factory-sale-china/index.html>

<sup>50</sup><https://www.dw.com/en/chinas-xi-secures-third-term-as-head-of-communist-party/a-63529214>

<sup>51</sup>[https://www.fmprc.gov.cn/mfa\\_eng/zxxx\\_662805/202211/t20221104\\_10800546.html](https://www.fmprc.gov.cn/mfa_eng/zxxx_662805/202211/t20221104_10800546.html)

*China, but also to the fundamental long-term interests of Germany and the European Union as a whole.*"<sup>52</sup>

### **Xi meets with over 25 World Leaders Since October**

Since the 20th Party Congress, Xi Jinping has met with over 25 heads of state, at home and abroad, and is planning more visits. Many of these meetings were bilateral meetings on the sidelines of the G20 summit, which Xi attended in Bali this year.<sup>53</sup> He was also filmed scolding Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, for allegedly leaking information. Some characterised this encounter as a threat.<sup>54</sup>

---

<sup>52</sup><https://www.hongkongwatch.org/all-posts/2022/11/1/70-civil-society-organisations-urge-german-chancellor-scholz-to-rethink-trip-to-beijing-amidst-human-rights-concerns>

<sup>53</sup><https://www.nbcnews.com/news/world/china-xi-jinping-diplomatic-charm-offensive-rcna60274>

<sup>54</sup><https://edition.cnn.com/2022/11/16/asia/china-xi-jinping-canada-justin-trudeau-g20-intl/index.html>