



Mr Ambassador GUI Congyou,
Embassy of the People's Republic of China
in Sweden, Stockholm
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Public protests in Hong Kong

Your Excellency,

On behalf of the Swedish Trade Union Confederation (LO) and the Swedish Confederation of Professional Employees (TCO), representing jointly 2.8 million working people, I urge the government of the People's Republic of China to ensure that people in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region are allowed to protest without facing harassment and violence from the police and others, and to desist from pressurising the Hong Kong authorities and employers to harass and repress such protests, for example by sacking workers who have exercised their fundamental and inalienable human rights to freedom of association, freedom of assembly and freedom of speech. Hong Kong is a signatory party to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights which is currently being infringed by the police; and the UN Basic Principles on the Use of Force and Firearms by Law Enforcement Officials are also being seriously breached.

Our sisters and brothers in the Hong Kong trade union movement have, in common with the people on the streets, made five demands: permanent withdrawal of the extradition law; release of the arrested protesters without charge; withdrawal by the authorities of their characterisation of the 12 June protests as "riots"; an independent investigation into police violence and abuse of power; and implementation of universal suffrage.

We support those demands, and we believe that the Hong Kong authorities should initiate a dialogue with the people by accepting these demands.

We would be grateful if you could let us know the response of your government.

Yours sincerely,

The Swedish Trade Union Confederation
(LO)

Karl-Petter Thorwaldsson
President

The Swedish Confederation of Professional
Employees (TCO)

Eva Nordmark
President