

U.S.-China Economic and Security Review Commission

Press Release



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U.S.-China Economic and Security Review Commission Statement on Hong Kong

Today, the U.S.-China Economic and Security Review Commission (USCC) released the following statement regarding recent developments in Hong Kong:

“On the 20th anniversary of Hong Kong’s handover from the United Kingdom to China, the U.S.-China Economic and Security Review Commission views recent trends in Hong Kong with deep concern. On our recent trip to Hong Kong, we heard significant concerns that Beijing has eroded the spirit of the ‘one country, two systems’ framework, degrading Hong Kong’s ‘high degree of autonomy’ called for in the Basic Law. Hong Kong’s freedom of expression and rule of law are increasingly at risk due to Beijing’s efforts to tighten control over the political process and flow of information in Hong Kong.”

“U.S. policy on Hong Kong is based on the assumption of a ‘high degree of autonomy’ from Beijing. Hong Kong’s robust legal protections and economic freedom make it an important partner for the United States and are vital for maintaining Hong Kong’s long-term stability and prosperity. It appears that ‘high degree of autonomy’ is being degraded by the actions of the Chinese Communist Party. To realize the future on which U.S. policy is based, we urge the Hong Kong and Chinese authorities to uphold their legal and international commitments and respect the rights guaranteed to Hong Kong residents and citizens in the Basic Law.”

“We are also dismayed at the arrest earlier this week of Joshua Wong and other prodemocracy activists for the peaceful expression of their beliefs.”

In November, the Commission will publicly release its annual report, which will include recommendations to Congress on Hong Kong.

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The U.S.-China Economic and Security Review Commission was created by Congress to report on the national security implications of the bilateral trade and economic relationship between the United States and the People’s Republic of China. For more information, visit www.uscc.gov.